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THOMAS P. HUGHES STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT CHARACTER

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

At Thomas P. Hughes School, students in Mrs. Castellanos and Miss Bellardino's third grade class recently learned about character traits with an interactive activity around the book, "The Paper Bag Princess". The primary objective of the lesson was to engage students in an exploration of character traits through the read-aloud "The Paper Bag Princess" by Robert Munsch.

According to Miss Bellardino, "We wanted students to specifically distinguish between physical traits (what you can see) versus character traits (what's on the inside). To begin the lesson we had students write one word that described them on a sticky note and place it on their head. As they turned to their partners we pointed out, as an example, how we can see someone is small but we cannot see if they are kind. After this, we read the story aloud to them. To end our lesson we partnered the students up in heterogeneous groups to work on a craft. In this craft, students were assigned either the Dragon or Princess Elizabeth from the book and they were tasked with identifying and sorting inside and outside traits. Students put the inside traits inside the paper bag and pasted the character traits on the outside of the bag. To celebrate all of our hard work each student received a crown at the end of the lesson."

What a unique and creative way to help our students learn the importance of character! Well done TPH!



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DAR HELPS STIR UP A TEMPEST WITH A TEA BAG

Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR

At the 128th Anniversary luncheon of Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) held in January, the chapter reported on their first U.S. Semiquincentennial observance.



(above) Outstanding Junior Ashley Salsano (r.) pictured with DAR President General Pamela Wright at the 2023 Spring State Conference.

Members celebrated the fact that some tea supplied by the chapter was used in the 250th anniversary re-enactment of the Boston Tea Party in December. The chapter contributed a limited edition King's Coronation Tea. "It seemed appropriate," said Chapter Treasurer Barbara Pollison-Beck who donated the tea.

During the luncheon, Ashley Salsano was honored as the chapter's Outstanding Junior member. Four new chapter members were officially welcomed and Beth Kavanaugh of Oldwick was sworn in. Women observing milestone membership anniversaries were also recognized: Carol DeFilippis, Warren, 55 years; Margaret Shilay, North Plainfield, 50 years; Catherine Strohmeyer, Watchung, 40 years; Patricia Sullivan, Bridgewater, 10 years.

Monthly meetings will resume on March 12 with a program on Betty Bradbury Vail and planning for a spring service project to clean and help preserve historic headstones in the area. Also on the agenda is the NJDAR State Conference in April.

The DAR is a nonprofit service organization open to women descended from an individual who aided the cause of independence during the American Revolution. New members are welcome. Contact the chapter at ESCchapterDAR@gmail.com.



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43 Beech Ave	4	2.0	1	\$675,000	\$725,000	10

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Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 11/23/2023-1/23/2024. If your property is currently listed with another Realtor, this is not intended as a solicitation of that listing. Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Each office independently owned and operated. Equal housing opportunity. Some homes may be sold and listed by other brokers.



HEART ASSOCIATION AWARDS CERTIFICATION TO SPRING GROVE

Building on its commitment to comprehensive care and services, Spring Grove Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center in New Providence recently earned the American Heart Association’s (AHA’s) new Skilled Nursing Facility Heart Failure Center Certification. The 106-bed skilled nursing facility, located at 144 Gales Drive, provides post-hospital care, short-term rehab and long-term residential care.

The world’s leading nonprofit focused on heart and brain health, the AHA has invested more than \$4.8 billion in research since its founding. Evaluation criteria for its new skilled nursing certification – earned by less than 2% of skilled nursing facilities nationwide, to date – was designed by heart failure experts. Certification requirements include program management, personnel education, clinical management, care coordination and performance improvement, as well as patient and caregiver education and support.

“This advanced certification provides heart patients with the assurance that Spring Grove is recognized by the AHA for delivering the most effective heart failure treatment strategies based on a standardized method of current evidence-based guidelines,” said Kani Burgos, regional director of market development at Marquis Health Consulting Services, which supports Spring Grove. “These specific care strategies and services are aimed at improving outcomes for those with chronic heart failure and its co-

morbidities, as well as reducing readmissions.” Spring Grove’s reputation for progressive skilled nursing care is well established. The center was named one of the nation’s “Best Nursing Homes 2022-23” for long-term care by U.S. News & World Report; marking the third consecutive year Spring Grove has been recognized in at least one program category. It maintains a five-star rating for quality measures from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). More information on Spring

Grove can be accessed on the facility’s website, springgroverehab.com. Brick, N.J.-based Marquis Health Consulting Services provides administrative and consulting services to skilled nursing facilities and senior housing communities along the Eastern Seaboard. The organization’s operational guidance enables its client facilities to overachieve their quality and customer service goals by embracing a progressive, multi-specialty approach to healthcare.

Courtesy photo



(above) Spring Grove Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center’s interdisciplinary care team

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BHPS WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Ms. Ashley Shanley became part of the Berkeley Heights Public School District in December 2023, taking on the role of an Instructional Technology Coach.

With a career spanning over a decade in education, she initially served as a Kindergarten teacher before transitioning to positions as a K-8 computer/technology educator. Her most recent position was with the Hamilton Township School District, where she served as the Instructional Technology Facilitator starting in 2020. During this time, she established and executed an instructional technology coaching model aimed at assisting teachers in adopting new curriculum, covering aspects such as lesson planning, classroom management, and instructional tech strategies.

Ms. Shanley holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, with a minor in Education, from Rutgers University. She pursued a Masters in Educational Technology at New Jersey City University and holds her Google Trainer Certification.

According to Ms. Shanley, "I've always had a goal of working with teachers directly and providing professional development. I did this through my Masters program in EdTech in 2020. I took a position as an Instructional Technology Coach for the Hamilton Township School District in 2020 and it was the best decision! I've presented at ISTE, Techspo, NJECC and both Google NYC & Sunnyvale locations. I am very excited to work with the teachers and staff in BHPS to help them implement instructional technology in their classrooms."

Ms. Kelly Curtiss joined Berkeley Heights Public School District in December 2023 as the Director of STEAM.

Ms. Curtiss earned her Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics, followed by an MA. Ed. Curriculum & Instruction. She is currently pursuing her Ed.D. K-12 Educational Leadership Degree.

Ms. Curtiss began her career in education as a Mathematics teacher before taking on roles as the

(above, l-r) Ms. Ashley Shanley, Ms. Kelly Curtiss

Courtesy photos

Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction: Applied Sciences (PreK-5) in Roxbury Public Schools and then Supervisor of Mathematics, Business, & Career Technology Education at Princeton Public Schools. Most recently, she has worked for the Parsippany-Troy Hills School District as Coordinating Supervisor of Mathematics, Computer Science, & Business (6-12) since 2019.

Among her many accomplishments in her role as the Coordinating Supervisor of Mathematics, Computer Science and Business, Ms. Curtiss started the first New Jersey Chapters of the National STEM Honor Society. She worked to develop new courses through a partnership with Cisco to provide CCNA Industry Certification after the completion of a set of 3 courses in Networks, Routing and Cybersecurity. She also designed a new Data Science course that combines concepts in statistics and computer programming to build data analysis and visualization skills, and developed and implemented a STEM Pathway Diploma Program. Ms. Curtiss has also led multiple MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding) with higher education institutions including NJIT and FDU for dual enrollment credit for courses in the areas of math, science and business where students earn college credits for courses taken in high school.

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TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR 2024 WHARTON ARTS GALA ON MARCH 7

On Thursday, March 7, 2024, Wharton Arts will honor award-winning jazz bassist, educator, and composer Rufus Reid with its Lifetime Achievement Award at its Annual Gala. An active presence in the jazz world since the 1970s, Reid has recorded over 500 albums and can be heard on recordings with Dexter Gordon, Andrew Hill, The Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Quartet, Kenny Barron, Stan Getz, J.J. Johnson, Lee Konitz, and Jack DeJohnette, among others. His reputation as an educator is equal to that of his musical achievements. Reid's book, *The Evolving Bassist*



(above, l-r) Renowned Jazz Bassist Rufus Reid and The Discovery Orchestra's George Marriner Maull to be honored at the 2024 Wharton Arts Gala

Courtesy photos

(Myriad Limited, 1974), remains the industry standard for double bass methodology. Reid and Dr. Martin Krivin created the Jazz Studies and Performance Bachelor of Music Program at William Paterson University, a program offering the first professional academically accredited Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies in the tri-state area.

Reid received the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship and the MacDowell Colony Grant. His 2014 release, *Quiet Pride – The Elizabeth Catlett Project*, received two Grammy Nominations for Best Large Jazz Ensemble and Best Instrumental Composition.

The prestigious Wharton Arts Lifetime Achievement Award distinguishes individuals who, during their lifetime, have made creative contributions of outstanding artistic significance to the performing arts and represent a beacon of inspiration to Wharton Arts' students. Previous Wharton Arts Lifetime Achievement honorees were Jamie Bernstein, John Debney, Paul Shaffer, and Angel Blue.

In addition to the Lifetime Achievement Award, Wharton Arts will honor George Marriner Maull with its Education Award at the 2024 Gala. Today, Maull is the Artistic Director of The Discovery Orchestra and a three-time Emmy-

nominated public television personality.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving nearly 2,000 students through a range of classes and ensembles. The 5 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Chorus, an auditioned choral ensemble program for students in grades 3–12, encourage a love and appreciation of choral music while nurturing personal growth and creative development. The 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve over 500 students in grades 3–12 by audition, inspire young people to achieve musical excellence through high-level ensemble training and performance opportunities.

Wharton Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 12 counties. All of Wharton Arts' extraordinary teaching artists, faculty members, and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.

Wharton Arts' Annual Gala will feature student performances and a live auction at the Westmount Country Club, 728 Rifle Camp Road in Woodland Park, NJ. To attend the gala and support Wharton Arts, including its silent auction, please visit WhartonArtsGala.org.

OLD GUARD FEBRUARY SPEAKERS

The Summit Area Old Guard was founded in 1930 and meets most Tuesdays at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our motto is "Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends."

February speakers include Scott Hough, Ed Oatman or Amy Wagner, Dr. Yaron Moshel, and Amy Behr-Shields. Please join us. Our programs are free to the public, and we welcome you!

Our speaker on **Tuesday, February 6th** will be Scott Hough, Superintendent of Schools, Summit, NJ. Scott will give us an overview of the school system and describe the impact covid had and how he dealt with it (he was appointed to his position in June 2020!). Scott will also discuss critical issues facing all school administrators, such as bullying, security and student safety. Roughly one half of Summit's annual budget goes to support the public schools, and the appeal of Summit as a great place to live is supported by its excellent schools.

Our speaker on **Tuesday, February 13th** will be either the manager or deputy manager of Union County, NJ. Union County has a diverse population equivalent in size to that of Wyoming and a budget of a half billion dollars. Most people are quite familiar with their own city or town, but usually know much less about their county. Ed Oatman, manager, or Amy Wagner, deputy manager, will hopefully change that for you. County operations include areas such as law enforcement/courts, parks & recreation, public

works -roads and infrastructure, health care, economic development, and a lot more.

On **Tuesday, February 20th**, Dr. Yaron Moshel, co-director of the Gerald J. Glasser Brain Tumor Center at Atlantic Health System's Overlook Medical Center, will be our speaker. He is one of a select few surgeons who specialize in removing deep-seated brain tumors using technology that includes computer-guided navigation, awake intraoperative brain mapping, endoscopy, and microsurgery. Dr. Moshel will explain how the convergence of precision medicine, advanced robotics, and specialized imaging are fostering new breakthroughs in the treatment of brain and spine tumors.

Finally, on **Tuesday, February 27th**, we ask the question, 'with so much information accessible online, is a public library still relevant?' Amy Behr-Shields, the Director of the Summit Free Library, will explain how the library is needed to curate reliable sources of information, and to manage the complexities of digital and non-digital media, while serving as a community center and a welcoming environment. You will also be surprised to learn how many varied programs and services the library offers.

Past speakers and much more can be viewed at SummitOldGuard.org but we encourage people to drop in on our meetings which take place at the church at 10:00 a.m. most Tuesdays. "Come for the Speakers. Stay for the Friends."

We look forward to meeting you.



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CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

Story Time with Grandma Pauline

Tuesdays, February 6 - 27 at 9:30 am

for ages 3 - 5

Fun with Friends: Story & Play

Thursdays, February 1 - 29 at 9:30 am

for ages 1 - 3

Paper Dragons Craft for Lunar New Year

February 5 - 10 for ages 3 & up

Hearts & Crafts: Make Love Bug Valentines

February 5 - 14 for ages 3 & up

Good Tyme String Band

Tuesday, February 13 at 10:30 am

Sing & Sign Story Time with Danielle Neri

"Clifford's Valentines"

Sunday, February 18 at 3 pm

for ages 2 - 6

Yoga Story Time with Pam Nixon

Thursday, February 20 at 10:30 am

for ages 3 - 5

Read to Morrigan the Dog

Wednesday, February 21 at 3:30 pm

TEEN PROGRAMS

(for grades 6-12 unless otherwise specified)

Teen Library Council

Thursday, 2/8, 7 pm

Receive volunteer hours and make suggestions for the library. Registration requested.

Take and Make Craft "Reverse Coloring Pages"

Thursday, 2/15 at 3pm

pick up a kit starting while supplies last .

Create Your Own Friendship Bracelets

Thursday, 2/22, from 7-8 pm

registration required.

Teen Book Club discussion meeting

Tuesday, 2/27 at 6:30 pm

Before the Coffee Gets Cold

by Toshikazu Kawaguchi

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at 908-608-8603 x1 for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS:

The Morning Book Group

Friday, 2/2 at 10:30 am

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict.

The Evening Book Group

Tuesday, 2/13 at 7:15 pm

Beloved by Toni Morrison on.

Books Speak Volumes Book Group

Thursday, 2/15 at 7:00 pm

Say Nothing: a true story of murder and

memory in Northern Ireland by

Patrick Radden Keefe.

SENIOR DAY TRIP

The Berkeley Heights Seniors are sponsoring a trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Monday, February 19. The bus leaves the parking lot at Town Hall, 29 Park Avenue, at 8:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$40, which includes bus transportation, and a \$20. voucher for slot play. For more information or reservations, call Ramona at 908-647-3295.

OBITUARY

CARMELA ANN MORTARUOLO BARTON



Beloved mother, aunt, grandmother, and great grandmother, Carmela Mortaruolo Barton, passed away peacefully in the arms of her family on December 22, at the age of 92.

Born to Carmine and Consiglia (Spagnola) Mortaruolo of Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, on September 15, 1932, Carmela was the matriarch of the Mortaruolo family.

A daughter of Berkeley Heights, Carmela grew up working intermittently at the Berkeley Bakery, an inter-generational family business.

At the age of 23, Carmela met her future husband, Lewis Webster Barton, a co-worker at J.K. Schmidt & Son of New Providence. Carmela was widowed on June 10, 1987.

Carmela was later employed as an editor at Martindale-Hubble, also in New Providence, until her retirement in 1998.

Time spent with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and grand dogs was her passion. Other interests included reading romance novels, and the Borgata.

Carmela is survived by her daughter, Pamela Barton Miele, residing in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey, her son, Christopher Barton, currently residing in Nashville, Tennessee, along with three grandchildren, Gregory Barton of Nashville, Tennessee, Joseph Miele of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and Sean Miele of Bridgewater, New Jersey. She was actively involved in the lives of her great-grandchildren, Grace Miele, and Joseph "Lewie" Miele, both from Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

MAH JONGG CLUB OF WATCHUNG

The Mah Jongg Club of Watchung meets every Monday and Thursday afternoon at the Watchung Library beginning at 1:00 p.m. New players are welcome. Knowledge of the game is mandatory. The Club has been meeting at the Watchung Library for over 10 years. Members are from Watchung and surrounding towns. For more information, email Melanie Novello at Novello1800@aol.com.

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MANAGER POSITIONS FOR BERKLEY HEIGHTS

POSITION 1: Elicit requirements by conducting evaluations of Axtia's pharma & life science client's business needs and translate business requirements into technical requirements to provide strategic software systems solutions. Manage project execution and oversee ongoing support to ensure application is functioning as per specification. Ensure that pharma clients' requirements are incorporated into Axtia's ongoing solutions development and innovation efforts. All of the above duties will be performed using skills in SQL, R, and Python.

POSITION 2: Manage professional teams for the delivery of analytics projects for large pharma clients. Responsible for all phases of analytics projects, including requirement gathering, implementation and administration phases. Manage end to end project tasks of team members and ensure quality in deliverables across the Analytics and Technology teams. Oversee multiple analytical efforts and do consistent quality checks. All of the above duties will be performed using skills in SQL, R, and SAS. Work location for all positions will include Berkeley Heights, NJ, and also at various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. as assigned. Applicants must specifically identify all post-secondary education and all mentioned skills and tools in which applicant has education, training, or experience.

Applicants should identify clearly which position they are applying for in their cover letter.

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