

## STUDENTS

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Scholastic Press Association's annual literary magazine contest.

This is the seventh year the magazine has placed first or second in the association's annual literary magazine contest.

Students share writing, photography and art with staff in the hopes of earning a spot in the publication, according to a news release. Each year, a new editorial staff of a select group of eighth-graders gathers to create the magazine, working with Upper School English teacher Lauren Bergland, the adviser.

"It's important for Middle School students to find their voice," said Jayne Geiger, head of school. "Collectors' Items is an outstanding venue for self-expression in different genres."

Far Hills Country Day School is a preK-grade-to-eight independent school. For school information: [www.fhcds.org](http://www.fhcds.org).

### Hillsborough

**Marissa Jackson**, a Hillsborough High School junior, was one of 13 high school students nationwide selected to participate in the Summer 2013 George Washington Carver Internship Program at Iowa State University.

The six-week program, conducted by the institution's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, offered 18 research projects from which participants pre-selected an area of research focus when applying.

Jackson, who is interested in pursuing a career in pharmaceutical biochemical research, worked alongside graduate students to develop resistant starches for the prevention of colon cancer, according to a news release. The project was directed under the leadership of professor Diane Birt.

Jackson's internship included information research, weekly seminars, research project completion, preparation of an abstract and written report and a presentation of her work at a symposium.

### Hispanic Heritage Month essay contest

Cablevision's Power to Learn and Olympusat are sponsoring the Hispanic Heritage Month essay contest for the sixth consecutive year for students in sixth through 12th grades. The essay question is, "Name a Latino, past or present, with whom you would choose to spend a day and explain why."

Essays cannot exceed 500 words. They must be submitted in English at [www.powertolearn.com](http://www.powertolearn.com) or mailed to Cablevision: Attention Power to Learn, 1111 Stewart Ave., Bethpage, NY 11714, or faxed to 516-803-2716. The deadline to submit entries is Nov. 1.

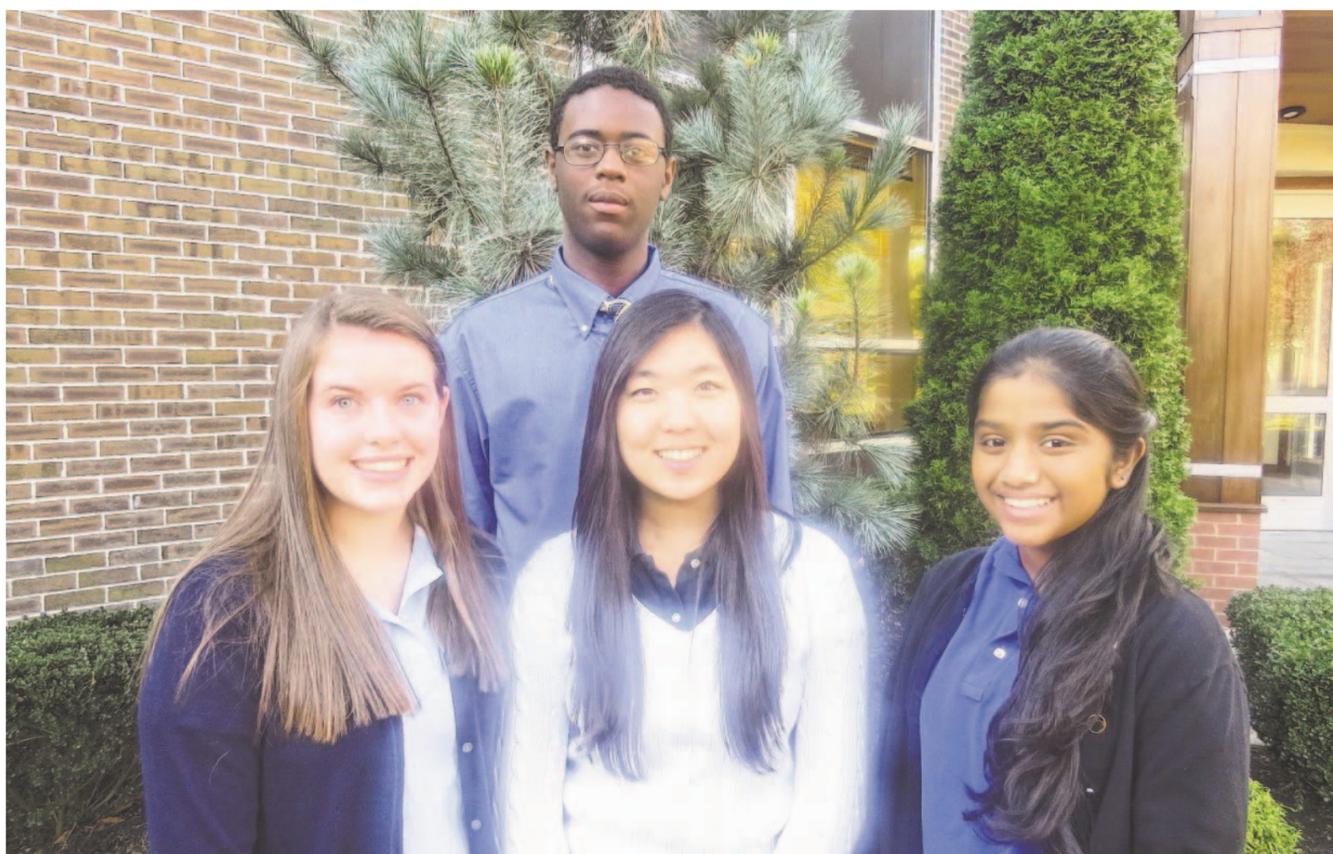
Four winners in the middle school (grades six to eight) and the high school (ninth through 12th) levels will be announced in December. Prizes include a \$2,500 cash scholarship (grand prize), an Apple iPad (first prize), a laptop computer (second prize) and a Kindle Fire (third prize).

Olympusat Inc. is the provider of Spanish language channels, including Latele Novela, J Sorpresa!, Momentum, CubaPlay and TV Chile, all available on Optimum TV en Español programming service.

Power to Learn, Cablevision's nationally recognized education initiative, is dedicated to integrating technology into education. Olympusat is one of the largest independent media companies specializing in ownership, distribution, production and technical services.

### RVCC design project

Students in Raritan Valley Community College's interior design program recently put their



The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison recently conducted freshman class elections. Class of 2017 president Naya Shim (front center) of Warren is joined by vice president Allison Haley (left) of Colonia and judiciary board representative Manasvinee Mayil Vahanan of Edison. Secretary/treasurer Raphael Genty of Scotch Plains stands behind them. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WARDLAW-HARTRIDGE SCHOOL

talents to work for a good cause, creating a more welcoming lobby at the Resource Center of Somerset County, a domestic violence shelter.

Working with their teacher, Virginia Smith, the students updated the lobby with warm colors, graphics and new furniture. They painted and worked collaboratively with representatives from Riverside Restorations and Remodeling, PVH Corp., Lowes and Verizon Wireless, who were generous with time and use of materials.

Members of the community attended a Sept. 16 ribbon-cutting ceremony to showcase the newly designed lobby.

"Having the opportunity to share the comfortable environment created for our clients through collaboration within the community is something we all treasure," said Anthony Winchatz, the center's director of marketing, at the ceremony.

The college offers an associate degree in interior design and an interior design certificate program. Information: Email [virginiasmith@raritanval.edu](mailto:virginiasmith@raritanval.edu) or call 908-526-1200, ext. 8622 or go to [www.raritanval.edu](http://www.raritanval.edu).

### Community college transfer agreement

Raritan Valley Community College's criminal justice graduates may transfer into a baccalaureate program from Norwich University, Northfield, Vt., according to a new agreement signed by the Branchburg-based college and Norwich University College of Graduate and Continuing Studies.

According to the agreement, students who complete an associate degree in criminal justice at RVCC may transfer into Norwich University's online bachelor's degree program in criminal justice, providing they fulfill the necessary requirements. RVCC graduates also may be eligible for tuition scholarships of \$500 for Norwich online degree programs.

Norwich University educates traditional-age students and adults in a Corps of Cadets and as civilians. Founded in 1819 by U.S. Army Capt. Alden Partridge, it is the oldest private military college in the U.S. and includes the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies for working adults or lifelong learners. Information: [www.online.norwich.edu](http://www.online.norwich.edu) or [www.norwich.edu](http://www.norwich.edu).

For RVCC information: [www.raritanval.edu](http://www.raritanval.edu).

### Scotch Plains

**Ayan Ahmed**, a senior at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, has earned the status of Outstanding Participant in the National Achievement Scholarship Program. The Scotch Plains resident received her cer-

tificate of recognition Oct. 3.

Ahmed is one of 3,100 Outstanding Participants in this program. These students scored in the top 3 percent of more than 160,000 black Americans who requested consideration in the 2014 National Achievement Program when they took the PSAT. A roster of those students' names, schools and tentative college major choices is being sent to about 1,500 colleges and universities.

The National Achievement Scholarship Program was initiated in 1964 to honor academically promising Black American high school students. The annual scholarship competition is conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corp.

### Union Catholic

Freshmen at Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains have been outfitted with brand new laptops, Lenovo Twists. The Twist is a combination laptop and tablet, designed to make it easier for students to transition between activities, according to a school news release. It comes equipped with a touchscreen, Windows 8 and Microsoft Office Suite 13.

Associate Principal and Director of Technology Karen Piasecki said that with the dual laptop/tablet feature, students can choose to take notes in their handwriting or with a keyboard, eliminating the need for notebooks or folders.

For school information: [unioncatholic.org](http://unioncatholic.org).

### Wardlaw-Hartridge

**Zubin Mulji** of Edison, a senior at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, earned the Eagle Scout Award, the Boy Scouts' highest honor, during an Oct. 2 ceremony. The Edison resident has been working on his Eagle Scout Community Service Project for more than a year.

His project benefited the New Jersey Veterans Home at Menlo Park and 26 registered veterans' homes in the Northeast. He organized a youth group to perform two hourlong sing-alongs at Menlo Park. The singers were recruited from his troop and from the Wardlaw-Hartridge choir, including **Alex Barbet** of Plainfield, **Alam Merchant** of Edison, **Catherine Badalamenti** of Scotch Plains, **Milika Griffiths** of Edison, **Lauren Levine** of Fanwood and **Aneesa Sonawalla** of Edison. The playlist included top hits from the 1940s and '50s, selected by the residents.

The second phase of the project involved raising money to buy four vintage-style CD-stereo players for the facility, along with creation of custom CDs of the songs performed and their lyrics sheets. The same CD/lyric



Union Catholic High School freshmen received new Lenovo Twists laptops at the start of the school year and were trained in use of the combination laptop-tablet.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

sheet packages were sent to the 26 registered veterans homes in the Northeast.

Mulji has been an active Scout in Troop 66 in Edison for eight years. He attended the National Scout Jamboree in Virginia and the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden. Currently, he is a senior patrol leader, leading a troop of more than 100 Scouts.

### Wardlaw-Hartridge student projects

For the 10th consecutive year, the junior class at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison explored nature and history in a trip back through time in the Thoreau Outing.

The annual event, coordinated by David Berry, Upper School English department chairman, took place Oct. 9 on the Millstone River in Griggstown.

The interdisciplinary trip takes students to the historical Delaware and Raritan River Canal in Griggstown to recapture some of the intellectual freedom, awe for nature and introspection that Thoreau presents in "Walden." This includes paddling in canoes in groups of two or three.

"The canoe trip provided a very memorable experience because it allowed the whole junior class to bond with each other in nature," **Briana Crawley** of Plainfield said in a news release.

The trip was chaperoned by Berry, Jim Howard (Upper School mathe-



Students in Raritan Valley Community College's interior design program recently created a more welcoming environment for the lobby of the Resource Center of Somerset County, a domestic violence shelter.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

matics chairman), Jo O'Connell (Upper School math teacher), Ryan Oliveira (assistant athletic director) and Israel Diaz (athletic trainer).

"It was an amazing experience and we really learned the importance of teamwork," **Nikki Mugambi** of Plainfield said.

Also: Eight students from the school participated in a Safety Ambassadors Summit Oct. 8 at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, New Brunswick: **Aditya Dalal** of Scotch Plains, **Emily Wexler** of Scotch Plains, **Mairlead Forrest** of Parlin, **Neema Liverpool** of Plainfield, **Dawn Francavilla** of Somerset, **Uditi Nighani** of Scotch Plains, **Nick D'Amore** of Scotch Plains and **Alex Barbet** of Plainfield. They were accompanied by John Pophin co-director of student life.

### Watchung Hills

Watchung Hills Regional High School on Stirling Road in Warren will conduct a dedication ceremony at 1 p.m. Oct. 29 to honor former graduates who have served or are serving in the military. The ceremony will take place in the school's performing arts center and is open to the public.

The program will include members of the high school band and chorus, speakers, and the unveiling of a plaque honoring the graduates. For information, visit [www.wrhhs.org](http://www.wrhhs.org) or call Vice Principal Terry MacConnell, 908-647-4800, ext. 6975. To attend, email [MacConnell@tmacconnell@wrhhs.org](mailto:MacConnell@tmacconnell@wrhhs.org) by Oct. 22.

Student and school news appears Friday. Email [cnmetro@MyCentralJersey.com](mailto:cnmetro@MyCentralJersey.com).