



Student and Staff Achievements November 2019

Perfect ACT Score

Westhill High School Junior Jacob Sherman earned the highest possible composite score of 36 on the ACT standardized test. According to the ACT organization, only around two-tenths of one percent of students who take the ACT earn a top score. The ACT consists of tests in English, mathematics, reading and science, each scored on a scale of 1–36. A student's composite score is the average of the four test scores. Students who earn a 36 composite score have likely mastered all of the skills and knowledge they will need to succeed in first-year college courses in the core subject areas.

Second Annual Julia A. Stark Elementary School Read-A-Thon

Julia A. Stark Elementary School held its second annual Read-A-Thon, over four weeks in October. Students were challenged to read for 30 minutes a night, log their minutes of reading and raise donations for the school from friends and families. Many students far exceeded their goal. In total, Stark students logged more than 200,000 minutes of reading, along with raising \$13,400 in donations. Following are the top readers from each grade:

5th Grade: **Genesis Chinchilla Lopez**

4th Grade: **Mariana Ferreira De Souza and Daniella Orellana**

3rd Grade: **Sophia Sun**

2nd Grade: **Fiona Sun**

1st Grade: **Rajean Hackett**

Kindergarten: **Sebastian Oncioiu**

CORE Café Cart

Dolan Head Custodian Scotty Johnstone, who has been Dolan's "go-to guy" on many occasions, donated countless hours of personal time to build The CORE Café, a mobile state-of-the-art coffee cart. Scotty built The CORE Café to help students in Dolan's CORE Class, which is a program for students with special needs, learn life skills. CORE students take orders for coffee and tea from school staff members and hand-deliver each custom order, personalized with the teacher's name, on Friday mornings. The cart provides an opportunity for the students to learn and practice social skills, manage money and work as a team. The CORE Café has working head and brake lights, side-view mirrors, a mounted working cash register, Bluetooth-powered theme music, chrome trim and a wipe-and-write menu board that features the weekly hot beverages.

Emergency Medical Technician Certifications

Jon Panzer, Assistant Director, Special Education Services and **Jen Jehle**, English learner teacher, **Newfield Elementary School** have both attained their National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certifications. The EMT course is a 200-hour program involving rigorous academic and physical exams, as well as hospital and fieldwork. They completed the program not only as way to give back to the Stamford community, but also as a way to pay it forward for the organ donations that Jen has received. The married couple are volunteers assigned with the Stamford Emergency Medical System. Jon recently put his skills to use by coming to the aid of a government center employee, who was experiencing a medical emergency, until the ambulance arrived.

Heroic Act

While covering lunch duty in late October, **Toquam Elementary School Music Teacher Robert Brown** came to the aid of a student who was choking on food. Thanks to Robert's keen observation, quick thinking and skilled Heimlich maneuver technique, he was able to save the student, who was already turning blue. Robert has been a teacher at Toquam for the past seven years. He has never performed the maneuver before and says he likely learned the technique from a safety training video.