

Kearny, Harrison and East Newark

Kearny Weekly!

Kearny to expand cameras

By ROSE DUGER
KW CORRESPONDENT

Kearny plans to expand its video surveillance system to include installations at the busiest entry points to town.

Officials say the cameras can be an important tool in fighting crime.

The town's current system includes cameras that provide 24/7 monitoring of sites throughout Kearny, including parks, recreational facilities and public buildings.

Mayor Al Santos said the town is considering installing new cameras at key spots on Passaic, Kearny, Bergen and Schuyler avenues.

"Based on crime statistics, the majority of suspects don't live in town," Santos said. "It makes sense to monitor the entry points of town."

An existing camera on Kearny Avenue, as well as several private video systems, were critical in nabbing a trio of suspects arrested in the August murder of a Kearny jeweler, according to Santos.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

STUDENTS SEE STARS



HUDSON COUNTY Gifted and Talented students practice their skit about Isaac Newton and Galileo during the astronomy convocation at the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission last week.

REENA ROSE SIBAYAN KW PHOTO

Astronomy the topic of convocation

By ROSE DUGER
KW CORRESPONDENT

The sun was the spotlight of a two-day astronomy convocation presented by the New Jersey Meadowlands

Commission for students enrolled in the Hudson County Gifted and Talented Consortium.

The kids, fourth- through sixth-graders, hailed from Harrison, North Bergen, Secaucus and Bayonne.

The convocation allowed the students to explore a wide variety of sun-related topics, from the layers of the universe's largest star to sundials, the telescopes of Galileo and Newton and ways we harness solar energy for power today.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

2 Kearny Weekly December 17 - December 23, 2009

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Students explore sun in astronomy meeting

Convocation opens door to all topics related to star

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Groups of students wrote rap songs extolling the benefits of the sun, demonstrated how sundials work and constructed a cardboard house to show how deciduous trees can help to heat and cool homes.

One group even wrote and performed a play showing Galileo and Newton dueling over their telescopes. As students chanted their names Galileo, played by Bayonne sixth grader Kristen Barrera, and Newton, played by North Bergen fifth grader Varun Vats, debated the virtues of refractors versus reflectors.

Harrison's Raphael Krause-Palit, a fifth grader at Hamilton School, enjoyed working creatively with students from other districts. "It was amazing just how creative the whole class was working together," he said.

Classmate Ming-Yu Zhao agreed. "We learned that the sun is higher in summer than in winter. And that the Egyptians thought the sun was a god's head."

Secaucus fifth graders Robert Kimelman and Ian Fox of Clarendon School studied refracting and reflecting telescopes and made models of each. "It was fun and creative. I never thought we'd be able to do it," Ian said.

NJMC Educator Coryn Blank, a post baccalaureate student at Ramapo College, called the students' work about the sun "really impressive."

"In these two days, you've been able to learn about all that and express yourself through your creativity in song and arts," Blank said.

Rosalyn Nussman, who chairs the Hudson County Gifted and



CLARENDON SCHOOL students from Secaucus build a passive solar-powered house during the Astronomy Convocation last week.

REENA ROSE SIBAYAN KW PHOTO

Talented Program, said the NJMC supplements the education received at the students' individual schools.

"On an intellectual level, this

is much more challenging and goes beyond the regular school curriculum," Nussman said. "From an interdisciplinary approach, they were able to study planetary subjects and were

also able to express themselves. And on a social level, this allows kids from different school districts to interact. This provides our kids with opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have."



REENA ROSE SIBAYAN KW PHOTOS

STUDENTS paint a giant sun, left, during the convocation at the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission in Lyndhurst last week. At right, Secaucus students Renelle Ramirez, right and Bryanna Acosta work on the solar powered house.