

# Earth Day is April 22

Car-Ban Day is just one of the ways Clifton is doing its part

Maybe **Brian Kopitar** came up with the name Car-Ban Day while skateboarding to school one morning.

The Clifton High student and classmate **Yohelin Meza** are credited with creating the title of the April 22 event.

The CHS Conservation Club is asking students and faculty to reduce the carbon footprint on the world by using mass transit or walking, biking or carpooling to school—anything that will decrease the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere caused by vehicular emissions.

**Al DuBois**, Clifton's recycling coordinator, recently spoke to **Marietta Steransak's** environmental science classes and inspired the students to promote an Earth Day event.

Steransak and biology teacher **Irene Dutch** are Conservation Club advisors, but they credit their students with doing most of the work.



*CHS Conservation Club members are preparing for Car-Ban Day on April 22. In front, from left, Genesis Mesa, Yohelin Meza, Brian Kopitar and Christine Velardi. Back row: Mayank Desai and Kristen Sabestinas.*

**Christina Filewicz** and **Shaina Cafone** designed t-shirts to be worn on April 22 and they are being painted the colors of the earth. The

two girls also designed three-inch buttons to be worn that day.

**Katie Nugent** has been filming the shirt decorations and will be putting together a promotional video for Car-Ban Day that will air on the school's news channel. On Earth Day, videotaping will continue to capture the arrival of the students and staff.

Data will be gathered to determine the amount of greenhouse gas reduction. For info, call 973-470-2296.

"It is our hope that this activity will encourage people to choose alternative means of transportation," said Steransak.

Car-Ban Day is being funded by a \$500 grant the city received from the Earth Day Network to educate residents about reducing carbon footprints and combat global warming through simple means.

**Clifton has been named a Tree City USA community** by the Arbor Day Foundation to honor its commitment to community forestry. It is the 12th year the city has received this national recognition.

Clifton is also the recipient of a Tree City USA Growth Award for demonstrating progress in its community forestry program in the following activity areas: education and public relations, community-wide tree event, publicity, youth education, tree planting and maintenance, special tree planting project and recycling.

The prestigious Growth Award recognizes environmental improvement and higher levels of tree care in Tree City USA communities.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Clifton has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community, having a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance.

For more information, visit [arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).



At left, Cara Cholewczynski and Megan Termyna. At right, students Shaina Cafone (far left) and Christina Filewicz designed the t-shirts behind them. In between the girls are Conservation Club advisors Marietta Steransak (inside left) and Irene Dutch.

Walking or biking instead of driving, reducing your air conditioner use or hanging your clothes out to dry can have a two-fold effect: the environment benefits and so does your wallet. By air drying clothing, residents can save as much as 25 percent on their electric bills.

There are plenty of ways to clean up your community and help keep the city green this Earth Day.

The Great American Clean Up, which runs through May 31, is still in need of volunteers.

Last year, more than 2.8 million people joined the cause, helping

beautify parks and recreational areas, cleaning shorelines and waterways, litter pick ups, tree plantings and more.

Clifton will also be getting some new free trees, thanks to the NJDEP's Community Forestry Cool Cities Initiative.

# PASSAIC COUNTY FILM FESTIVAL

APRIL 18th 10am

## 5th Annual Film Festival

PASSAIC COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
Public Safety Academy  
300 Oldham Road, Wayne, NJ  
973.569.4720

The Passaic County Film Festival is Sponsored by the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders

FREEHOLDERS: Terry Duffy, Greyson Hannigan, James Gallagher  
Pat Lepore, Sonia Rosado

FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR: Tahesha Way FREEHOLDER DEPUTY DIRECTOR: Bruce James

**FREE ADMISSION!**

Financial Support Provided By:

Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Bascom Corporation, Columbia Bank, Jacobs Enterprises, Inc., Jeffrey Kessler Properties, Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council at PCCC, NJ State Council on the Arts-Department of State, National Endowment for the Arts, Passaic County Community College Foundation



> FREE T-Shirt to first 100 people!

> Door Prize: Flip mino **HD** Camcorder!

Shade trees help cool large cities like Clifton, which can become as much as 12 degrees hotter than the surrounding areas in the summer.

According to the U.S. Forest Service, one mature shade has the cooling power of 10 air conditioners running all day. In addition, these trees absorb as much as eight pounds of heat-trapping pollution per year.

A total of 17 towns are participating in the event, which has planted over 24,000 trees—an expected savings of \$25 million in electricity.

**For Theresa Evans**, thinking green is an everyday thing. The CCMS teacher received the Clean Communities Award on March 12.



*From left, CCMS staff members Dominick D'Andrea, Bede Klein, Theresa Evans and Ted Melnick helped beautify the outside of the school, seen in the center of the page. At the bottom of the page is the CCMS Garden Club which also took part.*



Another tree was planted, and a bench was also added.

Several local businesses contributed to the cause. They are Terre Company, Athenia Mason Supply, Mikula Contracting, Ploch's Farm, Richfield Farms and Home Depot (all in Clifton), as well as Structural Stone in Fairfield, Central Supply in Passaic, Home Depot in Parsippany and Gro-Rite in Lincoln Park. The Sheriff's Labor Assistance Program also helped out.

Evans is also the recipient of the Presidential Volunteer Service Award from the U.S. Dept. of the Interior's Take Pride in America Program.

Her work in the community began three years ago with the beautification of a nearby traffic island. From there, Evans expanded her project to cover the entire campus.

The crowning achievement was the Diversity Garden, which is adjacent to the cafeteria entrance near the stadium.

The once-spotty lawn has been made over, replaced with neatly trimmed shrubs and mulch.

