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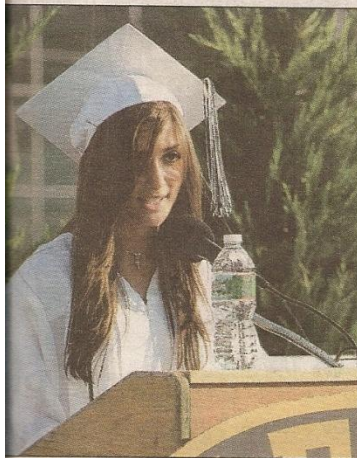
## Congratulations to the Class of 2010



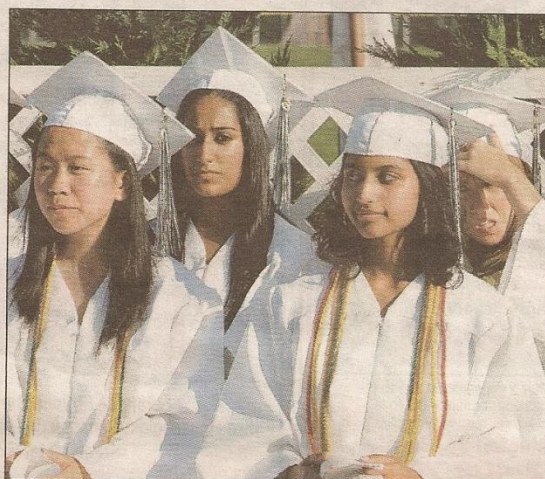
PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY GRIFFIN

...eives her Montville Township High School diploma during commencement Wednesday, June 23.

Some family members and friends were even more enthusiastic than the grads.



Zaccaria addressed her fellow class- and friends during MTHS graduation



Valedictorian Ann John and Salutatorian Rachel Lee wait to give their speeches.

### CHINESE SCHOOL

## Chou is chosen as principal

BY LISA KINTISH  
Staff Writer

Since 1981, the Northern New Jersey Chinese Association Chinese School and Montville Township have enjoyed a special relationship.

From the start, the Chinese School has met at Montville Township High School on Sundays offering instruction in Chinese as a second language and Chinese heritage to students aged 4 to adult. Today, one third of the 340 students are Montville Township residents and plans are under discussion to attract more students for the next year.

On June 13, the Chinese School completed its current academic year with performances, student awards, and the inauguration of a new principal, Tahsin Chou.

Besides being the previous vice principal of the school, Chou is also a school parent, with two daughters, in seventh and 10th grades, who attend the school. He said he enjoys being part of the school, singling out for praise its strong relationships among faculty, parents, and students.

Chou is originally from Taipei, Taiwan, and received his bachelor degree at Chung-Yuan University, Chung-Li, Taiwan. He came to the United States to pursue graduate degrees, first getting a master's degree in electrical engineering from Pennsylvania State University and then a second master's degree in computer science from New Jersey Institute of Technology.

He also holds a Ph.D. in management information system from

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# Community

## CHOU

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Nova Southeastern University in Florida.

His career has taken him to several companies, including Cal-Camp Electronics and Catholic Community Services. He works for a software development company. The Chinese School is not Chou's first job in academia; he worked as a professor at Bloomfield College in 1999.

Like at any school, some students are more eager to learn than others. For those who require a bit more encouragement, the teachers at the Chinese School try to make the material more interesting so that it will "catch the students' attention," said Chou.

For others who already have an interest in the subject matter, there are outlets with which to express this aspect of their life. Chou noted that many have entered the Chinese Culture Contest. This year, the school had quite a bit of success on this front, with the senior and junior teams placing second and first in the Eastern Region Chinese Culture Contests. Both teams are now preparing for the National Chinese Culture Contest in Chicago in August.

As for the Chinese School's relationship with Montville Township, Chou said that while the school provides its students with the Chinese language learning opportunity and cultural activities not yet afforded through the public schools, the Chinese School has played "an instrumental role in

helping the district in establishing the Mandarin Chinese program in the high school. The program grew from zero students to 50 students in the high school in a short, three-year period."

Chou added, "In March 2009 we helped the district obtain a \$1,800 grant from the Taiwan Consulate in New York for the purpose of developing the high school's new Chinese curriculum."

The Chinese School has also aided Montville in applying for a federal Foreign Language Assistance Program grant that was recently approved for the amount of \$780,000 by the Department of Education. Additionally, the Chinese School awards two scholarships annually to graduating Montville High School students.

The presence of the Chinese School can be found throughout the township in many ways. It provides props, financial support, and manpower to the high school's Media Center's Chinese New Year Festival celebration and each year, the lion dance and dragon dance props are lent to Hilledale Elementary School for its Chinese New Year festival.

The township's Fourth of July celebrations are enhanced with a show put on by students from the Chinese School.

"We maintain a very good working relationship with the district. We expect this mutually beneficial relationship will maintain for many years to come," said Chou.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA HOLECKO

Chinese "Yi tribe" folk dance being performed during a program at the end of the Northern New Jersey Chinese Association Chinese School's academic year. In front is Vivian Hawn; back, Judith Foo.

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