



ST. FRANCIS STUDENTS PAY TRIBUTE TO ROOSEVELT VETERANS

For the second year, students from the St. Francis Cathedral School in Metuchen honored veterans from Roosevelt Care Center at Edison during a Feb. 27 Patriotic Assembly.

More than 50 students from the school's third-and-fourth-grade classes, dressed in both period clothing as well as modern-day military fatigues, hosted an hour-long program that included a prayer, speakers, a hymn, as well as the national anthem and other patriotic tunes.

"Intergenerational programs are fabulous," said Joanne Franklin, Roosevelt's Director of Recreation and Volunteers. "It's very educational for the children to learn about the past and their history. It's good to reminisce and to have residents feeling younger and staying connected to the community."

At the event, which typically coincides with Presidents' Day, representative from the local American Legion post addressed the crowd, explaining the importance of veteran's contributions and thanking the honorees in attendance for their service.

Children closed the ceremony by giving each Roosevelt resident a carnation, a red, white and blue ribbon, as well as a pin.

The tribute was both touching and fitting for the five residents who attended, at least two of whom were World War II veterans, said Roosevelt Recreation Therapist Kim Dessel, who accompanied residents to the event.

"It was very moving," Dessel said. "Our residents really seemed to enjoy themselves."