

Watchung Post

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

NJ

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**SOMERSET HILLS
BUSINESS
NETWORK
MEETING**

**FRIDAY,
MAY 15TH
8:00 AM**

**FIDDLER'S
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ECRWSS

LIBRARY HONORED FOR BEST PRACTICES IN EARLY LITERACY

The Watchung Public Library, a Branch of the Somerset County Library System, is one of four libraries honored by New Jersey State Library with the 2015 Award for the Best Practices in Early Literacy Programs. New Jersey State Library Youth Services Specialist, Sharon Rawlins, presented the award to Watchung Library's Youth Services Librarian, Sharon Orlando, at the New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference.

The four winning libraries include Watchung Public Library for its Mini-Maker Art Space Program, Cherry Hill Public Library for a Busy Bags Learning Activities Program, the Otto Bruyns Public Library in Northfield for the B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Baby) interactive program, and Franklin Township (in Somerset County) Free Public Library's Reading Connection Program based on the letters of the alphabet.

Watchung Library's Mini-Maker Art Space coordinated by Orlando, and supported by the Friends of the Watchung Library and the Watchung Library Advisory Board, is a self-directed art space for children and their families. Studies have shown that expressive arts can foster emergent reading through symbols, feelings and words. Started in 2008, the Mini-Maker Art Space offers young artists an array of supplies and books related to a theme. Families can stop by whenever the library is open to make a project, as well as read and tell a story about what they created.

"Art inspires children to expand their ideas, and visualize what they are thinking about. Wonderful words and stories follow what they've made," says Orlando. She also added that the award really honors all the young artists and the grown-ups who visit and participate in the art space.

Katie Panzarella, and her children, Natalie and P.J, regularly come to the library and work in the art space. "Art and story telling are very important to the library, my children are a great example of that. They love coming to the Watchung Library mainly because you have a different craft every week. Though they may not do the actual craft



(above, l-r) Sharon Rawlins, NJSLS Youth Services Consultant, and Sharon Orlando, head of Youth Services at Watchung Public Library.

depicted, they use their imaginations other ways to create art."

Along with a certificate, Watchung Library received an award for \$1,000. The funds will be used to support the program. This is the second time that the New Jersey State Library has honored Watchung Library for Best Practices in Early Literacy Programs. The first was in 2012 for the library's Family Reading Incentive Programs.

LITTLE LEAGUE PHOTOS FEATURED ON NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

Renna Media has created a Facebook page for all twelve of its publications including Watchung Post. The Facebook page compliments the company's website www.RennaMedia.com. The Watchung Post Facebook page will feature photo albums that also appear on the website, and frequent blog posts.

Residents are encouraged to like the page to keep up with the latest upcoming events. They can also "Like," "Tag," and "Share" the photos. The most recent album uploaded is of the Little League Opening Day Parade. Besides current albums, Renna Media will maintain a community calendar of events. Non-profits are encouraged to submit their information. All past issues can also be found on the site.



Photos of this and other events can be found at www.renna.com and on the Watchung Post Facebook page. Feel free to Like, Tag, and Share.

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FABRICLAND CRAFT FAIR & ONE DAY SALE

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Watchung Post

Watchung Post is published by Renna Media. 3,000 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Watchung, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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Renna Media welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent via fax or email to:

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Fax: 908-709-9209
Email: joerenna@rennamedia.com

THE GARDEN CLUB OF WATCHUNG'S BEST OF THE BEST PLANT SALE

The Garden Club of Watchung will hold its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 9, at Wilson Memorial Church's upper parking area at the corner of Valley and Hillcrest in Watchung. Home Grown garden plants as usual are the stars of the sale that also will include herbs and vegetable plants. All plants are very reasonably priced and new this year are house plants, many in attractive pots. Home-baked goods suitable for Mothers' Day will also be on hand, so come early for the Best of the Best.

COMMUNITY PICNIC

May 16th Noon – 3:00 pm @ Mobus Field
(Rain Date May 17th)
Music, Amusements, Games, Crafts, Train Rides, Hot Dogs, Pizza, Pop Corn, Cotton Candy, Italian Ice, Refreshments and Prizes. Free event for Watchung Residents!

ARMY? NAVY? MARINE? COAST GUARD? AIR FORCE? WE WANT YOU!

The Watchung Historical Committee is planning to enhance the lists of veterans' names on the Watchung War Memorial. To have a veteran's name included on the War Memorial, the man/woman would have to have been a resident of Watchung at the time of his/her induction into military service and have served during an armed conflict/s. If this criteria describes you and you would like to have your name placed on the Watchung War Memorial, please contact Lynn Franklin at 908-755-6276.

MOVIE IN THE PARK

June 12th Friday Night at 8:30 pm @ Mobus Field (Rain Date June 19th)
Bring your blankets or chairs and the whole family! Movie to be announced. Popcorn, Candy and Refreshments!

PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email Lynn Sjurset at lynn@rennamedia.com.



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Kids 3-6.....\$3.39	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
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FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 9:30pm
Adult\$7.99	Adult\$10.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
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ENVIRONMENTAL COMM. / EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Submitted by Thomas Fiorilla, Watchung



Driving or walking around Watchung or Best Lakes in Watchung, you might notice some new structures in the trees above. Boy Scout Eagle candidate Thomas Fiorilla, Watchung Troop

32, led a team of volunteers to build four colony bat houses to help support the local bat population, which has been compromised due to white nose syndrome. Bats are beneficial to the environment because they devour a third of their body weight in nuisance bugs per night—particularly mosquitoes. This in turn can reduce the amount of mosquito pesticides used. The bat houses also encourage the animals to nest away from homeowners' attics and roof eaves.

For more information about how and why to encourage bats to roost, see the Watchung Environmental Commission's website at <http://watchungnj.gov/EC/index.html>. There you'll also find a link to plans to building a smaller version of a bat house, great for backyard installation.

The bat house Eagle project was sponsored by the Watchung Environmental Commission, with additional donations from a private donor and the Watchung Home Depot.

MAYOR TEACHES 2ND GRADERS ABOUT GOVERNMENT

Submitted by Kristen Turturiello, 2nd Grade Teacher at Bayberry

Mayor Pote spoke to the 2nd Graders at Bayberry School on Friday, March 27th. The 2ndGraders are currently learning about our Local, State and Federal governments. Mayor Pote spoke to students about the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches of government. The Mayor explained the voting process and how government leaders are elected. He also described his daily responsibilities and the law making process. Mayor Pote concluded with answering several questions that the students had prepared. He gave each child an American Flag and left each class with his autograph! The children had a wonderful experience and truly appreciated the Mayor taking the time to visit our classrooms!



(above, l-r): Mayor Pote, Grant Miller, Isabella Thomas, Gabrielle Bilenker and Garance Lesegretain

YOUNG SCIENTISTS TEACH VISITORS SCIENCE

More than 90 budding scientists in the Watchung Borough School District had an opportunity to show off their talents at the Science Fair last month. Students in grades 2-5 shared their experiments, demonstrations, and hands-on activities with parents, teachers, and friends.

The young scientists taught visitors a variety of science concepts, including how to make crystals, how clouds form, and what robots can do for us. This was Watchung's sixth annual science fair, organized by district teacher Elaine Chesebro and parent Gail Seelig.



(above) Young scientist Reese Fishelman

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Portuguese Garlic Shrimp

Rock shrimp sauteed with olive oil & garlic, deglazed in Spanish liqueur & spices. Served with garlic bread

Entrees

(Includes soup or salad)

Beef Short Ribs

Slow cooked tender beef short ribs with a demi-glace served with roasted red potatoes & broccoli

Chicken Piccata

Chicken breast sauteed in olive oil then simmered in a sauce with garlic, fresh lemons & capers
Served with a choice of side

Garlic & Herb Crusted Sole

Fresh wild fillet of sole, seasoned and pan seared. Served over a bed of cilantro lime rice with a side of a sauteed blend of shredded Brussel sprouts, broccoli, kale, red cabbage, carrots and kohlrabi

Desserts

Peanut Butter Bomb

A chocolate candy bar bottom, topped with a layer of peanut butter ganache & a mound of chocolate mousse

Creme Brulee Cup

A creamy caramelized sugar creme brulee layered top and bottom with buttery salted caramel

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STUDENTS TAKE STAGE WITH MUSIC MAN JR.

Valley View Middle School presented *The Music Man Junior* in March 2015



(above) Nora Walid, Gabrielle Listorti, Sergio Eghelshi, John Savatta and Elizabeth Samayoa



(above, l-r): The traveling salesmen: James Kelly, Hans Parikh, Matthew Schaefer and Aiden Cooper.

BOE'S NEWEST BOARD MEMBER, MARGO LANGER



Watchung Borough Board of Education's newest board member, Margo L. Langer, was appointed on April 15, 2015. Pictured (l-r): Joseph Mattiassi, Georgia Glasser-Nehls, Jim Rhyner (President), Margo Langer, Dr. Barbara A. Resko (Superintendent), Ellyn Margulies (Vice-President), John Malchow and Tina Kelly.

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COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Submitted by Borough of Watchung, Traffic and Beautification Committee

Watchung's Operation Pride took place on Saturday, April 11, 2015. The Traffic and Beautification Committee was proud to organize

the event again this year and had about 70 volunteers donate their time to pick up trash including Mayor Stephen Pote, Councilwomen

Dianna Beck-Clemens and Debra Joren, and large contingents from Coldwell Banker as well as the Watchung Boy and Girl Scouts.



(above) This year's Operation Pride volunteers who donated their time to clean up their community.



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