# WARREN MONTHLYNJ

#### WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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#### **ISSUE 10 • OCTOBER 2013**

## WATCHUNG -Warren Rotary Club

Meets every Tuesday at 12:15pm at the Twin Brooks Country Club, 600 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ. For more information about the club and upcoming events, please call Bob Aznar at (908) 755-8724.

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## WARREN TOWNSHIP KICKOFF MEETING DRAWS 80 ATTENDEES

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce announced that the newest group under their umbrella, the Warren Township Chamber of Commerce, hosted 80 attendees at their kickoff meeting.

Warren Township Chamber of Commerce, an organization that will meet monthly for breakfast, networking and presentations from experts in various industries, heard from Jim Coyle of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, as well as representatives from the township, including Mayor Victor Sordillo, Police Lieutenant Bill Keane, Superintendant of Schools Tami Crader and Carolyn Della Sala, director of the Warren Township library.

The group will next meet Oct. 24 at 8:00 a.m. in the Warren Township Courtroom and the meeting will be hosted by the Warren Township library.

"The Gateway Chamber is thrilled to be a part of such an endeavor," said Jim Coyle. "There is no additional membership fee to be part of this group. Once you're part of the Gateway Chamber, you're automatically a member of all our local groups and are invited to attend as many as you'd like."

While there is no cost to attend the Warren Township Chamber Meetings, members and attendees can expect serious interaction with other businesses and township officials. The mayor, chief of police, superintendants of schools and library director will be invited to every meeting and encouraged to offer information on what's going on in town.

Evan Tornquist of Fulton Bank of New Jersey commented, "I am so pleased to chair this new group. Warren hasn't had a business organization since the Warren Business & Professional Association and it's time for a fresh start. We welcome businesses large and small to attend the meetings and we look forward to working together to make Warren an even better place to live and work."



(above, l-r) Kevin McClarren from Home Care Assistance, Paul Rapps of Warren Rescue Squad, WPD Lt. Bill Keane, Warren Deputy Mayor Gary DiNardo, and Janet Kuebler of Right at Home.

Tornquist's sentiments were echoed by Kate Conroy, vice president of the Gateway Chamber.

"We feel overwhelmed by the support members of the Warren business community have shown for this new group," she said. "The Warren Township Chamber of Commerce is off to a great start, and we can't wait to see where the journey takes us."

## **MALANGA FARM'S PUMPKIN CHARITY FEST**

On Saturday, Oct. 12th Penny Lane Dog Adoption & Senior Sanctuary held a Pumpkin Charity Fest at Malanga Farm & Greenhouse in Warren. It was a beautiful day and a terrific way for folks to help homeless dogs in the rescue.





(Right) Leo Wyman poses in his bumble bee costume while Valentine Malanga looks on

(left) Eight month old Emma Johnson, Bridgewater, finds just the right pumpkin.

(far left) Janet Picone of Middlesex shows off her cute hand painted pumpkin.





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## 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.



## **LET'S GIVE THANKS**

On Wednesday, November 13, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., the Warren Township Committee will hold its regular meeting at the Watchung Hills Regional High School, 108 Stirling Road, Warren, NJ in the South Building Auditorium. The Township Leadership would like to give thanks to any and all volunteers, residents, businesses, and employees of Warren in recognition of New Jersey Monthly honoring Warren Township as the 2013 #1 Best Place to Live in Central Jersey and #2 in the State of New Jersey.

New Jersey Monthly recognized the Township in its September 2013 issue, "Best Places to Live; Top Ranked Towns for Young Families, Singles and Empty Nesters".

Comments were made by Mayor Victor J. Sordillo in the article, acknowledging Warren's: 1) Fiscal conservatism, 2) Low debt limit, 3) Recreation programming, 4) Volunteerism as a way of life in Warren

The Mayor praised the volunteerism of emergency service personnel in both Fire and Rescue and the dedicated service provided by the numerous members of Boards, Commissions and Recreational Organizations from Sports to Scouting; all contributing to a significant method of reducing governmental costs.

The Township was recognized for its location, mix of neighborhoods, and excellent schools. In addition, the ability to attract businesses such as

WARREN MONTHLY • Page 2 • October 2013



Chubb and Citigroup has assisted in maintaining a low tax rate.

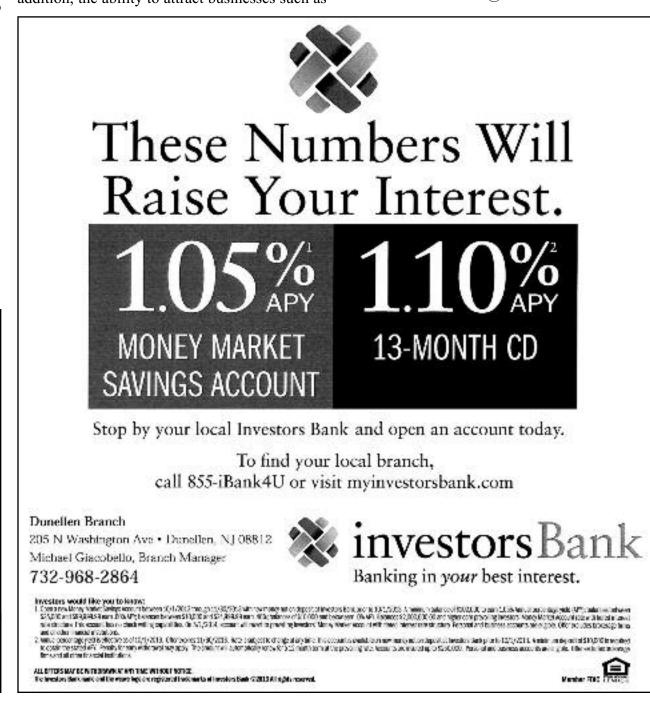
The diversity of restaurants and shops on Mountain Boulevard and throughout the Township also makes Warren an attractive community.

Warren Township is #1 in Central Jersey because of its residents; it is not the dwellings or the businesses, but the people that make Warren special.

The Township Committee is recognizing all of those who make this community special at their meeting on November 13th to be held at the High School. ALL residents and businesses are invited to join them for this celebration. Refreshments will be served in the south building cafeteria after the meeting.

All attendees are asked to R.S.V.P. by November 1, 2013

at: NOV13EVENT@WARRENNJ.ORG





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(above) Alex Scheck, shown with his coach, Greg Leonow, has been named a member of the soccer team in the upcoming Special Olympics USA, to be held in June, 2014. The Watchung Hills Regional High School student also acts as a manager of the Hills' boys soccer and the girls' basketball teams. (Photo by Eleanor Mathews)

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## HILLS' STUDENT NAMED TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAM NJ

**By Eleanor Mathews** 

In what is a "first" for Watchung Hills Regional High School, and, indeed, for New Jersey, a local student, Alex Scheck, has won a position on Team New Jersey for soccer in the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games.

The 2014 Special Olympics USA Games, to be held June 14-21, will involve 3,500 athletes from all over the United States, 1,000 coaches and Delegates, 10,000 volunteers, and some 70,000 spectators and families.

Participants will vie in aquatics, baseball, bocce, bowling, cycling, flag football, golf gymnastics, powerlifting, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball. In addition, there will be demonstrations in baseball and triathlon. Team New Jersev will include 280 athletes, and will have representatives in every sport.

Alex Scheck has not only been appointed to the soccer team (in the position of forward), but has also been selected to be a team representative for media interviews, a task which should not be difficult for this enthusiastic and knowledgeable athlete. Scheck has been involved in the game since age 10,



when he joined the New Providence soccer team outside of school. He now plays with the New Jersey Hawks, who hone their skills in Clark, N.J. and the Mercer County Park.

In addition to playing in forward and goalie positions himself, Scheck also serves as manager for Watchung Hills Boys Soccer Team and as Manager of Girls Basketball, in both of which positions he is serving for the fifth year.

Over the years, Scheck has been active in track and field, basketball, swimming, bowling.

With fellow Olympians, Scheck will take part in the Opening Ceremonies for the national sports event on June 15 at the Prudential Center, Newark, where the traditionally impressive Parade of Athletes will take place, as well as the lighting of the Special Olympics Cauldron which opens the games.

The Closing Ceremonies will be held on June 20 at the Sun Bank Arena. Trenton, a celebration and culmination of the 2014 Games. In the intervening days, competition will take place at various venues, such as Rider College, Princeton University, Mercer County Park. Athletes will be housed at the various local universities in the area.

Before the big event, however, the public will get a preview of Team New Jersey. Along with the other athletes in a variety of sports, Scheck will be introduced during the Rutgers football game at noon on Saturday, November 2.

All those years of practice, all those competitions, all the team coaching Scheck has done have now culminated in the biggest challenge of all: the 2014 Special Olympics



## WARREN RESIDENT NAMED ANGEL IN ADOPTION

Warren resident Carrie Kitze has been named an Angel in Adoption by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI). Kitze was honored at an awards ceremony and gala Oct. 8-9, in Washington, DC.

The Angels in Adoption program provides an opportunity for all members of the U.S. Congress to honor constituents who have honored along with 140 Angels and honorees, enriched the lives of foster children and orphans in the US and abroad. Kitze was selected as an Angel in Adoption for her years of work supporting foster and adoptive families through her company EMK Press, which has published several books for children, teens and adults living in non-traditional families.

"The most important work I do is to help families be successful parenting the children who come to them," said Kitze. "Many families find themselves ill-prepared for the issues children have coming out of institutionalization, foster care, or abusive situations. "

Kitze's latest publication, The Foster Parenting Toolbox, has been recognized this resources available from EMK Press, please year with an Independent Publisher Book Award

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and as one of the Foreward Books of the Year. Additionally, Kitze volunteers her time as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, representing in court the voice of foster children assigned to her, and was recently named to the board at the Attachment & Trauma Network, Inc.

At the events in Washington, Kitze was including Korie and Willie Robertson of Duck Dynasty and actress Deborra-Lee Furness, wife of Hugh Jackman. Former National Angels in Adoption have included First Lady Laura Bush, Muhammad Ali, Bruce Willis, Rhea Perlman, and Kristin Chenoweth among others.

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan organization created in 2001 to raise awareness about foster children and orphans in the United States and the millions more around the world in need of permanent, safe and loving homes through adoption.

For more information about the books and visit www.emkpress.com



(above, l-r) Warren resident Carrie Kitze has been named an Angel in Adoption by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. with Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA) presenting an award pin to Kitze at a ceremony in Washington, Oct. 8. (Photo credit: Gordon R. Wenzel)







#### WARREN MONTHLY • Page 6 • October 2013

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEER WINS **2013 CANRIGHT AWARD**

Library volunteer Sue Polucki was the recipient of the 2013 Canright Award. A Canright recipient is named annually by the Friends of the Warren Twp Library in recognition of their individual or group efforts. Ms. Polucki has been in charge of organizing the shelves and displays for the successful book sale to raise funds for the Friends of the Library. The Canright Award is named for Betty Lou and John Canright, township residents who were active in their support of the library. The couple's son, Mark Canright, attended the reception following the presentation ceremony.

## ARREN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

42 Mountain Boulevard • Warren, New Jersey 07059 • 908-754-5554 Hours: Mon - Thurs: 9:30-9, Fri: 9:30-5, Sat: 9:30-4 www.sclsnj.org/warren.htm and visit program calendar to sign up. Please note: Program dates and times may be subject to change. For complete program information, go to the library's website or call the library.



## LEARNING HOW TO PLAY THE DJEMBE

(left) African Drumming with Mark Wood from Wood'n Drums took place on October 12. Participants had the chance to experience the joy of African drumming, and learn some basics rhythms while playing the "djembe" (pronounced 'gem bay'). Mark is a life-long musician whose personal mission is to share the power of drumming with communities including educational institutions and medical facilities.

## DECEMBER 2013 ADULT PROGRAMS

Warren Twp Library's November Programs for Adults Registration required. Please call 908-754-5554 ext 64 to

register, or go to the website www.sclsnj.org/warren.htm.

**Gotcha! Snapshots that Changed History:** 2 PM, Saturday, November 2. In this lecture, New Jersey photographer Jim DelGiudice will look at photos that changed history by accident.

Stephen Hopkins of the Mayflower, by David Emerson 7 PM, Thursday, November 7 Stephen Hopkins' experience in the New World made him a useful and respected member of the group of New England settlers popularly known as 'the Pilgrims.'

**Prohibition Gangsters! With author Marc Mappen** 2 PM, Saturday, November 9 Author, historian and master storyteller Marc Mappen

will talk about the gangsters of the Prohibition era. Technology Tuesday

1:30 TO 3 PM, Tuesday, November 12 Do you have a question about eBooks or downloading digital materials? Just bring in your device and your questions to these informal sessions.

#### WATCHUNG-WARREN ROTARY CLUB

The Watchung-Warren Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at 12:15pm at the Twin Brooks County Club, 600 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ. For more information about the club and upcoming events, please call Bob Aznar at (908) 755-8724.

Unlock the Einstein within: A New Way of Thinking

7 PM, Tuesday, November 12 Aerobics for the Mind! Want to perform better in school, sports, work or life? The key is mental fitness!

> **Afternoon Book Club** 1:30 PM. Thursday, November 14

For more information at 908-754-5554 ext 32 "A Life of my Own: Meeting Eleanor Roosevelt"

with actress Linda Kenyon 2 PM, Saturday, November 16

After her successful program about Julia Child, actress Linda Kenyon will be back at the library by popular demand to portray Eleanor Roosevelt.

**Evening Book Club** 

7:15 PM, Monday, November 18 New members are always welcome.

**Identity Theft** 

7 PM, Wednesday, November 20 (new date) Kevin Lynch, CSA, from the Society of Financial Awareness will discuss the ever pressing issue of Identity Theft As more business is being conducted online.

#### Secrets to Mental Youth Part III

10 to 10:45 AM, Thursday, November 21 Join LearningRx in Warren, for the last part in a series of programs, as they explain how crucial strong cognitive skills are and the key role that brain fitness plays in our overall well-being.

**Carnaby Street! The Music of the British Invasion** 

2 PM, Saturday, November 23 After the huge success of his band Rave On!, Chris Roselle will be back for another fun concert.



(above, l-r) Friends of the Library Trustees, from left: Beverly Lang (vice-president and secretary), Carol Senff (president), Sue Polucki (Canright Award winner), Silvia Gerken (trustee) and JoAnn Ball (treasurer).







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## FOUR HILLS SENIORS ARE MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

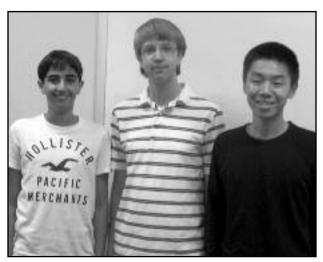
In addition, 22 Watchung Hills seniors were named Commended Students.

#### By Eleanor Mathews

Four members of Watchung Hills Regional High School's Class of 2014 achieved Semifinalist standing in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship Program competition. They are: Nicholas Akrawi, Alexander Rucker, Albert Zeng, all of Warren, and Jesse Lu of Green Brook. (Note: Lu has transferred to another school district.)

The Merit honorees are among some 16,000 Class of 2014 students nationwide to have achieved Semifinalist status in the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. In addition, 22 Watchung Hills seniors were named Commended Students in the annual scholarship program.

Last fall, more than 1.5 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools entered the 2014 National Merit Program by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/ NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists represents less than one percent of the nation's Class of 2014 graduates. As Semifinalists, they become eligible to advance in competition for some 8,300 Merit Scholarship awards, worth \$35 million, to be distributed next spring.



(above) Hills Seniors are National Merit Semifinalists (l-r) Nicholas Akwari, Alexander Rucker, Albert Zeng. (Jesse Lu, also a Semifinalist, has transferred to another school system.) High-ranking scorers have the possibility of earning scholarship funds. (Photo by Eleanor Mathews)

#### WARREN MONTHLY • Page 7 • October 2013

### PUMPKIN PATCH RUMMAGE SALE RETURNS TO PILGRIM

Pilgrim Congregational Church is holding its Pumpkin Patch Rummage Sale on Saturday, November 9th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The church will have clothes in good condition for children and adults, toys, games and puzzles for children, dishes and house ware, books, CDs and DVDs, sporting goods, tools, small furniture, small appliances, linens, jewelry and boutique items. All items are clean and in good to excellent condition. The bake sale will have a large variety of fabulous fall treats. If you're looking for that hard to find item, this might be the answer. There will be something for everyone. Pilgrim Congregational Church is located at 105 Mountainview Road in Warren. Call 908-903-0929 for directions or visit the church's website, www.pilgrimcongregationalchurch.org.

Pilgrim Congregational Church has become one of the fastest growing churches in the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches in America. The church's philosophy is to provide a venue for building up your faith without letting down your reason.

## **JOSHUA'S CLOSET RAISES MONEY FOR CANCER!**

On Tuesday, September 24th members of Joshua's Closet, a North Plainfield based nonprofit organization that donates to cancer research, picked up over 50 bags of donated clothing from Chubb Insurance of Warren. Chubb employee, Katie Stachler, coordinated the 2nd annual week long clothing drive. At the employee picnic, money was raised via 50/50 raffle which totaled \$448.00 and the companies matching gift program totaled \$300.00. With the donated clothing, Joshua's Closet sells it to A&E Clothing Corporation who in turn pays \$0.20 per pound. The Chubb Insurance clothing drive, and other donated bags, resulted in 1,355 pounds, totaling \$271.00! All money donated and from A&E Clothing Corporation is donated to the Cancer Institute of New Jersey located in

New Brunswick, NJ. For more information about Joshua's Closet, please find them on Facebook or email joshuascloset@live.com



(above) Representatives of Joshua's Closet and clothing drive participants of Chubb Insurance.





