

Watchung Post

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

NJ

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ISSUE 12 • SEPTEMBER 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.

GIRL SCOUT SISTERS EARN SILVER AWARD

Written by Alexandra Benc-Troop 65846, Anastasia Benc-Julietteformerly Troop 78,

The Silver Award is the Second Highest Award in Girl Scouting. It is the highest award that Cadette Girl Scouts ages 11-14 or in grades 6-8 can earn. Going for the Girl Scout Silver Award gives girls a chance to show they are a leader who is organized, determined, and dedicated to improving their community.

Letter read and presented to the Watchung Borough Council by Benc Sisters on September 12, 2013: The second highest award a Girl Scout can earn is the Silver Award. Earlier this year my sister and I decided we would begin working on our award. But first we had to decide on a project that would not only benefit the community but have a lasting impact. We truly had only one choice: we decided to dedicate our one hundred combined hours to the Watchung Library. Ever since we were little, my sister Anastasia, brother Nicholas, and I have come to the Watchung Library to attend programs, track our reading minutes, or simply look through the endless number of books to find some of interest. We have always felt that our library was an important part of our community and we felt obliged to do something for it after all it has given us and our family. We started off this summer by making calls to local families reminding them about the programs for which they signed up. In July, we started the biggest part of our project. This included coming to the library at least twice a week to do some "summer cleaning" in the children's and young adult sections. Leading teams of friends and Scouts, we managed to remove, clean, and reorganize roughly 20,000 books crammed into a little space. After many visits, some lasting up to four hours, we realized that there were times we could not easily return the books to the shelves because there is not enough space to contain the volumes of non-fiction, picture, board, and young adult books in our library. In fact, there are books on the tops of shelves in the children's section that little ones cannot even reach on their own.

The current library does not have adequate space and we are here tonight to urge the Borough Council to move forward with plans to renovate or build a new library. The citizens of Watchung—young and old—need a cultural, social, and educational center in the community. The Watchung Library has the highest circulation rate in the county yet one of the smallest buildings! Why should our



(l-r) Anastasia Benc and Alexandra Benc

young patrons go to other county libraries to use facilities that should be available in our own wonderful little town? A renovated library could and should become a technology center, media center, social center, and, if need be, a community center in times of emergencies.

Some may say that libraries are a thing of the past. One needs only to look at Watchung's circulation numbers or visit the library on a busy summer day to see that this is not true. Many people still prefer holding a "real" book in their hands rather than an e-book! Tonight we present to you a petition signed by the young people of Watchung. We have gathered the signatures from many children and teens who ask you to move forward with plans for a new building. The time is right.

**Renna Media has added
Long Hill Leader,
Green Brook Gazette
and Dunellen Express
to its family of newspapers.**
(see details on page 7)

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Watchung Post

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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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Inquiries concerning advertising and submissions of press releases can be made to Renna Media LLC via phone, fax or email to:

SNEAK PREVIEW: WEEKEND JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST 2013

Don't miss Somerset County's 8th annual Weekend Journey through the Past, an opportunity to step into and experience the past by visiting up to twenty-four (24) historic sites countywide open FREE to the public of all ages on Saturday, Oct. 12 from 10:00AM-5:00PM and Sunday, Oct. 13 from Noon -4:00PM.

This annual Autumn weekend features interpreted tours led by costumed docents; special collections & exhibitions; period military drills & encampments by living history re-enactors; open hearth cooking; colonial tavern life & games; traditional blacksmithing; 19th century firefighting wagons & apparatus; antiques sales; craftspeople demonstrating period decorative crafts; live theatre and period music performances; genealogical resources; participatory colonial dance instruction; daily chores of 18th cen. life; military history; demonstrations; local history videos; antique cameras and music box collections; interesting architecture; ... and so much more.

Visit: www.SCHistoryWeekend.com for comprehensive details about this annual event, and to access the 24 mystery photos for this year's What in the World is That?...kids/family detective investigation activity. Free printed guides and maps with directions from site to site will be available at each participating site.

Contact: Pat McGarry
 Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission (908) 203-6020.

WEEKEND JOURNEY ACTIVITIES:

- Learn about 19th and early 20th century rules for teachers and students, and about the development of school architecture in New Jersey.
- Examine reproductions of 18th, 19th, and 20th century maps to learn about the early history of Somerset County.
- Look through an old stereoscope at reproductions of photographs from the Library of Congress. See early American scenes in 3D.
- Exhibition of old-time children's books and schoolbooks. Coloring activities focusing on children's fashions throughout the years.



(above) New to the tour this year is the Millstone Schoolhouse/Borough Hall 1353 Main Street, Millstone, NJ. This one-room brick schoolhouse, built in 1860 on the west bank of the Millstone River.



(left) New to the tour this year is the Elm Street Bridge, Elm Street at intersection with River Road between Hillsborough & Branchburg Townships. The Elm Street Bridge, one of the last remaining of its type in the State, consists of two (2) single span lenticular through trusses over the South Branch of the Raritan River between Branchburg and Hillsborough Townships.

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.

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INTERNATIONAL WORLD CUP CHAMPION MAKES WATCHUNG PROUD

Anthony Volpe, 12 year old student athlete, had quite an exciting summer. He played on the USA Baseball 12U National Team that played in the International Baseball Federation World Cup in Chinese Taipei. His team claimed the gold medal with an 8-1 victory over Chinese Taipei.

At the Mayor and Council Meeting on September 12, 2013, Councilman Nehls read aloud the Resolution presented to Anthony on behalf of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung.



(above) Councilman Bill Nehls presents the Resolution to Anthony Volpe at a Watchung Borough Council Meeting. Photos Credit: Lynn Sjurset



(left) Mayor Pote and Councilman Nehls display the banner presented to Anthony Volpe. The banner had previously been displayed in front of Borough Hall.

“ART FOR ALL”

Clients at the Warrenbrook Senior Center learned how to make Terra Cotta bud vases by rolling and shaping clay. After the vase portion was formed, they created decorative flowers, leaves and vines to decorate their vases. One client formed an owl's face to decorate her vase. Instructor Barbara Gerson is from Art-4-All. Art-4-All of Somerville, NJ.



(above, l-r) Wilma LoBiondo, Warren, Susan Sabo-Innocenti, Watchung and Diane Adam, Green Brook decorating their vases.

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OCTOBER PROGRAMS AT WATCHUNG LIBRARY

Wompy's World of Musical Play

Wednesday, Oct. 30 at either 3:00 PM or 4:00 PM

Ages: 6 months to 3 years with Caregiver A charming blend of theater, puppetry and musical instruments, along with a different theme during each visit. IMPORTANT: There is a session at 3:00 PM followed by a REPEAT at 4:00 PM. You must choose one time.

Stories for Twos with Elaine

Friday, October 18 at 10:30 AM

Ages: 24 to 35 Months with Caregiver (Child MUST BE 24 MONTHS old when program begins)
Enjoy books, crafts, music, and more for the very young.

Much More Fun for Munchkins Storytime

Tuesday, October 29 at 10:30 AM

Presented by: Mrs. Fine. Ages: 2 1/2 to 3 with Caregiver
Enjoy books, songs, fingerplays, flannelboard stories, puppets and crafts - of course!

Miss June's Room

Thursday, October 3 at 4:00 PM

Ages: 4 to 6 DON'T MISS Miss June! Have fun making a project, hearing a story and enjoying a snack.

Leisa's Lollipop Hour

Wednesday, October 23 from 4:15 PM to 5:15 PM

Ages: 5 to 8. A craft, snack and stories are waiting for you to enjoy! Please respond to your email reminder or call the library. Your response better enables us to prepare materials appropriately, and can give a child on the wait list the chance to be included.

Baking and Books with Doug

Tuesday, October 1 at 4:15 PM

Ages: 6 and up. Bake something delicious to eat and dig into some great stories!

Paper Plane Palooza!

Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00 PM

Ages: 7 to 10. Armed with a stack of paper and some paper airplane directions.

LEGO Club

Monday, October 28 from 7:00 PM to 7:45 PM

Ages: For Grades 1 to 5. We've got lots of LEGO® pieces. We need kids to build stuff! If you like building with LEGO® pieces, come to our club!

Teen Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, October 23 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Ages: For Grades 5 to 12. Seek the unknown and mysterious at the library's scavenger hunt!

Creating Friendship Bracelets

Wednesday, October 16 from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Ages: For Grades 6-12. Presented by: Alana Danois
Join Alana from the North Plainfield Library to learn how to make beautiful, one-of-a-kind friendship bracelets using embroidery floss. Materials included.

Teen Action Group (TAG)

Wednesday, October 9 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Ages: For Grades 6 to 12. Bring your ideas to help plan events, select materials and make the library work for teens! You may earn community service hours. New members are always welcome. This is the first meeting of the school year. Have a voice in what TAG will do!

ABCs of DNA

Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00 PM

An Introduction to Genetic Genealogy and Personal Genomics Ages: Adult Presented by: Walter Choroszewski
Walter will help unravel the often confusing acronyms and science terms translating into common language. He will review companies offering DNA testing and teach audiences how they can use this new tool to discover the treasures hidden in their DNA!

Lotus Flower Lantern Craft Workshop

Thursday, October 24 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Ages: Adults. Presented by: Korean Spirit & Culture Promotion Project (KSCPP). Members will be on hand to help you make a lovely lotus flower lantern using colorful paper and wire frames. Registration required to allow for purchasing of supplies

Watchung Writers Group

Thursdays from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Ages: Adult. If you're interested in writing of any kind and want to improve your skills and share experiences, The Watchung Writers Group would like to meet you. The aim of the Group is to stimulate better writing. Any question, contact Pat Rydberg at pattijeanr@aol.com.

Mah Jongg Club of Watchung

Mondays and Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

All Ages. The Monday Mah Jongg Club of Watchung meets every Monday from 1:00 to 4:00 at Watchung. On either the third or fourth Monday of the month, Mah Jongg meets at approximately 1:30 PM. The Tuesday Mah Jongg Club of Watchung meets most Tuesdays. Contact Melanie Novello at Novello1800@aol.com.

Energy Meditation Class

Monday, October 7, 14 at 10:30 AM

Ages: Adult. Presented by: Patricia Barron
This seated meditation will be guided by the instructor with meditative music to circulate your energy and heal on a physical, mental and emotional basis.

Book Discussion with the Watchung Group

Ages: Adult We throw in books you would otherwise never read, but are worth reading!

Thursday, October 10 at 7:00 PM

The Killer Angels by Michael Shaara

The Battle of Gettysburg was fought for two dreams--freedom and a way of life. Memories, promises, and love were carried into the battle but what fell was shattered futures, forgotten innocence, and crippled beauty.

CURRENT BOOKS Book Club

Ages: Adult. Current Books Book Club Second Monday of the Month at 7:30 PM (with exceptions for holidays)

Monday, October 21 at 7:30 PM

Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn

When a woman goes missing on her fifth wedding anniversary, her diary reveals hidden turmoil in her marriage, while her husband, desperate to clear himself of suspicion, realizes that something more disturbing than murder may have occurred.

Social Action Nonfiction Book Club

Ages: Adult. Third Thursday of the Month at 7:30 PM for books, 7:00 PM for films

Thursday, October 17 at 7:00 PM

FILM: Bag It: Is Your Life Too Plastic?

What starts as a movie about plastic bags evolves into a wholesale investigation into plastic and its effect on our waterways, oceans, and even our own bodies. We see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up to us and what we can do about it now.

Tasty Bites and Books

Ages: Adult. Bring a bag lunch and share your thoughts!

Monday, October 28 from 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM

The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien

A classic, life-changing meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling.

READING STARS AWARDED AT BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING



(above) Watchung Library Director, Doug Poswencyk; Friends of the Watchung Library Liaison, Margaret Ellis and Watchung Borough Mayor, Stephen Pote join the Watchung Borough Council in celebrating the achievements of children who spent 6,000 minutes or more reading this summer. The champion readers were given trophies, donated by the Friends of the Watchung Library, to honor their accomplishments. The children became members of The 6,000 Club, which recognizes young readers who truly enjoy reading. (Photo Credit: Lynn Sjurset)

WATCHUNG LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Watchung Library is located at 12 Stirling Road in Watchung, behind the Watchung Arts Center. For complete program registration information, please check the online calendar (www.somerset.lib.nj.us, then go to Evenys/Programs for Watchung). Program information is subject to change, so also look online for updated programs and additions.

LIBRARY RECOGNIZES THE 6,000 CLUB

This summer, the 180 children who registered for the summer reading program were challenged to read 6,000 minutes or more, and in doing so, become a member of The 6,000 Club. The Friends of the Watchung Public Library acquired trophies for any child who could reach that goal - and beyond.

All the children who read this summer were winners. For those children who really love reading, Watchung Library's Dig into Reading Summer reading club was their reading Olympics, their time to reach for the stars.

On September 12 at 7:30 PM at the Watchung Borough Council Meeting, Mayor Stephen Pote and Watchung Library Director, Douglas Poswencyk will be presenting trophies to the 18 children who met the challenge and read 6,000 minutes or more. Like any Olympic athlete, readers who accomplished such a high level of achievement had the determination, the support of family members, and a true passion for what they were doing.

THE 6,000 CLUB MEMBERS FOR 2013

- Sarai Batallas
- Nicole Brunskill
- Jasmine Cui
- Clare Dong
- Isis Rose Jorge
- Ryan Kuran
- Erin Lenox
- Truman Pang
- Paul Quense
- Kanna Quinteros
- Francesca Salas
- John Santucci
- Anika Sinha
- Alexa Speeney
- Katherine Xie
- June Yin
- Daniel Zhang
- Nathan Zhang

The 6,000 Club program and trophies were made possible by the generosity of the Friends of the Watchung Library.



(above) Another winner was Anna Importico, who won the SmartFox, a brilliant underground creature donated by Build-A-Bear to celebrate Watchung Library's Dig into Reading summer reading season. Children received a SmartFox raffle ticket each time they visited the library. Anna's grandmother, Doris Stine (pictured with Anna), who was originally from Watchung, brought her granddaughter to Watchung Library during the summer. Anna's winning ticket was pulled from nearly 750 entries.



(above) Saniya Sabharwal, age 9, another grand prize winner in the library's reading raffle this summer. She won this colorful, jumbo plush dragon. Saniya is also a student at Bayberry School.



(above) Julia Brunskill, age 7, a grand prize winner in the library's reading raffle this summer. She won the microscope kit. Julia is a student at Bayberry School.

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RENNA MEDIA GROWS TO 11 MONTHLY PAPERS

Renna Media has added the Long Hill Leader, Green Brook Gazette and Dunellen Express to its family of newspapers. The husband and wife team of Joe and Tina Renna now publish eleven monthly newspapers along with the bi-monthly Around About Peterstown, Elizabeth newspaper.

The publications are "hyper-local" in nature in that they contain information that is focused on the town where they are distributed. The newspapers are mailed for free to residents and businesses, and dropped for free pick-up at distribution points.

The concept of being a hyper-local newspaper

is to give local businesses an inexpensive venue to promote their services. News from the school district and each department of the town's administration is also accommodated.

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or reports on recent events for publication.

Residents and organizations get a free connection to their hometown readers, a win-win for everyone.

The hyper-local design gives businesses the highest value for their advertising dollars. The

newspapers are designed (black ink on newsprint) to keep the cost of an advertisement to as low as \$50. A discount is also applied for those businesses involved in their local Chamber of Commerce.

Regional businesses can take advantage of one low rate for placement in three or more publications.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email Lynn Sjurset at lynn@rennamedia.com. Businesses interested in advertising should call Mollie Helck at 908-858-4012 for information about placing an ad.



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6 Units	10" x 4"	\$240	\$210	\$600	\$1000
9 HALF PAGE	10" x 6"	\$320	\$280	\$750	\$1200
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$320	\$900	\$1400
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 13.5"	\$400	\$350	\$1000	\$1600
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WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL H.S. WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Submitted by Eleanor Mathews

Eighteen newly-appointed teachers took part in Watchung Hills Regional High School's annual New Teacher Orientation held in the school's media center on August 27-28. The annual event introduces the newcomers to all aspects of the school. Addressed were such themes as: Genesis (the Electronic Gradebook), curriculum and assessment, "Teachscape," Mentoring, Outlook and Google, Mapping, Security, along with the opportunity to meet administrators and become acquainted with the physical plant. They also reviewed Danielson, a

new Teacher Evaluation Model, a framework that focuses on four aspects of teaching: planning and preparation, classroom environment, instruction and professional responsibilities.

New to the faculty are: (Arts) Erin Donnelly, Susan Beodeker;(English) Caitlin Impink, Maggie Violette-Birnberg, Cathy Landicho, Amanda Brown, Kristin Mannion, Daniel Larkins; (Math)Anthony Criscitello; (Social Studies) Sean New; (Phys Ed/Health) Kevin Schafer; (Science); Cassandra Hunt; (Special

Services) Laura Adams, Alicia Russell, Jim Richards, and (World Languages) Amelia Scruggs, Carmen Aparico, Ashley Notbusch.

Long-time Watchung Hills teacher of English, Mary Ellen Phelan, was introduced as the new chairperson of the English Department.

The new school year, which began on September 2, will support an enrollment of 2201, as compared with last year's registration of 2152 students from the sending district encompassing Green Brook, Long Hill, Warren Township and Watchung Borough.



Newly-appointed staff members attended a two-day orientation as a prelude to beginning their duties at Watchung Hills Regional H.S. They are: (Front row, from left) Kevin Schafer (Phys Ed/Health); Jim Richards (Business/ Special Services), Sean New (Social Studies); Anthony Criscitello (Math); (Second row) Laura Adams (Special Services); Maggie Violette Birnberg, Cathy Landicho (English); Carmen Aparicio, Amelia Scruggs, Ashley Notbusch (World Languages), and Cassandra Hunt (Science). (Third row) Alicia Russell (Special Services); Kristin Mannion, Amanda Brown, Caitlin Impink, Daniel Larkins (English); Erin Donnelly, Susan Beodeker (Arts). (Photo by Eleanor Mathews)

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Turkey Breast**

\$6⁹⁹ lb

WAT

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 10/23/13.

COUPON

**Hormel
American
Cheese**

\$3⁹⁹ lb

WAT

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 10/23/13.

COUPON

**\$1.00 OFF
your purchase of
\$20.00 OR MORE**



WAT

Excludes garden center and fish purchases. Limit 1 offer per customer per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offer expires 10/23/13.

YOUR PUMPKIN HEADQUARTERS



- Pumpkins • Gourds
- Fall Squashes
- Corn Stalks
- Hay Bales
- Halloween Decor
and much more...

**LARGE
SELECTION
OF FALL
MUMS!!**