

WARREN MONTHLY_{NJ}

WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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ISSUE 26• FEBRUARY 2015

WARREN TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

**THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 26**

8:00 AM

WARREN TOWNSHIP COURTROOM

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ANNUAL BONFIRE A HUGE SUCCESS!

Warren Township Committee & Township Recreation Commission's 7th Annual Yuletide Bonfire Winter Festival and Fireworks was held on Saturday, January 17, 2015 from 5pm – 8pm behind the municipal complex on Mountain Blvd. Residents enjoyed a full evening of entertainment, refreshments and fun. The annual discarded Christmas tree bonfire was led by Warren Township Fire Department. Entertainment was provided all evening: music by "Michael Lefton & Wildlife Band," songs by 2014 "So You Think You Can Sing" contestants and dancing by Take Flight Dancers. The youth sport champs of 2014 were honored by the Mayor. There was a carousel, trackless train ride, Clydesdale horse & carriage rides and games such as basketball, football, baseball & lacrosse throws, soccer kick, and a scavenger hunt. There were refreshments too: Smokin' Chicks food truck, marshmallow roasting, hot chocolate, popcorn and other snacks were plentiful. Many also enjoyed ice skating and the fireworks at the end of the event.

THANK YOU SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS

Warren Township Committee and Recreation Commission would like to thank those who contributed to make the 7th Annual Yuletide Bonfire Winter Festival & Fireworks a huge success. We cannot do this without your donations and help! This is a free event which is run 98% by volunteers and 50% from donations. Please remember us next year.

Marquee Partner: \$2,000+

Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen Club
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Warren Twp Recreation Announces

SUMMER CAMP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CIT (Counselors in Training) Applications are now being accepted. Students must be going into 10th grade in Sept. to 12th grade. A letter of reference from a teacher, employer or counselor must be sent with the application to the Recreation Department by May 14. You will be called for an interview. Limit 25 volunteers. For application and job description go online to <http://warrennj.org/recreation/volunteer>

WARREN TWP ICE

The Warren Township ice skating rink is frozen and available to use until 10 pm every night. It is located next to the municipal baseball fields off of Barty Rd. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Skate at your own risk.

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BUDDY BALL BASKETBALL IS COMING TO WARREN!

Buddy Ball Basketball is coming to Warren! After the success of last year's Buddy Ball Baseball program there was an interest to grow the opportunities, with options for special needs students. The Buddy Ball Basketball program is newly created for boys and girls, ages 5 through high school, who are unable to participate in a traditional rec program. The program will be instructional, so children can learn the skills they need, but the atmosphere will be low key and a lot of fun! There is no cost to register or participate, and team jerseys will be supplied. Additionally, volunteer high school "buddies" and Warren Youth Basketball Association coaches will assist the players. If your child is interested in participating in Buddy Ball Basketball, please email Cathy Maguire at cmaguire@warrentboe.org. Go team!

WELLS FARGO DONATES TO WAGNER FARM ARBORETUM



(above, l-r) Richard Zangara the Branch Manager of Wells Fargo Advisors on Mount Bethel Road presents the Trustees of the Wagner Farm Arboretum with a check for \$5,000. Richard Zangara, Jonathan Jeans, Lisa Young, Karen Manner, Bill Apgar and Ernie Cottrill. The funds help support the Arboretums efforts to bring educational programs to the children and residents of Warren and its surrounding towns.

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
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

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
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

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Kids 7-10\$6.99
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TOWNSHIP EXTENDS APPRECIATION TO WARREN FIRE CHIEF



Chief Mike LoSapio

The Warren Township Committee extends its appreciation and congratulates the Warren Township Fire Department under the leadership of Chief Michael LoSapio for the period 2012

through 2014. It also thanks the Assistant Fire Chiefs for 2014: Mark Russo, Mt. Bethel; Ben Gaiser, Community; Mike Dalton, Washington Valley and Mike Montross, Mt. Horeb. Chief LoSapio and his team are to be congratulated for their accomplishments. The following endeavors were achieved under the direction of Chief LoSapio and his team:

- Purchased, installed and deployed new Fire Department Information reporting software and launched personnel and training modules as well.
- Installed a fresh-air SCBA compressor + refill station - eliminating the need to take the Rescue truck out of service to be refilled at an offsite location.
- Purchased the first-round of Holmatro Rescue tool upgrades (and retired equipment approaching 20 years of age).
- Purchased 3 Thermal Imaging cameras (Engine 3, Chief Car and Ladder Truck) and retired the first township purchased Thermal Imaging Camera (circa 1997). All primary

response vehicles have a "modern" thermal imaging camera. These cameras help detect fires hidden in walls and ensure firefighting safety.

- Standardized AEDs - purchased AEDs for every primary response vehicle such that ALL AEDs in the department are 100% identical.
- Received delivery of the Ladder Truck housed at Washington Valley Fire Company.
- Updated radio equipment to insure that all primary apparatus have a Somerset Trunked Mobile radio and can communicate with ANY department in the county which is vital during mutual aid responses.
- Purchased (and soon to be delivered) Microsoft Tablet PCs for each fire apparatus which will improve the timeliness of reporting.
- With the assistance of the Warren Township Public Works Department, improved the maintenance of Township Fire Equipment.
- Purchased 20 CO meters and distributed them to fire officers and top responders to help combat the growing number of Carbon Monoxide Alarm activations.
- The most important dollars spent by the Fire Department was for training. The department utilized contract classes from well-respected instructors, sent firefighters to the National Fire Academy, Wildwood and Harrisburg conventions, Baltimore Fire Expo and more. The firefighters became active members in the Northern County Mutual Aid Association and participated in a few large-scale drills.

• Responded to Hurricane Sandy and its aftermath.

- Established annual SCBA fit testing and forced the entire department to take physicals.
- Purchased and installed an emergency backup generator for Mt. Bethel, Community, and Mt. Horeb firehouses.

"While the above seems like so much, there is so much more to go" said Chief LoSapio who is the out-going Chief in 2014 to be replaced by Mark Russo and his team of Assistant Fire Chiefs: Mike LoSapio, Mt. Bethel; Ben Gaiser, Community; Charles Bogden, Washington Valley and Chris Young, Mt. Horeb.

Chief LoSapio stated, "It's been an honor and a privilege to lead the members of the Warren Township Fire Department and I thank you for the opportunity. Chief Russo will continue to make Warren Fire Department a progressive, effective, and highly skilled group of firefighters ready at a moment's notice. I ask that you all show him the same support and respect as you've shown me over the last 3 years and I thank you for that."

The Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chiefs and all Firefighters of the Warren Township Fire Department are all volunteers. The members study, train and drill to ensure a safe response to all fire scenes in Warren Township.

Residents interested in joining the Warren Township Volunteer Fire Department can visit the firehouse or call the Chief's office at (908) 753-8000, extension 271.

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LILY YIP TABLE TENNIS CENTER'S TOURNAMENT

Lily Yip Table Tennis Center in Dunellen recently held their January 2015 School Championships. This tournament had two major categories. The first was the school division which was split into school teams and individuals. The top High School was West Windsor and the winner of the individuals was Adar Alguetti from Tenafly. LYTTC members Sean Gao and Joseph Baptista finished second and third respectively. The school tournament was sponsored by Savona Tile of Green Brook. The singles finals was an intense match between Sean Gao, who was coached by New Zealand's World Hopes Team Coach, Matt Hetherington and Adar Alguetti coached by his

father Eyal. The winner of the Open Event was Ruichao Chen from China. Ruichao Chen is a young upcoming superstar and will be coming to train at the LYTTC this April 2015 and hopefully represent the US in the future.

On February 18 at 7:00PM there will be a Chinese New Year Pot Luck Party and free training for our members at 8:00PM. This will also be an Open House for anyone and guests can play all night for only \$5.

Lily Yip Table Tennis Center, 370 North Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812 732-200-5820



(above) Group photo with US Open Under 10 Champion and LYTTC Junior Star, Jayden Zhou (center) with his coach Matt Hetherington (standing behind Jayden).



(above, l-r) High School Open Champions with our officials and sponsor: Coach Chen, Former Chinese National Team Coach; Sponsor Mr. Luke Liang, President of Savona Tile, the tournament sponsor; Adar Alguetti (Champion); Sean Gao (2nd); Joseph Baptista (3rd) and Coach Lily Yip.

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WARREN TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS MONTHLY NETWORKIN GMEETINGS

Warren chamberof Commerce meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Municipal Court Room located at 44 Mountain Blvd Warren, NJ. All businesses are welcome. The meetings are free to attend. Coffee and light breakfast is supplied.

Anyone interested in hosting a future meeting can call or email
Kate Conroy 908-352-0900, kateconroy@gatewaychamber.com



(left, l-r) Staff from The Chelsea at Warren, which hosted and facilitated the Warren Chamber of Commerce's January 2015 monthly morning meeting, Executive Director Cynthia Rozenberg, Director of Recreation Anna Nowik, and Director of Community Relations Melanie Varnerin.



(left, r-l) Sailing with the wind to increase business is Catherine DeBerry presenting the Warren Chamber Meeting trophy to Anne Niosi as the 30 Second Elevator Speech Champion at the January 2015 Chamber Meeting.

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2015 White Castle



**Munsee District
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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.

ADULT PROGRAMS -

Registration is required for ALL events

(unless otherwise noted)

Learn More about It: Tax Appeal

7 PM, Monday, February 2 (snow date: Feb. 23).
Teri Malone, from Weichert Realtors in Westfield, will talk about the property tax appeal process. If you pay your property taxes with your mortgage, you may not think much about what you are paying. Learn whether you can appeal your own property taxes, or if you should hire a professional to prepare the appeal. Find out whether your property tax appeal is likely to be successful; what information you would need to prepare it, etc. Registration is required.

Elizabeth Taylor: Her Love Affair with Jewelry

7 PM, Tuesday, February 10.

This talk by gemologist Peter Stavrianidis, from Venus Jewelers in Somerset, takes a close look at Elizabeth Taylor's vast jewelry collection, one filled with history, romance and even some of her own personal designs. In examining her jewelry, we delve into Elizabeth's many romances and events from both her professional and private world. This presentation highlights the sentimental value as well as the history that a single piece of jewelry carries. Registration required.

WARREN LIBRARY HOSTS A TALE OF SLEEPING BEAUTY

On Saturday, January 10th Trilogy Repertory Theater staged a production of A Tale of Sleeping Beauty at the Warren Twp Library. Close to 90 children and their caregivers attended the play, which encouraged audience participation. Founded in 1981, Trilogy presents two annual shows and traveling children's participation productions at local libraries. Their goal is to foster a love of theater in children, and judging by the great reception we got from our young audience, Trilogy certainly succeeded.

(right) Trilogy Princess with young fans

An Introduction to the History of Warren Township

7 PM, Wednesday, February 11.

New to the area and interested in the history of your town? The Warren Township Historical Society will discuss the history of Warren Township, from the early settlers and villages in the 18th century through today. Learn about the people, places and events in our history that shaped Warren into the community it is today. This event is co-sponsored by the Neighbors & Newcomers Club of Watchung Hills (NNCWH).

Registration required.

Jersey! Then Again...

7 PM, Thursday, February 19

There's no place like Jersey . . . today and in the past. Author and historian Maureen Wlodarczyk will share stories about authentic New Jersey people and events that span the period from the early 1800s to the 1940s. Stories range from wild-eyed suffragettes to daring hot air balloonists to patent medicine con-man "Dr." O. Phelps Brown to forgotten political titans like Simon "King" Kelly of Weehawken. Hurricanes, windmills, theatre, military heroes, Irish boxers, the birth of competitive baseball, Titanic survivors and more – it all happened in Jersey, believe it or not!

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(above) Warren Township's Annual Reorganizational Meeting, held on January 7, 2015: Each year the Troop is invited to lead the opening flag ceremony. Boys and adult leaders from the troop who attended were: (front, l-r): Aiden Frassinelli, Jaison Desai and Michael Duncan. (back, l-r): Mike Cantone (ASM), Peter Fogarty, Michael Maloney (SPL), Steven Guerin, John Fogarty, Austin Cantone, David Cantone and Mike Fogarty (SM)

GATEWAY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INTRODUCED

The Gateway Young Professionals will meet monthly for intensive networking.

The group kicked off its program year on January 28 at Kilkenny House in Cranford, NJ, with a presentation by association president Brian Randall of The Insurance Centers.

"This group is about bringing together young professionals who want to grow professionally and meet potential mentors," Randall said. "If they're looking for a job, we want to help them. If they're looking to grow their businesses we want to help them. If they're looking to help out other young professionals, we want to plug them in to the group quickly."

Already the group has garnered the interest of almost 50 young professionals in the Gateway Region. Kate Conroy, vice president of the Gateway Chamber, said, "We feel overwhelmed by the support members have shown for this new group. The Young Professionals is off to a great start, and we can't wait to see where the journey takes us!"

Added Jim Coyle, Gateway president, "The Gateway Chamber is thrilled to be a part of such an endeavor. 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."

The other groups under the Gateway umbrella are: Union County Chamber; the Central Jersey Chamber; the Route 22 Chamber; the Springfield Chamber; the Kenilworth Chamber; the Roselle Park Chamber; the Clark Chamber; the Linden Chamber, the Somerset Hills Business Network; the Gateway Association of Business Women, the Warren Township Chamber of Commerce and the Irish Business Association.

The cost of attending each meeting is \$10.00 and includes a free drink. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. at Kilkenny House in Cranford. Future meetings take place on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Warren Girl Scouts & their Special Guy are cordially invited to the

Me & My Guy Dance

"One Sweet Night"

Sunday • February 22nd. 4:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

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RSVP to your Troop Leader by Jan 9, i-Maximum 200

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TROOP 228 LEADS WARREN'S OPENING FLAG CEREMONY



(above, l-r) Eagle Scout Andrew Meisenbacher with brother Stephen Meisenbacher at Stephen's Eagle Court of Honor. Stephen's Eagle project was the beautification of the Middlebrook Encampment in Bridgewater. Stephen became Troop 228's 84th Eagle in 2014. He also served as Troop's Senior Patrol Leader (SPL). Stephen is a Senior at St. Joseph High School in Metuchen.

WAGNER FARM ARBORETUM PRESENTS "THE GARDEN STATE IN BLOOM"

On Wednesday, March 25, at 7:30 PM, The Gardeners of Wagner Farm Arboretum will present a program titled "The Garden State in Bloom," by photographer and author Walter Choroszewski. Showcasing 66 public gardens of the Garden State, the program features beautiful images from his award-winning book, as well as history and facts about each location, and commentary from recent visits to his favorite NJ garden spots. The public is welcome to attend this program. Location: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 725 Mountain Ave., corner of Mountain Ave. and Plainfield Rd., Berkeley Heights.

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The GARDEN STATE In Bloom

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FIRST “COFFEE HOUSE” EVENT AT WATCHUNG HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

By Denis J. Kelly

Students and teachers at Watchung Hills Regional High School came together Wednesday night, Jan. 25, in the school’s performing arts center to share poetry, song and dance at the English Department’s first “Coffee House.”



(above) Freshman Edward Cai of Watchung performed “Wedding Dress” by Taeyang at the English Department’s Coffee House on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at Watchung Hills Regional High School.



(above) Senior Bim Simmling of Green Brook Township was among the dozen students who read poetry, journal entries or portions of short stories at the Coffee House.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! YOUNG SCIENTISTS WILL ENGAGE AND AMAZE YOU!

The Mount Horeb Science Fair~2015 will be held the evening of March 27th. Young scientists in grades 3-5 will present their hypotheses, projects, and results. Similar to last year, there are presently 80 students participating; the event is one not to miss! Let their science experiments engage and amaze you!

The stage of the performing arts center was transformed into a coffee house, featuring low lighting, several rows of chairs but also multiple cocktail hour-type tables designed to allow audience members to stand to hear and see the performers, enjoy refreshments and snacks, and cheer on favorite performances. Coffee, juices, chilled water and hors d’oeuvres were provided by the school’s food service. Student volunteer servers circulated with trays of refreshments.

Scores of students gathered, along with teachers and administrators, including Superintendent Elizabeth Jewett, Principal George Alexis and Vice Principal Terry MacConnell.

English Department Supervisor Marlene Stoto said she was thrilled by the positive response to holding this school’s first Coffee House. She said she hopes that it can become an annual event. Helping her to organize the Coffee House was creative writing English teacher Katy Engelmeyer, and former English teacher and Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mary Ellen Phelan.

Stoto explained that many of the pieces were generated from students in creative writing classes, and the dance pieces were by students involved in the school’s dance program. Musical and dance performances were interspersed between the poetry readings.

“We hope the Coffee House will encourage students to share their creativity,” said Phelan, “and afterward, to stimulate discussion.”

Engelmeyer told the participating students before the performance began that with their permission, she hoped to share the written works with the editors of Folio, the literary magazine at Watchung Hills.

“I think all your work is fantastic,” Engelmeyer told the students. “We should have it in print.”

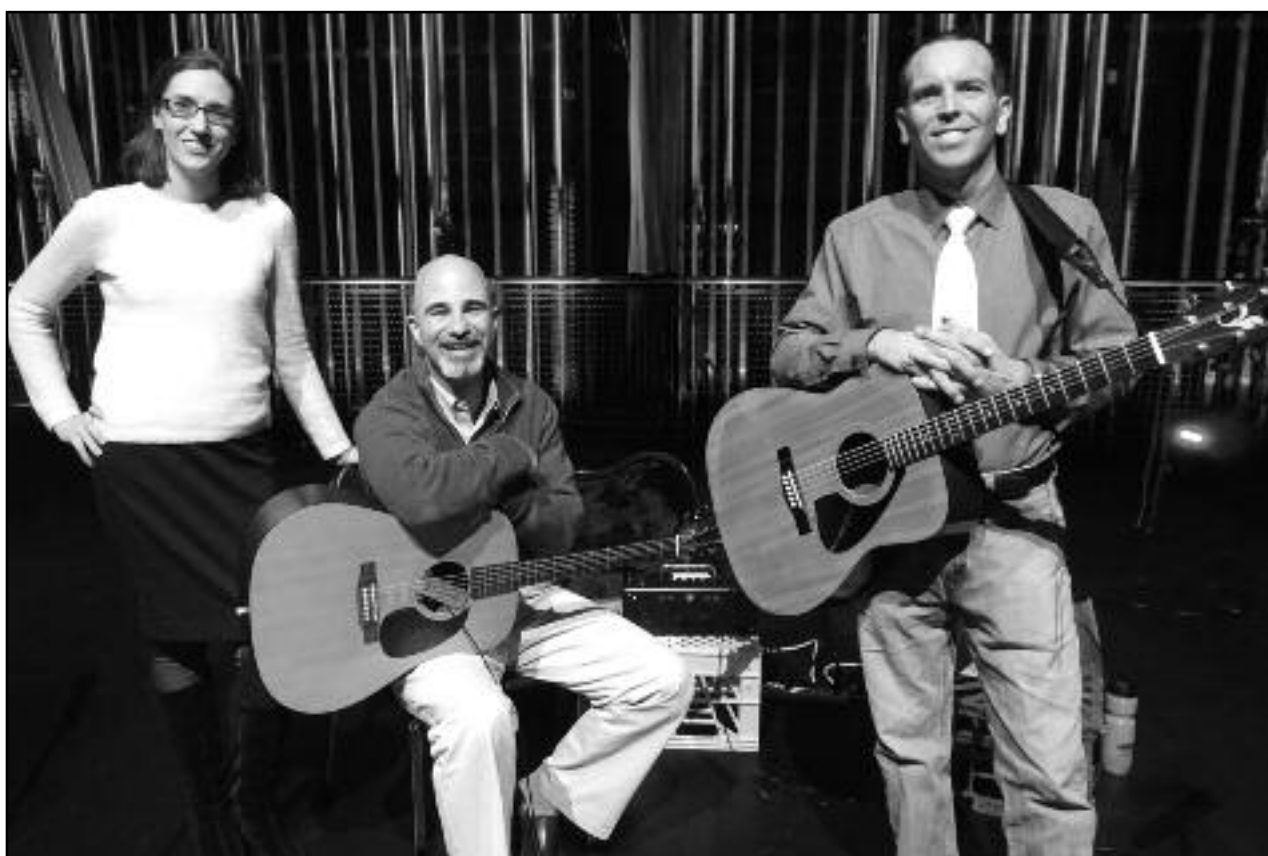
“We want to thank everyone for sharing your talent,” Stoto said at the conclusion of the evening. “Each of the musical and dance performances, and readings, were so impressive.”

Among the performers were two students playing piano, two students playing guitar, and a dozen students reading poems, portions of short stories or journal entries. There were two students performing a modern dance duet, and one of those dancers later performed a solo dance piece. Four members of the Hip Hop Club performed two modern dance numbers to popular songs.

In addition, the first performance of the night was provided by a trio of English Department teachers: Creative writing teacher Ira Horowitz and Michael Porter on guitars; and Kristin Mannion on vocals. Later, English teacher Maggie Violette-Birnberg was among those reading original poems.

The students playing piano were Edward Cai and Justin Panzarino. The students who played guitar and sang were Ashay Grover and Dan Connolly. The dancers were Regy and Alyssa Rizzo, and later Alyssa Rizzo danced the solo piece. The members of the Hip Hop Club who performed were: Emily Kim, Lucy Liu, Natasha Yankaskas and Will Zhang.

Students who read poems were: Bim Semmling, Lisa Heithmar, Mina Grieco, Stephanie Chavanne, Michelle Yang, Sophia Garcia, Neha Saju, Alyssa Rosenblum, Joshua Gallic, Sam Sinnott, Maria Kasper and Amanda Larson.



(above, l-r) English teachers Kristin Mannion, Ira Horowitz and Michael Porter opened the Coffee House at Watchung Hills Regional High School with a collection of songs.

WARREN 8TH GRADER DESIGNS OWN WEB PAGE

It is exciting for parents and teachers to see students taking initiative, and for Juliet Leary, it was her passion for reading that inspired her actions. An 8th grader at Warren Middle School, Leary designed her own web page where she reviews books. It showcases her tremendous love for reading, her strong writing skills, an integration of technology, and her quest to discuss books with others.

The web page features a click down menu displaying a variety of genres. In each category, she features an image of the book, a short summary, and her opinion of what she has read. She reviews a variety of literature, from classics, to science fiction, to popular dystopian novels like *The Giver* and *Divergent*, which many of her peers have read. Other avid readers can get ideas for books recommendations and can leave comments about Leary's reviews as well.

Leary was very proud of her creation and shared it with her 8th grade Language Arts teacher Christine Cirrotti. Rather than do it for extra credit, Leary said, "I love books and I did this just for fun!" Already this year, Leary has read over 40 titles and plans to read and review many more! Warren Township Readers.... Shining Brighter Every Day!



(above) Warren Middle School student,
Juliet Leary

GEOGRAPHY BEE CHAMP AIMS FOR STATE FINALS

The 4th and 5th graders at Woodland School participated in the National Geographic Society's nationwide Geography Bee. With the support of their teachers, co-coordinators Brian Kilroy and Nicole Panos, ten finalists competed at their school assembly on January 22, 2015, answering very challenging

questions about America, and geography from around the globe.

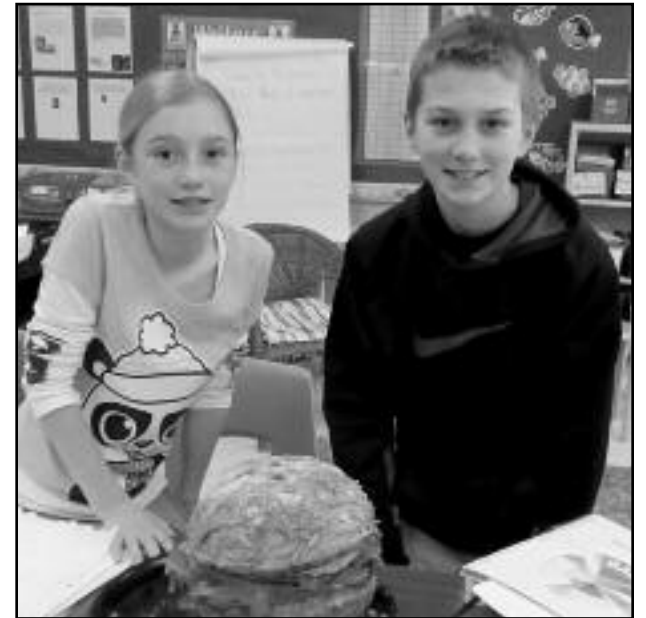
The school champion, Andrew McAusland, will next take a written test that may qualify him to compete at the State level, with the opportunity to advance to the National Geography Bee in Washington, DC.



(above, l-r) Hannah Aschoff, Michael Percario, Andrew McAusland, Hayden Shapiro and Aqili Holmes. (standing, l-r): Jaehee Nam, Max Lippitt, Joseph Lamera, and Lexie Jacobson.
(back, l-r) Co-Coordinators: Nicole Panos Brian Kilroy Photo Credit: J. Heaney

WARREN STUDENTS' SPACE PROJECT WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD

Angelo L. Tomaso 5th graders have been involved in a Space unit, developed by Mrs. Mary Lynch, as an extension activity in Science. They explored the International Space Station and the Moon, learning about the various Apollo programs. The unit culminated with a planet project, such as a creative poem, children's book, or Google doc presentation. Some planets were even "Cake Boss worthy" as you can see!



(above) ALT 5th graders Kayla Palaia
and Billy Black

INTERNATIONAL DAY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



(above, l-r) Central School students Shaan Lehal and Shruthi Shankar enjoyed International Day, held on January 16, 2015. Many countries were represented including Austria, India, Germany, Slovakia and Ecuador. The event, organized by Shaan's mother, Jeannine Sarosy, was a huge success!

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