Watchung Post

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

Published by Renna Media, On-line at RennaMedia.com

ISSUE 30 • APRIL 2015

SOMERSET HILLS BUSINESS NETWORK MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 8:00 AM

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MUSICAL PROVIDED OVER 70 WITH OPPORTUNITY TO SHINE

Submitted Denis J. Kelly

Between the cast, crew, support personnel, art design of programs and house volunteers, scores of people pitched in to stage the annual production of the spring musical, "Little Shop of Horrors," Wednesday, March 18, to Sunday, March 22, at Watchung Hills Regional High School.

"It happens every year," said Arts and World Languages Supervisor Brad Commerford, "about 75 people are involved in staging the musical. It's a huge undertaking. Script and Cue members, and everyone associated with the production, had an opportunity to participate. They did an excellent job."

The Watchung Hills production was directed by Douglas Eaton, who also provided set design. Angela DiIorio Bird was musical director and orchestra pit director. She was also one of two keyboardists in the orchestra.

Lead actors in the cast were Michael Weinfeldt as Seymour and Hannah Melillo as Audrey. Silas Baker was Mushnik, Ryan Prestera was Orin. Peri Martins and Julia Sluyter were Ronnette 1 and Ronette 2, Veronica Mu and Julia Golkin were Chiffon 1 and Chiffon 2, and Jackie Romankow and Allison Horvath were Crystal 1 and Crystal 2. Alex Wu provided the voice for Audrey II. David Kalwicz, Nikhil Bhat, and Zoe Golkin provided the manipulation for Audrey II.

Members of the Ensemble were: David Kalwicz, Lynsey Stanicki, Nikhil Bhat, Alex Bird, Angela Celeste, Mariella Zijdel, Kira Leinwand, Caitlin Iannella, Tea Kingly, Katrina Howard, Judy Tounsi, Victoria Magali, Adele Rotondo, Gaby DiLone, Charles Buscarino, Angela Munoz, Katherine Peterson, Angela Seda, Emma Leary, Rhiannon Barone, Eric Bautista, and Alex Wu.

Assistant Musical Director was Alyssa Rosenblum, who also played clarinet. The orchestra included: Owen DiDonna, drums; Naomi Smith, electric bass; Davie Willett, guitar; Jillian Carbone, keyboard; Jason O'Brien, percussion; Nick Mossa, clarinet; John Ray and Brianna Rosen, flute; Andrew Morrison and Justin Panzarino, saxophone; Hanna Stanicki and Katelyn Bereheiko, bass clarinet; and Bonnie Burgdorf and Brian Carneiro, trumpet.

The production crew included: Scenic Artist, Kate Griffin; Lighting Design and Technical Director, Chris Valenti; Costume Design, Gail DeCicco; Choreography, Ashlen Udell; Sound Design, Matt Guarino; Special Effects, Rick Clark; Production Assistant, Brooke Kupferman;



(above): "Audrey II," center, the name of the mysterious plant with an appetite for blood, with voice provided by Sophomore Alexander Wu and puppet manipulation by Junior David Kalwicz, Sophomore Nikhil Bhat and Freshman Zoe Golkin, is the center of attention in the Spring musical at Watchung Hills Regional High School, "Little Shop of Horrors." Accompanying the growing plant in a flower shop are leads, Sophomore Hannah Melillo, left, as Audrey, and Senior Michael Weinfeldt, as Seymour.

Assistant Directors Jacob Lyons, Anirban Chakraborty, and Kathleen Stavole; and Assistant Director/Musical Director Liaison, Amelia Stapperfenne.

Other production staff included: Joe Bouffard and Jenna Leski, assistant stage managers; Christopher Oakes, lighting board operator; Matt Guarino, Michelle Reina, and Mike Maloney, audio engineers; and Kieran Amore, Stephanie Chavanne, Michael Dumapit, Gabrielle Fallon, Stephanie Fallon, Sarah Kowsakowski, Josh Leski, Gabe Peraza, Dominique Rounce, Jennifer Stavole, Nicole Stoicescu, Caitlin Villarreal and Janine Villarreal, running crew.

Rail and Rigging was provided by Jennifer Gilmore, Emily Graf, Dana Nara and Ashley Thach. Construction crew were Matt Guarino, Rick Clark, Nick Dinizio and Brett Siksnius. Scenic Painting crew was Kimberly Griffin and Rebecca Novik. Prop and Furniture Rental was provided by Anything But Costumes. Prop masters were Megan Maloney, Collette Crocco, Mylan Dettling, Megan Petersen and Jordan Scheiner. Costume Rental was by Jaye Barre. Hair and Make-up were by Lina Rivetti and Noelle Puelo. Puppet Master was Jeff Seesselberg. Poster Design was by Kevin Guo and Steve Speeney.

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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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(above) Joanne Harrison of Somerset Farms displays a centerpiece made from fruit, some that are chocolate covered.

Fruitful Creations are delicious fresh fruit arrangements and chocolate strawberries. They offer a full collection of fruit creations made from the fresh fruit delivered daily to their retail store. Each Fruitful Creation can be arranged to suit any occasion. Pick one of their designs or they will customize each arrangement to suit your needs. These unique gifts are a great choice for birthdays, graduations, anniversaries, get well, new baby, deepest sympathy, thank you, holidays including Easter, Mother's Day and more!

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See the advertisement for Somerset Farms on back page of this newspaper.



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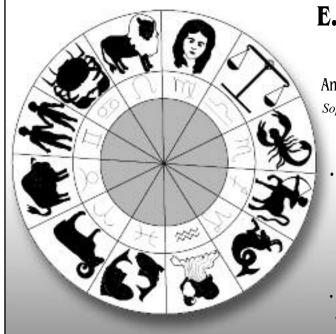
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Kids 3-6\$3.		\$5.99
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Lunch 11am ·	3:30pm	Dinner 3:30	pm - 9:30pm
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Kids 7-10	\$5.99	Kids 7-10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6	•	Kids 3-6	\$5.99
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WATCHUNG SENIORS RIVER LADY CRUISE



UPCOMING EVENT:

Bus Trip River Lady Lunch Cruise, Wednesday May 20, 2015

Bus departs Watchung Best Lake parking lot @9:00AM Sharp. Includes bus, full lunch, narrated boat cruises Toms River & Barnegat Bay. Guest fee \$44.00 Non-refundable, Contact Madelyn 908-561-1932

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

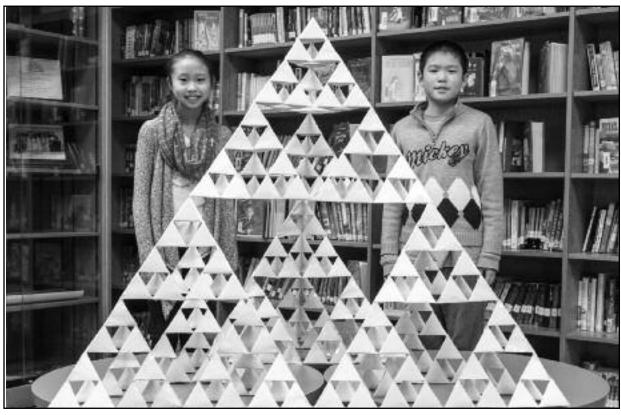
The Watchung Seniors meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month (no meetings in the summer) from 11:00am to 2pm. Meetings are held at the Fireman's Exempt Hall, lower level 57 Mountain Boulevard, (next to Borough Hall) Guest speakers, trips & fun parties. Contact 908-279-7809

BUILDING THE SIERPINSKI PYRAMID AT WATCHUNG SCHOOLS

Submitted by Elaine Chesebro, Watchung Borough Schools

which is a recurring pattern often found in 256 single triangular pyramids, then taped them nature, such as the patterns in trees and their together following the same pattern to form branches, seashells and their spirals, and with larger triangular pyramids.

This Sierpinski Pyramid represents a fractal, brain cells (neurons). Daniel and Helen built



(above, l-r) Helen and Dan with their Sierpinski Pyramid

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5TH ANNUAL GREEN FAIR APRIL 25

On Saturday, April 25, 2015, from 10 a.m. to the Watchung Borough Website at: 1:00 p.m., the Warren Township Green Team and the Watchung Green Team will hold a Regional Green Fair. The rain date is May 2, 2015.

The event will take place in the parking lot of the Warren Municipal Complex at 46 Mountain Boulevard adjacent to Bardy Road. There will be activities, environmental information, and recycling collections of hard-to-dispose-of

Participants at the Fair will include: the Lions Club, Wagner Farm Arboretum, Dean's Natural Food Market, Newtech Recycling, Warren and Watchung Girl Scouts, the Environmental Club of WHRHS, Windsong Farm, Camp Jotoni, NRJ Homes Services, Watchung Garden Club, Regional Pollinator Partnership, Morris/ Somerset County Beekeepers Association, Arbonne International and Guardian Paper Shredding.

Over the past two years, the recycling collections of the Green Fair have brought in approximately 36,000 pounds of electronics, 6,275 pounds of shredded paper, and 700 pounds of medicines which were all recycled and properly disposed of with the least impact to the environment. In addition 12,000 pounds of books, textiles, eye glasses, and shoes were directed to those in need.

For Green Fair updates, please check the • Composting Information Warren Township Website at warrennj.org or • Pollinator Information

watchungnj.gov or

Facebook.com/warrengreenteam.

For further information regarding the Green Fair or the Warren Green Team, please contact Laura Mandell at green.nj.laura@gmail.com or (908) 334-9221

ITEMS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE GREEN FAIR INCLUDE:

- Watercolor, Tempera or Acrylic Paints
- Residential Papers to be shredded
- Styrofoam Unused Paper Scrap Metal
- All electronics including TV's, computers, printers, monitors, keyboards, game consoles
- Large clean Shirts for Smocks Crayons
- Ink & toner cartridges Unopened straws
- Usable glue & glue sticks Bubble wrap
- Eyeglasses Unopened chopsticks
- Cell Phones Tissue paper Hearing Aids
- Shoes new or gently worn Books Pencils
- Eyeglasses Paintbrushes
- Textiles & clothing

FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES:

- Valuable information about how you can improve our environment
- Practical solutions to environmental issues
- Recycling Arts & Crafts
- Rain barrel Demonstration
- Beekeeping Display
- Book Swap

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WATCHUNG COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

9 AM to Noon (or as long as you can)

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(on the Watchung Circle)

Show up, sign up for a location, fill some bags up with trash, and bring them back. We supply free bags, gloves, water, coffee, munchkins, & tshirts. Free seedlings for the first 100 residents courtesy of the Green Team. Borough of Watchung, Traffic & Beautification Committee, Call George Sopko w/ any ??s at (908) 612-1811





LIONS CLUB DONATES TO BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG

Submitted by Linda Monetti, Rec Coordinator

Watchung Borough's Clerk Michelle DeRocco and Recreation Coordinator Linda Monetti accept a generous donation of \$1,000.00 from long time members of the Watchung Lions Club President Pat Fittipaldi with members Paul Michaelis and Peter Smeretsky. The Watchung Lions Club, chartered in September, 1948 by Lions Clubs International, to



(above, l-r): Watchung's Borough Clerk Michelle DeRocco, Recreation Coordinator Linda Monetti and Lions Club President Pat Fittipaldi with members Paul Michaelis and Peter Smeretsky

further the goal of Lionism "Help the Lions, Help the Blind". Over the years the motto evolved to "We Serve" as the mission of Lions worldwide expanded to provide recycled eye glasses to third world countries, to provide hearing aids to those in need and most recently embarked on a \$100,000,000 project to eradicate measles worldwide, a work currently and successfully in progress. Club members meet at Water and Wine the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. Membership is now open to Watchung residents. If interested please contact Pat Fittipaldi at pfitt2@verizon.net.

For many years the Watchung Lions Club provided the young children of Watchung with an annual Easter Egg Hunt. That practice was postponed several years ago due to construction work in progress at Bayberry School.

As a tribute to deceased members of The Lions Club, who started this annual tradition many years ago, Watchung Borough and the Recreation Commission are pleased to accept the donation of \$1000 from the Watchung Lions Club to fund the 2015 Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on March 28th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at Mobus Field (rain date March 29th). The event will include light refreshments, games, music, prizes, an Easter Bunny and of course the egg hunt! Decorate your wagons and strollers and wear your Easter bonnets and caps for our contest. For more information on the event please contact Recreation Coordinator Linda Monetti at lmonetti@watchungnj.gov or call (908)756-0080.



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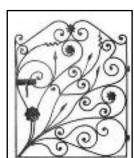
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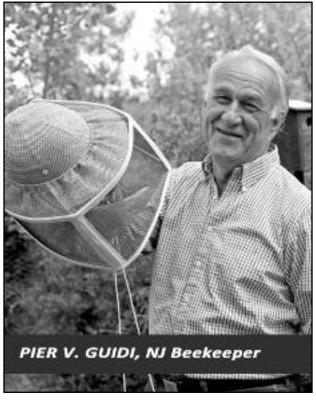
The Garden Club of Watchung is pleased to invite the public to a free presentation on Beekeeping to be held at St. Mary's Stony Hill Church's Murray Hall, 125 Mountain Blvd., Watchung on Wednesday, May 6 at 1:00 p.m. Pier Guidi, an experienced member of the New Jersey Beekeepers Association, will discuss honeybees and beekeeping in general. His presentation includes showing beehive equipment, beekeeper gear, an observation hive (with live bees going about their business of caring for their young, making honey, etc.).

Mr. Guidi will also discuss the honey bee life cycle, caring for bees, the extraction and bottling of honey as well as bee friendly garden plantings. Beehive products such as honey, beeswax soaps and candles will be on display.

For more information on beekeeping in New Jersey, you may visit Pier's web site: Bamboo Hollow.com and/or the New Jersey Beekeepers Association website: www.njbeekeepers.org

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.





but we will make every effort to accommodate walk-in client

WATCHUNG RECREATION EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

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!

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!

GERALD M. MOBUS MEMORIAL FISHING DERBY

September 12th @ Watchung Lake from 9:30 am - 11:30 am (Rain Date Sunday September 13th) Tackle and bait, Refreshments, Trophies and

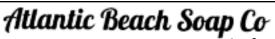
Prizes Must bring your own fishing pole! Free event for all Watchung Residents!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Oct. 24th 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

@ Mobus Park (Rain Date Oct. 25th)

Music, Giant Hay Stack, Rides, Inflatables, Cider, Hot Chocolate, Hot Dogs, Popcorn, Cotton Candy, Sand Art, Face Painting, Pumpkin Painting, Costume Contest, Games and Prizes! Free event for all Watchung Residents!



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HILLS GRADUATE AND TREASURE HUNTER **DONATES HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS TO FRAUNCES TAVERN**

By Denis J. Kelly



Watchung Hills Regional High School, returned to his alma mater on Monday, March 9, to share his success

at finding and donating to museums historical artifacts such as Revolutionary War and Civil War-era coins, musket balls, and belt buckles, among other artifacts.

Bocksel shared his experiences, including his use of a variety of metal detectors, both on land and in the water, with students of English and Social Studies classes. He appeared at the invitation of English teacher Laura Goodson, who had been his instructor when Bocksel was a student at Watchung Hills. Prior to moving with his family to Long Island, Bocksel lived in Warren Township.

"Brad was always passionate about history," Goodson said.

February, Bocksel In donated Revolutionary War-era items he had found to the Fraunces Tavern Museum, at the corner of Pearl Street and Broad Street, near the Staten Island Ferry Terminal in Manhattan. Built in 1719, the Fraunces Tavern Building, a national historic landmark, was the site of several key activities before, during and after the Revolutionary War. Among the noted historical events held in the tavern were peace negotiations with the British to end the Revolutionary War.

After the Revolutionary War was won, it was at Fraunces Tavern that Gen. George Washington bade farewell to his officers on Dec.

Brad Bocksel, a 4, 1783. The event is depicted in the masterpiece 2001 graduate of by New York painter Alonzo Chappel (1828-1887), "Washington's Farewell to His Officers." For more about Fraunces Tavern Museum, see frauncestavernmuseum.org. For more about Chappel, see www.alonzochappel.org.

> Director Jessica Phillips said that the Fraunces Tavern Museum was thrilled to have received the donated artifacts from Bocksel.

> Many of the items Bocksel donated to Fraunces Tavern he had found on his family's farm in Aquebogue, a village in the town of Riverhead, New York, on the north fork of the eastern end of Long Island.

> In addition to items from the Revolutionary War era, Bocksel has found items dating back thousands of years, including a stone spearhead that the Southold Indian Museum, further out on the north folk Long Island near Peconic, has estimated to be more than 3,000 years old. Bocksel said he found the spearhead along Sound Beach in Mattituck, also in that area.

> On his family's farm, Bocksel has also found a 1700s-era Spanish reale, which was the currency of the Spanish colonies in America. The residence on the Bocksel farm, itself, called the Luther Moore House, dates back to the 1860s. Bocksel's great grandmother on his mother's side had owned the house, so some of the items he has found belonged to his ancestors. His house is registered with the Riverhead Landmarks Preservation Commission. Bocksel moved there with his parents not long after he graduated from Watchung Hills. He is sometimes joined during his treasure hunting by his father, Robert.

Bocksel's mother, Karen, said that her son's

interest in this form of treasure hunting started when he was in middle school. Now, it has flourished into a lifetime passion, she said.

More information about Bocksel and his treasure hunting can be found www.diggerbrad.com.

Bocksel said he, and all treasure hunters, must be careful to not search grounds that are private property, or national historical sites, or public parks. He said he has done some searches outside the United States, although there are some whole countries, including Ireland, Scotland and Greece that frown on artifact searches. He has found artifacts from the Roman Empire in England.

Among the other items Bocksel has found is a gold ring, bearing a diamond and a ruby, from the 1870s. And, he once came to the aid of one young couple, who had lost a wedding ring. With the help of his metal detector, Bocksel found the ring.

On the other hand, in addition to rings, various items made of steel, copper, bronze and nickel, Bocksel said, he has also found many pull top tabs from aluminum cans.

One large source of finds are on beaches after a storm, when items are thrown up on the sand, or left behind after the ride recedes.

Bocksel demonstrated how to operate his metal detector, and showed how sensitive it can be, sending out pings when hovering near to a ring was placed on the tile floor where he spoke to the students. He said that he has a variety of metal detectors, including ones that are made primarily for detecting items on the surface, and others capable of detecting metals below the surface.

ROTARY HONORS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The Watchung Warren Rotary recently celebrated Women's History Week with a presentation by students from Valley View Middle School and undergraduate students from Kean University at Twin Brooks Country Club in Watchung.

Ten Valley View 5th grade students introduced ten notable women in history while conducting a trivia contest about women's history for the Rotarians. After enjoying a lovely lunch, the program was concluded with the signing and affirmation of Proclamation 4903 by all the women present. Proclamation 4903 was first signed by President Ronald Reagan in 1982 and set the week of March 7 as Women's History Week.

The Watchung Warren Rotary was delighted to have the opportunity to collaborate with youth in the community on this special event. A wonderful time was had by all.



(above) Brad Bocksel, a 2001 graduate of Watchung Hills Regional High School and former resident of Warren Township, returned to his alma mater on Monday, March 9, to share his success at finding and donating to museums historical artifacts such as Revolutionary War and Civil War-era coins, musket balls, and belt buckles, among other artifacts. With Bocksel (third left) are students (l-r): Senior Brooke Bahooshian of Green Brook Township, Senior Greg Lockwood of Millington, Junior Brianna Torrisi of Warren Township, Junior Brianna Walker of Watchung, Senior Liddy Tino of Watchung, and Freshman Alexa Chavez of Watchung.

MS SUFFERER POINTS OUT BENEFITS OF MASSAGE THERAPY

Massage therapy promotes positive short-term and long-term benefits to individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS), according to Deanna Cimino of Watchung, New Jersey, who was diagnosed in 2012 with the chronic disease that attacks the central nervous system.

Since 2013, Cimino has seen the same seasoned therapist at Elements Massage of Warren as an alternative to physical therapy and has experienced dramatic results including relief of pain and muscle spasms related to the disease. Cimino began first having problems with MS in 1998 until it became progressively worse and also suffers from fibromyalgia.

"Massage therapy significantly reduced the pain and anxiety of this terrible disease that I have been battling for over a decade," said Cimino. "In addition, it has helped me to relax, improve my sleep and blood circulation. I not only feel relief right after a massage but over time I have felt my MS is more manageable with regular treatments. My therapist Natasha at Elements Massage literally "saved me" in helping me cope and sustain a much more normal lifestyle."

"We are happy to help customers such as Deanna who suffer with MS with our massage treatments," said Elements Massage Owner Ferry Firmansjah. "With all our customers, we customize-design a therapy program. In Deanna's case, we found Swedish massage was helpful in relieving her symptoms of MS but each client's situation is unique and different techniques or therapists may be needed."

Doctors believe that massage strokes and friction promote muscle and connective tissue fibers to relax and stimulate blood flow. The effect of this on MS patients can cause profound pain suppression and a greater ease of muscle movement. Although not a substitute for physical therapy, massage therapy has helped relieve muscle spasms, improve blood

circulation, alleviate pain and reduce mental anxiety in MS sufferers.

With several seasoned therapists on staff, Elements Massage of Warren is offering individuals with MS a 50 percent discount off the regular walk-in rate for massage services during the month of March and April. In addition, Elements is giving away two free massages every week to clients, who suffer with this chronic disease during these months.

Last year, Elements Massage of Warren raised \$995 for the National MS Society's New Jersey Chapter and participated in the MS Walk in Clark, New Jersey.



(above, l-r) Deanna Cimino of Watchung and Ferry Firmansjah owner of Elements Massage in warren.





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WATCHUNG LIBRARY

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.

SPRING PROGRAMS, 2015

Programs are listed in Age order:

Much More Fun for Munchkins

Tuesday, April 21 at 10:30 AM Presented by: Mrs. Fine. Age: 2 1/2 to 3 with Caregiver Enjoy books, songs, fingerplays, flannelboard stories, puppets and crafts - of course!

Leisa's Lovely Crafts

Wednesday, April 29 at 4:15 PM Ages: 5 to 8. Enjoy a craft, snack and stories.

Poe -Tree

Monday, April 13 at 7:00 PM

Ages: 7 to 10. April is National Poetry Month. Share in some poems and then create your own poem and we will hang it on our library Poe-Tree.

Worms with a Wiggle

Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 3:45 PM

Presented by: Rachel Bjaczyk, Somerset County 4-H Sponsored by: The Garden Club of Watchung Ages: For Children in Grades 1 to 3 Celebrate Earth Day! Create your own compost bin or study ours. Watch red wigglers turn your garbage into a rich humus for planting.

LEGO® Club

Monday, April 27 and May 18 at 7:00 PM Ages: For Students in Grades 1 to 5. We have lots of LEGO® pieces. We need the kid's creativity! If you like building with LEGO® pieces, come to LEGO® club!

Family Fishing

Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 PM

Presented by: Michael Underwood, MDU Global Enterprises. Ages: 8 to 12 years old and Adults Get ready for Spring! Fishing is not only a great way to get our children unplugged and engaged in a healthy outdoors activity, it is an ideal way to develop an appreciation for our fragile aquatic resources; to provide important, real-world experiences in the sciences; and to foster a love of the out-of-doors. Fishing is an activity that can be started at any age by any person, regardless of gender, physical size or athletic ability. Fishing can also be enjoyed individually, or with family and friends. The Family Fishing program will consist of five learning stations: 1. Knot Tying 2. Casting 3. Fish Identification 4. Lures/Bait, and 5. Terminal Tackle.

All program materials will be provided. Children must be accompanied by an parent/adult caregiver.

The King's Castle: The Chess Club for Kids Monday, April 6 at 7:00 PM

Ages: For Children in Grades 3 through 8 Come and play and learn the fabulous game of chess, "The Game of Kinds." Every month we will learn new ideas in chess, ranging from basic to advanced play. Both beginners and experiences players are welcome.

Not Your Grandmother's BINGO

Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 PM

Ages: For Students in Grades 5 to 12 Teens are invited to play a new version of bingo. This game combines a bingo-style board with a scavenger hunt. Be the first to discover library items, fill in a row, and win a prize! Registration is requested.

Teen Action Group (TAG)

Wednesday, March 4, April 1 and May 6 at 7:30 PM Ages: For students in grades 6 to 12

Teen Action Group (TAG) members have a voice in activities and materials for teens in the library. Exactly what TAG does is up to its members, with approval from the teen librarian. Join the group and share your ideas! Meetings are usually the first Wednesday of the month. Registration is not required.

Never Judge a Book by its Movie

Thursday, April 23 at 7:00 PM: Paper Towns by John Green Ages: For Teens & Adults:

Mah Jong Club of Watchung

Ages: All Ages

Mondays and Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM The Mah Jongg Club of Watchung meets every Monday and Tuesday from 1:00 to 4:00 at Watchung when the library is open. Contact Melanie Novello at Novello1800@aol.com for more information, or to be placed on the distribution list to receive evites for both clubs. No fee - All welcome

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 your experiences, The Watchung Writers Group would like to meet you. The aim of the Group is to stimulate better writing. We work toward this goal through critiquing, spontaneous writing and examining the various technical aspects of writing. Also, we periodically have guest speakers such as agents, editors and publishers. So, mark your calendar. We look forward to your participation in the writing group. Any question, contact Pat Rydberg at pattijeanr@aol.com.

GROWING OUR FUTURES

Submitted by Elaine Chesebro, Watchung Borough Schools

On Saturday, March 21, the Watchung Library held its first annual Mini-Maker Day Fair. Among other booths were the eighth grade students of the Valley View Middle School SOAR program, exhibiting their newest project, Growing our Futures, in the form of a hands-on seed paper making project. Through the winter months, these students participated in Future City, a competition involving the designing and building of a city fitting the yearly theme, Sustainably Feeding a City of the Future. The knowledge the eighth grade SOAR class gained was invaluable in understanding the agricultural process, but after the competition had ended, there was no longer a need for the information they had collected.

'We decided we wanted to take this project

one step further, and use what we learned to change the way people see food," commented Annika Schmidt, age 13. Growing our Futures was born.



(above, l-r) Jacqueline Lee, Isabel Vala, Gianna Tautonico and Annika Schmidt

The Writer's Galley

Ages: Adult. A writer's workshop that brings together writers of all abilities to share their stories of fiction and non-fiction. We will provide helpful critiques and ideas to conquer the unending struggles with the written word. Wednesday, March 11 and April 15 at 7:00 PM

WACC Watchung Adult Chess Club

Monday, April 20 at 7:00 PM

Ages: Adults Only. Get WACC'ed! Come and play chess at Watchung Library! You bring the body and the brain, and we'll provide the boards, pieces and clocks. Registration is not necessary, but appreciated. By providing and email address, you'll receive a reminder about the program.

Energy Meditation

March April 10 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. This class is based on principles of Chinese Medicine. It will inform you how to quiet the mind by using the structure of your body and the focus on certain points on the body to become more mindful of the present moment. This practice will free up your energy so you will feel calm yet enlivened and rejuvenated. All meditations are done while seated on a chair so all are welcome to participate.

CURRENT BOOKS Book Club

Ages: Adult Second Monday of the Month (with exceptions for holidays). Monday, April 13 at 11:00 AM: Longbourn by Jo Baker Monday, May 11 at 11:00 AM: A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway

Social Action Book Club

Ages: Adults

Third Thursday of the Month Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 PM: MOVIE: Fed-up Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 PM:

MOVIE: Why We Fight TASTY BITES AND BOOKS Book Club

Ages: Adult

Bring a bag lunch and share your thoughts! Monday, April 20 at 12:00 PM The Good Lord Bird by James McBride

Watchung Book Discussion Group

Second Thursday of the Month at 7:00 PM We throw in books you would otherwise never read, but are worth reading! Drop-ins are always welcome.

April 9 at 7:00 PM: Burial Rites by Hannah Kent

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