

Watchung Post

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Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

NJ

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ISSUE 42 • MAY 2016

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

**MONDAY
MAY 30TH
BOROUGH
HALL**

15 Mount Blvd.

**Local resident
John Thomas Toolan
will be honored.**

ROBOWARRIORS HAVE IMPRESSIVE FINISH IN COMPETITION

Submitted by Dave Schlingloff

The WHRHS Robotics Team, the RoboWarriors, in their three-team alliance, placed second in the FIRST Robotics Mid-Atlantic Mt. Olive Event on March 5th and 6th. Individually, the team finished 17th out of 39 teams representing local New Jersey and Pennsylvania area high schools.

FIRST, which stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," is a not-for-profit charity organization based in Manchester New Hampshire founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is one of several programs run by FIRST. FRC, dubbed a "varsity sport for the mind," combines the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology. Under strict rules, limited resources, and time limits, teams of 25 students or more are challenged to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program a robot to perform prescribed tasks against a field of competitors. It is as close to "real world" engineering as a student can get. Professional mentors volunteer their time and

talents to guide each team.

The WHRHS Robotics Team 41, the RoboWarriors, had another outstanding performance on April 14th through the 16th at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship at Lehigh University, making it to the quarterfinal round. This excellent showing is a combination of their second place finish at the Mt. Olive District Event and first place at the Montgomery Event.

During the competition at Lehigh, Team 41 had a strong performance in their 12 qualifying matches with a very impressive 10 wins and 2 losses. Going into the playoff round, they were the 8th ranked team out of 60 at the competition. Being in the top 8 put them in a position to choose the other 2 teams that would form their 3-team alliance. They were, however, chosen by a higher ranked team in the top 8 and decided to accept that team's offer to join them. Their alliance was defeated in the quarterfinals in 2 tough matches. The RoboWarriors did end the competition on a high note when they learned that their overall performance gave them a ranking of 16th.

Photo Credit: Sharon Sheridan Hausman



(above, back, l-r) Team 41, with their award medals from the Mt. Olive competition: Peter Ponzio (faculty adviser), Joshua Schmidt, Matthew Battipaglia, Brandon Harris, Julian Bisci, Oscar Johansson, Griffith Humphrey, Sameer Howe, John O'Mullan, Anthony Rodrigues, Sean Coleman, Emanuel Savatta, Burcak Coskun, Joshua Gallic, Tyler Kocmond, Matthew Guo, Garrett Dicken (industry mentor)
(front, l-r): Jonathan Soldan, Prateek Humane, Julian Lioanag, Neelay Trivedi, Giovanni Savatta, Claire Barrameda, David Schlingloff, Eva Teplitsky, Nicole Regimbal, Derek Prestera

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Watchung Post

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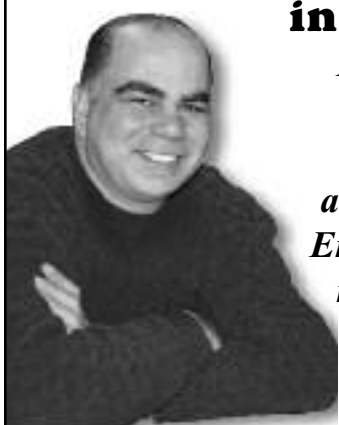
PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

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

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WATCHUNG RECREATION'S ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC

**SATURDAY, MAY 21TH, 2016
(RAIN DATE MAY 22ND)
12:00 NOON – 3:00PM
MOBUS FIELD**

Please join the Watchung Recreation Commission for a fun day of activities for the entire family.

Refreshments, hot dogs, pizza, Italian ice, popcorn, cotton candy and more!



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Teriyaki	
Chicken / Beef / Shrimp / Salmon	13 / 16 / 16 / 18
🍴 Crispy Chicken Cutlet	13
Breaded chicken breast deep fried to golden crispy, w. chef special sauce	
🍴 Tropical Mango Chicken / Shrimp ☞	13 / 15
Fresh mango, onion, bell peppers, prince mushroom and sweet peas, sauteed w. spicy sweet mango sauce	
Sangria Crispy Duck	20
Crispy duck glazed w. fruity red wine sauce over baby bok-cho	
🍴 Vietnamese Basil Tofu / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	13 / 13 / 15 / 15
Sauteed w. eggplant, prince mushroom, onion, sweet peas and fresh basil leaves w. spicy basil sauce	
🍴 House Green Curry Tofu / Chicken / Shrimp ☞	12 / 13 / 15
Broccoli, eggplant, prince mushroom, onion and bell pepper cooked in green curry sauce	
Korean Grilled Baby Back Ribs	20
Marinated short ribs, grilled in Korean style	
🍴 Crispy Tangerine Chicken / Beef	13 / 15
Seasoned chicken shreds fried to crispy and glazed w. tangerine sauce	
🍴 XO Sauce Chicken / Shrimp / Sea Bass	13 / 15 / 26
Sauteed w. sweet peas, broccoli, prince mushroom and onion	
Seafood Pan Fried Noodles	20
Shrimp, scallop, crabmeat, squid, prince mushroom sauteed w. house special brown sauce, over crispy fried noodles	
🍴 Butter Shrimp	18
Jumbo shrimp sauteed w. chef's special sauce, served w. fried black keneled rice	
Char-Grilled Chilean Sea Bass ☞	26
Served over steamed mixed veggies w. miso-orange sauce	
🍴 Mandarin Fish	18
Fresh red snapper lightly breaded to golden crispy w. sweet peas, pineapple, onion and bell peppers over special spicy sauce	
🍴 Hot and Spicy Chicken / Beef	13 / 15
Onion, bell peppers, prince mushroom, sweet peas, stir-fried w. chef special sauce	
Crispy Cumin Lamp Chop	26
Lightly breaded flash-fried golden brown w. peppers and onion	
🍴 Indian Curry Chicken	13
Broccoli Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	12 / 13 / 14
🍴 Garlic Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	12 / 13 / 14
🍴 General Tso's Chicken / Shrimp	13 / 15
Sesame Seed Chicken / Shrimp	13 / 15
🍴 Szechuan Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	12 / 13 / 14

LUNCH MENU

Mon.-Sat.: 11:30 am - 3:00 pm
Choose a side: wonton soup or hot and sour soup or veggie spring roll.

ENTREES

Choose rice: white rice, fried rice or brown rice.

Teriyaki Chicken / Salmon	9 / 10
🍴 Crispy Chicken Cutlet	9
🍴 Tropical Mango Chicken / Shrimp ☞	9 / 10
🍴 Indian Curry Chicken	9
🍴 Vietnamese Basil Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	9 / 10 / 10
🍴 House Green Curry Tofu / Chicken / Shrimp ☞	9 / 9 / 10
🍴 Crispy Tangerine Chicken	9
Broccoli Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	9 / 10 / 10
🍴 Szechuan Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	9 / 10 / 10
🍴 Garlic Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	9 / 10 / 10
Sesame Seed Chicken	9
🍴 General Tso's Chicken	9
Sauteed Mixed Veggies ☞	8
Sauteed String Beans	8

NOODLE AND RICE

🍴 Ye's Stir-fried Rice Noodles Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	9
🍴 House Pineapple Fried Rice Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	9
🍴 Vietnamese Basil Fried Rice Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	9
Yaki Udon Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	9
🍴 Singapore Vermicelli Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	9
Classic Fried Rice Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	9
Roast Duck Egg Noodle Soup	12
Seafood Udon Noodle Soup	13

VERMICELLI OR RICE ON PLATE

Vermicelli or rice dish with lettuce, tomato, cucumber and roasted peanuts and fried onion. served with homemade chili lime sauce.

Vietnamese Grill Chicken	9
Vietnamese Grill Pork Chop	9
Vietnamese Grill Shrimp	10
Pork Spring Roll	8

DRINKS

Cold Drinks 16oz, Hot Drinks 12oz

Bubble Tea (Cold)	4	Flavored Tea (Cold)	3.50
Free topping bubble, jelly or herb pudding (additional topping 50¢)			
Black Tea		Rose Green / Black Tea	
Taro		Passion Fruit Green Tea	
Green Tea		Honey Green / Black Tea	
Coconut		Lychee Black Tea	
Strawberry		Grapefruit Green Tea	
Mango		Lemon Green / Black Tea	
Chocolate			
Almond		Flavored Tea (Hot)	3.50
		Rose Green / Black Tea	
		Honey Green / Black Tea	
		Grapefruit Green Tea	
Bubble Tea (Hot)	4		
Free topping bubble, jelly or herb pudding (additional topping 50¢)			
Black Tea		Hot Tea (Per table)	2.00
Taro		Coffee (Cold or Hot)	4
Green Tea		Coconut Mocha	
Almond		Cappuccino	
		Matcha Latte	
Soft Drink (Can)	1.25	Vietnamese Coffee	
Coke			
Diet Coke		Fresh Juice	4
Sprite		Watermelon	
Fanta		Cucumber	
Mountain Dew		Kiwi	
Ice Tea		Orange	

DESSERT

New York Cheese Cake	5
Green Tea Ice Cream	5
Mango Sorbet	6
Coconut Sorbet	6
Tiramisu	6
Mochi Ball Choice of Flavors:	4
Mango, Strawberry, Vanilla, and Green Tea	

We want Ye's Bistro to be a place where you feel at home, can relax in a warm and casual family style atmosphere, and at the same time enjoy a wide variety of the most famous Asian cuisine.

Whatever dish you decide to enjoy, we use all fresh vegetables, highest quality ingredients, and all the homemade secret sauces.

APPETIZERS

Fried Veggie Mini Rolls (4 pcs)	4
Shumai (6 pcs)	5
Steamed or fried Japanese shrimp dumplings	
Edamame ☞	5
🍴 Indian Pancake w. Chicken Curry Dipping	6
Extra pancakes are \$2 each	
Vietnamese Pork Spring Roll (4 pcs)	6
Gyoza (6 pcs)	6
Choice of steamed or pan fried	
Crystal Dumplings (6 pcs)	7
Chicken Skewers (3 pcs)	7
Marinated, char-grilled, serve w. peanut, satay dipping	
Fried Crab Cheese Wonton (6 pcs)	6
Peking Duck Steam Buns (2 pcs)	8
🍴 Lettuce Wrap ☞	10
Choice of chicken or tofu, stir-fried w. basil, onion, chili pepper, pineapple, fresh lime juice, served w. lettuce leaves	
🍴 Hawaii Shrimp Roll (2 pcs)	8
Shredded mango, jicama, avocado and crispy shrimp, wrapped in roti pancake, served w. special sauce	
Summer Roll (2 pcs) ☞	5
🍴 Calamari	8
Battered calamari rings, deep fried to crispy, served w. citrus mayo dipping	
🍴 Rock Shrimp	10
Battered rock shrimp fried to golden crispy, w. citrus mayo dipping	

SOUPS AND SALAD

	Cup / Bowl
Wonton Soup	3 / 5
🍴 Hot and Sour Soup	3 / 5
🍴 Lemongrass Seafood Soup	6 / 10
Shrimp, scallop, crab meat, prince mushroom, vermicelli and coconut milk	
Spicy Mango Salad ☞	7
Shredded mango, jicama, crispy vermicelli and crushed peanuts in sweet chili sauce	
Avocado Salad	6
Seaweed Salad	5
Grilled Chicken Salad ☞	9
Grilled Salmon Salad ☞	10

VEGETARIAN

Lightly sauteed and erved w. white rice

Mixed Veggies ☞	10
Broccoli ☞	10
Mushroom and Tofu ☞	11
Baby Bok-Choy ☞	10
String Beans	10

NOODLE AND RICE

🍴 Ye's Stir-fried Rice Noodles Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	11 / 12 / 13 / 14
Stir-fried w. dry tofu, onion, pepper and bean sprouts, top w. peanuts	
🍴 House Pineapple Fried Rice Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	11 / 12 / 13 / 14
Stir-fried w. pineapple, corn, onion, bell pepper, carrots and raising	
🍴 Vietnamese Basil Fried Rice Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	11 / 12 / 13 / 14
Stir-fried w. onion, bell peppers, basils, peas, carrots and corn	
Yaki Udon	
Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp	11 / 12 / 13 / 14
Stir-fried w. baby bok-choy, onion, bell peppers and carrots	
🍴 Singapore Vermicelli Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	11 / 12 / 13 / 14
Stir-fried w. onion, bell peppers, bean sprouts and egg	
Classic Fried Rice	
Vegetable / Chicken / Beef / Shrimp ☞	11 / 12 / 13 / 14
Stir-fried w. egg, onion, peas and carrots	
Roast Duck Egg Noodle Soup	12
Seafood Udon Noodle Soup	13

PHO ☞

Pho starts with fragrant broth which is made fresh daily. The aromatic broth made by simmering light, quality meat, beef knuckle bones, served with fresh flat rice noodles, and topped with your meat selection, also fresh Asian herbs and spices.

Pho Dac Biet	13
This Pho bowl is pocked with rare eye round steak, well-done skirt flank, soft tendon, and beef bolts. It's a different texture in every bite.	
Pho Tai	12
A layer of thin rare eye round steak is cooked by the beef broth right in your bowl, bringing out the sweetness & tenderness of beef slices in to each bite.	
Pho Bo Vien	11
Seasoned beef and soft tendon meaet balls cut into bite-size portions further creamte on undertone of sweetness to the already fragrant beef broth. It is a favorite among children.	
Pho Tom	13
Plum shrimp are topped over beef broth, low in calories but amazing in taste.	
Pork Chop	12
Selected pork chop marenated in lemongrass special sauce	
Grilled Chicken	12
Selected chicken breast marenated in lemongrass special sauce	

VERMICELLI OR RICE ON PLATE

Vermicelli or rice dish with lettuce, tomato, cucumber and roasted peanuts and fried onion. served with homemade chili lime sauce.

Vietnamese Grill Chicken	12
Vietnamese Grill Pork Chop	13
Vietnamese Grill Shrimp	14
Pork Spring Roll	10

🍴 Indicates choice of mild, medium or hot, seasoned to your taste.

☞ Gluten Free options are available.

Every entree is prepared with fresh ingedients. No MSG or preservatives are used.

WATCHUNG SENIORS TRAVEL DOWN MEMORY LANE

On Wednesday, April 13, 2016 three dozen members of the Watchung Seniors Club gathered at the Texier Museum. The club leaders conducted their regularly scheduled meeting in the media room of the museum.

Afterward the members of the Watchung Historical Committee guided their senior guests through the exhibits in the museum.

After the tours were completed the seniors lunched on finger sandwiches, snacks, coffee, iced tea and a selection of homemade desserts provided by the Historical Committee.

During the tours and lunch the seniors reminisced about their past experiences. Quite often a man or woman would exclaim, "Remember when...?" or "We had those (WW II) ration books to use. Oh, but we had fun...".

The Historical Committee will be presenting their guests with Watchung commemorative plates as mementos of their visit to the Texier Museum.



(above) Shows Diddy Addario (center), a member of the Watchung Historical Committee, explaining an exhibit to the seniors.

WATCHUNG RESIDENT RETURNS

David C. Dover, a current resident of Port Townsend, Washington, recently returned to Watchung in a special way.

David, son of Dan and Harriet Dover and a 1962 graduate of Watchung Hills Regional High School, enlisted in the Army after graduation and was deployed to Vietnam. He served from 1965 to 1968 in the Special Forces or Green Berets in Vietnam.

While serving in Vietnam he was wounded and ultimately received a Purple Heart.

In consultation with David the Watchung Historical Committee realized that his name and rank were missing from the Vietnam plaque on the War Memorial. So the Historical Committee proceeded to have his bronze name plate made and installed on the War Memorial.

So, many years after leaving his home town to

spend time in the military, the bronze name plate of David C. Dover E5 is where it now belongs for all posterity.



(above) Shows Barbara Diem (left), Chairperson of the Watchung Historical Committee, speaking to seniors about Watchung history.



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UP CLOSE WITH MARINE BIOLOGY



Thanks to a grant from the American Chemical Society, and to the expertise of Watchung scientist/parent Dr. Gail Seelig, sixth students at Valley View Middle School in Watchung are getting up close with marine biology.

To get the SOAR students excited about the unit, Dr Seelig brought in items from her vast collection of shells and other marine artifacts. Students engaged in several hands-on experiments to help them understand how various sea creatures breathe and move. For one activity,

(left) Doyle Hunsinger and Jake Zaikov.

Dr Seelig challenged the students to design their own models of squid, and test their abilities to move. Later, students will be able to further explore squid with a dissection lab.

To aid in the understanding of marine creatures' body systems, Dr Seelig led students through a dissection of dogfish sharks. Students worked in teams to examine their shark's liver, heart, stomach, and brain. Using microscopes, students examined the shark's skin and teeth.

Upcoming experiments include building hydrophones, to demonstrate how sea creatures communicate, and building SeaPerch underwater robots.

OVARIAN CANCER FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANT

Kaleidoscope of Hope Foundation, Inc. will be hosting an awards luncheon on May 15, 2016 in the Hunt Room of The Grain House in Basking Ridge beginning at noon.

The Foundation will be awarding several grants to researchers in the ovarian cancer field.

Dr. Snyder-Charen of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will be receiving a grant for her project entitled "The Genomic and Immune Landscape" Following Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Ovarian Cancer.

Dr. Preti of the Monell Chemical Senses Center and Dr. Ramirez of the Penn Vet Working Dog Center will also be in attendance.

Tickets can be purchased on line at www.kohnj.org, at the door or by calling Lynn Franklin at 908-755-6276.

Kaleidoscope of Hope Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization consisting of volunteers whose mission is to raise funds for ovarian cancer research and educate the public about ovarian cancer.



(above) Lynn Franklin, President and Lynn Stahl, Vice President of Kaleidoscope of Hope Ovarian Cancer Foundation (KOH), are both residents of Watchung. They volunteer with KOH to raise funds for research and awareness about ovarian cancer. (Lynn Franklin is on the left and I am on the right.)



(above) Geordie Canellis and Nicole Brunskill.

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MONDAY - THURSDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm
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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!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm
Adult\$7.99	Adult\$11.59
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!

SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER

11am - 10pm
Adult.....\$11.59
Kids 7-10\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!

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Black Magic Mulch.....	\$31
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Red Mulch.....	\$34
Natural Cedar Mulch	\$45
Canadian Hemlock Mulch.....	\$43
Playground Mulch	\$32
Black Gold Topsoil.....	\$33
Jersey Brown Topsoil	\$31
Farm Top Soil	\$18
Organic Mushroom Soil	\$38

STONE PRODUCTS

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GO FISH!



(above) Tatum Jenson, age 4, of Cranford, visiting the fish at SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch, located at 12 Stirling Road in Watchung, on April 12. Tatum's grandparents live in Watchung and decided to pay the Library a visit with their adorable grandson.

AMAZING ANIMALS AT THE LIBRARY

On March 29, Watchung Library welcomed a few friends from fields near and far, thanks to the Environmental Education Center of Somerset County. Naturalist, Monica Juhasz brought an amazing array of animals who know how to adapt in order to survive. They included Vietnamese rainbow millipedes, a bearded dragon named Tillie, and a corn snake (endangered type) named Cornelius. The children also saw some impressive skulls, scales, and even a wing from animals and birds that families might find in their

backyard. The Environmental Education Center always provides wonderful hands-on learning experiences that truly connect families with the natural world. Children and adults (including Watchung Councilman, Rob Gibbs and his children), enjoyed meeting new friends!





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WATCHUG LITTLE LEAGUE OPENING DAY PARADE

Watchung Little League held its Opening Day Parade on Saturday April, 16 2016. The parade got underway at 9:00 a.m. begining at Valley View school and ending at Phillips Field.

The parade to Phillips Field included the Watchung Police Department, Fire Department, Rescue Squad, and children participating in the Watchung Little League this year.

The Opening Day Ceremony commenced at Ost Field where they honored special guests. Soon after Christina Sarrico and Tina Kelly sang the National Anthem.

Mayor Steve Pote was up next on the Opening Day Schedule festivities, having the privilege of throwing the first pitch. The first pitch kicked off the start of the season and games were held from 10:00 in the morning until 3:00 in the afternoon.

Due to fluctuating enrollment The Tee Ball and Transition Leagues run summer tournaments, while the rest of the League partners with the surrounding towns of Longhill and Warren. The President of Watchung Little League believes the partnership with the surrounding towns is positive by allowing the players to build relationships with kids they will be attending high school with.

The Watchung Little League provides an environment where children and parents alike can build communal relationships and the general consensus among Opening Day attendees is that this would not be possible without the help of volunteers. For information on how to get involved and the little league schedule please visit watchunglittleleague.org.



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WATCHUNG HILL REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TALENT SHOW

Some 15 acts showcased the breadth of talent among students and teachers at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) at a Talent Show, sponsored by the student ALS Alliance Club, Tuesday, April 12, in the school's Performing Arts Center.

The event benefited Project ALS (Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's Disease).

The Talent Show included student singers, musicians, dancers, rap artists and poets. A panel of students and teachers acted as judges. First Place, the singing trio of Juniors Veronica Mu of Warren, Hannah Melillo of Millington and Allison Horvath of Warren. They sang acapella, and in three-part harmony, the hit "Shake It Out," originally performed by Florence and the Machine; Second Place, sophomore Neha Saju of Warren, reading her original poem, "Paper Soulmate;" and Third Place, junior Anthony Speros of Stirling, playing solo electric guitar and singing "Voodoo Child," the classic song by Stevie Ray Vaughan.

Among the other highlights of the night was a presentation of "Alexander Hamilton," the opening song of the current Broadway Musical, "Hamilton," by Lin Manuel Miranda. Four WHRHS History teachers Rebecca Brown, Sean New, Ken Karnas and Greg O'Reilly, sang the song's lead parts, with a host of students singing ensemble chorus parts. The ensemble included students: Adele Rotondo, Suchir Govindarajan, Krishti Bhaumik, Angela Celeste, Hannah Melillo, Rhiannon Barone, Allison Horvath, Nikhil Bhat, Eric Bautista, Justin Panzarino, John Ray, Gabe Peraza, Owen DiDonna, Jordan Reynolds, Shaun Parimoo, Ahena Nadim, Nicole Vila, Claire Vickery, Alex Terry, Emily Krouk, and Abby Watkins.

Other performances included: junior Filipa Pamol of Green Brook and freshman Angelina Cerano of Warren singing, "I Will Always Love You," by Whitney Houston, written by Dolly Parton; the band, "No Fugazi," featuring juniors David Kim on keyboards and lead vocals, and Natalie Kim of Warren on bass, sophomore

Edward Cai of Watchung on guitar, and Owen DiDonna on drums, singing a medley of songs, "How Deep Is Your Love," "Weight in Gold," and "Tight Rope."

Sophomore Cherlin Zhu of Warren playing on the flute, "Concertino," by Cecile Chaminade; senior Justin Johnson, a native of Los Angeles, singing Rap songs, "Fade Me"/ "Change;" freshman Spencer Acciarito delivering an original stand-up comedy routine; senior Elizabeth Bard of Watchung playing "Lilium," on the piano; senior Walter Benitez of Green Brook singing a Rap song, "Low Key;" seniors Alicia Gupta of Watchung and Alisha Sahay of Green Brook performed ethnic dances from India; junior Colton Berry of Green Brook singing, "The Last Amazing Grays," by Sonata Arctica; And English teachers Ira Horowitz on electric guitar, Kristin Mannion on vocals, and Mike Porter on acoustic guitar and vocals, singing "Stressed Out," by Twenty-One Pilots. For an encore to close the Talent Show, they played, "Weather With You," by Crowded House.



(above) Seniors Alicia Gupta of Watchung, left, and Alisha Sahay of Green Brook Township presented a medley of dances from India.



(above, l-r) The Band, No Fugasi, featuring juniors Natalie Kim of Warren Township and David Kim of Millington, sophomore Edward Cai of Watchung and Owen DiDonna of Millington, played a medley of songs.



(above) Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) History teachers, kneeling from left, Sean New, Ken Karnas, Greg O'Reilly, and Rebecca Brown, and, behind them, a cast of WHRHS student actor/singers, presented the opening number of "Hamilton," at the Talent Show.

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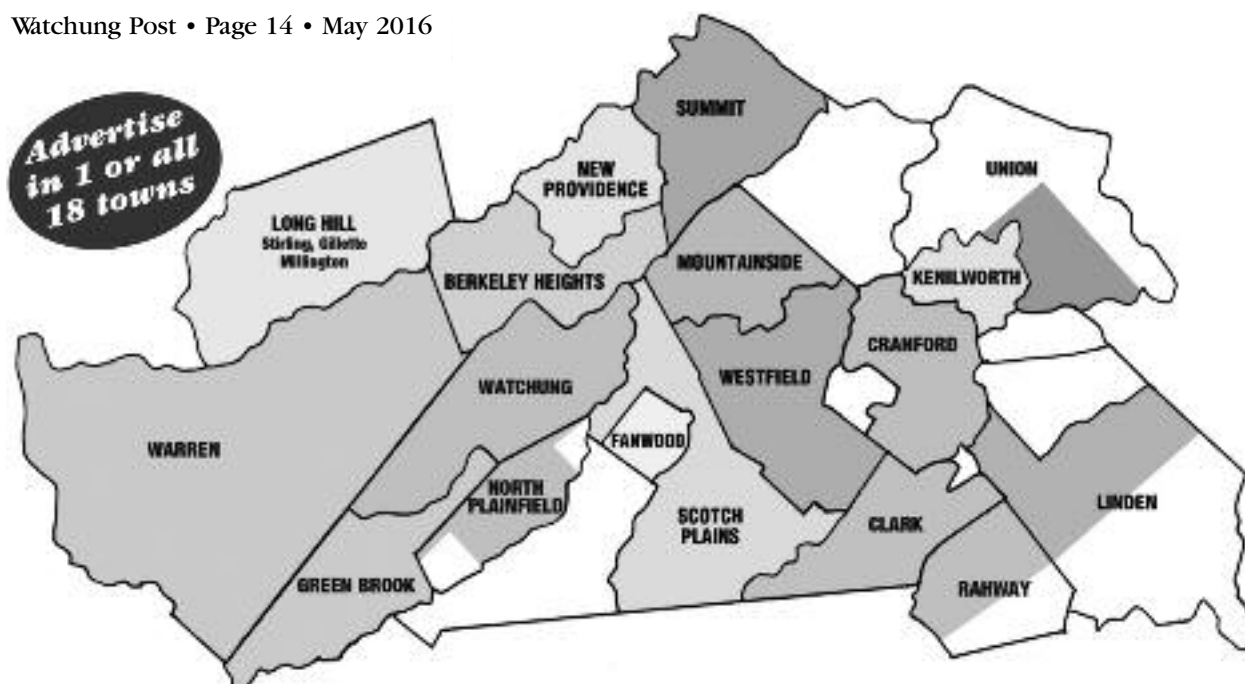
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WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL 2016 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

History teacher Jamie Lott-Jones has been selected by a committee of her peers as the 2016 Teacher of the Year. Lott-Jones has been on the faculty at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) for 18 years, and before that completed her student teaching assignment there.

The plaque presented to Lott-Jones by Principal George Alexis included the words, “for encouraging students to think independently, for promoting a culture of acceptance, and for inspiring students to embrace empathy, kindness, and responsibility.”

She continued, “I have had the privilege of teaching at WHRHS for a span of 18 years, and I know, without a doubt, that I work with the very best team of educators and professionals in the state. I have always felt that my co-workers were my extended family, and as such, you advise me, encourage me, and even tease me.

Lott-Jones expressed that “Teaching takes a lot of exhausting work,” but is re-invigorated when she receives encouragement from her fellow teachers.

Lott-Jones was born in South Dakota, and when very young, lived in North Dakota with her parents, a public health doctor and a social worker, who were providing services to Native American residents. They returned to New Jersey, and lived in Plainfield from ages 3 to 8.

She graduated from The Pingry School in Bernards Township and received her bachelor’s degree from Dickinson College in Carlyle, Pa. During her junior year at Dickinson, Lott-Jones completed a semester establishing a pre-school on the Cheyenne River-Sioux Reservation in South Dakota: the pre-school was funded through a government grant.

“It is still open,” Lott Jones said, with pride. “It is called, Oti Waste’, which in the language of the Sioux, called Lakota, means ‘Good House.’”

Lott-Jones earned her master’s degree in education from Rutgers University and has taken additional classes at Kean University. She has also completed a one semester fellowship at Columbia University, New York City, in Genocide Studies.

This year, Lott-Jones is on the executive committee of the Facing History & Ourselves NJ Advisory Board, a group of History teachers and administrators from WHRHS and also schools in West New York, Hoboken, Jersey City, Montclair, Sough Orange, Maplewood, and Bloomfield. The board meets four times a year to discuss and develop best practices for teachers of history trying to encourage students to participate in productive civic engagement experiences.

“We work together to try to find creative ways to explore and support “upstanding” values in the curriculum,” she said.

She also attended a professional development workshop on “Closing the Opportunity Gap,” with noted educator and author Dr. Richard Milner of the University of Pittsburgh.

Lott-Jones co-authored a paper to be published in the scholarly journal of Kappa Delta Pi with fellow History teacher Mary Sok, and former WHRHS Superintendent Frances Stromsland. It is titled, “The Power of One – Creating the New



(above) Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Principal George Alexis presents the 2016 Teacher of the Year plaque to 18-year WHRHS History Teacher Jamie Lott-Jones.

Culture of Upstanders.”

With Sok, she also prepared and led a seminar last summer for new teachers, titled “Teaching Social Justice,” at Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal (MSUNER). They will likely repeat the presentation for a group of new teachers this summer.

Last Fall, students in Lott-Jones’ World History Honors classes participated in StoryCorps’s Great Thanksgiving Listen. This National Public Radio (NPR) “Oral History Project,” records interviews and personal remembrances on various types of Americana and the American experience for archiving in the Library of Congress.

Lott-Jones was among the teachers and students who developed the WHRHS anti-bullying initiative, “White Out.” This year, the White Out initiative will visit and engage students at Warren Middle School on Friday, May 13. Last year, the initiative visited and engaged students at Watchung’s Valley View Middle School. In years past, the “White Out” initiative students have made presentations at municipal meetings to the Township Committees of Warren, Long hill, Green Brook, and Borough Council of Watchung.

Among the other innovative teaching techniques she has had her students do are: read “White Man’s Burden,” the classic 1899 poem by Rudyard Kipling and write an answering poem from the viewpoint of the Indian. As well as create a Sikh action plan, including a mission statement, goals, and activities to educate people on the Sikh culture, so they are not labeled as Muslim terrorists.

According to one of her fellow History teachers, many students have said that Lott-Jones’ World History Classes have been among their more challenging during their school experience at WHRHS, but also their favorite.

She and her husband, Mike Jones, have two children, Luke, 13, and Jake, 10.

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The Valerie Fund’s mission is to provide support for the comprehensive health care for children with cancer and blood disorders. In honor of Older American’s Month, from April 18 until May 23, the center will be collecting “new” small gift items that children going to one of the two local treatment centers will be able to select from the fund’s treasure chest. The item should be appropriate for children 5 to 10 years old.

“Beginner Watercolor Paint Class”

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“Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon,”

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