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LONG HILL MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Due to the dreary weather forecast, the Long Hill Memorial Day Parade was cancelled, but that did not interrupt the citizens of Long Hill from coming out and paying tribute to the service members of both recent and past memories who perished during times of war.

Father Richard Carton opened the Ceremony with an invocation and Mayor Bruce Meringolo followed by thanking the Long Hill Community members for attending the modest ceremony at Central Middle School on the front lawn, in Stirling. Mayor Meringolo apologized for the cancellation of the original event. Fallen service members were honored for their sacrifices in the form of patriotically designed wreaths.

Mayor Meringolo read the names of fallen service members during various wartime efforts, from World War II forward, and for each name spoken Deputy Mayor Guy Piserchia rang a bell. Lieutenant Joe Fronapfel and Edwin Gerecht

of the Millington Fire Department; Chief Kevin

Phillips and Isaac Morales of the Stirling Fire Department; Lieutenant Sean Brown and Detective Matthew Newschwander of the Long Hill Police Department; Bob English and Israel Sierra of the Long Hill First Aid Squad, were all present to place wreaths at the memorials located in front of Central Middle School. The ceremony ended solemnly with a prayer from Reverend Tom Peters.







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PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

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

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email editor@rennamedia.com or call 908-418-5586

VIOLIN AND PIANO DUO COMES TO STIRLING

Presbyterian Church of Stirling will present classical piano and violin duo Olga Gurevich and Sayuri K. Lyons which will be the last concert for the 2015 – 2016 First Pres Concert Series season.

Pianist Olga Gurevich earned her Master's degree in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy at Gnesin Academy of Music, and completed her post graduate studies at Maimonides State Academy in Moscow, Russia. Olga is a winner of numerous international piano competitions. In 1998 she moved to New York, where she continues to pursue her performance and teaching careers. Venues at which she has appeared include Carnegie Hall Weill Recital Hall, the New York City 92nd Street Y, Smirna Opera Theatre in Delaware, Westport Concert Series in Connecticut, Scuola Civica in Cagliari, Italy, among others. Her performances have been aired on National Television in Azerbaijan, First TV Channel in Russia and RAI Tre in Italy. She collaborated with Manhattan Symphonie, Richmond County orchestra, New York Session Symphony orchestra and performed as a member of numerous chamber music ensembles.

Sayuri K. Lyons is currently the Lyons



(above) Olga Gurevich

On June 12, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., the First Chamber Players' Concertmaster and has performed extensively throughout North America, Europe and Asia. She has acted as concertmaster with the Salute to Vienna Orchestra, Savoy Company, Fresno Opera, Nimbus Ensemble, Opera a la Carte, Guild Opera and the Lyric Opera of Los Angeles. She has performed with the Springfield Symphony, El Paso Opera, Santa Barbara Symphony, Fresno Symphony, Long Beach Symphony and numerous other Orchestras. Her tour experiences include the Santandar Music Festival with Peter Nero, tours in India and China with Yanni,, and US tours with Opera a la Carte. She has appeared on the Tonight show with Enya, and in numerous feature films, TV shows and videos. In addition, Sayuri has credits as an orchestrator and concertmaster for various Hollywood film scores. For more information, go to www.fpcstirling.org or call the First Presbyterian

Church of Stirling at (908) 647 - 1033. This will be the seventh and final concert in the Church's concert series for the 2015 - 2016season. Admission, as always, is free. A short

reception will follow the concert at which attendees may meet the performer. Refreshments will be served.



(above) Sayuri K. Lyons

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AUGUST 2016

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Entertainment Schedule

Sat June 11 "The Vinny's" 9pm Sun June 12 **Bobby Byrne** 4:30pm "Sweet Chin Music" Fri June 17 10pm Sat June 18 Pat Roddy 10pm JUNE 19th - FATHER'S DAY BLOWOUT! Sun June 19 'Brian Kirk & the Jirks' 6pm Sat June 25 10pm Pat Roddy Sun June 26 Bobby Byrne 4:30pm Thu June 30 Backspin 50 5pm **JULY 2016** Fri July 1 'Brian Kirk & the Jirks' 6pm Sat July 2 Pat Roddy 10pm Sun July 3 Bobby Byrne 4:30pm Pat Roddy 10pm

"The Barksdales

Mon July 4

Thu July 7	Backspin 50	5pm
Fri July 8	'Waiting on Mongo'	10pm
Sat July 9	Pat Roddy	10pm
Sun July 10	Bobby Byrne	4:30pm
Thu July 14	Backspin 50	5:00pm
Fri July 15	"Enjoy!"	10pm
Sat July 16	Pat Roddy	10pm
Sun July 17	Pat Roddy	10pm
Thu July 21	Backspin 50	5:00pm
Fri July 22	"Sweet Chin Music"	10pm
Sat July 23	Pat Roddy	10pm
Sun July 24	Bobby Byrne	4:30pm
	'Brian Kirk & the Jirks'	10pm
Thu July 28	Backspin 50	5:00pm
Sat July 30	"The Medicine Men"	6pm
	Pat Roddy	10pm

Backspin 50
'Waiting on Mong
Pat Roddy
Bobby Byrne
Backspin 50
"Joebonanno and
the Godsons of So
'Brian Kirk & the J
Backspin 50
"Enjoy!"
Bobby Byrne
Backspin 50

Sat August 27

Sun August 28

Thu September 1

Sat September 3

Sun October 2

Fri October 14

Sun September 4 Bobby Byrne

Fri September 16 Nicole & Denise

5pm

ting on Mongo' Roddy

10pm 4:30pm 5:00pm Godsons of Soul" 7pm n Kirk & the Jirks' TBA 5:00pm 10pm TBA 5:00pm "Joebonanno and the Godsons of Soul" 7pm 'Brian Kirk & the Jirks' TBA

7pm

7pm

5:00pm

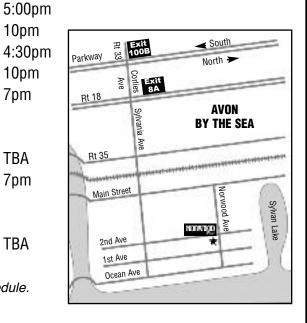
10pm



PAT RODDY



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Sun November 6 'Brian Kirk & the Jirks' TBA

NOVEMBER 2016

SEPTEMBER 2016

Backspin 50

Pat Roddy

Pat Roddy

OCTOBER 2016

Nicole & Denise

'Brian Kirk & the Jirks' TBA

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(above) Hickory Tree is an award-winning women's chorus dedicated to advancing the musical art form of four-part acappella harmony sung in the barbershop style. We are dynamic, diverse women, passionate about music, performance, fun & friendship. We invite women singers of all ages to visit us and share our passion for musical excellence. www.hickorytreechorus.org.





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LISA-ANN MARCHESI TRAVELS TO LA TO SHOW-OFF HER COOKING SKILLS ON MASTERCHEF

By: Edir Coronado

Season 7 of the hit TV show MasterChef premiered on June 1st. Forty of the best home cooks in the country traveled to Los Angeles, to battle for the "Battle for a White Apron Challenge" and to earn the title of MasterChef. Lisa-Ann Marchesi of Gillette was named as one of the competitors on the show, which is an accomplishment in itself.

Lisa-Ann is an insurance manager, but cooking is her passion. She expressed that growing up in a Sicilian-Italian household really gave her the skills needed to create authentic Italian cuisines. She cultured this ability early on and while most kids her age may have been living an innocuous life, she spent her days experimenting in the kitchen. She explained, "My grandmother lived downstairs from us for a number of years growing up and with her kitchen underneath my bedroom, I spent a lot of time with her," she added, "she inspired me to cook."

One of Lisa's fondest memories as a child were Sunday dinners, a day, which she voiced woefully, "Is something we lost touch with, in terms of family tradition because everybody is so busy, but it was something that was really important to me." On Sundays, family members would gather and enjoy home cooked meals courtesy of Lisa-Ann's grandmother. "No matter what was going during the week, every Sunday we would make sure that we got together for dinner" described Lisa-Ann. She would spend her Sunday's frying meatballs, stirring the sauce, while listening to Frank Sinatra on the AM radio. Lisa-Ann hopes to rejuvenate this tradition for her son, which she feels is important in his development into adulthood.

Despite the absence of the Sunday tradition, the strong family bond is still evident. It was her family that urged her to try out for a spot in the



(above) Lisa-Ann Marchesi of Gillette is a MasterChef contestant in Season 7 "Battle for a White Apron Challenge" currently airing Wednesday nights on FOX.

MasterChef competition. "My family follows my social media, where I'm always cooking and taking photographs and they told me I should try out for MasterChef," said Lisa-Ann "My family is off the chart excited about this."

Presently her passion for cooking has guided her to open up an olive oil business and in the future she hopes to open up her own restaurant where chefs from different regions can come to cook.

When asked about Gordon Ramsay she responded "People don't realize because of what they see on t.v., what a great role model he is, he genuinely wants you to succeed."

Make sure to tune in to see Lisa-Ann. MasterChef Season 7 airs Wednesday nights on FOX beginning on June 1st.





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LONGHILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS **AWARD TO ESSAY CONTEST WINNER**

By: Edir Coronado

The Longhill Historical Society had its monthly meeting on May 26th at the Millington Old Schoolhouse. This meeting had a special occasion, as the Historical Society was proud to announce the Historical Society Essay Contest Winner.

Keira Gualtieri, winner of the contest, chose to write about the differences between being a child in the year 2016 and being a child in the year 1866. In her essay she revealed the lack of possessions owned by kids in 1866 in comparison to 2016. Keira was astute enough to notice the similarities between these two eras like, pottery and reading, but savvy enough to realize that her life in 2016 is better.

Keira, a 6-year-old first grader from Gillette Elementary School in Stirling, had the honor of

being bestowed this award. Keira has a bright future in the world of writing and this award is surely the first in a long list of future writing achievements. She enjoys reading, writing, and drawing. One of her favorite pastimes is to create her own books, implications of a future novelist.

"Keira is an imaginative, happy, sweet girl and we couldn't be prouder of her," touts proud mother Tiffany Olson. Keira is also an animal lover, "she enjoys her weekends at her Nana's and Pop-pop's where she takes care of her cats Herman, Rootie, Maggie, and her potbelly pig Daisy Mae," expressed Tiffany.

Keira doesn't only enjoy writing; other aspirations also include becoming a popstar. It is safe to this young girl has bright future.



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Long Hill LEADER • Page 9 • March 2016



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FUSION CLUB CONCERT RESULTS IN \$370 DONATION TO HEART ASSOC

Fisher Hall at Wilson Memorial Church was transformed on Saturday, May 7th, into a Saturday night "Open Mike" performance space as the Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Fusion Club sponsored by the "State of the Heart" Concert to benefit the American Heart Association.

The benefit raised some \$370, which the Fusion Club donated to the American heart Association, according to Club President Emily Tang. Some 10 performers or groups of performers took the stage, mostly singers, musicians, as well as one dancer, and one poet. Performers and guests sat at some 10 round tables, cabaret-style.

"The WHRHS Fusion is a club that combines art, music, writing, and community service," explained Tang. "As a part of our mission to help others use art, we are hosting this open mic night so that all proceeds go towards helping those with high risk of cardiovascular disease and strokes. We chose to donate our profits to the American Heart Association."

Tang thanked everyone who participated in making the State of the heart Concert successful. "The Fusion Club is very grateful for everyone who came out to support our community, performers and the American Heart Association," said Tang. "We'd also like to give our highest gratitude to the Wilson Memorial Church for graciously allowing us to use their rooms for the event."

The students who performed included: Veronica Mu and Allison Horvath singing "Something Bad;" Emily Tang, accompanied by Kunwoo Park on acoustic guitar, singing "Officially Missing You," and "I'm Not the Only One;" Nikhil Bhat singing, "Not While I'm Around;" Neha Saju reading her original poetry; Edward Cai playing "Latch," a piano improvisation; Anchal Dhir singing, "Paper Hearts;" Fariha Asim performing two dances from India; Suchir Govindarajan, accompanied by Natalie Kim on electric bass, singing "Goodbye Yellow Bick Road;" Bandon Tang playing solo on saxophone, and Justin Panzarino playing solo on piano, both on individual pieces.

Later, Tang and Panzarino played together on a jazz interpretation of the classic, "Summertime," as the concert's final number. Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Owen Bai.



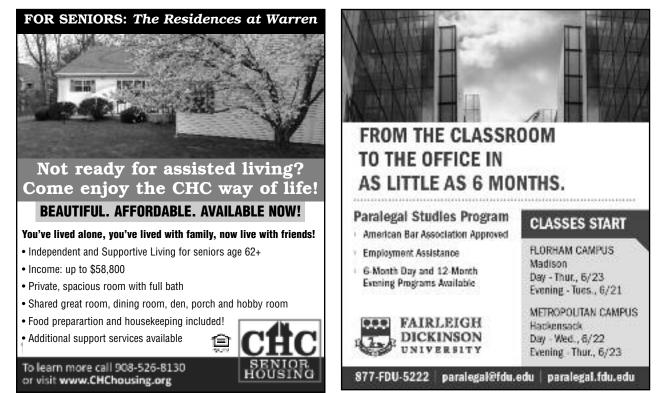
(above) Organizers of the Watchung Hills Regional High School Fusion Club sponsored State of the Heart Concert, on May 7, at Wilson Memorial Church, include, crouching in front, Edward Cai, standing in the middle, from left, Jenny and Emily Yan, Emily Yang, Julianne Lin, Aditi Joshi, and McKenzie Schulyer, and standing in the back, Owen Bai. The benefit concert, featuring "open mic" performances by student singers, musicians, as well as a dancer and a poet, raised some \$370 for the American Heart Association.

THREE-TO-FIVE YEAR OLDS GRADUATE WITH HABITS FOR A LIFETIME

Three more students at the Soo Bahk Do Karate & Wellness Center recently transitioned from the 3 -5 year-olds program to the fullcurriculum program. Adding to the long line of these successful graduations from the popular Little Dragons class are Christopher (5) and Tyler Rembetsy (4) of Berkeley Heights and Brandon Schroeder (4) of Berkeley Heights.

Christopher and Tyler exemplify the goal of

connecting in the minds of the graduates the connection between study habits and results. Appropriate for their ages, they engaged in seemingly simple routines. Yet, built into those routines were habits for a lifetime. Such challenges as taking turns, forming a line, and focusing on instructions enable self-discipline. The two brothers proved particularly adept at memorizing and perfecting exact sequences.



The Little Dragons program is heavily focused on preparation for martial arts study. Brandon, though the youngest of the graduates, "is an illustrious example of enhancing balance and flexibility; coordinating upper and lower body muscle groups, and engaging weight for leverage" said Andrew Masini, Certified Master Instructor and 4th degree blackbelt.

While these Little Dragons graduates are excited about joining their peers in a higher level class, their parents see in them success well beyond a continuing karate curriculum. These students are heading for kindergarten and first grade with a significant headstart in life skills.

To learn more about Soo Bahk Do Karate & Wellness and their Little Dragons program, visit their website at www.karate4peace.com or call (908)647-4194.



THREE NIGHTS OF SPRING DANCE CONCERTS AT WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Some 36 students in Dance Ensemble, an extra-curricular activity at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS), performed at the annual Spring Dance Concert, Thursday, May 12th, to Saturday, May 14th, in the school's Performing Arts Center.

The students performed 20 pieces in total, including 15 pieces that were choreographed by the students themselves. Many of the students performed in multiple pieces during the three nights of the concert.

"This this is a huge accomplishment for a high school dance program and for high school dance students," said Marisa Joshi, WHRHS Dance Instructor and Dance Ensemble Director. "The rest of the pieces were choreographed by faculty and guest choreographers. As part of the performing arts program here at WHRHS, students can take Dance I, Dance II, Advanced Dance and World Dance for arts credits."

Dancers performed a large variety of styles during the concert, including modern, contemporary, jazz and ballet.

"Audiences saw a dance concert that was full of variety," she said, "from solos to group pieces. Each work had its own message and its own flavor. We were fortunate enough to have a wonderful technical director and crew who help to make the lighting, music, and overall show look very professional."

Dancers performed, accompanied by music, and with the stage bathed in lighting, which contributed to the compositions. "Students audition for a slot in the ensemble company in October," Joshi said. "Rehearsals start shortly thereafter. In total, rehearsal and preparation for this show is an 8 month process." Joshi said the success of the dance ensemble

requires a strong commitment by students.

"The students who are involved in Dance Ensemble are extremely focused and disciplined," she said. "They work incredibly hard over the course of the year, often balancing rehearsals with jobs, rigorous academic schedules, and dance training at local studios. Students who choreograph have the added challenge and responsibility of directing a group of their peers as they create a work of art. Faculty members often hear how surprised people are that these are high school students. Their level of commitment and professionalism is apparent in the beautiful show produced.

Joshi has been the dance teacher at Watchung Hills for 11 years. She started the program at WHRHS in the 2005-2006 school year. Joshi holds a bachelor's degree in Dance from James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va., and a master's degree in Dance Education from New York University, New York, N.Y. She also holds a NJ Certification as Teacher of Dance K-12.

She is assisted in directing the Dance Ensemble by Melissa Markowich, who was one of her first students 10 years. "Melissa has become an invaluable asset to Dance Ensemble" Joshi said. "In addition to choreographing, she helps with rehearsals and designs lighting."



(above) Student dancers among the 23 students performed, "Phishy". Junior Arielle Ostry. Choreographer for the piece was Melissa Markowich, who is the Dance Ensemble's assistant director.



(above) Members of the WHRHS Dance Ensemble perform the piece, Collateral Damage, choreographed by senior dance student Lauren Loesberg. The photo was by one of the 17 dancers in the piece, Ally Manspiezer.







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