Green Brook Gazette

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ISSUE 34 • JULY 2016

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AUGUST 2

5 – 9 p.m.

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Presentations, Gifts,

Refreshments and more

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FALL ATHLETICS NIGHT ACQUAINTS NEW STUDENTS WITH SPORTS PROGRAM, COACHES

Parents and students, including current eighth graders, who hope to play Fall sports at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) attended a Fall Athletics Night in May to hear from Athletic Director Chris Van Vliet, and speak to team coaches.

After welcoming remarks and a presentation by Van Vliet about the philosophy, mission and information about key upcoming dates, students and parents went to breakout sessions throughout the school to meet and speak with coaches. There were coaches representing Football, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Boys and Girls Soccer, Girls Tennis, Girls volleyball, Fall Cheerleading, Gymnastics and Competition Cheer.

"I was very pleased with our fall athletics night," said Van Vliet. "We had a nice turnout, and the feedback I received was all positive. My hope is that our fall athletes are now more informed about our athletic department and the important items that need to be completed before practice begins, as well as the expectations of our coaches in each of our fall programs."

The WHRHS Athletic Department has two athletic trainers, Terry Marcazo and Michelle Armonda. There are 33 head coaches and 92 coaches in all. Van Vliet said the WHRHS athletic philosophy is: "To provide a competitive athletic environment that strives to maximize the development of our student-athletes in the areas of personal growth, positive team experiences, and individual responsibility. The athletic department supports an atmosphere that embraces school spirit, honors tradition, and helps to develop productive members of society.

Academic eligibility is extended to all freshman athletes for teams that compete during their first Fall and Winter season, Van Vliet said. To be academically eligible to compete

Warren Township Recreation Commission is proud to

announce its annual Teen Fest! Join us at the Municipal

Library Field on July 27th from 6 to 10 pm for an evening of

games, music, food, and fun. The event is open to WHRHS

sending district students (middle & high schoolers) and will

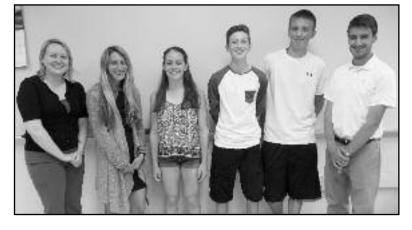
feature live local bands, a rock climbing wall, inflatable

twister, rapid fire powerball, Trainer Joe's Teen Extreme

Challenge, games like human foosball, and skeeball, plus a

special presentation by Warren PBA Local #235. Serving ice

cream, drinks and Mo's tacos for a small fee.



(above, l-r) Assistant Coach of Boys and Girls Cross Country Cara Yuknis, Head Girls Cross Country Coach Gena Pinto, incoming freshman Alyssa Blocker of Stirling, incoming freshman Reecie Kirchofer of Green Brook Township, sophomore Robert Fippinger of Warren Township, and Head Boys Cross Country Coach Dominic Tasco. Photo by WHRHS.

during the Spring season, freshman athletes must have completed 15 credits during their first semester at WHRHS. For sophomores, juniors and seniors, students must have completed 30 credits from the previous school year to be eligible to compete during the Fall and Winter Seasons. For the Spring Season, they must have 15 credits at the end of the first semester.

Students interested in participating in fall sports will faced key deadlines for forms and physicals even before the end of school in June, Van Vliet said. First day for all Fall sports is Monday, Aug. 15th, except for Football, which starts Wednesday, Aug. 10. More information can be found on the department web site at www.whrhs.org.

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WARREN TEEN FEST

For videos from last year's event, visit warrennj.org/ recreation and look under our Picture Gallery.

This is a free event but you Must pre-register online www.warrennj.org/recreation/register.

We are still looking for teen bands and musicians to perform at Teen Fest! If you are interested, please contact Warren Recreation department at 908-753-8000 x 270 or fill out an application form found at warrennj.org.

Adult volunteers are also needed. Call Recreation office if interested. We look forward to seeing you at Teen Fest!

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October 13th from 7:00-9:00, Saint Mary's Stony

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13th, \$60.00/person. For further information

the first Wednesday of the month at 11:00 from

http//www.thegardenclubofwatchung.org and

Face Book page or telephone (908)754-5766 for

Our meetings are held at various locations on

Visit our website:

email: gardenclub2016@aol.com

September thru June.

more information.



On-line at RennaMedia.com

Green Brook Gazette is published by Renna Media. 3,000 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Green Brook, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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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

THE GARDEN CLUB OF WATCHUNG

We invite the residents of Watchung and by Sue Phillips and create your own fragrance, surrounding communities to join our active club. During July and August we tend our Deer Resistant Garden behind the Watchung Art Center, Blue Star Memorial Garden, and Blue Star Memorial Byway on Somerset Street, Watchung Circle Triangle Garden and Fatima Garden at St. Mary's Stony Hill Church. Funds for these projects are raised from our annual Spring Plant Sale and other events.

This Fall join us for "A Scentsational Night"

ROBOTICS NATIONALS FOLLOW - UP

The WHRHS Team 41 Robotics Team accumulated numerous medals, banners, plaques and trophies during the season and at the World Championship, held on April 27-30 in St. Louis. The success at the World Championship completed the most successful Team 41 season since 2008. Along the way, the team scored an 8th place finish at Regionals, and a 2nd place and first place at seasonal contests at Mount Olive High School and Montgomery High School, respectively.

This year's Team 41 robot as seen from above, with a boulder on board, which could be flung by catapult at a tower window target to score points. The robot needed to contain its computer brain for remote control, propulsion mechanisms, and other mechanisms, such as the hydraulic piston that gives the catapult power. The bot had to be relatively quick, nimble, durable, with its vital components protected and easily repaired if the rough and tumble of competition caused damages.



(above) WHRHS Team 41 Robotics Team





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ROTARY CLUB AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Two Warren Hills Regional High School students received scholarships from the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship Fund at a dinner held Wednesday, June 8th, at the Spain Inn in Piscataway. The scholarships are financed by a bequest from Adele DeLeeuw, longtime Plainfield resident, author of 75 books, journalist, and arts activist.

The Plainfield-North Plainfield Rotary Club administers the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship Fund and is one of five local Rotary clubs that provide scholarships from the fund to students in their communities who pursue a course of study in poetry, art, journalism, writing or engineering. Sixty thousand dollars was distributed this year to twenty-two area students by the Fund, a fund of the Plainfield Foundation. This year's awards bring the Fund's twenty-one-year total distribution to \$1,143,500.

Brenda Okereke was the scholarship recipient from the graduating class of 2016. The Scholarship Fund also provided a continuing scholarship to college student Melody Njoku. This year's Adele DeLeeuw Senior Scholars, college students who were recognized as a scholarship recipient from the Fund for each of their four years in college included Charlotte Brockway. An additional nineteen students from area high schools received scholarships from the Fund.

Applications for the 2017 Adele DeLeeuw Scholarships will be available in January from North Plainfield High School guidance office. For further information, call Johanna Salvemini, Scholarship Administrator, at (908) 755-8098.



(above, top, l-r) Christopher Silva (WHRHS), Rebecca Mehorter (SPFHS), Anthony Raphael (WHRHS), Nicholas Ruzicka (SPFHS), Cody Decker (SPFHS); (middle, l-r) Stephanie Bohn (SPFHS), Tyler Curtis (SPFHS), Thomas Riccardi (SPFHS), Nolan Berry (SPFHS); (bottom, l-r) Charlotte Brockway (NPHS), Emily London (SPFHS), Melody Njoku (NPHS).





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WARRENBROOK'S **EVENTS LISTING**

Join us for lunch.

All Somerset County-operated Senior Centers offer a nutritionally balanced lunch, Monday through Friday

for a suggested donation of \$2.50, for anyone 60 and above. Menu choices include a hot meat-based or meatless entrée or a cold meat-based or meatless boxed

lunch. Please make reservations prior to 10:00 am the

previous business day.

Meet & Greet

July 11 - 10:00-10:30 am (Join us prior to the start of the Feng Shui program for a friendly meet and greet opportunity).

"Feng Shui 101"

July 11 - 10:30 am

by Sandy Volk, Central New Jersey Feng Sui, Learn how to clear your clutter, decorate your home with Feng Shui colors and how to re-position your furniture to create a harmonious home.

"Unused Medication Drop-Off Opportunity" July 13

with Officer Thomas Wallace, Somerset County Sheriff's Office, 9:30-10:30 am (Officer Wallace will be at the center to collect any unused or expired medications. Please take advantage of the safe way to dispose of your medications. Center staff cannot accept unused medications without the Sheriff's Officer being present).

"Cognitive Skills"

July 18 - 10:30 am by Mike Dicristino, LearningRx of Warren See how brain training can help you learn more effectively and efficiently.

"The Power of Color"

July 19 - 10:30 am

by Audrey Oxenhorn, LCSW Colors have been used very successfully for healing, entertainment and creating beautiful, peaceful spaces from the beginning of time.

Warrenbrook Book Club

July 19 - 1:30-3:00 pm (New Members Welcome!) 'Featured Book: "Digging to America," Join the Warrenbrook Book Club to discuss Anne Taylor's "Digging America."

"Drumming Circle and its Health Benefits"

July 20 - 10:30 am

by Sharon Silverstein, Living at Peace A Drumming Circle feeds the mind, body and spirit. It's a holistic experience that leaves a person feeling a sense of joy!

"Handle with Care: George Frideric Handel's Royal **Fireworks Overture**"

July 25 - 10:30 am by George Marriner Maull Artist Director of the Discovery Orchestra Join us as George takes us through the blueprint of this overture and teaches listening skills that will help the attendees to connect with classical music). July 26 - Meet & Greet, 10:00-10:30 am "All Over This Land: American Regional Folk Music"

July 26 - 10:30 am

by Saul Broudy, Ph.D., Folklorist and Performer, (Though society is becoming increasingly homogeneous, regional expressive variation still exists and reflects the strength of our cultural differences.

Midsummer Social Dance July 27 - 1:00-3:00 pm

(Join Bice DiFelice, professional dancer and coordinator for Warrenbrook's Social Dance activities, for two-hours of ballroom dancing in a social and fun-filled atmosphere. To enhance the day's program, why not call and make reservations for lunch prior to the dance party. The center offers a choice of four menus, meat and meatless options, for a suggested donation of \$2.50. Reservations must be made by Monday, July 25).

WHRHS DANCING WITH THE TEACHERS

An enthusiastic crowd of students, teachers, Center's technical director Chris Valenti and his and parents filled the Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, May 25th, at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) to witness and participate in Dancing With the Teachers.

Dancing with the Teachers is one of a yearlong series of fundraising and awareness raising events sponsored by student groups in support of Project ALS (Amyotropic Lateral Sclerosis, also called Lou Gehrig's Disease). Project ALS is the non-profit organization started by the late Jenifer Estess, who died from the disease, and her family to seek out and support leading edge research to find treatment and a cure for ALS.

The Project ALS has special significance to the students and staff of WHRHS because of English Teacher Laura Goodson. Goodson's brother battled ALS, like Jenifer Estess, and it was Goodson who first discovered Project ALS, and encouraged the WHRHS student government to adopt ALS as their year-long community service effort.

"Thank you for all of your support this year," Goodson said. "As you know, this is a cause that is near and dear to my heart."

Ms. Goodson welcomed everyone to Dancing With the Teachers, and thanked the co-sponsors of the event, the Sophomore Grade Level Council and the WHRHS Dance Ensemble. Student Masters of Ceremonies for the night were Suchir Govindarajan and Schuyler Weisberg.

Students from the WHRHS Dance Ensemble, which had just staged its three-night Spring Dance Concert May 12th, 13th, and 14th, to rave reviews, provided the framework for the 14 dance numbers performed at Dancing With the Teachers. A number of teachers and administrators were featured performers in each number, with Dance Ensemble students and their Faculty Advisor, Marisa Joshi, a talented dancer and choreographer in her own right, providing guidance and spirited support for the teachers.

Among the dances were many of the numbers that highlighted the Spring Dance Concert. The Dancing with the Teachers event benefited from having the services of the Performing Arts

crew, according to event organizers. Valenti and his crew bathed the stage in appropriate and professional mood lighting and theatrical spot lighting, just as they had for the Spring Dance Concert.

For the last scheduled dance of the evening, all were invited, including audience members, to come on stage to dance the currently popular funky line dance, "The Cha Cha Slide." Many in the audience filled the stage, caught up in the fun.

The Dancing With the Teachers line-up of dances included several from the Spring Dance Concert, including "Phishy," "Collateral Damage," "Incandescent," "Becoming Human," and "Masala Chai." The rest of the program for Dancing With the Teachers included popular favorites, "The YMCA," "Uptown Funk," "Whip/Nae Nae," and "Thriller."

For more information about Project ALS can go to its Web site, www.projectals.org, and/or can



(abover, l-r) Outside the WHRHS Performing Arts Center after the performance are some of the members of the WHRHS Football Team who danced in the Dancing With the Teachers" dance number "Incandescent.": junior Nadir Beyah of Warren Township, junior Nick Ugarte of Warren Township, and junior Michael Montecalvo of Green Brook Township. Not in the photo, fellow football players Michael Bereheiko, Clayton Bush and Jack Smith.



(above) For the grand finale to Dancing With the Teachers, all were invited, including the audience, to get up on stage to participate in the last dance number, the currently popular funky line dance, "The Cha Cha Slide."





(above, kneeling, l-r) Students Michelle Shui, Lauren Loesberg, and Kaitlyn Santucci, Dance Teacher Marisa Toshi, and students Anna Paterson, Morgan Pravato, and Molly Garyantes. (standing, l-r) Students Michelle Du, Victoria Pantagis, Michelle Sucre, Dena Vayas, Katey Berger, Arielle Ostry, Sevoula Tsivgas, Sabrina Lane, and Camryn Graf.



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(left) Among the staff members who participated in the "Dancing With the Teachers" Are (in white shirts, l-r) Principal George Alexis, his Administrative Assistant, Susan Obuch, and Front Desk Secretary Pam Sasso. Flanking them (l-r) are two of the students who helped lead them through their dance number, titled, "Collateral Damage." Dance Ensemble dancer junior Michelle Shui of Green Brook Township, and sophomore Michelle Du of Warren Township.

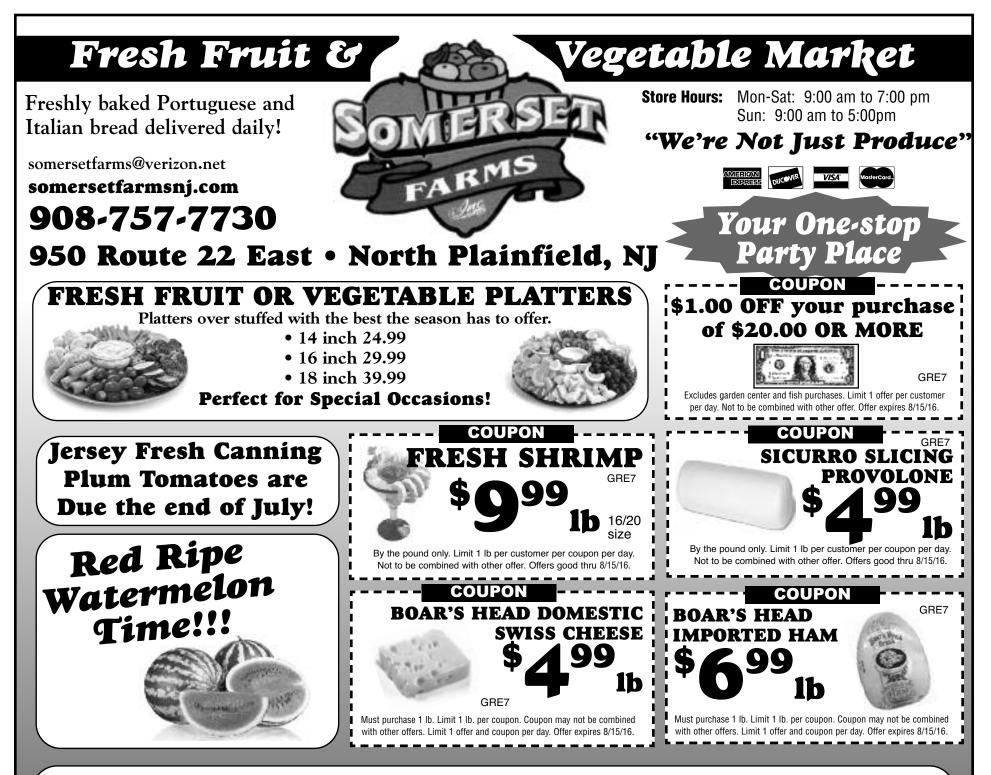






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