

Watchung Post

MAILED FREE TO EVERY HOME
AND BUSINESS IN WATCHUNG

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

NJ

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

ISSUE 49 • DECEMBER 2016

WINTER CONCERT FRIDAY DECEMBER 16TH

7:00pm

WATCHUNG HILLS
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER

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CUB SCOUTS HIKE AND LEAVE NO TRACE AT DESERTED VILLAGE

On Sunday November 13th fifteen Cub Scouts and their families from Warren Cub Scout Pack 182's Den #6 Webelos and Den #7 Bears met at Watchung Reservation's Deserted Village parking lot.

During a 2.5 hour hike, the Webelo boys completed requirements to earn the Walkabout Adventure pin and the Bears earned their Whittling Chip and Bear Claws Core Adventure.

The Cubs learned about the Leave No Trace pledge and The Outdoor Code. Throughout the hike the boys performed various Hike leadership roles; Navigator, Denner, First Aider and Snack Leader.

The Bear Cubs learned about knife safety, different types of knives and how to carve and whittle using wood and soap bars. Cubs also performed a "trash bash" service project filling a two of bags with trash from the trails and disposed of them properly on their return to the parking lot. They really did leave no trace!

Cub Scout Pack 182 in Warren Township serves the local community and surrounding towns. To join Cub Scouts or find out more about Pack 182 visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Pack182WarrenNJ our website warrenpack182.org or by contacting us at membership@warrenpack182.org.



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Watchung Post

Watchung Post • Page 2 • December 2016

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.

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Phone: 908-447-1295
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Email: joerenna@rennamedia.com

THE GARDEN CLUB OF WATCHUNG

Peggy Koehler, a master flower show judge, was the guest speaker at the "Holiday Arrangements on a Shoe String" at the November 2nd meeting of the Garden Club of Watchung. Koehler provided ideas and easy design tips for using containers from around the house by combining unique ways with flowers and greens of the holiday season.

The Garden Club of Watchung will celebrate the end of our 59th year with a holiday luncheon in December. Vonnie Mott said, "We had a wonderful and busy year. We thank all those who attended and supported our spring plant sale and fall fundraiser, 'A Sensational Evening'. Both were very successful. We now look forward to 2017, when we will be celebrating our 60 year anniversary."

The Garden Club of Watchung is inviting the residents of Watchung and surrounding communities to join the active club. Meetings are held at various locations on the first Wednesday of the month at 11 a.m. from Sept. thru June. For membership information, visit our FaceBook page and www.thegardenclubofwatchung.org or call: (908)754-5766.



(above) Peggy Koehler presented "Holiday Arrangements on a Shoe String."

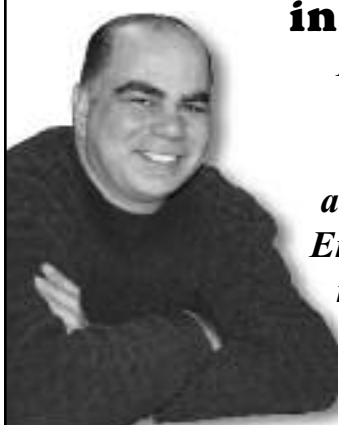
PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

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*

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“AMANI” SPREADS MUSICAL MESSAGE OF PEACE

The holidays are coming to the Watchung Arts Center, as Watchung resident Marty Eigen brings his new quartet, Amani for a concert performance on Saturday, December 10.

This will be the 13th annual holiday visit to the WAC by Eigen, who has been a frequent contributor to the center’s “JaZZ in the Gallery” series, with his Beacon Hill Jazz Band as well as with other noted jazz performers. The performance will be followed by a dessert reception with a opportunity to meet the musicians and enjoy some holiday cheer.

Amani means “peace” in Swahili. The group

was formed to share the concept of peace through music, performing for people of all ages, races, and religious affiliations. Amani performs hits from a variety of genres including The Great American Songbook, Gospel, R&B, jazz, Bossa nova, and Broadway.

The members of the group are veteran musicians: Marty Eigen on sax and flute; Fred Fischer on keyboards; vocalist Stephen Fuller; and guitarist Flip Peters. For this special holiday event Amani has invited two special guests: 10-year old phenom, pianist Tyler Fengya and vocalist Carrie Jackson.

Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$22 (\$20 WAC members, \$10 students) at the door.

Tickets may be purchased online at watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com. To obtain more information about upcoming performances, classes and workshops, and monthly art exhibitions, please visit WatchungArts.org or call 908-753-0190.

The Watchung Arts Center, located at 18 Stirling Road in Watchung on the Watchung Circle, is a multi-disciplinary arts facility serving Watchung, the surrounding communities and the Tri-State Area.

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DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sunday Eucharists at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Eucharists at 12:15 and 7:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE
December 24-Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. Children's Service of Lessons and Carols
6:00 p.m. Candlelight Eucharist with Soloists
8:00 p.m. Candlelight Eucharist with Sanctuary Choir,
Bells and Instrumentalists

DECEMBER 25
Nativity Eucharist and Carols at 10:00 a.m.

JANUARY 1, 2017
Eucharist, Lessons and Carols at 10:00 a.m.
We share an open Communion Table at all of our liturgies.

MUSIC AT FAITH BENEFIT CONCERT
Sunday, December 4 at 4:00 p.m.
Flutist Eunsook Hong, Dr. John Girvin and
Christina Girvin, soloist
Freewill offering to support ministry in Newark



*(above) Vocalist
Carrie Jackson.*



*(right) 10-year old phenom,
pianist Tyler Fengya.*

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

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!

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11am - 10pm
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Kids 7-10\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$5.99
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TAKE A JOURNEY TO THE DIVINE LAND

*An Introduction to
Traditional Chinese Culture*

Every legend has its history. Every story has its truths. And the best are rarely forgotten. For the past 5,000 years, China amassed a diverse legacy of heroes, myths, and values that still resonate in the present.

Shen Yun Promotions International will take you on a Journey to the Divine Land at Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's Watchung Library branch, located 12 Stirling Rd. in Watchung, on Wednesday, December 7 at 7 p.m. This Introduction to Traditional Chinese Culture audio-slide presentation will capture the spirit of traditional Chinese culture and the beliefs that are the foundation of traditional Chinese cultural forms, including dance, music, martial arts and education.

"We invite our community to explore the diverse cultural background of our neighbors through an introduction to traditional Chinese Culture," said Adam Volpe, an adult services librarian at SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch. "We are privileged to be hosting the renowned Shen Yun Promotions International as they take us on this inspiring journey."

Shen Yun Promotions International is a New York-based not-for-profit organization with the profound mission to revive the authentic and divinely inspired traditional Chinese culture and to enhance intercultural understanding and appreciation.

For more information or to register for this program, visit SCLSNJ.org or call 908-561-0117.

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WATCHUNG LIBRARY

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 Events/Programs for Watchung).

DECEMBER PROGRAMS AT WATCHUNG LIBRARY

More Fun for Munchkins!

December 19 and 26 at 10:30 AM

Presented by: Mrs. Fine

Ages: 2 1/2 to 3 with Caregiver

Enjoy books, songs, fingerplays, flannelboard stories, puppets and crafts - of course!

Just for You Storytime

Friday, December 2 at 10:30 AM

Ages: 4 and 5 with Caregiver

Enjoy stories and a craft that celebrate reading together!

Miss June's Room

Thursday, December 1 at 4:00 PM

Ages: 4 to 6

Listen to stories, make a project, and enjoy a snack.

Bingo with Miss June

Friday, December 2 at 4:00 PM

Ages: 4 and up

Calling all kids who love to play bingo! Come to the library and see if you can win a prize!

Watchung Library Chess Club

Monday, December 12 and 26 at 7:00 PM

Ages: Grades 3 to 8

Play and learn chess and have fun! We will learn some great new moves and strategies every month! Beginners and advanced players are welcome! Also, returning to facilitate the class is Martin Carroll. Meets the first and fourth Monday of every month!

Watchung Writers Group

Thursdays, 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.

Journey to the Divine Land: An Introduction to Traditional Chinese Culture

Ages: All Ages

Every legend has its history. Every story has its truths. And the best are rarely forgotten. For the past 5,000 years, China amassed a diverse legacy of heroes, myths, and values that still resonate in the present.

The workshop takes you on an inspiring journey through audio-slide presentation:

- Capture the spirit of traditional Chinese culture and the beliefs that are the foundation of traditional Chinese cultural forms, including dance, music, martial arts and education.
- Experience the gentle elegance and rich expressiveness of classical Chinese dance – pioneers of many other art forms, including acrobatics, Chinese opera and Olympic gymnastics flips.
- Discover the true China you've never known.
Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 PM

Mah Jong Club of Watchung

The Mah Jong 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.

Mondays and Tuesdays when the library is open from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Ages: All Ages

2 for 1 Book Club

Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng

Monday, December 19 at 11:30 AM:

Ages: Adults

Lydia is dead. But they don't know this yet. So begins the story of this exquisite debut novel, about a Chinese American family living in 1970s small-town Ohio. . A profoundly moving story of family, history, and the meaning of home.

Watchung Book Discussion Group

Second Thursday of the Month at 7:15 PM

Ages: Adults

We throw in books you would otherwise never read, but are worth reading! Drop-ins are always welcome.

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

Thursday, December 8 at 7:15 PM

A riotous comedy of hopelessly unrequited passions and mistaken identity. Duke Orsino is in love with the noblewoman Olivia. She, however, has fallen for his servant Cesario, who is actually Viola, a woman disguised as a man, who loves Orsino: confusion is rife. Many of the programs listed above are sponsored by the

Friends of the Watchung Library

<http://www.friendsofwatchunglibrary.org/>

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ATTORNEY SETTLES HOME EXPLOSION LITIGATION FOR \$975,000.00

Attorney David C. Bendush announced settlement of a lawsuit arising from a home explosion in Hunterdon County in September of 2014. The blast was caused by a contractor who was converting the home of his clients, from oil to natural gas. The clients were in the home with their infant daughter at the time of the explosion and fire. Davis Heating and Cooling was attempting without success to purge the new gas lines. Large amounts of natural gas were caused to accumulate inside the basement until the gas exploded, nearly levelling the structure and knocking the clients to the ground where they stood. Mr. Bendush litigated the liability issues aggressively, and attained the unusual result of summary judgment for plaintiff. The defense had little choice but to settle quickly and on favorable terms, in order to avoid a trial.

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New York Dog	3.50
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Kraut Dog	3.50
Topped with Sauerkraut & Yellow Mustard	
Italian Dog	6.00
2 Hot Dogs, Potatoes, Sautéed Onions & Peppers	
Chili Dog	3.50
Chilli Cheese Dog	3.50
Bacon Cheese Dog	3.50

VEGETARIAN BURGERS

Garden Veggie Burger	6.50
Provolone Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato Slices, Red Onion, Avocado Cream, Multi Grain Bun	
Black Bean Burger	6.50
Pepper jack Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Red Onion, Chipotle Mayo, Multi Grain Bun	

KIDS

includes French Fries & Fountain Drink

Hamburger	6.00
Cheese Burger	6.00
All Beef Hot Dog	6.00
Chicken Nuggets	6.00
Grilled Cheese	6.00

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Angus Burger, Sautéed Onions or Raw Onion, Deli Bun	
Classic Cheeseburger	6.25
Angus Burger, American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Raw Onion, Mayo, Deli Bun	
Bacon Cheeseburger	6.50
Angus Burger, American Cheese, Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo, Deli Bun	
Jersey Burger	6.50
Angus Burger, Grilled Pork Roll, American Cheese, Ketchup, Mayo, Deli Bun	
Mushroom Swiss	6.77
Angus Burger, Sautéed Mushrooms, Melted Swiss, Cheese, Miami Onion Bun	
Rueben Burger	6.77
Angus Burger, Grilled Pastrami, Swiss Cheese, Pickles, Sauerkraut, 1000 Island, Deli Bun	
Firehouse Burger	5.97
Angus Burger, Spicy Salsa, Pepperjack Cheese, Jalapenos, Sriracha, Lettuce, Chipotle Mayo, Miami Onion Bun	
Southwest Burger	6.75
Angus Burger, Pepperjack Cheese, Bacon, Roasted Pablano Peppers, Guacamole, Sautéed Onions, Lettuce, Tomato, Chipotle Mayo, Miami Onion Bun	
Bacon BBQ Burger	6.50
Angus Burger, BBQ Sauce, Bacon, Cheddar Cheese, Crispy Onions, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo, Miami Onion Bun	
Bacon Bleu Burger	6.50
Angus Burger, Crispy Onions, Bleu Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Chipotle Mayo, Miami Onion Bun	

SIDES

• choose: Boardwalk or Seasoned

Boardwalk Fries	2.00
Seasoned Fries	2.00
Bacon Cheese Fries*	3.00
Cheese Fries*	3.00
Chili Cheese Fries*	3.50
Onion Rings	3.00
Sweet Potatoes Fries	3.00
Fried Pickles	3.00

SALADS

House Salad 5.50
add chicken for additional \$2.50

Greek Salad 7.95

SHAKES

Chocolate 4.00 • Vanilla 4.00
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Gluten Free Bun \$0.95



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Royal Burger	6.77
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Philly Burger	7.47
Angus Burger, Topped with Philly Steak, Sautéed Onions, American Cheese, Mayo, Ketchup, Deli Bun	

Chipotle Bison	7.50
Crispy Onions, Cheddar, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo, Deli Bun	

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Turkey Bacon Cheeseburger	6.50
Fresh Ground Turkey Burger, Turkey Bacon, American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo, Deli Bun	
5-Alarm Turkey Burger	6.50
Fresh Ground Turkey Burger, Jalapeno Peppers, Pepperjack Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Chipotle Mayo, Deli Bun	

STEAK SANDWICHES

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Philly Cheese Steak	7.50
Sautéed Onions, Peppers, White American Cheese	
Ribeye Steak Sandwich	9.95
Cheddar Cheese, Sautéed Onions	

CHICKEN SANDWICH

All Natural

BBQ Chicken Sandwich	6.50
Boneless Chicken Breast, BBQ Sauce, Crispy Onions, Cheddar Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo, Deli Bun	
Cuban Chicken Sandwich	6.50
Boneless Chicken Breast, Smoked Ham, Swiss Cheese, Pickles, Mayo, Mustard, Deli Bun	
Chicken Club Sandwich	6.75
Boneless Chicken Breast, Swiss Cheese, Bacon, Guacamole, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo, Deli Bun	
Crispy Chicken Ranch Blt	6.75
Breaded Chicken, American Cheese, Applewood Bacon, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Ranch dressing, Deli Bun	
Chicken Parmigiana	6.95
Breaded Chicken, homemade Marinara sauce, Mozzarella Cheese, Hoagie Bun	
Pollo Picante	6.75
Breaded Chicken, Pepper Jack Cheese, Special Salsa Picante, Lettuce, Avocado Chipotle Mayo, Deli Bun	
Chicken Cordon Blue	7.25
Breaded Chicken, Ham, Pork roll, Swiss Cheese, Homemade Cole slaw, Hoagie Bun	

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"The Fog of War" by Lieutenant Colonel

Thomas Robert Vaucher,

December 12, 11:00 am

This presentation will highlight his 117 combat missions in the Pacific theatre and his "full week" of missions in the United States of America and "wild week" after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. He was also selected as the "lead" pilot for the 500 plus B-29 "show of force" flyover of the USS Missouri at the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Harbor. If you ever have the chance to see a video of the surrender ceremony please note that as General Douglas MacArthur stands up after signing the document that officially ended the war Bob's B-29 was directly over the General's head. A masterpiece of timing since Bob had flown to the harbor from the Island of Tinian almost 1000 miles away.

State Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

December 30

a counselor will be available to provide Free help to New Jersey beneficiaries who have problems with, or questions about their health benefits. SHIP is a statewide program by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. **Please call (908) 704-6319 to schedule an appointment**

WINTER CONCERT SET FOR DECEMBER 16TH

The Watchung Hills Regional High School Choir welcomes everyone to their Annual Winter Concert on Friday December 16th at 7:00pm in the Watchung Hills Regional High School Performing Arts Center located at 108 Stirling Rd, Warren, NJ.

Directed by chorus teacher Angela DiIorio-

Bird, the chorus will be singing songs ranging from classical to all-time favorites including "Let It Be" by The Beatles, "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, a "Disney Movie Magic" medley, and many more.

Plus, admission is free!

We hope everyone is able to attend!"

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THERAPEUTIC RECREATION

Watchung has a cooperative agreement with the Somerset County Park Commission Therapeutic Department to provide Therapeutic Recreation programs and services to Watchung residents who need specialized/adapted recreation programs or inclusion support services.

The Therapeutic Recreation (TR) Department is dedicated to providing year round recreation and leisure opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. The goal of the TR department is to promote an active leisure lifestyle that improves social, physical, cognitive and emotional functioning and health while enhancing each participant's abilities. With highly qualified staff at programs, participants can register for many types of programs. By providing a variety of social, cultural, artistic, and culinary programs, as well as sports, fitness, community outings, horticulture, and special events, participants can recreate in the day, evening, or weekend.

Benefits to participation may include improving social skills, enhancing self-esteem, improving overall health and well-being and physical ability, enhancing communication skills,

constructive use of leisure time and eliminating boredom, and reduction of stress and anxiety. Come discover the benefits with us.

Programs are offered for the following age groupings: Adults 31 and older, Young Adults 18-30, Teens 13-17, Children 6-12

With this approach to programming, participants can now attend programs with peers that share more common interests. We work to ensure a fun and trusting environment for you or your child that is conducive to learning while engaging in recreation activities.

This season program offerings include Pasta Making, Born to Jive music and dance program, Dining Out, Body Shop Fitness, Out and About, Seasonal Botanicals, Holiday Party, Fall Formal, and much more. Kids Yoga is back for both children and teens. There will be more craft, cooking, and enrichment programs offered. Call the TR office to find out what programs are being offered for your age group. If you have questions or if you want to receive a flyer/brochure, please call the TR department at 908 526-5650 or visit us on the web at www.somersetcountyparks.org. Individuals with speech or hearing impairments, please call the Relay Service @ 711.

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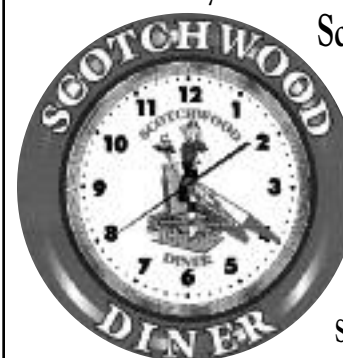
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DECEMBER ART EXHIBITS AT THE WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER

Each year, during the month of December, the Watchung Arts Center features the work of its artist members. The 2016 Annual Watchung Arts Center Members' Juried Art Exhibition will open on Saturday, December 3 and remain on display until December 23. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, December 4 from 1-4 PM to announce the winners of this juried exhibition. The First Place winner of the exhibition will be awarded a solo show in the Lower Gallery during 2017.

In conjunction with the Members' Exhibit, the center's Lower Gallery will feature the work of artist Linda Lam, the winner of the 2015 WAC

Members' Juried Exhibition, in an exhibit entitled "Faces and Blossoms". Lam has an MA in Economics from Hunter College of NY, and spent twenty years as a Market Analyst for AT&T and HSBC but, as the third generation of a family of artists, she says, "Art is my heritage, my vocabulary and my way of living". Linda paints and draws directly from life. "The emotion of a face and the expression of a blossom inspire me.

The process of creating works of art excites me and it is my privilege to share my passion about art to the world."

In addition to receiving a First Place award in the 2015 WAC Members' Exhibition, she also received an Award of Merit in the 2014 show, as well as a Third Place award in this year's Contemporary Art Group show at the Watchung Arts Center.



(left)
Artist Linda Lam,
the winner of the
2015 WAC
Members' Juried
Exhibition,
selections from
exhibit
"Faces and
Blossoms".

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HOLLYWOOD HEADLINES

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Headlines appear on 19 newspapers published by Renna Media

1 **Berkeley Heights**
CANDIDATE KANE CAUGHT IN LOVE NEST WITH "SINGER"

5 **Green Brook Gazette**
CLOCK TOWER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

7 **LIFE IN LINDEN**
JOHN HAY FORREST KILLED IN ACCIDENT

9 **MOUNTAINSIDE VIEW**
PENGUIN FORGIVES PARENTS

11 **The PRIDE of North Plainfield**
APOLLO CREED TRAINS FORMER RIVAL

13 **Scotch Plains**
INCREDIBLE RESCUE AT SEA

15 **Spirit of UNION**
ROXIE ROCKS CHICAGO

2 **Clark Monthly**
VITO CORLEONE FEARED MURDERED

6 **KENILWORTH LIFE**
SOPHOMORE DIES IN KILN EXPLOSION

10 **New Providence NEWS**
THIRD GOLDEN TICKET FOUND

12 **OUR TOWN**
ALIEN STOLE MY HUSBAND'S SKIN!

14 **Summit & Times**
STORM OVER "CRIME CURE" BOY

16 **WARREN MONTHLY**
WHO'S THAT GIRL?

3 **CRANFORD MONTHLY**
KRIS KRINGLE KRAZY? KOURT KASE KOMING "KALAMITY!" KRY KIDDIES


11 **The Pride of North Plainfield**
WET BANDITS ESCAPE!

17 **Watchung Post**
CAPED WONDER STUNS CITY

19 **Watchung Post**
NAME JOHNNY FRIENDLY AS WATERFRONT MURDER BOSS

4 **Fanwood Post**
GALLAGHER KEY SUSPECT IN DIAZ DISAPPEARANCE

8 **Long Hill LEADER**
PRESIDENT DECORATES HARRY BAILEY



19

Answers can be found at RennaMedia.com

1. Berkeley Heights News	11. The Pride of North Plainfield
2. Clark Monthly	12. Our Town Rahway
3. Cranford Monthly	13. Scotch Plains Monthly
4. Fanwood Post	14. Summit Times
5. Green Brook Gazette	15. Spirit of Union
6. Kenilworth Business Life	16. Warren Monthly
7. Life in Linden	17. Watchung Post
8. Long Hill Leader	18. Westfield Monthly
9. Mountainside View	19. Peterstown Newspaper
10. New Providence News	

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On Saturday, December 10th at 7pm at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, New Jersey Festival Orchestra, under the baton of David Wroe, kicks off the holiday season with a bang and plenty of bling with Home for the Holidays, a family festival of traditional and contemporary songs and music, sing-alongs and more guaranteed to make the season merry.

This year's concert features special guests The Three Holiday Tenors who are set to dazzle and captivate with a beautiful selection of renowned tenor classical fare to welcome in the holidays. Their performances of a host of

traditional carols and wintertime curiosities are also sure to delight.

American tenor Cody Austin has been lauded as one the most promising singing actors of his age. A 2009 graduate of the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, his voice has been described as "warm and rich ... produced with an evenness that's rare." Mr Austin has already undertaken a variety of leading roles in opera houses throughout the United States including the Duke in Verdi's Rigoletto for Opera Santa Barbara, Alfredo in Verdi's La Traviata for Pittsburg opera, Virginia Opera and Utah Opera, Lensky in Eugene Onegin for Des Moines Metro Opera and Don Jose in Carmen for Shreveport Opera. He was recently featured as tenor soloist with Peter Nero and the Philly Pops in a program entitled 'The Great American Tenor'

Rising tenor Limmie Pulliam has been praised for his captivating stage presence and his "stentorian yet beautiful" voice. A former artist-in-residence with Cleveland Opera, Opera Delaware and Opera Memphis, his recent engagements include multiple appearances Delta Symphony Orchestra, a much acclaimed performance with Vashon Opera as Canio in I Pagliacci and a lauded debut at the Phoenicia International Festival of the Voice as the title character in Verdi's masterpiece Otello. He also recently presented a series of concerts featuring Negro Spirituals with The Concord Chorale.

Kevin Ray is praised by Opera News for his "commendable style" and abilities with "subtle

coloristic nuance." An alumnus of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, the tenor recently starred in the company's new commission of Iain Bell's one-man opera, A Christmas Carol. Other recent engagements include the title role of Peter Grimes with Chautauqua Opera, Roderigo in Otello, Beadle Bamford in Sweeney Todd, and Don José in Carmen with Wolf Trap Opera. Last season, he made his Los Angeles Philharmonic debut singing Beethoven's Choral Fantasy under the baton of Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla.

Tickets prices range from \$28 to \$76 for adults and there is a special discount price of only \$15 for students K-12.

Tickets are also available for NJ Festival Orchestra's New Year's Eve musical celebration. This year's performance, On The Town, promises a superb revue of American musical theater classics from stage and screen and features renowned guest vocalists direct from the Broadway stage and beyond. Special discounts are available for children under 18, making this event (which starts at 7pm and ends at 9pm) a perfect way for the entire family to join together to welcome in the new year. Patrons are advised to purchase tickets well in advance as this concert has been a sell out for the past five years.

Tickets for both concerts are available on line at www.njfestivalorchestra.org. Tickets may also be purchased by calling (908) 232-9400 or visiting the office at 224 E. Broad Street, Westfield. Gift certificates are also available.

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SCLSNJ NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER

Library System is inviting patrons to donate along with staff

SCLSNJ is accepting donations for Somerset Regional Animal Shelter to help the four-legged friends in need at the shelter. Nine of SCLSNJ's Library branches – including North Plainfield Memorial, Warren Township, and Watchung -- will serve as drop off locations for donations through Friday, December 16.

"Somerset Regional Animal Shelter depends on volunteers and public donations," said Edith Lit, an administrative support specialist at SCLSNJ and coordinator of the donation collection. "Through our donations, cats and dogs--like Gabriel--have a chance to be taken care of until they find their forever homes. We invite our community to join us as we embark on our seventeenth year of filling holiday wishes for the Shelter."

Suggested donations* include:

- Cat and kitten food (canned & dry)
- KMR - kitten milk replacer
- Dog food - dry
- Dog and cat toys
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- Martingale training dog collars
- SnuggleSafe microwave heat pad
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- D batteries
- Copy paper
- File folders
- Pens and pencils
- Paper towels
- Bleach
- High efficiency laundry detergent
- Gift cards for any pet or grocery store

*All donated items must be new. Please leave gift cards or stamps with a library staff member at the desk.

"Because of Somerset Regional Animal Shelter, dogs like Gabriel and two of his siblings are in their forever homes," said Gerie Madak, one of Gabriel's owners and a retiree from

SCLSNJ Bridgewater Library branch. "Somerset Regional Animal Shelter and the Friends of Somerset Regional Animal Shelter make it possible for dogs like precious Gabriel to find their forever homes. Thanks to SRAS and Friends, Gabriel received the medical care he needed--including heart surgery and elbow surgery--to live a happy, healthy life! Happily, the future looks bright for Gabriel as a beloved

member of his very own family: two canine sisters and two feline siblings, all proud rescues...and three humans!"

For more information about donation collections at SCLSNJ, contact Edith Lit at elit@scslnj.org.

For more information about Gabriel's story, visit www.northstarvets.com/blog/gabriel-is-the-luckiest-dog.



(above l-r) Edith Lit, an administrative support specialist at SCLSNJ and coordinator of SCLSNJ's donation collection for Somerset Regional Animal Shelter, with Gabriel, a former rescue at Somerset Regional Animal Shelter, and Gerie Madak, a retiree from SCLSNJ's Bridgewater Library branch and one of Gabriel's owners (he's shared by triplet sisters, Gail, Gerie, and Georgette Madak!). Read about Gabriel's incredible story at <http://www.northstarvets.com/blog/gabriel-is-the-luckiest-dog/>. SCLSNJ is accepting donations for Somerset Regional Animal Shelter through December 16.

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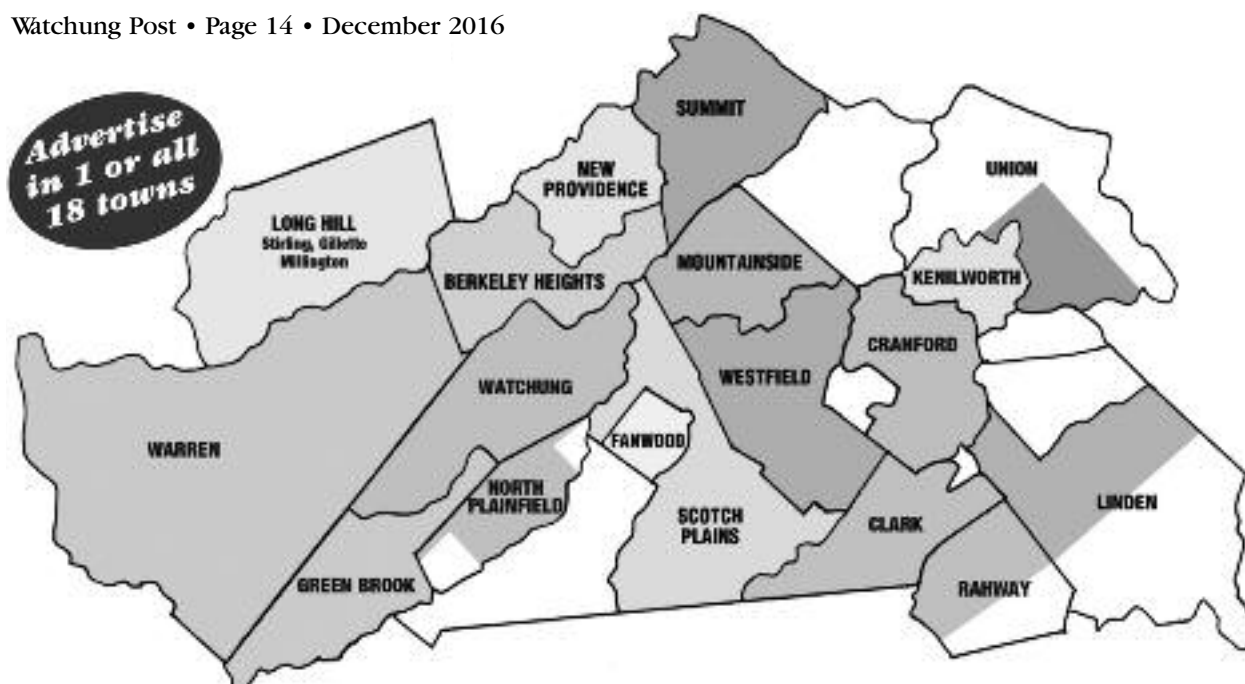
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COUPON

**\$1.00 OFF your purchase
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WAT12

Excludes garden center and fish purchases. Limit 1 offer per customer per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offer expires 1/15/17.

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**Panettone, Pignoli Nuts, Torrone,
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**Come see Santa
Friday
November 25th!**

**Pick out your
perfect tree**



COUPON

WAT12

**MILD SLICING
PROVOLONE**

\$4⁹⁹ lb



By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day.
Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 1/15/17.

COUPON

WAT12

**BOAR'S HEAD
IMPORTED HAM**

\$7⁹⁹ lb



Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 1/15/17.

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