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**ISSUE 51 • MARCH 2017** 

# **SPRING MUSICAL 'BEAUTY AND THE BEAST' MAR. 30-APR 1**

"Beauty and the Beast," this year's Spring Musical at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS), will be presented at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 30, Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1, and at 2 p.m., April 1, in the WHRHS Performing Arts Center (PAC), Stirling Road.

All Senior Citizens are welcome to attend free of charge the Saturday matinee, at 2 p.m., Saturday, April 1, according to WHRHS Drama Director and Beauty and The Beast Director Douglas Eaton.

The Walt Disney full length animated feature film, "Beauty and the Beast," premiered in the United States on Nov. 22, 1991, featuring Robby Benson as the voice of the Beast, Paige O'Hara as the voice of Belle.

The animated movie's soundtrack, featuring songs sung by the original cast, won multiple Oscar and Grammy nominations and awards. The mega-hit recording of the movie's title song, "Beauty and the Beast," featuring Celine Dion and Peabo Bryson, won its own accolades, and helped launch the by-now legendary career of the at-the-time relatively unknown French-Canadian singer, Celine Dion.

Beauty and the Beast, the Musical, ran on Broadway from 1994 to 2007, the 10th longest-running production in Broadway history at 5,461 performances. The original Broadway cast included Susan Egan as Belle and Terrance Mann as the Beast.

A live action remake of the movie, "Beauty and the Beast," Potter" megastar Emma Watson as Belle, Dan Stevens as the is scheduled for release this St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17, Beast.



(above) "Beauty and the Beast," this year's Spring Musical at Watchung Hills Regional High School), will be presented at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 30, Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1, and at 2 p.m., April 1, in the WHRHS Performing Arts Center (PAC), Stirling Road. Some of the production's lead actors are, from left: Sam Sinnott, Hannah Melillo, Jackie Romankow, Kyra Anthony, and Scott Romankow.

12 days before the WHRHS production. It stars "Harry

### **A UNIQUE TWIST ON CHARITABLE GIVING**

As part of a multi-week character education project, students at Warren Middle School turned a canned food drive into an artistic tour de force.

Sixth graders first viewed the documentary "Hunger in America" last month, before discussing the importance of empathy and volunteerism. The entire school community collected approximately 1,000 cans of food, which were distributed evenly among the 6th grade classrooms.

Modeled after CANstruction, a charity art exhibition inspired in 1992 by a group of New York architects and engineers, 6th graders used the canned food, imagination and teamwork to create works of art on Feb. 7 that included pizza and pie slices, a castle, a baseball diamond, a Rubik's Cube, a whale, and a donut complete with sprinkles.

Home Arts teacher Beverly MacGorman, who organized the project, delivered the canned items to an area food bank.

(right) Fighting hunger with imagination and teamwork. The 6th graders of Mary Ellen Weaver and Kevin Speckin participate in a creative twist on charitable giving.





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# WARREN MONTHLY

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*Warren Monthly* is published by Renna Media. 6,200 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Warren, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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# WARREN MAYOR GARAFOLA INDUCTED INTO NJ ELECTED OFFICIALS HALL OF FAME

Carolann Garafola, who does double duty as Executive Director of Mt. Bethel Village and Mayor of Warren Township, was inducted on February 8, 2017 into the Elected Officials Hall of Fame during a ceremony in Trenton.

The Hall of Fame is a creation of the New Jersey League of Municipalities, which supports mayors and other elected officials across the state. The honor is reserved for elected leaders who have served for 20 years or more.

Mrs. Garafola has been an elected official in Warren for 21 years as both Mayor and Committee Member. This is her 8th term as an elected official and her 6th as Mayor.

Mrs. Garafola has spent her career as an

educator of people with developmental disabilities.

As Executive Director of Mt. Bethel Village, she is in charge of the day to day operations of the residential and day programs, both of which are designed to maximize the independence and promote fun and safety among adults with developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injuries and those who need other supports.

"It's been my honor and pleasure to serve the people of Warren while continuing my career serving a population with special needs," said Mrs. Garafola. "Warren is a wonderful place to live and work and I've been fortunate to be able to do both here."



(above) Mrs. Garafola with State Senator Jon Bramnick, R-21, from the Feb. 8 event. Photo courtesy of Mt. Bethel Village.



# LIBRARY OFFERS PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey has announced programs for local business professionals. Registration is required to attend these programs. To register, visit SCLSNJ.org or contact your local SCLSNJ library branch.

Business Maker Day will be held on March 24, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the SCLSNJ Warren Township Library branch, located at 42 Mountain Blvd. in Warren.

This year's professional mini-conference for small business owners, entrepreneurs, and leaders will focus on social media: why it's important and how to do it well. Learn to increase the visibility of your business, connect with your customers and community for free. Pooja Krishna of Career Networking for Women will present Social Media Effectively, a fast paced session of tips and tricks to get you started. Diane Thieke of Simply Talk Media will cover how to create high quality content on a variety of social media platforms. SCLSNJ staff will discuss how

the library can be your business partner. There will be ample time for networking and you can set-up one on one appointments for specific help or tutoring. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

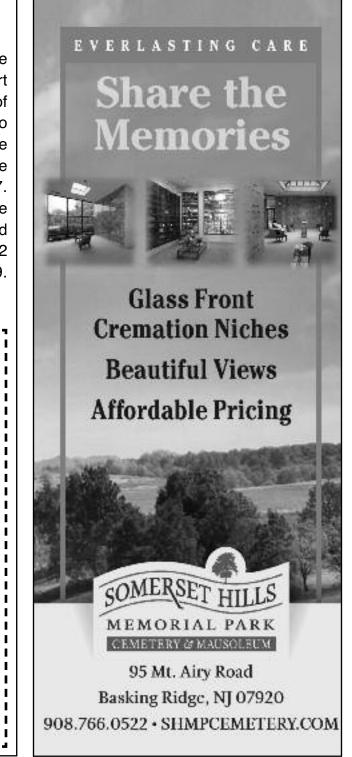
Importance Of Saving For The Future For Small Business Owners And Their Employees will be held on April 5, 7-8 p.m. at SCLSNJ's Bound Brook Memorial Library branch, located at 402 East High St. in Bound Brook.

This program will focus on different ways to save, such as homeownership, savings accounts or tax advantaged vehicles like IRAs. There will be an emphasis on the importance of taking advantage of all the benefits that the place of employment may offer, including a 401(k) when applicable. Learn about the benefits of having insurance for your small business and for your employees. Presented by Elliott Smego, Financial Advisor, Prudential Insurance Company of America.

About Somerset County Library System of New Jersey

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) partners with you to connect, to explore, to share and to discover. Together we enrich lives, expand knowledge and strengthen communities. SCLSNJ branches can be found in Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Hillsborough, Manville, North Plainfield, Peapack & Gladstone, Rocky Hill at Mary Jacobs Memorial Library, Somerville, Warren Township, and Watchung. Additionally, there are two SCLSNJ reading stations in Branchburg and Washington Valley. Visit SCLSNJ.org for further information about library services offered at SCLSNJ.





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# **JULIA CUNNINGHAM HITS 1,000 POINTS**

One of the highlights this season for Watchung Hills Regional High School Warrior Girls Basketball Team came at 5 minutes and 50 seconds in the second period of the home game against Ridge High School on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017. That's when with a foul shot on the back end of a "and one" three point play, Junior Julia Cunningham scored the 1,000th point of her illustrious career as a Warrior.

Cunningham scored the 1,000th point on her 23rd point of the game. She went on to score 40 points in the game, which set her own personal game best record as a Warrior and set the new WHRHS school record for most points by an individual girls player in a game. Cunningham is only the second girl to amass 1,000 points in her career at WHRHS. The school record for scoring among girls basketball players is 1,234, set and held by Meghan Kopecki. Only varsity points count toward this record, Coach Kirchofer said.

"The game against Ridge was an incredible night for the Lady Warriors basketball program, but was extremely special for my family and myself," said Cunningham. "Hitting my 1,000th point was something that I had been dreaming of since I was a little kid and to break the scoring record and eclipse the 1,000th point mark in the same night was an unbelievable feeling."



(above) Junior Julia Cunningham was congratulate by her teammates after she scored t he 1,000th point of her illustrious career as a Warrior on January 24, 2017.

# HOW DIVORCE CAN IMPACT YOUR CURRENT AND FUTURE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

By: James McGlew II, Esq.

One of the questions often asked by divorced individuals, particularly at the time of their retirement or the retirement of their former spouse, is whether or not they are entitled to receive Social Security benefits based on their prior marriage. The Social Security Administration interprets the law with the philosophy that a divorced person may deserve a personal benefit themselves if they were a long-term spouse of a member of the country's workforce.

Generally, there are two sets of rules which the Social Security Administration applies to determine whether or not an individual will qualify. The first applies if your former spouse is living; the second applies if they are deceased. The interpretation of these rules can sometimes be complicated and is often necessary to have an experienced family law attorney review not only the rules applied by Social Security but the settlement agreement signed at the time of the divorce.

In the first scenario, where the former spouse is still living, the preliminary criteria which need to be met are: (1) your prior marriage lasted for 10 years or more; (2) you are not currently married; and (3) you are 62 years of age or older. Just as important is whether you are entitled to receive Social Security benefits based on your own prior work history. If you are, the amount which you are entitled to receive for your efforts must be less than what you are entitled to receive based on your prior marriage. No individual is entitled to collect both benefits.

A second set of rules apply if an individual's former spouse has already died. Under these circumstances, you would have to be 60 years of age or older, have to have been married to your former spouse for more than 10 years, and cannot be entitled to a retirement benefit which would be higher than what could be claimed based upon your former spouses work record. Finally if you have remarried before the age of 60, you may not be able to receive this benefit. If you remarry after the age of 60, you would probably be entitled to receive it. It is also important to note that ex-wives and ex-husbands are treated the same under the Social Security statutes, that it does not matter if your former spouse is now remarried and that any benefit you are entitled to receive as the divorced spouse will have no effect on the amount of the benefit your former spouse is entitled to receive based upon his or her work history. Lastly, bear in mind that if you should elect to receive your benefits before your full Social Security retirement age (which you can determine at www.ssa.gov) you will permanently reduce the amount you are entitled to receive.

There are other rules that may apply to divorced individuals. If you subsequently remarry, you generally are prohibited from receiving benefits based on your former spouse's work history unless your later marriage ends (whether by death, divorce or annulment). If your former spouse has not applied for retirement benefits, but has met the qualifications to receive them, you can receive benefits on his or her record if you have been divorced for at least two years. Differing rules apply for those who have been married multiple times.

There are other qualifying factors and determinations which need to be considered to confirm what benefit a former spouse is eligible to receive. It is always best to contact an experienced family law attorney who can discuss your qualifications to receive such benefits. At Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, our practice includes diverse experience in related areas including tax law and elder law which we utilize to provide comprehensive legal advice to individuals who are or have dissolved a marriage. Our New Jersey divorce lawyers represent people throughout the state in all areas of family law, including child custody and support, alimony, asset distribution, and more.

Call today to schedule a consultation with James McGlew at (908) 233-6800.



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# LOCAL STUDENT TO HOST ECO-FRIENDLY CRAFT PROGRAMS AT LIBRARIES

sophomore Jacqueline Lee, 15, will lead a series programs at Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's Warren Township and Watchung Library branches this March. The programs will teach children ages eight and up how to recycle paper, plastic, and tin into beautiful art.

The Eco-Friendly Craft programs at SCLSNJ's Warren Township Library branch, located at 42 Mountain Boulevard in Warren Twp., will be held March 16 & 30 at 7 p.m. Participants will make Origami using recycled sticky notes on March 16 and crochet with recycled plastic bags on March 30.

The Eco-Friendly Craft programs at SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch, located at 12 Stirling Road in Watchung will be held March 8, 13, 22, & 29 at 7 p.m. Participants will: make origami with recycled post-its on March 8; crochet with recycled plastic bags on March 13; make jewelry and crafts with soda tabs and more on March 22; create even more recycled crafts on March 29.

At Watchung Hills Regional High School, Lee is a member of various math teams and enjoys studying algorithms and engineering. She plays hockey and is a member of the school's varsity fencing team. As a member of the school's Environmental Club, she enjoys sharing her enthusiasm for environmental protection. Jacqueline also enjoys knitting, making origami, weaving, and creating other crafts. She is excited to combine both interests in the Eco-Friendly Crafts series at SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch.

"I have been an avid reader since I was in grade school and reading at the sunny Watchung Library has always been -- and still is--one of my favorite pastimes," said Lee. "I wanted to give back to my community and share some fun crafts

Watchung Hills Regional High School that protect the environment. I thought March community to celebrate both empowering was the perfect time to hold these classes because March 8 is International Women's Day and the month of March is Makers Month. I am excited that we can bring together members of the

women and creativity."

Registration is required to attend these programs. To register, visit SCLSNJ.org or contact your local SCLSNJ library branch..



(above) Watchung Hills Regional High School sophomore Jacqueline Lee, 15, will lead programs at Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's Warren Twp. and Watchung Library branches this March.

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### SCLSNJ WARREN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BRANCH PROGRAMS MARCH 2017

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#### **ALL AGES**

Family Read Aloud Month: The month of March. For details, visit SCLSNJ.org. Family Makers Fair Fun:

> March 25, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. No registration required.

Storytime with Belle: March 18, 10-11 a.m.

#### KIDS

A King's Castle - A Chess Club for Kids! March 9, 7-8 p.m. (grades 1+) STEM Saturday

March 4, noon - 4 p.m. (4+ years old) No registration required.

Show Us Your Smile March 6, 10-11 a.m. (2-5 years old)

Healthy Spring Snacks March 6, 4:30-5:15 p.m. (7-11 years old):

**Pop-Up Storytime** March 8 & 9, 10-10:45 a.m.

(2-5 years old) **Storytime with the Girl Scouts** March 8, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (grades K-3): "Amelia & Eleanor Go for a Ride" **Pajama Party Storytime** March 10, 10-10:45 a.m.

(birth-2 years old) Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Miss Central Coast March 11, 1-2 p.m. (4-12 years old)

Gumdrop Building Challenge March 14, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (grades 4-8)

Lego Mania March 15, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (4+ years old): This program is made possible by The Friends of the Warren Township Library. Tiny Time Rhymes

March 16 & 31, 10-10:30 a.m.

(2 years old and under) Eco-Friendly Craft March 30, 7-8 p.m. (8+ years old): Origami on March 16 & Crocheting Music Together March 20, 10-10:45 a.m. & 11-11:45 a.m.

(birth-5 years old) **Meet the Force: Magnets** March 20, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (grads 1-5)

Let's Cook a Little!

March 21, 4:30-5:15 p.m. (grades 1-2): The Grey Stuff

Preschool of Rock March 22, 10-10:45 a.m. & 11-11:45 a.m. (6 months-4 years old) Let's Cook! Veggie Spring Rolls

March 23, 4:30-5:15 p.m. (grades 3-5)

Kids' MusicRound March 28, 10-10:45 a.m. & 11-11:45 a.m. (birth - 4 years old)

Explore the World of "Hydrogels" March 29, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (grades K-5)

#### **TWEENS & TEENS**

**Teen Advisory Board** March 7, 7-8 p.m. (grades 6-12) **Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Miss Central Coast** March 11, 1-2 p.m. (4-12 years old) **Teen Safe Spaces** March 13 & 27, 7-8:15 p.m. **Gumdrop Building Challenge** March 14, 4:30-5:30 p.m (grades 4-8) **Teen Volunteer Night** March 15, 7-8 p.m. (grades 6-12) Meet Author J.A. White of "The Thickety Series" March 22, 7-8 p.m. (grades 4-9)

#### ADULTS

**Chess Club for Adults** March 10, 17, 24, & 31, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. No registration required. **Oscars Film Showing** March 10, & 17, 1-3:45 p.m. **Photo Lecture in Chinese** March 4, 10:30 a.m. - noon. Yarn & Threads Group March 6 & 20, 10 a.m. - noon. **English Conversation Group** March 6 & 13, 10-11:30 a.m. **Bridge Players Group** March 6, 13, 20, & 27, 1-4 p.m. No registration required. **Spanish Conversation Group** March 7, 14, 21, & 28, 12:15-1:30 p.m. **Mah Jongg Players Afternoon** March 7, 14, 21, & 28, 1-4 p.m. **Afternoon Book Discussion** March 9, 1:30-3:15 p.m. "Boys on the Boat: Nine Americans & their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1963 Berlin Olympics" Women of New York March 11, 2-3 p.m. Friends of the Warren Township Library Meeting March 13, 5-6:30 p.m. **Recipe Club** March 13, 7-8 p.m. Your Favorite Celebrity Chef **Needlepoint Open Group** March 14, 7-8:30 p.m. **Meet the Pollinators** March 16, 12:30-1:30 p.m. **Film Discussion** March 23, 1-4:30 p.m. "The Immortal Beloved" **Cherie Krebs: Strategic Marketing for Small Business Workshop:** March 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m. **Business Maker Day** March 24, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. **Special Needs Social Hour** March 27, 7-8 p.m. Plant a Flower **Evening Book Discussion** March 29, 7:15-8:45 p.m. "The Nest" by Cynthia D'Aprix **Everything You Wanted to Know about Reverse Mortgages** March 30, 1-2:30 p.m.

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## THREE WHRHS STUDENTS DECLARE INTENT TO PLAY SPORTS IN COLLEGE

Three graduating student athletes at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) declared on College Signing Day, Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017 that they have committed to play sports in the college of their choice next year. Two students intend to play football, one to run cross country.

They are: Michael Montecalvo of Green Brook Township, offensive and defensive lineman, a WHRHS Warrior football standout, who plans to play football for the University of New Haven, West Haven, Ct.; Lamar Evans of Warren Township, receiver and cornerback, a WHRHS Warrior football standout, who plans to play football for Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, Ct; and Ryan Martins of Green Brook Township, a WHRHS Warrior cross country standout, who plans to run cross country for the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. Coach of WHRHS Football is Rich Seubert. Coach of Boys Cross Country is Dom Tasco.

"We were so proud to have three student athletes from our WHRHS athletics program who signed letters of intent this week," said WHRHS Director of Athletics Chris Van Vliet. "Congratulations to these athletes and their families, and best of luck to them as they continue their athletic careers in college next year."

(above l-r) Michael Montecalvo of Green Brook Township; Lamar Evans of Warren Township; and Ryan Martins of Green Brook Township.



Far Hills, NJ | fhcds.org #falconpride





# **WOODLAND SCHOOL NOMINATED FOR BLUE RIBBON AWARD**

Woodland School has been nominated by the New Jersey Department of Education to apply for the 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award, one of only nine schools in the state to receive the distinguished recognition this year.

"I accept this nomination on behalf of the amazing educators (current and former), wonderful community, and all of the administrators who came before me who paved the path for success," says Jeffrey Heaney, whose tenure as Woodland principal began in 2014.

Created in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes outstanding public and non-public schools for overall academic excellence and/or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. To be nominated, a school must demonstrate high or strongly improving student scores on state or nationally normed assessments in the last year tested, as well as meet annual measurable objectives.

Specifically, the performance of all tested students in a school in both reading and mathematics must be in the top 15 percent of all schools in New Jersey in the most recent year tested. Additionally, for each of a school's student subgroups, the performance of all tested students in a subgroup in both reading and math must be in the top 40 percent of all schools statewide.

Woodland School was nominated in the category of "Exemplary High Performing Schools." "This prestigious recognition is the result of years of hard work by remarkable educators and a supportive community who do everything that it takes to ensure that students are successful," says Heaney. "From the moment I walked through the door at Woodland School, I knew this was a very special place."

In the program's 35-year history, six secondary public schools in Somerset County, including Watchung Hills Regional High School, have been recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools. Just four public elementary schools in the county have received the award.

"This honor is well deserved for the entire Woodland School community, from students and their families, to the teaching staff, administration, and all of the wonderful support personnel who make the school a home away from home. Recognition like this does not come without years of hard work and dedication from a great many people," says Superintendent Matthew Mingle. "While the initial nomination has a lot to do with our students' performance on standardized assessments, the next phase requires us to demonstrate how committed we are to the whole child. I know the Woodland School community will shine when the final nomination makes its way to the U.S. Department of Education."

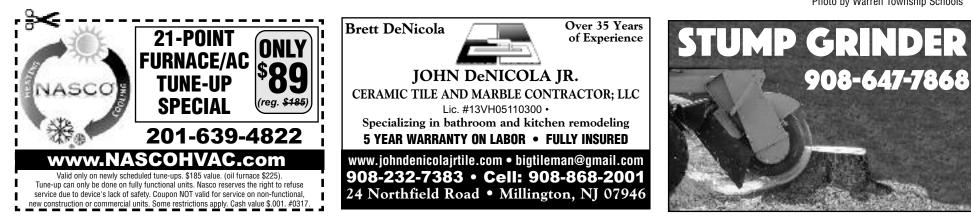
Heaney says he is proud "to work alongside a group of educators and with parents who help children grow as critical thinkers, problem solvers, and most importantly, as human beings with good character." "We are so proud that our school district is being recognized nationally with a Blue Ribbon Schools nomination," says Tia Allocco, Board of Education President. "This distinction affirms the exceptional education provided both at Woodland School and throughout Warren Township. The Board would like to thank all of our teachers and administrators for their professionalism and expertise, as well as parents and the broader Warren community for their continued support of our students."

Woodland School must complete and submit a formal application to the U.S. Department of Education by March 31. National Blue Ribbon Schools winners will be announced in September.

"We hope that we are chosen as a Blue Ribbon School," says Heaney, as he cites the school's theme. "But, regardless of the outcome, we should all be proud. There is no doubt: 'It is always a great day at Woodland.""



(above) "This prestigious recognition is the result of years of hard work by remarkable educators and a supportive community," says Woodland Principal Jeffrey Heaney (front row, third from left), about the school's nomination for a National Blue Ribbons School Award. Photo by Warren Township Schools



# WARRENBROOK SENIOR CENTER

500 Warrenville Road, Warren • (908) 753-9440 • www.co.somerset.nj.us Open 9am - 3pm - Monday through Friday

#### **Senior 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. Why not invite a friend or neighbor to join you for lunch! As an additional suggestion, why not come earlier in the day and enjoy one of the center's

many programs.

#### **Ballroom Dancing**

Every Wednesday, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Meet new people and make some friends while exercising! Dancing is a great way for people of all ages to get and stay in shape. Besides being fun, dancing has many health benefits. Dance can have an incredible impact on overall flexibility, strength, endurance and emotional well-being. Join Bice, who has won several dance competitions, as she plays a variety of

#### Ballroom Dance music. "Armchair Travel Presents:

#### A Visit to North Vietnam" by Dorothy & Irwin Vogel March 6 – 10:30 am

Few countries in such a short space of time have changed as much as Vietnam. It's been 40 years since the end of the Vietnamese War. It is now a country in a state of constant evolution and is now considered a real gem, arising almost miraculously from the ashes of war. The people have said a quick goodbye to their bitter past and now focus on the future and the overall prosperity of their country. Join the Vogels as they share their North Vietnam experiences.

#### "Unused Medication Drop-Off Opportunity" with Officer Nick Fazio, Somerset County Sheriff's Department

March 7 – 9:30 am -10:30 am. Officer Fazio 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.



#### "Get Rid of the Blues with Laughter" by Reeta L. Aggarwal, Brightstar Homecare

March 7 – 10:30 am Laughter creates a liberating environment to rid your body of stress while promoting optimal health. A good sense of humor can't cure all ailments, but when you start to laugh, it doesn't just lighten your load mentally, it actually induces physical changes in your body. Come and learn some of the lesser known benefits of laughter.

### LUNCH and LEARN ROGRAM, Lunch at 11:45 am, Program at 1:00 pm

"How to Prepare and Stage Your Home for Sale" – Lunch & Learn Opportunity by Roseanne Aragona, the

Aragona Team at RE/MAX March 13 – 1:00 pm

Roseanne will discuss the specifics of getting your home ready to show and sell. Confused about the best ways to showcase your home for everyday use or for sale? Joins us for this informative program and get the secrets

> Celtic Cracked Walnuts, Musical Duo of Jan Ausfahl and Jeff March 27 – 10:30 am

This program will feature songs, stories and humor from Ireland, Scotland and some Americana. In addition to the banjo and washboard that Cracked Walnuts is known for, attendees will also be treated to guitar, penny whistle, concertina and bodhran (an Irish drum) music.





#### CLASS OF '67 REUNION 50 YEAR REUNION 3 HIGH SCHOOLS: ELIZABETH NJ BATTIN, JEFFERSON, EDISON HIGH SCHOOL SATURDAY APRIL 29TH 6:30 TO 10:30 THE KENILWORTH KENILWORTH, NJ

INFORMATION EMAIL: paulette215@hotmail.com or call Paulette at 908-241-0702 bmp@warshauer.com • Bruce Pilger 732-978-3217 donforce@aol.com • Don Gray 484-522-8537 or Facebook Donald Gray to become a friend go to Battin/Jeff/Edison 50th reunion, class of 67 Anyone who knows the whereabouts of anyone in the 1967 class please give them this information.

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# **IRS URGES PUBLIC TO STAY ALERT FOR SCAM PHONE CALLS**

The IRS continues to warn consumers to guard against scam phone calls from thieves intent on stealing their money or their identity. Criminals pose as the IRS to trick victims out of their money or personal information. Here are several tips to help you avoid being a victim of these scams:

- Scammers make unsolicited calls. Thieves call taxpayers claiming to be IRS officials. They demand that the victim pay a bogus tax bill. They con the victim into sending cash, usually through a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. They may also leave "urgent" callback requests through phone "robo-calls," or via phishing email.
- Callers try to scare their victims. Many phone scams use threats to intimidate and bully a victim into paying. They may even threaten to arrest, deport or revoke the license of their victim if they don't get the money.
- Scams use caller ID spoofing. Scammers often alter caller ID to make it look like the IRS or another agency is calling. The callers use IRS titles and fake badge numbers to appear legitimate. They may use the victim's name, address and other personal information to make the call sound official.
- Cons try new tricks all the time. Some schemes provide an actual IRS address where they tell the victim to mail a receipt for the payment they make. Others use emails that contain a fake IRS document with a phone number or an email address for a reply. These scams often use official IRS letterhead in emails or regular mail that they send to their victims. They try these ploys to make the ruse look official.
- Scams cost victims over \$23 million. The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, or TIGTA, has received reports of about 736,000 scam contacts since

October 2013. Nearly 4,550 victims have collectively paid over \$23 million as a result of the scam.

#### The IRS will not:

- Call you to demand immediate payment. The IRS will not call you if you owe taxes without first sending you a bill in the mail.
- Demand that you pay taxes and not allow you to question or appeal the amount you owe.
- Require that you pay your taxes a certain way. For instance, require that you pay with a prepaid debit card.
- Ask for your credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Threaten to bring in police or other agencies to arrest you for not paying.

If you don't owe taxes, or have no reason to think that you do:

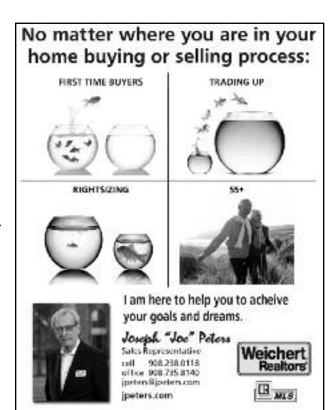
- Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.
- Contact TIGTA to report the call. Use their "IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting" web page. You can also call 800-366-4484.
- Report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Use the "FTC Complaint Assistant" on FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

If you know you owe, or think you may owe tax: • Call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you.

Phone scams first tried to sting older people, new immigrants to the U.S. and those who speak English as a second language. Now the crooks try to swindle just about anyone. And they've rippedoff people in every state in the nation.

Stay alert to scams that use the IRS as a lure. Tax scams can happen any time of year, not just at tax time. For more, visit "Tax Scams and Consumer Alerts" on IRS.gov.

Each and every taxpayer has a set of fundamental rights they should be aware of when dealing with the IRS. These are your Taxpayer Bill of Rights. Explore your rights and our obligations to protect them on IRS.gov.





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