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ERA BONIAKOWSKI REAL ESTATE AND THE DUNELLEN HOTEL REACHES GOAL OF SENDING 5 KIDS TO MDA SUMMER CAMP!

Lending a hand to help combat neuromuscular disease, the agents and staff of E. A. Boniakowski Agency, Inc., gathered together at the Dunellen Hotel to host the Fourth Annual MDA Day on May 18, 2017 where friends, family and co-workers shared a meal with a portion of the check going to Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) "MDA SUMMER CAMP" benefit raising over \$3,000 this year!

It was a great day and evening at the Dunellen Hotel for one of our 2017 MDA Fundraising Events. With more than 20 staff members taking turns greeting our guests, there were approximately 500 people that came out to support this worthwhile cause.

"Sponsoring this MDA Day with the Boniakowski's is just one way that we can show our support for MDA and the important work it does for those with neuromuscular diseases," said Rich Hendricks of the Dunellen Hotel. "Every contribution, no matter how big or small, can make all the difference in helping researchers to find a cure."

ERA Boniakowski Real Estate's goal for 2017 was to raise \$5,000 which would send about 5 kids to MDA Summer Camp as the cost to send just one child to MDA Summer Camp is approximately \$1,000 for a week. "We did it, we raised \$5,000," boasts Joseph Boniakowski, Broker. "We have raised \$5,000 and will send 5 kids to MDA Summer Camp this year in Hardwick, NJ." Our agents and staff come up with all kinds of ways to fundraise for MDA including Paint Nite, office raffles, shoe sale parties, garage sales, special breakfasts and lunches as well as contacting their business affiliates for donations.

The MDA Day is just one of hundreds of events organized by ERA® real estate members nationwide to benefit MDA. Since 1977, ERA brokers and sales associates have collectively raised more than \$30 million to fund research and provide services to help the more than one million Americans affected by neuromuscular diseases. The sole corporate sponsor of MDA from the real estate industry, ERA Real Estate is among the top corporate contributors to the organization each year.

What could be better? Sending another kid to camp!! If you would like to contribute to the ERA Boniakowski Real Estate's 2017 MDA Fund Raising Campaign, you may send us a check payable to MDA to ERA Boniakowski Real Estate, 929 N. Washington Avenue, Green Brook, NJ 08812. If you have any questions, you may contact us at 732-968-0700. The Agency serves the entire Central New Jersey area west to the Delaware.



(above l-r) Rich Hendricks of The Dunellen Hotel, Tom Boniakowski and Joe Boniakowski of ERA Boniakowski Real Estate.

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Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email info@rennamedia.com

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GREEN BROOK VOCAL ENSEMBLE ALZAPELLA

Green Brook's Music Department has added a new vocal ensemble this year called Alzapella. This is a highly selective group of 6th through 8th grade singers who are auditioned at the beginning of the year. Auditions include scales, a pop solo of their choosing, aural pitch callback, and movement activities. The singers in this group tackle some of the most complex, difficult, and fun a cappella arrangements. If you've seen Pitch Perfect or the group the Pentatonix, then you've already heard this style of vocal music that we call contemporary a cappella. Alzapella is a group of 10-18 middle schoolers that sing arrangements of their favorite pop and rock songs in 6 to 8 part harmony (created by their director Mr. Alzaher) with a lead soloist and beatboxer for each song.

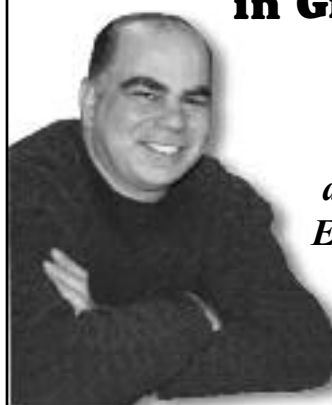
Singers in this group have already received some pretty amazing accolades and experiences including performing for the "Godfather of Acapella" and producer for the Pitch Perfect movies Deke Sharon and the music director and arranger for Pentatonix Ben Bram, they were also featured at the Highlands Acapella Festival, and were chosen to go to the State Teen Arts festival to represent Somerset County in vocal music. These students were also honored at a Green Brook Board of Education Meeting alongside other outstanding musicians who were selected for regional and all-state instrumental ensembles. While there are quite a few High School a cappella groups starting in New Jersey recently, Alzapella is one of the only middle school contemporary a cappella programs in the state.



(above) Green Brook's Alzapella ensemble with Mr. Alzaher and Mrs. Ferrara at the State Teen Arts festival.

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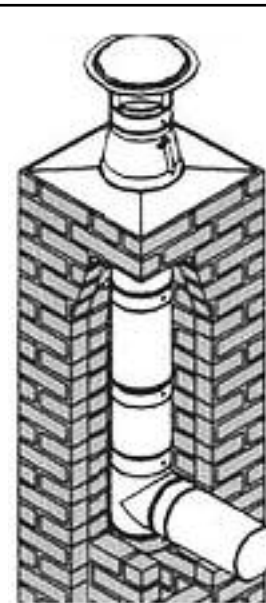
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WATCH IT!

by Jyotsna Thapar, DPM

Performing a self exam on your feet can alert you to any potential signs of skin cancer. Addressing foot melanoma early on may catch the situation in time to tackle and cure it. Detecting melanoma in its early stages is critical. The soles, around or under the toenails, and between the toes are the most common locations of foot melanoma even though they typically do not get much, if any, sun exposure. Foot melanoma usually manifests itself with a freckle, mole, or spot that changes in configuration over a period of time. The resulting change in color, diameter, elevation, or border should be reported to your podiatrist immediately since those four factors are the indicators of foot melanoma.

The entire staff at ANKLE & FOOT SPECIALIST OF NJ, LLC, is pleased to welcome you to our column. Of considerable significance in caring for feet of any age, or any gender, is choosing the right podiatrist. Bearing in mind how much our feet do for us, the least we can do is to provide them with a comfortable environment, preventive care before problems occur, and professional care when they do. Comprehensive, compassionate foot care is available at:

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SCHOLARSHIP FOR FUTURE EDUCATORS

Congratulations to future educator Lauren Wasserman of Green Brook Township who was selected as one of two recipients of the 2017 Watchung Hills Regional Education Association (WHREA) Scholarship for Future Educators. Susan Wong of Gillette is the other recipient.

"The WHREA is proud to honor Wasserman and Wong for their academic achievement and commitment to community," said WHREA President Kenneth Karnas. "Both girls are energetic and enthusiastic as students and they both have a wonderful record of teaching and helping others. Wasserman and Wong have many fine qualities that will aid in their pursuit of becoming teachers someday."

When Lauren Wasserman enters her freshman year at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) this fall as an elementary and special education major, she'll be fulfilling a dream that's been part of her life since elementary school. Early on, she knew she wanted to be a teacher and throughout her elementary and middle school years, Wasserman would often "play teacher" while attempting to help her friends with school work.

"I have always had an interest in helping others and making a difference in peoples' lives, as teachers do every day," Wasserman said. "But since I entered Watchung Hills, I realized I could use my passion to guide and support others on a larger scale. Pursuing a degree in education at TCNJ will allow me to complete that mission."

Wasserman genuinely believes that WHRHS has provided her with a "strong foundation" that will serve her well throughout her college career. At our school, Wasserman continues to demonstrate that she is a well-rounded student and an engaged school citizen. Academically, she has always done well across the curriculum but she has mostly enjoyed her experience working with the Child Development Program. During her four years, Wasserman has completed all of the

available credits within the program, eventually rising to the position of senior manager.

In that role, she has played a key part in assisting instructor Julie Jaran in the day-to-day operations and instructional decisions. Her duties included overseeing the student teaching teams, providing lesson plan guidance, organizing and heading the preschool graduation program along with dedicating many outside hours to working with preschool operation each week.

For Wasserman, these unique opportunities have proven critical to her growth during high school. It is this experience that will allow her to hit the ground running next year in college.

"The support I've received through the years gives me confidence as a future educator," Wasserman said. "I believe a career in education can be rewarding and enriching and I hope to help students reach their full potential."



(above) Seniors Susan Wong, left, of Gillette, and Lauren Wasserman, right, of Green Brook Township, are congratulated by WHREA President and Social Studies Teacher Kenneth Karnas on being named the recipients of the 2017 Scholarship for Future Educators.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT TO HOST ANNUAL 'NATIONAL NIGHT OUT'

The Green Brook Police Department is proud to announce the hosting of our third annual 'National Night Out' event on Tuesday, August 1st, 2017 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Green Brook Middle School, 132 Jefferson Avenue, Green Brook.

This year's event will include activities for children, a meet and greet with local police officers, giveaways and music from Party People Promotions. There will also be representatives from local businesses and community groups on hand, and local supporting businesses including Carrabba's Italian Grill, Capital Craft, Crystal Motors, Outback Steakhouse and Starbucks Coffee will be returning once again to contribute to the event which we greatly appreciate.

Parking will be available in the parking lot of the Green Brook Middle School and on Jefferson Avenue, and all are invited to participate.

Questions regarding the event may be forwarded to Captain Samuel Caramela at (732) 968-1188, x 6619.

ANMOL BHATIA COMPETES IN NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

Sixth grader Anmol Bhatia excelled at the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee. He went as the representative of both Green Brook Middle School and Somerset County to Washington DC to compete with 291 other spellers from around the nation.

Bhatia passed through the first two preliminary rounds, correctly spelling words like "otology,"

"inviolable," "stevia," and "fluoroscope." Bhatia was just short of making the top forty for the finals, achieving a score of 27, just short of the requisite 29.

Bhatia is ready to go back again in his seventh grade year, though, saying, "I'm really excited to go back and do all of that again. It was such a great experience."



(above) Anmol with Dr. Bailey at the welcome BBQ.
Dr. Bailey is the announcer at the spelling bee.

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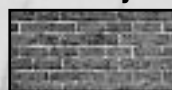
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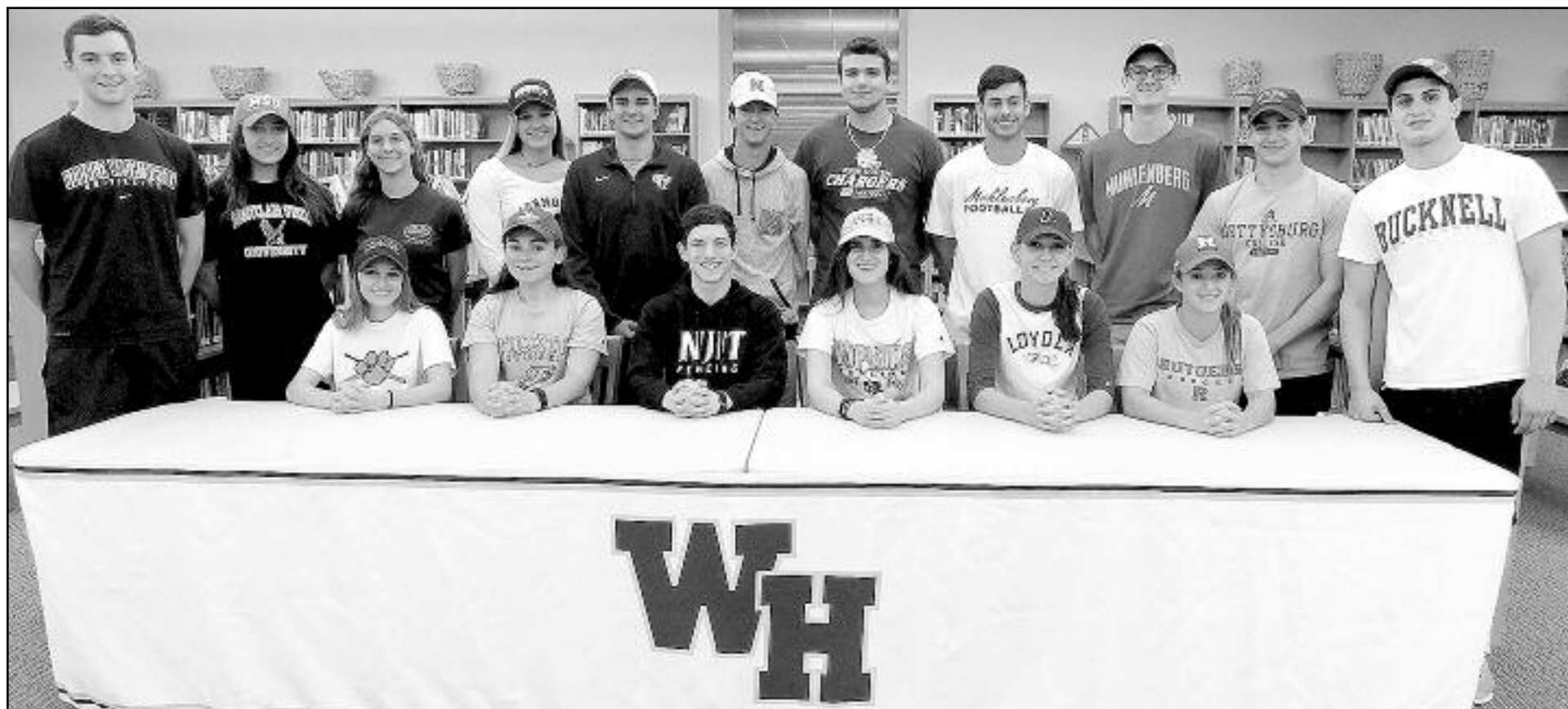
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WHRHS 2017 DIVISION I, II, III ATHLETIC SIGNINGS

A total of 20 graduating student athletes from the Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Class of 2017 plan to continue playing

in their sports next year for the colleges or universities they plan to attend. Eight have committed to Division I schools, two to Division

II schools, and 10 to Division III schools. Seventeen of the 20 gathered in the WHRHS Media Center on Thursday, May 25.



(above, seated, l-r) Taryn Rotondo, who plans to play Field Hockey at Kean University; Jesse DeLello, Cross-Country/Track, Richard Stockton University; Dominic Heise Fencing, NJIT; Brooke Stanicki, Fencing, Johns Hopkins University; Sydney Wilcenski, Loyola University, Maryland; and Alexa Ferreira, Soccer, Rutgers University; (standing, l-r) Kevin Sylvestri, Baseball, George Washington University; Melanie Cunha, Soccer, Montclair State University; Chelsea Semper, Soccer, Swarthmore College; Krysta Garcia, Swimming, Monmouth University; John Dardis, Swimming, Fordham University; Ryan Martins, Cross Country/Track, University of Nebraska; Michael Montecalvo, Football, University of New Haven; Michael Ugarte, Football, Muhlenberg College; Kyle Shanahan, Cross Country/Track, Muhlenberg College; Marc Larson, Wrestling, Gettysburg College; and Kevin Flynn, Swimming, Bucknell University. Not in the photo are: Lamar Evans, Division I, Football, Sacred Heart University; Dylan Murphy, Division II, Baseball, West Chester University; and Tyler Kulisz, Division III, Baseball, William Paterson University.

BLACK BEARS SAFETY TIPS

Black bears by nature tend to be wary of humans and avoid people. However, if you encounter a black bear in your neighborhood or outdoors while hiking or camping, follow these common-sense safety tips.

- Never feed or approach a bear!
- Remain calm.
- Make the bear aware of your presence by speaking in an assertive voice, singing, clapping your hands, or making other noises.
- Make sure the bear has an escape route.
- If a bear enters your home, provide it with an escape route by propping all doors open.
- Avoid direct eye contact, which may be perceived by a bear as a challenge. Never run from a bear. Instead, slowly back away.
- To scare the bear away, make loud noises by yelling, banging pots and pans or using an airhorn. Make yourself look as big as possible by waving your arms. If you are with someone else, stand close together with your arms raised above your head.
- The bear may utter a series of huffs, make popping jaw sounds by snapping its jaws and swat the ground. These are warning signs that you are too close. Slowly back away, avoid direct eye contact and do not run.
- If a bear stands on its hind legs or moves closer, it may be trying to get a better view or detect

scents in the air. It is usually not a threatening behavior.

- Black bears will sometimes “bluff charge” when cornered, threatened or attempting to steal food. Stand your ground, avoid direct eye contact, then slowly back away. Do not run.
- If the bear does not leave, move to a secure area.
- Immediately notify the DEP's 24-hour, toll-free

hotline at 1-877-WARN DEP (1-877-927-6337).

- Families who live in areas with high black bear populations should have a “Bear Plan” in place for children, with whistles, air horns and an escape route.
- Black bear attacks are extremely rare. If a black bear does attack, fight back!

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EARLY INDUSTRIES IN GREEN BROOK

The early settlers in Green Brook had to sustain themselves long before the strip malls on the highway. The mountain had one copper mine, but other than that the area was only good for hunting game. That left the plains for farming and the Green Brook to provide a living. If one were lucky enough to be born into a wealthy family like the Vails', you could just wait to be given an inherit acreage that you could farm. Otherwise you might have to work for someone else for many, many years to save enough to buy a few acres to farm for yourself.

Most of the farms were planted a few livestock for personal use. Use of the land varied depending on the quality of the soil. In the Washington Valley over the mountain, fruit trees were plentiful, but the Green Brook soil did not lend itself to that.

The most productive area in Green Brook was the actual Green Brook itself. Currently just a slow moving, often shallow, body of water which

is not in play other than the occasional devastating flood. But in the 1700's and 1800's it was the hub of commerce. The water table was much higher then and dams were built to harness the flow for useful water power. Keeping in mind that the brook was a flowing body of water, it is less surprising that at various times there were no less than five viable mills between Sebring's Mill and the current Washington Avenue. The best known in the current era is Sebring's Mill. It started as a gristmill for the farmers, but later a sawmill was added. The gristmill burned in the 1800's but remains of the sawmill could still be seen as late as 1940.

Almost a mile to the east was Goad's Mill. Not to be confused with goat's milk. A gristmill, it was just to the east of the Trust House (Dog Park). Built before the Revolution, the millstones were removed in 1892 and it burned to the ground in 1915. There are other industries which you can learn about at our meetings.



(above) A millstone is a stone used to grind grain.

The Green Brook Cultural Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee and The Green Brook Historical Society meet the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Green Brook Town Hall located at 111 Greenbrook Rd., Green Brook, NJ. We are always looking for people interested in history and culture to join our group, as a guest or a member. For more information about the Green Brook Historical Society, visit www.gbhsnj.org.

24TH ANNUAL FORE LOVE OPEN BENEFITING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The recently held 24th Annual Fore Love Open was a remarkable success. Despite a threat of rain that never came, over 130 golfers enjoyed Metedeconk National Golf Club's professionally manicured courses and delicious food throughout the day.

Committee Chairmen Mike Spishock and Mort Penson recognized dancker representatives Kevin Goy and Don Kolterjahn for dancker's dedicated support since 2008. Mike Spishock, a member of the Fore Love Committee since 1999 and chairman since 2001, chaired the event for the last time as he begins his transition towards his 2018 retirement. He will remain a member of the committee next year, though not in a leadership role.

Presented by PVH Corporation, the event drew primary sponsorships from Industrial Cooling Corporation, JPM West, Inc., SBM Site Services, JP Metal America, Inc., and MC Construction Management, Inc., and donations from a multitude of local and national companies and

individuals.

For 39 years, Safe+Sound Somerset has delivered programs and services in support of its mission providing protection, education and resources to empower victims of domestic abuse. Through a 24-hour call or text hotline, an emergency crisis shelter, transitional housing, counseling services, legal advocacy, culturally sensitive programs, community education, and domestic violence response team training, Safe+Sound Somerset has firmly established itself as the lead domestic abuse agency for Somerset County. All services are confidential, available in English and Spanish and offered free of charge. To facilitate community awareness and involvement, we provide a variety of community education, training programs and volunteer opportunities.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call or text our 24 hour, confidential hotline at 866-685-1122. For more information, visit www.safe-sound.org.



(above l-r) Mike Spishock (Co-Chairman), Kevin Goy and Don Kolterjahn - dancker, Mort Penson (Co-Chairman).

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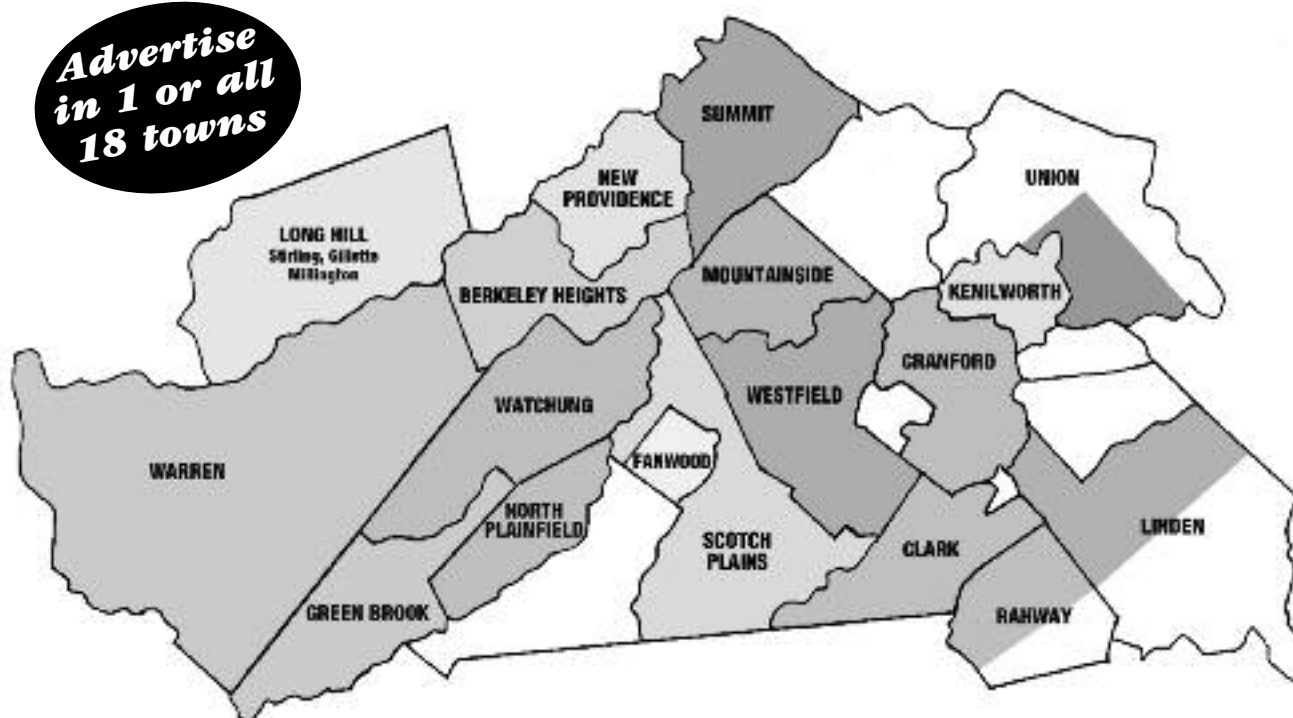
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DUNELLEN PUBLIC LIBRARY JUNE PROGRAMS

100 New Market Road, Dunellen

For the following programs space is limited so please register either in person at the circulation desk or over the phone at (732)968-4585.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Meditation program

Mondays at 10:15 a.m. and again at 6:00 p.m.

Crochet Club

Monday May 8th at 1:00 p.m.

Weekly Monday night Zumba

7:00 pm!

\$8/class! Ditch the workout and come dance!

Morning Zumba

Wednesday at 10:15! \$8/class, no commitment!

The Book Club

Thursday July 27th at 1:45 p.m.

to discuss "Loving Frank" by Nancy Horan.

KIDS PROGRAMS

Alphabet Express: Letter Q

Friday July 7th at 11:30 a.m.

Letter R

Friday July 21st at 11:30 a.m.

Registration is required.

Magic Show

Monday July 10th 2:30 p.m.

Ages 3+, Registration is required.

The Counting Caboose: Number 10

Tuesday, July 25th, 10:30 a.m.

Ages 2-5, Registration is required.

Mother Goose (Weekly program)

Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

Interactive music program for children 0-5 with an adult caregiver. Followed by optional free play.

Walk-ins welcome!

Herbs and Spices from Around the World!

Wednesday, July 12th at 6:30 p.m.

The Dunellen Public Library is offering a program on the care, uses, history and growing of herbs and spices from around the world. We will have handouts, recipes, and samples, all are welcome!

Not Your Mama's Book Club!

A new book club that will be meeting on

July 20th at 6:00 p.m.

at the Dunellen Library. We are reading "The Second Mrs. Hockaday. The book is available at the library or digitally via Hoopla!

Summer Movie Series at the Library!

Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.

Stop in and pick up a flyer for more information!

A SWEET STORYTIME AT THE LIBRARY

The Scalzo family; Danica, Noelle, and Domenica of Greenbrook; visited SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch on June 9 for a reading of, "The Watermelon Seed" by Greg Pizzoli, followed by a summer-themed craft. Another Just for You storytime is scheduled for June 21st & 28th at 10:30-11 a.m. at the branch. Learn more at sclsnj.libnet.info/events.



BUILDING A BETTER WORLD THIS SUMMER

It's summer! And that means Summer Reading at the library. Programs for readers of all ages at the Watchung Library will tie in with this summer's state-wide theme, "Build a Better World."

To supplement the programs provided by the Somerset County Library System, the Friends of the Watchung Library are bringing in these three additional programs:

"Big Builders" will allow young builders (ages 4 to 6) to explore tactile, motor, and spatial skills while learning science and engineering principles. Construction, using K'nex®, is set for Monday, July 10th, at 4:30 PM.

"Build A Better World Concert," for ages 4 and up, will feature a musical journey with "Faerie" Elaine Silver to "build a better world." "Faerie" Elaine will sing songs for creating a world that

works for everyone, and the planet. Children will leave ready to share, be a friend, and see the light in each other. Elaine Silver is known as the "Folk Music Queen of New Jersey." She has written an original song for this program. Get ready for an uplifting musical experience on Tuesday, July 11th at 11:00 AM, at the Watchung Arts Center.

The "LEGO® Challenge," to be presented by Young Genius Corporation, will allow builders aged 9 to 12 to learn basic principles of mathematics, science, and engineering as they build. By integrating the arithmetic learned in school with an intuitive active learning process, they will gain a better understanding of the fundamentals of physics - all while they are having a great time! The Challenge starts on Monday, July 24th, at 4:30 PM.



SCLSNJ'S WATCHUNG LIBRARY BRANCH JULY PROGRAMS

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PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Alex and The Kaleidoscope

Friday, July 7, 2pm-3pm

Build A Better World Concert

Tuesday, July 11, 11am-12pm

Our Magnetic Sun

Tuesday, July 25, 2pm-3pm

(Rain Date) Thursday, July 27, 2pm-3pm

Building a Better World

Wednesday, July 26, 2pm-3pm

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Be A Builder

Wednesdays in July, 9:30am-8:45pm

Miss June's Room

Thursday, July 06, 4pm-5pm

Bingo with Miss June

Friday, July 7th & 21st, 4pm-4:45pm

Big Builders

Monday, July 10, 4:30pm-5:15pm

Pajama Storytime

Tuesday, July 11, 7pm-7:45pm

Learning with Leisa

Wednesday, July 12, 1:30pm-2:15pm

Story Time for Twos

Wednesday, July 19, 10:30am-11am

Seed to Table

Wednesday, July 19, 2pm-2:45pm

Kids' Book Club

Thursday, July 20, 1pm-1:30pm

Just for You Storytime

Friday, July 21st & 28th, 10:30am-11am

More Fun for Munchkins

Monday, July 24, 10:30am-11:15am

LEGO Challenge

Monday, July 24, 4:30pm-5:15pm

Farmyard Follies Playshop: Pigs Build Houses

Monday, July 31, 11am-11:45am

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

How to Talk to a Robot: Build a Shelter

Tuesday, July 18, 6:30pm-8:30pm

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Mah Jong Club of Watchung

Mondays & Tuesdays in July 1pm-4pm

Watchung Writers Group

Thursdays, 10:30am-12:30pm

Watchung Bakes

Monday, July 10, 10:30am-11:30am

Watchung Book Discussion Group

Thursday, July 13, 7:30pm-8:45pm

2 for 1 Book Club

Monday, July 17, 11:30am-12:30pm

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