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NJ

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ISSUE 60 • NOVEMBER 2017

THE WATCHUNG
RESCUE SQUAD

**ANNUAL TREE
OF LIGHTS
CEREMONY
DEC. 2ND**

5:30 P.M.

ON THE
VILLAGE GREEN

(adjacent to Watchung Lake)

Fireworks on the lake,

Food & Refreshments

Starting at 5:30 p.m.

With fireworks
commencing approx.

at 6 p.m.

(Rain/snow date
December 3rd).

WHRHS HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN AND THEIR COURT



(above) The 2017-2018 WHRHS Homecoming King and Queen, Matthew Canary and Caitlyn Park, center, wearing their new crowns, and their Homecoming Court, gather on the 50 yard line shortly after being named at halftime of the Homecoming Game versus Phillipsburg High School, Friday, Oct. 6, in Tozier Stadium. From left, are: Andrew Malfetti, Vamsi Desu, Emma Sonta and Ryan Santos; Canary and Park; and Nina Goliyad, Sahil Patel, Katelyn Carroll, and Jennifer Walpow.

Photo by WHRHS.

Seniors Matthew Canary and Caitlyn Park were named the 2017 King and Queen of the Homecoming Court at the Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Homecoming Game, Friday, Oct. 6, at the Warriors' Tozier Football Stadium.

In addition to Homecoming King Canary and Queen Park, also named to the Homecoming Court are: Vamsi Desu, Andrew Malfetti, Sahil Patel, and Ryan Santos as well as Katelyn Carroll, Nina Goliyad, Emma Sonta, and Jen Walpow.

Kelly explained the process by which the King and Queen were selected.

"Upon returning to Watchung Hills this September," Kelly said, "the current Senior class nominated their peers to comprise our 2017 Homecoming Court. The students were told to nominate a male and female student who embodies

our Watchung Hills values and traditions.

"The top five nominees for King and Queen were tallied. Thereafter, the entire student body was able to vote on the King and Queen. We accepted and tallied votes up until the end of the first quarter of the game. Prior to the game the court and their families were welcomed with a Homecoming Reception sponsored by our WHRHS All School Council."

In the game, the Warriors battled Phillipsburg High School Stateliners, but in the end WHRHS lost to perennial state football powerhouse, 35-0.

Warrior senior quarterback Connor James finished with 9 of 21 for 149 yards passing and ran the ball another 10 times for 47 yards. Among the highlights, senior receiver Mike Asante had three catches for 61 yards. Senior running back had two receptions for 42 yards. Senior tight end Jeff Poggi had three catches for 37 yards.

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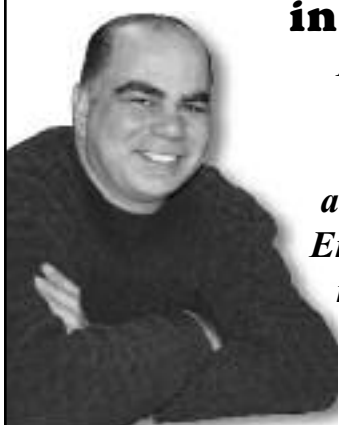
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WHITE-OUT AGAINST BULLYING

Homecoming Night was also “White-Out against Bullying” Night, sponsored by the students’ Diversity Club. Many students, parents and staff wore white in support of an ongoing initiative at the school to raise awareness and support for the anti-bullying movement at WHRHS and in the community.

State Sen. Tom Kean Jr., as well as Somerset County Sheriff Capt. Tim Pino, were special guests. They also have been present at several White Out assemblies at the school over the years.

During his remarks to attendees, Sen. Kean acknowledged that only six days earlier in Las Vegas, Nev., the week, “began with such sorrow,” and in contrast, “tonight we offer hope – hope to others that Watchung Hills stands against bullying and is ready to extend a hand to those

being bullied.”

Kean continued, “In a week that began with such chaos, tonight we all stand together on this field – together, united, firm in our mission – as a team, as a school, and as a community against bullying.”

The WHRHS White Out initiative has been credited with having coined a new word, “Upstander,” a person who stands up against bullying. Kean made reference to that in his remarks.

“Let us look around tonight,” Kean said, “and remember this image and let it remind us that our commitment to each other and to the pledge we have taken to always stand up to hate, injustice and prejudice. Do your part to make this world a better, safer, and happier place for all of us.”

In closing, Kean said, “Now, Go Warriors!”



(above) State Sen. Tom Kean, standing second left, R-Morris, Somerset and Union, who is also the N.J. Senate Minority Leader, and Somerset County Sheriff’s Department Capt. Tim Pino, were guest speakers at the White-Out Against Bullying Ceremony before the Homecoming Game versus Phillipsburg High School, Friday, Oct. 6, in Tozier Stadium. They were welcomed to the field by: WHRHS Superintendent Elizabeth Jewett; Principal George Alexis; Social Studies Teachers and White-Out against Bullying Advisors Mary Sok, and Jamie Lott-Jones; and a dozen members of the student Diversity Club, organizer of the White-Out against Bullying Initiative. Front row, from left, are: Students Melissa Hertzberg, Alanna Margulies, Helen Yang, and Emily Krouk; Felix Cotter, son of Mary Sok; and students Clara Citarella, Rachel Krouk, Jake Jones, Koa Lorimor, and Stella DeMizio; and back row, from left: Capt. Pino; Sen. Kean; Superintendent Jewett; Ronan Cotter, being held by his mom, Sok; students Kevin Sun and Enzo Ruta; Lott-Jones; Zachary Nemcek; and Principal Alexis.

Photo by WHRHS.

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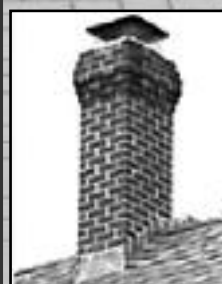
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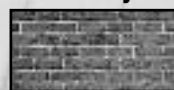
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All performances are in the WHRHS Performing Arts Center (PAC). The General Public is invited to attend all performances.



(above) Several of the members of the cast of "Dracula," which will be presented at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Thursday, Nov. 16, to Saturday, Nov. 18, also participated in the Fall Cabaret, organized by the Drama Department, Tuesday, Oct. 17, on the stage of the PAC. They are, from left: Senior Justin Horowitz, sophomore Giovanna DiSanto, sophomore Jack Melillo, senior Nicole Bell, senior Ben Allgor, sophomore Kaelin Churchill, freshman Andrew Moberly, and senior Sam Sinnott. All performances are open to the public.

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(above l-r) Dr. Cindy Haynes, Dr. Karen Bilboa, Linda Okonsky, and Dr. Courtney Healey.

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"I embrace the opportunity to spread the word that life-changing work is happening in our

Watchung Writers Group. We're all serious about our writing. Being part of this group makes me a better writer," said member Vivian Fransen.

The group is always looking for additional adult members that are striving to improve their writing skills while also sharing literary and personal experiences during the two-hour working sessions.

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(above) Group members: Tom Melore of Branchburg, J.R. Bale of New Providence, Patricia Rydberg of Bridgewater, Bob Mayers of Watchung, David Kaplan of Gillette, Katie Taillon of Watchung, Liz Crystal of Greenbrook, and Vivian Fransen of Scotch Plains.

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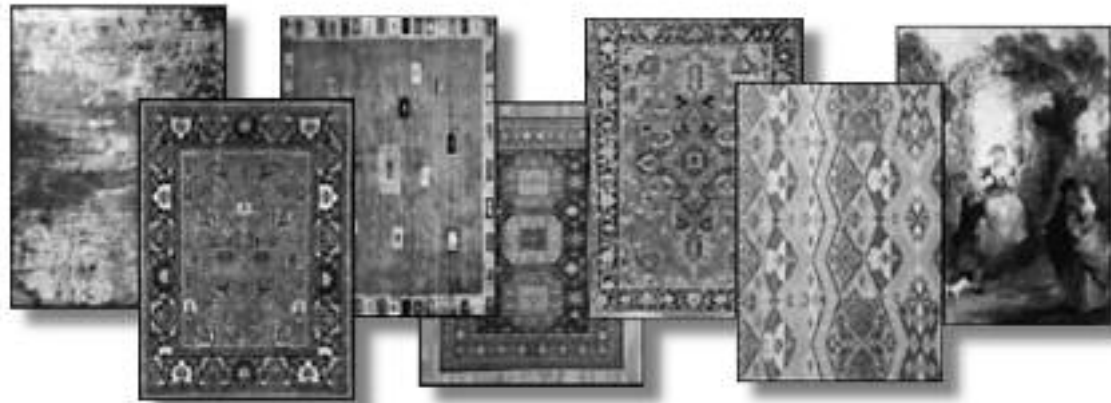
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15 WHRHS STUDENTS NAMED 2018 NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

A record 15 Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) students in the Class of 2018 have been named Semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Another 53 WHRHS students have qualified for the honor "Commended," the category just before Semifinalists. These designations were made based on the scores of students who took the 2016 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT).

The total of 68 recognized students – combining Semifinalists and Commended students - ranks WHRHS 9th among all high schools in New Jersey, as well as 6th among comprehensive public high schools in the state, and 1st among all high schools in Somerset County, according to Principal George Alexis.

"The National Merit results are impressive and provide further evidence that our sustained focus on inquiry and collaboration is advancing learning in our school," Alexis said. "The quality of teaching and learning taking place

each day is making a difference for our entire school community."

This year's 15 WHRHS National Merit Semifinalists means that as many as 42 WHRHS students have qualified as National Merit Semifinalists during the most recent four years, including 10 in the Class of 2017, six in the Class of 2016, and 11 in the Class of 2015.

The Class of 2018 National Merit Semifinalists are: Kevin Huang, Calvin Li, Rachel Lu, Emma Marszalek, Carl Peterson, Michael Raman, Lindsey Shi, Jeffrey Stickler, Kevin Tan, Craig Vergilio, Olivia Xu, Helen Yang, Linda Ye, Carrie Zhang, and Cherlin Zhu.

The Class of 2018 Commended students are: Keerthi Adusumilli, Michael Brady, Carson Brooks, Jason Chan, Demetra Chang, Rebecca Chang, Shane Checko, Sean P. Coleman, Vincent Dai, Vamsi Desu, Karen Dong, Michelle Du, Michael Duncan, Michael Erickson, Lindsay Fogel, Ian Glass, Nina Goliyad, Aaron Hao, Sierra Heuvelman, Kartik Hoover, Michael Hopwood, Jack Horan, Ashil Jhaveri, Michael

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Nationwide about 16,000 National Merit Semifinalists have been named semifinalists based on their scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) taken by 1.6 million juniors last Fall.

These students have the opportunity to continue in the PSAT/NMSQT competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million that will be offered in the spring. Each scholarship is for \$2,500.



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(above) A record 15 Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) students in the Class of 2018 have been named Semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program. With Principal George Alexis, standing left, are Semifinalists: Emma Marszalek, Calvin Li, Kevin Tan, Helen Yang, Linda Ye, Carrie Zhang, Lindsey Shi, and Michael Raman; and sitting, from left, Craig Vergilio, Carl Peterson, Jeffrey Stickler, Kevin Huang, Rachel Lu, and Olivia Xu. Unavailable for the photo due to scheduling conflict is Cherlin Zhu.



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NEW FLAGS AT LIBRARY

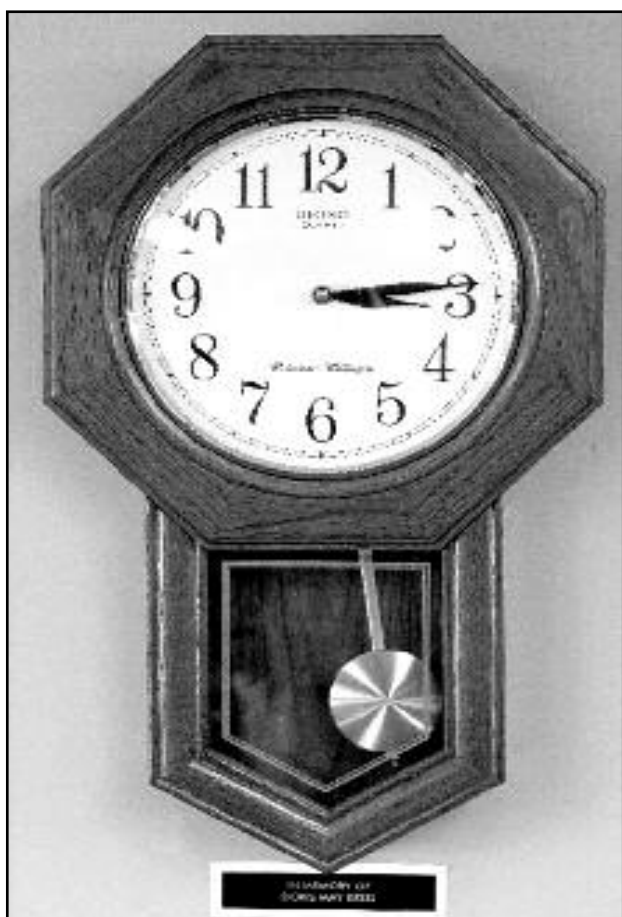
The Friends of the Watchung Library recently purchased two new flagpoles, which were installed at the main entrance to the library by volunteers Marcia and Tom Walsh. The Friends also purchased a new American flag, now proudly flying in front of the building.

The second flag pole will be used to display decorative and season flags, inviting Watchung residents to visit the library throughout the year! Shown here is a jack o'lantern flag flown for late October, donated by Friend of the Watchung Library Margaret Ellis.



DORIS MAE KREIS MEMORIAL CLOCK AT LIBRARY

A beautiful new clock now tells the time in the main room of the Watchung Library. The new clock replaces a similar clock donated by Harold Kreis, in memory of his wife, Friend of the Watchung Library Doris May Kreis. Mr. Kreis's clock served library staff and patrons for many years. The Friends of the Watchung Library were pleased to purchase the new clock, which is also in memory of Doris Kreis.



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).

Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am - 9 pm and Friday and Saturday, 9:30 am - 5 pm.

CREEPY CRITTERS VISIT LIBRARY

Nearly 60 library patrons, most of them excited children, came to the The Friends of Watchung Library's Creepy Critters program on a beautiful Saturday last month. The critters, brought to Watchung by Dominic Rizzo of

Rizzo's Wildlife World, included a legless lizard, a chinchilla, a young alligator, and a Burmese python. The enthusiastic audience enjoyed learning about, laughing about, and even touching the creepy, sometimes cuddly creatures.



Photos by Amy Fiorilla

EXPLORING CEZANNE AT THE LIBRARY

Children ages 4 and up recently participated in the first of a four-part art enrichment series, Art with Ms. Bea, lead by Beata Makowski of Watchung. Children and caregivers learned the concepts of still life art and about the style of artist Paul Cezanne.

The goal of this series is to assist in developing a child's confidence, self-esteem, thinking skills, and more.

Register for additional classes:

Nov. 21, sclsnj.libnet.info/event/170448;

Dec. 19, sclsnj.libnet.info/event/170449.



(above) MacKenzie Linton, 4, of Warren, displayed her still life in the style of Cezanne



(above) Joshua Joseph, 8, and Josenia Joseph, 7, of Watchung displayed their original still life art in the style of Paul Cezanne, at SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch during the Library's art enrichment series on September 26.

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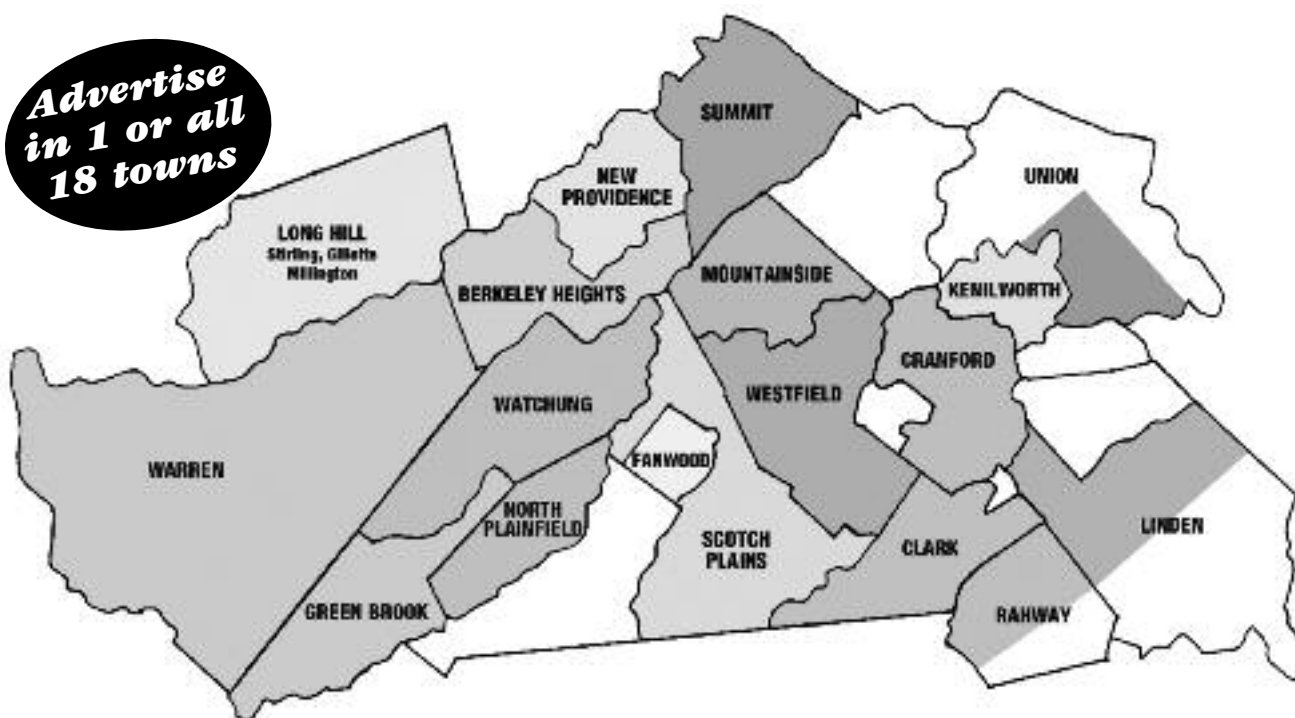
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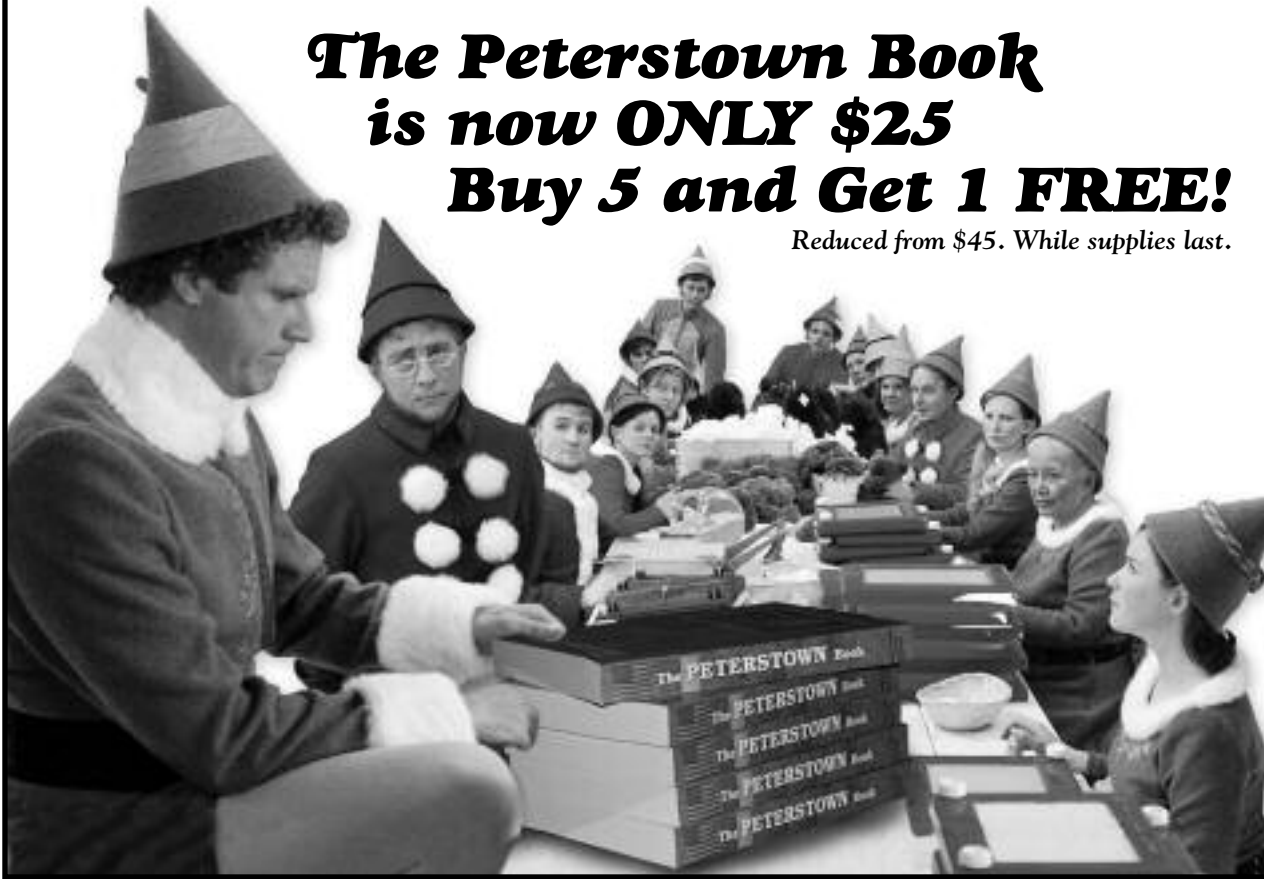
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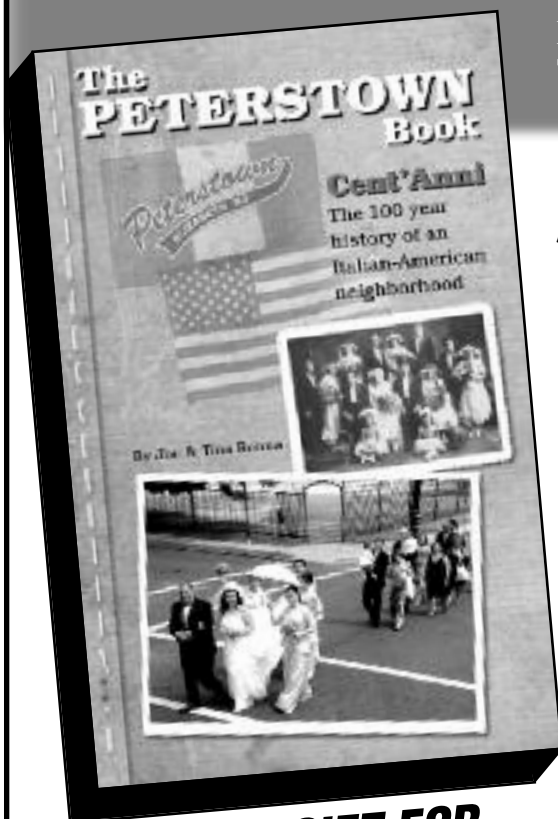
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