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A GRATEFUL WHRHS ALUMNA RECEIVES 'UPSTANDER' AWARD

Submitted by Denis Kelly As Engy Gadmawla, Watchng Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Class of 2014, embarks on her last semester of undergraduate studies at Drew University, Madison, she does so remembering her very first class on her very first day as a WHRHS Warrior in September 2010.

She was born, and spent her first 10 years living in Cairo, Egypt, before she moved in 2003, just two years after 9/11, to Watchung with her mom, dad, and sister.

"I grew up being called a terrorist," she told the audience at the "Facing History and Ourselves" annual New York Benefit Dinner, Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017 at Pier 60 at Chelsea Piers, New York City.

Between 750 and 800 people attended the dinner. Engy Gadelmawla was one of three key speakers at the event, and one of four people presented with Upstander Awards. Others receiving Upstander Awards were: Jennifer and Peter Buffett and the NoVo Foundation; and actress, playwright and activist Anna Deavere Smith.

It is the same annual benefit dinner that in 2014 recognized the work of WHRHS Social Studies Teachers Jamie Lott-Jones and Mary Sok, and WHRHS students Engy Gadelmawla, Catherine Higgins and Monica Mahal, for creating and implementing the WHRHS "White-Out to Erase Bullying" campaign. That campaign brought together some 13 New Jersey school districts and raised awareness of bullying and upstander behavior. Lott-Jones and Sok accompanied Gadelmawla to the banquet along with members of her family.

Rising out of that effort, WHRHS students helped to literally coin a new word in the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) to describe a new





(above, l-r) Facing History and Ourselves President Roger Brooks: featured speaker and WHRHS Alum Engy Gadelmawla, who is currently a student at Drew University, Madison; Engy's mother, Omnia Mohamed: and sister, Nansy Gedelmawla.

concept. It is "Upstander," someone who is different from being merely a "bystander," someone who, in effect, "faces history and ourselves," and tries to do something about it.

In 2014, the WHRHS teachers and students received recognition at the Facing History and Ourselves Benefit Dinner: They were recognized as "Upstanders." Last Fall, Engy Gadelmawla received her second Upstander recognition, for everything she has done since then. She was asked to be one of the keynote speakers at the 2017 Facing History and Ourselves Benefit Dinner.

She might say, it was everything that has happened in her life, both before and after that fateful day in September 2010, when she entered her "very first class on her very first day as a WHRHS Warrior."

Engy shared the poem with the Facing History and Ourselves Annual Dinner audience, reading:

"First they came for the Socialists, but I was not a Socialist and I did not speak out/ Then they came for the trade unionists, but I was not a trade unionist, so I did not speak out/ Then they came for the Jews, but I was not a Jew, so I did not speak out/ Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me."

Continuing, she shared: "For me, this poem is a daily reminder that we all have the power to be 'perpetrators, bystanders or upstanders.' Facing History has taught me that it is our decision what role we take." She is an Upstander.

For more information about Facing History and Ourselves, go to https://www.facinghistory.org/why-facing-history.

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OBITUARY FOR THOMAS G. SCALA

Thomas G. Scala, 43, of Bayville, died on December 26, 2017 at home surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Perth Amboy, he lived in several places before moving to Middlesex Township. He then retired to Bayville several months ago where he loved to fish and take his daughter Bella to the beach. Mr. Scala entered law enforcement after serving his country in the US Coast Guard from 1992 to 1996, and the Reserves until 2000. He was a police officer first with Wildwood PD, then Branchburg PD, then Paradise Valley, Arizona PD, then Bridgewater PD and then High Bridge PD before calling the Long Hill Police Department his home in 2003 where he served as a Dare instructor and Civil Dispute instructor for the department.

Surviving are his wife Lissethi; his daughter Isabella; two step children, Alejandra and Lorena Chiribao; three siblings, Richard Scala and his wife Ann, Diane Scala and Michelle Jeffery and her husband Jeff; seven nieces and nephews, Samantha, Daniel, Hayley, Matthew, Myles, Tyler, and Adalynn; his parents-in-law, Maria and Jaime Pizarro. His sisters and brothers-in-law, Ingrid Pizarro, Carolyn Pizarro, Jonathan Pizarro and Christian Pizarro; his aunt Nancy Makar and his uncle Stephen Makar; and his pet Mikey whom stayed at his bedside during his illness.

A memorial gathering for family and friends was held on Friday, Dec. 29th.

Donations can be made to Bella's college fund via TD Bank. Isabella M Scala. Birth date 7/1/12.



(above) Thomas G. Scala.

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LONG HILL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEET AND GREET

Members and guests of the Long Hill Chamber of Commerce gathered at the year's first Meet and Greet last month at Millington Bank in Millington. The event was hosted by Melissa Coletta, Vice President of the branch.

Millington Bank Vice President of Business and Community Lending, Meher Rafiq, also attended along with Long Hill Township Mayor Guy Piserchia, and Sumara and Imran Ahmad, owners of the new Goddard School, which will open in the fall of 2018.

"These events are great opportunities for business owners to meet each other to share

concerns and learn about each other's businesses and how we can be of service to each other," stated Chamber President Michelle Cavett of Soo Bahk Do Karate of Gillette.

The next Chamber Event will be held Thursday, February 15 at 6 p.m. with Mayor Guy Piserchia. The location is to be determined. "We like to hold these events at Chamber member businesses to help familiarize and promote these businesses among our members," stated Cavett. Past events have been held at Angie's Gourmet Deli, Millington Station Cafe, Stirling Diner, and Long Hill Tavern.



(above) Long Hill Chamber of Commerce Meet and Greet at Millington Bank.

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of High School Sophomore

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"Demystified the college funding process" Joseph Mozzella, Parent of High School Senior



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXPANDS HOURS

The Long Hill Township Historical Society Archive is open to anyone who would like learn more about local history. The Archive is located in the Long Hill Township Public Library, 917 Valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey.

Beginning this month, we will expand our open hours to be more available to assist students doing research and reports on the history of the area. Our new hours include every third Wednesday evening from 6 to 8 p.m., and every third Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Archive will continue to be open our normal hours every Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. A Society member will be on hand to assist you during these times. We can also arrange special hours to meet your research needs.

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LHBSA ANNOUNCES 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Long Hill Baseball & Softball Association (LHBSA) recently held its annual election of officers and is pleased to announce its new Board of Directors for 2018.

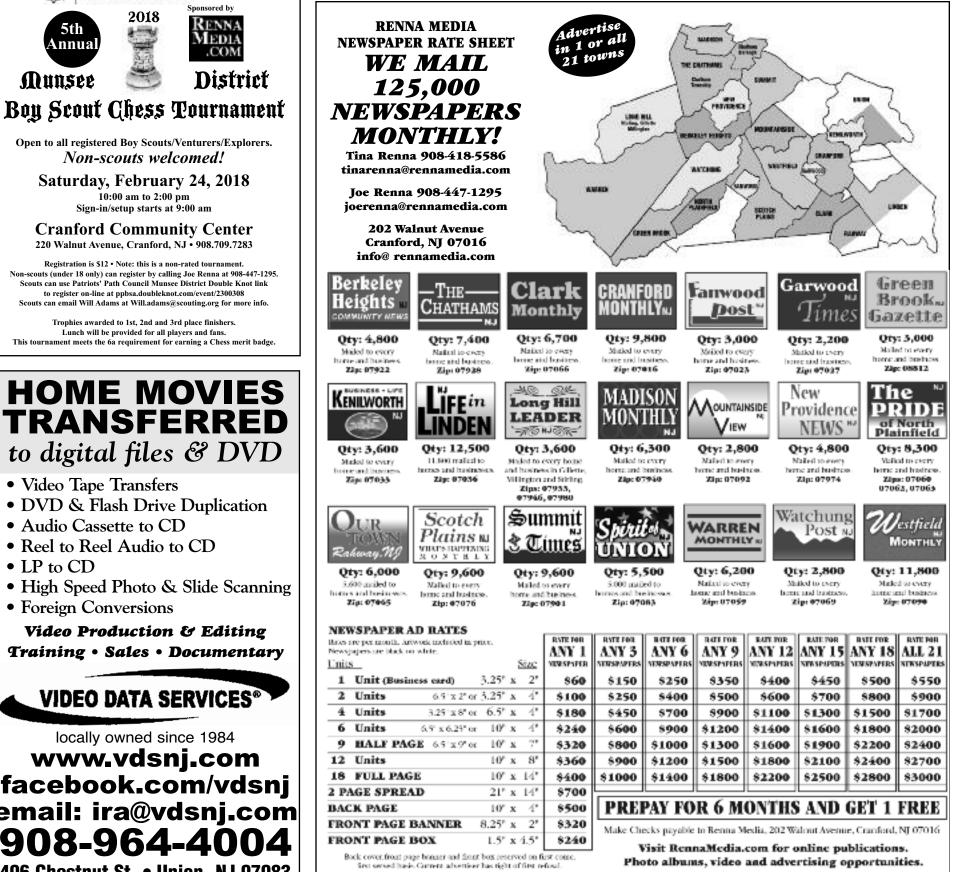
The following individuals were elected to serve by the membership of the LHBSA:

- Greg Russotti: President
- Mead Briggs: Vice President
- Mike Gaydos: Secretary
- Jill Robertson: Treasurer
- Jeff Wills: Commissioner of Baseball
- Brian Johnstone: Commissioner of Softball John Russo: Director of Fields and Facilities
- Mike DiSarno: Contracts and Risk Officer
- Jim Langell: Director of Marketing and **Community Relations**

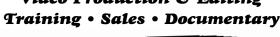
Scott Lavender: Director of Membership and Governance

The mission of the LHBSA is to serve the children of Long Hill Township by helping them develop skills as well as the character to be successful in whatever they choose to do in life. The LHBSA's programs start at the Pre-K level and run through middle school. The LHBSA offers a Spring Recreation League that is open to all children of Long Hill Township regardless of experience or skill level. It also sponsors competitive travel leagues in the spring, summer, and fall for both boys and girls. Travel teams' tryouts are open to all participants in the Spring Recreation League.

The LHBSA is currently offering Winter Skills Clinics for both baseball and softball. The clinics, which start the first weekend of February and are organized by age group, are offered to boys and girls of Long Hill Township for a nominal fee. Online registration for the Winter Skills Clinics as well as the Spring Recreation League can be found on the LHBSA's website which is www.longhillbaseballsoftball.org.



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WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL 2017 MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT

Submitted by Denis Kelly, WHRHS As 8th grade students in Warren Township, Long Hill Township, Watchung, and Green Brook Township settle into the last half-year of their middle school career, they do so having received the gift, three days before Christmas, of



(above, l-r) Two Marching Band's Color Guard Flagbearers, Junior Daria Monti, and Junior Victoria Tartivita, of Stirling, contributed a sense of movement to the number, "May It Be," from "Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring."



(above) During a break in the main performance space, which gave production crews an opportunity to rearrange chairs and music stands for instrumental bands, a smaller musical group of student musicians, The Sax Quartet, occupied the interest of the audience by performing several jazzy numbers. Among them was, appropriately, "Take Five," Dave Brubeck's best-known composition



(above) Eighth grade students from Middle School in WarrenV Township, Long Hill Township, Watchung and Green Brook Township, all soon-to-be First Year high school students, were the guests of honor at the 2017 Middle School Choral & Instrumental Concert, December 22, 2017, at the WHRHS Performing Arts Center (PAC).

being able to feel "Warrior Pride" as the future Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Class of 2022.

The soon-to-be First Year high school students, were the guests of honor at the 2017 Middle School Choral & Instrumental Concert, Friday, December 22, 2017, at the WHRHS Performing Arts Center (PAC). They were welcomed by the Warrior Music Department, whose participants performed selections and highlights from the Winter Instrumental and Choral concerts that entertained audiences on December 7 and 14, 2017, respectively.

Likewise a small number of WHRHS Dance students and members of the Marching Band Color Guard provided choreography for some of the selections at the concert. Several behind-thescenes student production crew volunteers helped make the concert a smooth performance.

Among the choral music highlights at the Middle School Concert was a reprise of the Choral Concert's crowd-pleaser, "Bohemian Rhapsody," by Queen. The anthem had figured prominently in the movie, Wayne's World," and the theme of the concert was "Music in the Movies." The "Bohemian Rhapsody"

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arrangement at the concert appropriately included student musicians on piano, electric lead guitar and bass guitar, and a drum kit.

Likewise, among the highlights from the Instrumental Concert performed at the Middle School Concert was the Wind Ensemble's rendition of perennial favorite, "A Christmas Festival," by Leroy Anderson." During a break in the main performance space behind the curtain on stage, during which production crews rearranged chairs and music stands to support different set-ups for the various instrumental bands, a smaller musical group of student musicians, The Sax Quartet, performed several jazzy numbers. Among them was, appropriately, "Take Five," Dave Brubeck's best-known composition.

As future Warriors filed out of the auditorium to return to their middle schools and then to their holiday week off, current Music Department students lined their way out, giving them greetings from WHRHS. Many encouraged the Class of 2022 to consider joining them next year as singers, instrumentalists, dancers, Marching Band and Color Guard members, and even production crew volunteers.



(above) Among the choral music highlights at the Middle School concert was a reprise of the Choral Concert's crowd-pleasing finale, "Bohemian Rhapsody," by Queen. The choral director is Choral Music Teacher Angela DiIorio Bird, (left).



(above, l-r) Freshman Kayla Chun of Green Brook, Sophomore Jenna Hansen of Gillette, Freshman Olivia Kider of Warren, Freshman Alexis Roskosny of Warren, Sophomore Brianna Cosas of Watchung, Sophomore Abigail Kotar of Millington, and Sophomore Brianna Robinson of Green Brook.



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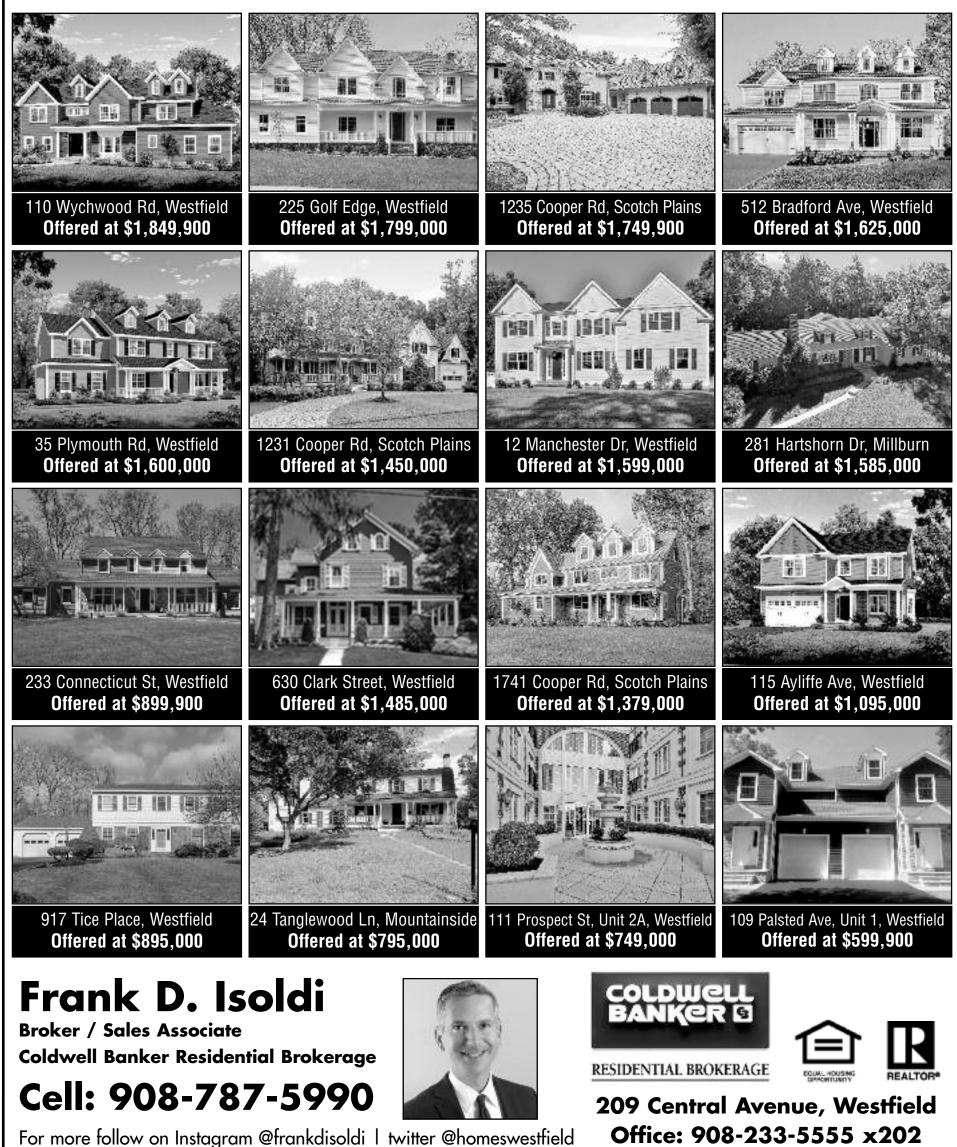
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