

# WARREN MONTHLY<sub>NJ</sub>

WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at [RennaMedia.com](http://RennaMedia.com)

ISSUE 67 • JULY 2018

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## ONE FINAL WARRIOR TEAM PHOTO

Some 30 student athletes from the Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Class of 2018 gathered on Monday, June 4, 2018, in the WHRHS Media Center for one last Warrior team photo before reporting to their intended respective colleges or universities in the fall.

Columbia, Yale and Princeton, Stevens, Rensselaer and M.I.T. are among some 27 other Division I, II, or III colleges that will be the new team colors for the soon-to-be WHRHS alum when the next school year rolls around.

The 30 Warrior student athletes plan to continue their matriculation while playing in the sports of: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country/Track, Fencing, Football, Golf, Lacrosse, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, or Wrestling.

Three of 27 different schools, Drew University, Moravian College and Misericordia University, will be the home of two members of the WHRHS Class of 2018: At Drew, Henry Engel and Kyle Rokosny, both Fencing; at Moravian, Connor James in Football and Robin McCabe in Softball; and at Misericordia, Alyssa Galdi, Cross Country/Track and Sheldon Kohl, Swimming. Only Engel and Rokosny of WHRHS will continue as teammates in the same sport at their new school, Drew.

Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, there were three dates when high school students had deadlines for signing letters of intent to play at colleges: November 27, April 30, and June 4. On those days, most of the signing Warrior athletes gather in the WHRHS Media Center for a photo with

fellow signing WHRHS athletes, and then on Monday, June 3, all these student athletes were invited to gather together for this team photo.

The one student who signed on June 4 was Jillian Chan, who plans to play Volleyball at Rider University.

So, who else is going, in what sport, and to what school?

Marlene Tartaro, Golf, Columbia University; Marlise Moesch, Swimming, Yale University; Julia Cunningham, Basketball, Princeton University; Daniel Hold, Swimming, Stevens Institute of Technology; Brenda Peng, Tennis, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Daniel Pilsbury, Basketball, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Erin Bean, Softball, Susquehanna University; Julia Burton, Lacrosse, West Chester University; Katelyn Carrol, Lacrosse, Radford University; Genna Cicchetti, Softball, Muhlenberg College; and Christopher Clintock, Lacrosse, St. Joseph's University; Drew Furlong, Lacrosse, Binghamton University; Emma Gaffney, Softball, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Justin Hayward, Wrestling, Bloomsburg University; Jessica Hoffman, Cross Country/Track, University of Scranton; Tyler James, Lacrosse, Holy Cross College; Michael Murray, Baseball, Hofstra University; Brian Puccio, Football, Jacksonville University; and Tyler Riley, Baseball, University of Maine; Ryan Santos, Soccer, The College of New Jersey; Robert Saum, Wrestling, Millersville University; Jonathan Taub, Lacrosse, Rutgers University; and Zaneae Thome, Football, East Stroudsburg University.

Photo by WHRHS



(above, bottom row l-r) Erin Bean, Genna Cicchetti, Jillian Chan, Julia Cunningham, Emma Gaffney, Marlise Moesch, and Julia Burton; (middle row l-r) Principal George Alexis, Dan Pilsbury, Sheldon Kohl, Brenda Peng, Dan Hold, Kyle Rokosny, Brian Puccio, Rob Saum, Jonathan Taub, and Athletic Director Chris Van Vliet; (top row l-r) Drew Furlong, Ryan Santos, Alyssa Galdi, Henry Engel, Jessie Hoffman, Marlene Tartaro, Katie Carroll, and Robin McCabe. (missing): Christopher Clintock, Justin Hayward, Connor James, Tyler James, Michael Murray, Tyler Riley, and Zahveae Thorne.

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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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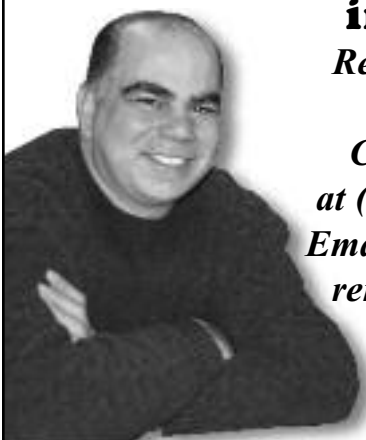
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*Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email [editor@rennamedia.com](mailto:editor@rennamedia.com). or call 908-418-5586*

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## STUDENTS SHINE AT JUNIOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC CHAMPIONSHIP

Submitted by Shannon Regan

The Warren Middle School Academic Tournament Team was named the winner of the 11th Annual Junior National Academic Championship in Washington, DC on Sunday, June 3, 2018. The tournament, sponsored by Questions Unlimited, focused on academic information – “significa” rather than “trivia.” The emphasis of this tournament was light on popular trivia and heavy on academic relevance. The Warren team qualified for this national tournament by winning the Questions Unlimited “Quiz Net”, which was an 8-week online bowl where schools all around the United States played against each other through a live format over the Internet.

The Junior National Academic Championship consisted of 25 middle school teams (grades 7, 8, 9) from all over the United States. The Warren team competed against schools from Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, Ohio and Arkansas in the six preliminary rounds. At the end of the preliminaries, Warren earned a record of 4 wins and 2 losses, making them the 10th seed going into the playoffs. Warren won three playoff games against teams from Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, Wooster, Ohio and Webster, New York before advancing to the finals against number one seed, Aspen Creek Middle School from Omaha, Nebraska.

Warren defeated Aspen Creek Middle School

in the championship round with a score differential of over 100 points, making them the winners of the 11th Annual Junior National Academic Championship. The Warren team, made up of four 8th graders and one 7th grader, was one of the youngest teams to win a championship. Most teams bring 9th graders to this event, but this year Warren did not.

Congratulations to 8th graders, James Young, Andrew McAusland, Ariha Mehta, Andy Shi and 7th grader, Shaan Lehal. James Young was awarded the tournament MVP award and is recognized for his composed demeanor as the team’s captain. Overall, this team accomplishment is due to excellent strategy, determination, academic excellence, outstanding sportsmanship, and a positive attitude.

Dr. Susan Cooper, the team’s coach, states, “Our team dug in and fought their way through every game, keeping their play in the moment. They learned many valuable life lessons throughout this tournament such as listening to one another, working together, and how to lose (and win) with grace. The team learned that they needed to apply more than knowledge to be successful in this tournament. They needed to bring their very best to each match and to care about each other.”

Warren participated in 9 out of the 11 Washington DC tournaments. This is their second national win, previously winning in 2015.



(above, l-r) Shaan Lehal (grade 7), Ariha Mehta (grade 8), James Young (grade 8) and MVP of the tournament), Andrew McAusland (grade 8) and Andy Shi (not pictured, grade 8).

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# FIRE COMPANY CELEBRATES LADDER 61

Submitted by The Mt. Bethel Volunteer Fire Company- Ladder 61 Wetdown Committee



On Saturday, June 9, 2018 the Mt. Bethel Volunteer Fire Company in Warren, New Jersey hosted a dedication and 'Wetdown' for the arrival of our brand new 2018 Pierce Ascendant Ladder Truck, Ladder 61.

A wetdown is a ritual where squads of visiting firefighters christen the new fire truck by spraying water from their firefighting equipment. Guests are invited to get wet too!

Over 300 guests came out to celebrate the day from the Warren community and surrounding areas. Multiple fire companies from as far away

as Iselin, Montgomery, and Jefferson Twp. were also in attendance to join us in our celebration!

It was a perfect day and everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the free food, drink, music, and children's activities.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors and partners for helping us make this day a reality.

For photos, official event and fire company merchandise, or additional information, please visit our Facebook page at Mt. Bethel Fire Company. Thank you to everyone for your continued support!



Photos from this and other events can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com), and on Warren Monthly page on [facebook.com](http://facebook.com). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES LINE UP

The Warren Township Recreation Department is proud to announce the following line up for the annual Summer Concert Series! All concerts will be held on Wednesday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. All rain dates are held the next day. Performances will be held either at the Municipal Courtyard, or the Pavilion behind the complex. Both locations are at the same address, 46 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, NJ.

### SUMMER CONCERT SERIES PERFORMANCES AND CONCERT DATES:

• **July 11- Little Jimmy & the Starlites** (Municipal Pavilion) Hailing from Bernardsville, North Plainfield and surrounding towns, Little Jimmy and the Starlites is a local band through and through. Exceptionally talented vocals, fun and playing all the hits of the 50's, 60's 70's and 80's. From Motown and all Feel Good Pop Hits of the last four decades they are guaranteed to get ya feelin' good and dancin'. They also play a variety of classic oldies that represent the very best in early rock and pop music.

• **July 25- Ross Griswold and the Second Line** (Municipal Pavilion) Ross Griswold & The Second Line is determined to get you up and dancing! Based in and around the Somerville area, their mix of New Orleans, Soul, Funk, and R&B spans genres and generations to bring you the best grooves. Classics from Stevie Wonder, Van Morrison, Bill Withers, Dr. John, The Meters, Professor Longhair and more make the perfect soundtrack for a hip-shaking good time, so grab your friends and come on out!

• **August 22- JerZgirls Band** (Municipal Courtyard) The JerZgirls are a fun, high-energy local acoustic duo out of Hunterdon County, NJ. They are Lisamarie Dombrowski on Keys and vocals, and Maryann DeSiato on vocals and percussion. Lisamarie is mostly known for her original song, "The Yellow Butterfly." They do a wide variety of music from James Taylor to Janis Joplin, as well as some original tunes in-between. Music is their passion, and it is surely shown through their dedication to their audience.

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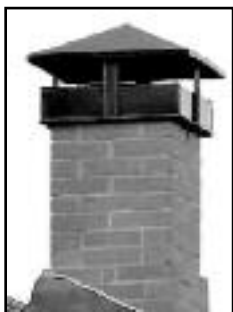
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# CUB SCOUTS PARTICIPATE IN SPRING CAMPOREE AT WINNEBAGO

Submitted by Tricia Patricco

Over the weekend of May 11-13, 2018 fifty-eight Cub scouts and their families from Pack 182 attended the annual Spring Camporee at Winnebago Scout Reservation in Rockaway, New Jersey. The theme of this spring's event was "Save the Wild". Scouts enjoyed the great outdoors with games, physical activities, hiking, fishing and lots of fun.

Saturday morning our Webelo Scouts were on breakfast detail, they cooked Pancakes, Canadian bacon, and Taylor ham, egg and cheese sandwiches. All Campers fueled up for the busy

day ahead!

After the Opening Ceremonies, Scouts participated in a full day of activities including a Fishing Derby, Climbed the Boulder wall, shot BB Guns and enjoyed Archery with our certified Range masters, raced Cub Mobiles, rowed their way across the lake in row boats, checked out the batting cages, and tried their hand at Whittling Chip and Flintlocks Building classes.

At the Fishing Derby, Pack 182 was proud to have some prize winners! Fintan Beyus won most fish caught by a Tiger rank. Marcello Gioia won largest Fish caught by a Bear rank. Lorenzo Armao won most fish caught by a Webelo rank.

Eating well is a big part of the camping experience for Pack 182! Scouts enjoyed hot dogs, burgers, chicken, macaroni and potato salad for lunch. For dinner everyone ate slow cooked ribs, BBQ pork loin, pasta and meatballs. We know that happy tummies make for happy campers.

We also celebrated future Lion scout Beau Carr's 4th Birthday Saturday afternoon. We sang Happy Birthday to Beau and everyone enjoyed homemade campfire themed cupcakes made by Jen Carr.

Families camped in tents on platforms, and cubs gathered wood and learned various methods

for starting campfires with Cub Master Adam Gioia. These included, Flint and steel, Magnesium, fire piston, and friction fire bow. Scouts were also taught about char cloth, how to make it, and how it works to help make a fire.

The highlight of Saturday evening at the Camporee is the all-camp Campfire. Earlier in the day with help from leaders, Afseneh Thursfield and Christian Bellmann our scouts devised and practiced a skit called "The Secrets of Fishing". The scouts did an awesome job with their performance of this skit at the Campfire.

After returning to Pack 182's campsite, the scouts gathered and were treated to ghost stories around our own campfire. This year they included the NJ Devil, and a very creative story by Klaus Teepe called "The Headless Poncho Man". Some of the best times shared camping are around the evening campfires. In spite of the rainy weather, everyone had a great time and looks forward to the next camping trip.

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: facebook.com/Pack182WarrenNJ/ our website warrenpack182.org or by contacting us at membership@warrenpack182.org.



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# CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS AT WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

*Submitted by Shannon Regan*

A Celebration of the Arts, Warren Township School District's community event featuring art created by students in kindergarten through grade 8, was held on Wednesday, May 30, 2018 at Warren Middle School.

This memorable event was the result of many



*(above) Madison and Hunter Slater, grade 2 and kindergarten.*



*(above) Mia and Summer Shrank, grades 3 and 1.*



*(above) Guy and Rhett Nelson, grade 1 and kindergarten.*



*(above) Selina Zhan, grade 5.*

individuals across the district, including the Parent Teacher Organizations from each of the schools, all who worked very hard to transform the middle school into a fine arts museum for the evening. "The fine and performing arts are an invaluable aspect of a student's K-8 experience in Warren. We are very proud of our program and of the opportunity to come together as a school community to celebrate the arts, the wonderful student work, and the efforts of our art and music teachers," stated Mr. William Kimmick, Curriculum Director.

Special recognition must be given to Ms. Jennifer Ronkiewicz, Mrs. Susan Sage, Mrs. Meryl Lettire and Mrs. Donna Pellagrino, art teachers, and Mr. Joel Van Tine, Mrs. Amy Jensen and Mrs. Diane McCloskey, music teachers, all of whom were among the many people that were thrilled with the outcome of the evening.

"It was an incredible experience to be able to see the amazing artwork that the K-8 Warren Township School District has to offer. While each student is unique, the same holds true for the teaching styles as well. From refined technical focus of specific art media to a more expressive artistic approach, each teacher gives the Warren students an opportunity to create art in a variety of ways. I hope that this is the first of many more Celebrations of the Arts," says Ms. Jennifer Ronkiewicz.

The variety of art projects on display generated the opportunity for students, parents, educational staff, visitors and administrators to wander each room and appreciate all of the student art work. Mr. Erwin Ganz, one of the last survivors of Kristallnacht who recently visited Warren Middle School and spoke with the grade eight student body about his life experiences, and his wife, were among the visitors to the art show. As a follow up to Ganz's visit in April, Mrs. Meryl Lettire coordinated an interdisciplinary project based on Ganz's presentation. The students created Found poems, expressing their reactions to his life story by taking text from his presentation and reframing those words or phrases as poetry. Ganz and his wife were able to

view each project, as well as scan QR codes correlated with the projects to view a short video of the students explaining their individual projects.

"I am so proud to be a part of our dynamic art department where students are given amazing opportunities not only to produce works but to learn how art reflects their world and how through art they can express themselves, communicate ideas, and connect with others," says Mrs. Meryl Lettire.

Children of all ages were eager to find their piece of art to share with their family in attendance. Teachers were able to chat with the many supportive parents and guardians and witness their reactions to their child's artwork. Student artwork was for sale as part of a PTO fundraiser where a percentage of the purchase would go to the child's specific school.

The district plans to continue the Celebration of the Arts event on an annual basis for years to come. "I am so proud to be part of a district where the arts are valued," says Mrs. Meryl Lettire. "I love to work with my fellow art teachers who bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise along with a passion for the arts to our students. I am thrilled that the community was able to see all of the amazing things being done in our art rooms. I look forward to next year's exhibition."

"The variety of teaching styles and art that related to these ways of teaching was so much fun to see all together," added Mrs. Donna Pellagrino. "Our students are very talented and their work really showed their abilities to create. I look forward to showcasing my student's artwork in the Celebration of the Arts next year!"

"The Celebration of the Arts was a spectacular show of our children's artistic ability! The art teachers work diligently delivering lessons that are more than just being fun; they teach creativity, confidence, decision making, focus, motor skills, and visual-spatial skills," stated Mrs. Susan Sage. "The beautiful artwork shows the process of learning that benefits the children in so many ways. I look forward to another great year of making art and next year's art exhibition."

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(above) Sammy Silver,  
grade 6 student



(above) Dia Prabhakar,  
grade 2



(above) Brandon Lombardo,  
grade 7.



(above) Zeke Freijomil, grade 3 and  
Warren Township School Board Member  
Mrs. Freijomil.



(above) Warren Township teachers of Art, Mrs.  
Meryl Lettore, Ms. Jennifer Ronkiewicz, Mrs.  
Susan Sage and Mrs. Donna Pellagrino.

## ELKS LODGE CONTINUES 150 YEAR TRADITION

Submitted by Mike Ryder

Founded in New York City on February 16, 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. This non-political, non-sectarian and strictly American Fraternal Order was founded "to promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship."

Watchung Hills Elks Lodge #885, founded 56 years ago, is a thriving community service group that each year contributes time and resources to organizations like "Food Bank Network of Somerset County," the Lyons and Menlo Park VA Hospitals in service to our veterans, Herren Project for Drug Awareness and the Elks Camp Moore for children with special needs. Additionally, last year we started supporting our local Cub Scouts, Warren's Pack 182.

We are located at 1 Elks Trail in Warren Township, situated on 6.5 acres including a pavilion, bandstand, picnic area, grotto, meeting hall and swimming pool. Our Meeting Hall and outdoor pavilion and picnic area facilities are available for Public.

Contact us at [membership@elkslodge885.org](mailto:membership@elkslodge885.org) with your questions, call (908) 668-9727 to reserve our facilities or visit [www.elkslodge885.org](http://www.elkslodge885.org) to learn more about us.

## JULY PROGRAMS SCLSNJ'S WARREN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BRANCH

42 Mountain Boulevard, Warren Township, NJ 07059 | 908-458-8450 | [SCLSNJ.org](http://SCLSNJ.org).

All programs listed are free. Registration is required unless otherwise indicated and programs are subject to change; visit [SCLSNJ.org](http://SCLSNJ.org) or call the library for more information and to register.

\*Please note the Library will be closed on July 4 for Independence Day.

### ALL AGE PROGRAMS

Summer Fun Game days

July 2, 3, 6, 7; 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Summer Fun Movie Day

July 3, 5; 2-4 p.m.

Construction Zones

July 21, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Music, Bubble, and Comedy Show - Born To Read:

July 23, 4-5 p.m.

### CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAM

Kid's Music Round

July 10, 10-10:45 a.m. and 11-11:45 a.m.

(ages birth - 4 years)

Learn to Lead: Boss Level Adulting

July 10, 6-7 p.m.

(entering grades 9-12)

Yoga with Miss Lauren

July 11, 4-4:45 p.m.

(entering grades Pre-K to 2)

5-5:45 p.m.

(entering grades 3-7)

Touch the Music Hands-On Workshop

July 12, 10-10:45 a.m.

(ages 3-5)

Throwback Thursday

July 12, 7-8 p.m.

(entering grades 6-12)

### Pop-Up Storytime

July 13, 10-10:45 a.m.

(ages 2-5)

Puppet Playhouse: Animal Storytime

July 16, 4-5 p.m.

(entering grades K-2)

Propbox Players Present Three Pigs

July 17, 4-5 p.m.

(entering grades Pre-K to 2)

Teen Lego Night

July 17, 7-8 p.m.

(entering grades 6-12)

Wompy's World of Musical Play

July 18, 4:15-5 p.m. and 5:15-6 p.m.

(6 months - 4 years)

Unique Creatures from Around the World

July 19, 4-4:45 p.m.

(grades K-5)

Apple Pie Parfaits

July 24, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

(entering grades 2-5)

Puppet Playhouse: Fairy Tale Storytime

July 25, 4-5 p.m.

(entering grades K-2)

Craftastic Fun

July 26, 2-2:45 p.m.

(entering grades K-2)

Marshmallow Tower Challenge

July 26, 7-8 p.m.

(entering grades 6-12)

Puppet Playhouse - Princess and Knight Storytime

(entering grades K-2): July 31, 4-5 p.m.

### ADULT PROGRAMS

Yarns and Threads

July 2, 16; 10 a.m. - noon

Bridge

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; 1-4 p.m.

Special Needs Social Hour

You and Your New Library Card

July 9, 7-8:30 p.m.

Needlepoint

July 10, 7-8:30 p.m.

World Religions and Cultures

Humanism, Atheism and Agnosticism

July 11, 7-8:30 p.m.

Book Discussion

July 12, 25; 1-4 p.m.

Recipe Club

July 16, 7-8:30 p.m.

Writers Group

July 17, 7-8:30 p.m.

Introduction to Quickbooks

July 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Film Discussion

July 19, 1-4 p.m.

Discover Music Streaming Services and Apps

July 24, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Square Foot Gardening 101

July 28, 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

# SPEAKERS AT TEDXYOUTH ENCOURAGE LISTENERS TO PURSUE DREAMS OF ‘MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD’

*Submitted by Denis Kelly*

Eleven speakers, including 10 students and a teacher, presented personal testimonials about moments in their lives that inspired and empowered them to pursue dreams of “making a difference in the world,” at “TEDxYouth@WHRHS,” held on Monday, May 21, 2018 at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS).

The event, which reflected the school-wide strategy to encourage, recognize and grow from interdisciplinary approaches to problem-solving and learning, was organized by a collaboration of the student Computer Science Club, the Accounting Club and the Culinary Club.

Faculty Advisors for the event included Math and Business Supervisor Dan Twisler, Business Teacher Dianne Krutz, and Culinary Club Advisors Susan Jaslove, Patricia Buzby and Stephanie Ormaeche, as well as volunteer and Watchung Public Schools retired teacher Elaine Chesebro. She had taught at Grades K-8 Watchung Public Schools for 18 years.

The event program explained that TEDxYouth conferences are geared for high school and middle school students who aspire to be dreamers, thinkers, makers and doers looking to make a difference in the world.

The TEDxYouth@WHRHS is an independently organized event designed to bring a TedxYouth-like experience to Watchung Hills, according to the event’s program. TEDxYouth events are designed to be student-organized events, where the living learning experience includes not just the subject matters of the conferences, but also the problem solving involved in all the aspects of organizing, promoting and assembling promotional materials. The students also actually run the conferences, according to the students who organized the event, as well as solicit, tabulate and report feedback from the event’s audience.

According to Faculty Advisor Twisler, TEDxYouth events have taken on a positive

reputation among today’s students and academics as “forward-thinking, cutting edge” living learning experiences. Student organizers, speakers and participants have taken to listing participation in such events on their resumes as signs that they are availing themselves of this kind of insider’s latest advancement in education.

Offering TEDxYouth events at WHRHS grew out of the community outreach and organizing committee discussions that included student participation as far back as 2015. Those discussions led to the adoption of the empowerment-inspired goals and objectives in the WHRHS “2015-2020 Strategic Plan, A Warrior Vision.”

## Speakers Empowerment Experiences

Jordyn Arnel spoke about how she has developed a “passion for health and wellness.” She shared her thoughts and experiences about “the importance of self-discovery and its ability to empower young people.”

Abby Kotar, who is a veteran member of the WHRHS Dance Ensemble and the WHRHS Concert Band, where she plays flute, spoke about adding to her repertoire of performance experiences by successfully speaking at this conference. It was her way of “stepping out of her comfort zone and trying something new.”

Nicole Bell shared how she learned “how to embrace positivity despite the conflicting messages teenage girls receive from their families, magazines and the media.” She said next year, she plans on attending Boston University, where she said she will continue to spread positivity and self-love.

Lindsey Shi said that though she experiences the stress typical of a high performing high school student, she wanted “to give a talk about being happy.” She said she believes, “Taking care of oneself is most important,” and encourages everyone to do the same.

Kevin “K.C.” Whittmaack explained how his love of the Super Heroes that started as a seven-year-old “all-in fan” of “Spiderman” has turned into a possible career path. His passion for the Super Hero in society, inspired him to create his own Super Hero stories, leading him to find, develop, and self-teach his own skills in the art forms of drawing, coloring, writing, and storytelling in the “Comic Book” and “Graphic Novel” genre of literature. Along the way, he also discovered and developed other forms of expression, including film making, playing piano and guitar, as well as soccer. Now, he hopes to continue his self-exploration and self-expression next year in the Honors Program at Rutgers University, New Brunswick.

WHRHS English teacher Michael Porter, a graduate of Rutgers University and George Washington University Law School, is well known around WHRHS as the guitarist who is occasionally asked to add acoustic guitar accents as accompaniment to student singing performances. At TEDx, he shared how his other

unquenchable passion for long distance running has fueled his goal to qualify for official entry in the legendary Boston Marathon. That’s an achievement he finally reached in his 40s, and his decades of persistent training has led him to discover something else he loves: “ultra-marathoning.” Now he also runs races that make the marathon’s celebrated 26.2 distance seem short, for instance which asks runners: How far can you run in 12 hours?

Jordan Ginsburg, who said she enjoys debate and political discourse, and aspires to be a lawyer and elected official, spoke about “recognizing bias, both in others and oneself, and using that knowledge to become more open-minded in today’s politically divisive society.”

Matthew Canary, who plans to explore paths in humanitarian services, international relations and/or civil/environmental engineering next year at Northeastern University in Boston, spoke about his “long-term interest in how we all understand one another,” and his hope that his talk would “spark similar reflections about empathy in his audience.”

Niharika “Nina” Iyer spoke about the importance of youth protest in society today and reviewed various current issues that are now drawing the interest, the examination, the opinion and the input of young people. She shared how it has made a difference in the past and can make a difference now.

Spencer Acciarito, who is an aspiring comedian, shared his perspective that comedy is an often-overlooked tool that can be used to combat depression, help to overcome grief and the sense of loss. He said comedy should receive more attention as a valuable and powerful tool to empower people.

Ashil Jhaveri, who is currently President of the All-School Council (ASC), and who helped organize WHRHS participation in this year’s “National School Walkout,” discussed instances in the past when youth and young adults have made differences in fights against hate and violence. Young people, including school children, high school students, and college students, can be found in the history of the Civil Rights Movement on the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s in this country, for instance, as well as various other injustices here and throughout the world more recently. He urged the audience to pick an issue, protest injustice and be an advocate, “and don’t stop until you get a result.”

The last speaker about “making a difference” and empowerment, Jhaveri finished his talk and the conference by sharing the quote attributed Mahatma Gandhi, the legendary leader of India and one of the most iconic preachers of civic change and improvement through non-violent protests. Gandhi’s quiet yet effective “strength of the will” was likewise exemplified in Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he said. Channeling the words of Gandhi and King, Jhaveri urged his fellow TEDxYouth speakers and conferees: “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”



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# TEDXYOUTH PARTICIPANTS

Photos by Watchung Hills Regional High School.



(above, l-r) Eleven speakers, including 10 students and a teacher, presented personal testimonials about moments in their lives that inspired and empowered them to pursue dreams of making a "difference in the world". The speakers were: (front row) WHRHS English Teacher Michael Porter, and students Nicole Bell, Lindsey Shi, Jordyn Arnel, Niharika Iyer, Jordan Ginsburg, and Abby Kotar; (back row) Ashil Jhaveri, Matthew Canary, Kevin Wittmaack, and Spencer Acciarito.



(above, l-r) Seated: Ella Walsh, and right, Marilyn Du; Standing: Matt McCracken, Davin Lui, Nicole Salk, and Megan Krutz.



(above, l-r) Volunteer and Watchung Public Schools retired teacher Elaine Chesebro, center, who had taught at Grades K-8 Watchung Public Schools for 18 years, had the inspiration of seeing eight of her former students attend TEDxYouth @WHRHS. They were Freshman Hans Parikh, Valley View School 8th Grader Shiv Goel, WHRHS Freshman Rahil Navani, Senior Kevin Huang, and WHRHS Freshmen Jacob Weber, Marshall White and Charlie Margulies.

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## TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

The Warren Township Committee is pleased to announce the launch of our official Facebook page and Twitter account. We intend to use these platforms to keep residents up-to-date on happenings around the Township as well as issues before the Township Committee and the decisions the Committee makes on behalf of the community.

You can access our new official Facebook page: Warren Township, New Jersey

You can access our new official Twitter account: WarrenTownshipNJ @WarrenTwpNJ

Please tell your contacts and friends to “like” and “follow” them as well, and remind those among them who are not already signed up for our e-blast system to do so by visiting the Township website, warrennj.org to sign up.

## MESSAGE FROM THE RECREATION DIRECTOR:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Recreation Director for Warren Township. My name is Joe Passaro, I was a longtime resident of Warren and now have returned to carry on the long standing tradition of exceptional Recreation Programs and Events in Warren Township. I have served as Chair and Vice Chair of the Warren Recreation Commission. Over an almost 20 year period I have created and nurtured the events we enjoy today, as well as privatized most of the sports programs in town. As past president of Watchung Hills Pop Warner Football, Cheerleading, and Little Scholars, we established the state of the art Sports Complex at the East County Reserve. I also oversaw the early development of the Duderstadt fields and created the Lacrosse and Youth Basketball Programs.

We look forward to building an exciting array of activities, updating facilities, and building new ones to keep up with our growing town. I would love to hear your comments and concerns regarding recreation in Warren.



I hope to enhance all of our traditional programs as well create new and exciting programs for our Youth, Families, and Seniors.

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# EXPLORE WARREN TWP. ARTIST SIEN LEWIS'S COLOR STORY AT SCLSNJ

Explore Warren Twp. artist Sien Lewis's color story at the Art Space at Warren in the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey's (SCLSNJ) Warren Twp. Library branch, located at 42 Mountain Blvd in Warren Twp., until July 31, 2018.

The 15-piece collection of acrylic paints on canvas displays art with an emphasis on color. The collection illustrates Lewis's interpretation of images that inspire her including nature, food, life-in-motion, and more.

The glass-enclosed display case also houses examples of Lewis's jewelry line. These small works of art, hand cast in sterling silver, include pendants, earrings, and bracelets.

The exhibition will be available to the public during normal Library hours. Artists interested in exhibiting in the Art Space at Warren located in SCLSNJ's Warren Twp. Library branch, should contact Kathy DeCristofaro at [kdecrist@sclibnj.org](mailto:kdecrist@sclibnj.org).



(above) Local artist Sien Lewis poses in front of her painting "The Nest." Several of her works will be on display at SCLSNJ's Warren Twp. Library branch until July 31. If you are interested in exhibiting in the Art Space at Warren, should contact Kathy DeCristofaro at [kdecrist@sclibnj.org](mailto:kdecrist@sclibnj.org).



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**MONDAY - THURSDAY**

<b>Lunch 11am - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm</b>
Adult .....\$7.99	Adult .....\$11.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$7.49
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

**FRIDAY - SATURDAY**

<b>Lunch 11am - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm</b>
Adult .....\$7.99	Adult .....\$11.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$7.49
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

**SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER**

**11am - 10pm**

Adult.....\$11.99
Kids 7-10 .....\$7.49
Kids 3-6 .....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!

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