# Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

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#### ISSUE 72 • OCTOBER 2018

## U-19 RAPTORS COMPLETE THE PERFECT SOCCER SEASON





(above, front row) The Watchung Hills Soccer Association U-19 Raptors include Head Coach Michael Cantone, Sergio Garcia, Dan Snyder, Steven Bressler, KC Wittmaack, Preston Gatto, Varun Kadikar, Rajveer Singh, David Cantone, Michael Tobin, (back row) Karl Durant, Gabe Ferriera, Matthew Tankel, Shawn Cagnetta, David Gerdau, John Sonta, Arthur Paganini and United Soccer Academy trainer Matthew Murphy. Not pictured are John Maziarz, Reid Baltuch, Timothy Scanlo and Justin Goldberg.

Perfection is not easily attained, but it is something the Watchung Hills Soccer Association U-19 Raptors can lay claim to following an unblemished spring season.

Compiling a 10-0 record in the regular season, the Raptors' road to the U-19 Mid NJ Championship in June included a 4-1 semifinal victory over Woodbridge Barccelona and a 3-1 triumph over Cranford Rush in the final.

"Perfect seasons do not come around very often, and they are never products of luck," said Matthew Murphy, the team's trainer from the United Soccer Academy. "We went 12-0, we won our flight, and we won the MNJ title. We scored over 50 goals and conceded only 5. It really doesn't get much better than that."

The Raptors are comprised of soccer players from the Watchung Hills sending district towns of Warren, Watchung, Long Hill and Green Brook. Many of the players were active on the Watchung Hills Regional High School varsity soccer squad, though the team also includes players from Rutgers Prep and Morris Catholic. Many of the members graduated in the WHRHS 2018 class, and are attending colleges such as Cornell, Rensselaer Polytechnic, UCal-Berkeley and Michigan in the fall.

"We started with a solid group of players who really love the game, but needed to quickly learn to work together to play at a very high level," said Michael Cantone, the head coach and a longtime WHSA volunteer. "I'm proud that the values of the team – respect, teamwork and focus – were apparent in every game and training session. ... They play soccer like the beautiful game it is meant to be."

"They are winners, and I have no doubt that success will follow them wherever they go in life," Murphy said.

The Watchung Hills Soccer Association provides recreational, travel and elite soccer programs primarily for children in Warren, Watchung, Green Brook and Long Hill. There are more than 1,200 children in the program.

WHSA can be reached at whsahelp@verizon.net.



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## Watchung Post

*Watchung Post* is published by Renna Media. 3,000 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Watchung, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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## PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email editor@rennamedia.com or call 908-418-5586

## ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSPAPER 3,000 are printed and

mailed to every home and business in Watchung.

Reserve space in the next issue. Call Joe Renna at (908) 447-1295 Email: joerenna@ rennamedia.com

## **WAGNER FARM ARBORETUM'S BRITE NITES 2018**

Submitted by Christina Lewis

It's back! Returning for a seventh year, Wagner Farm Arboretum's spectacular Halloweenthemed event "Brite Nites" showcases an elaborate display of intricately and creatively hand-carved and lighted pumpkins. Meander through our garden path filled with breathtaking pumpkin sculptures, where you will be astounded by their complexity and originality. New this year is the partnership with Dusk Productions to bring you an even bigger haunting experience with our "Barn of Fear" display. Watch out for the roaming ghouls, vampires and witches, or be mesmerized by the wandering magician, musicians and dancers. The whole family will be entertained with a night to remember. In addition, we will have a food pavilion where you can enjoy a quick bite from a wide selection of food trucks. Hot cocoa and cider will be available for purchase.

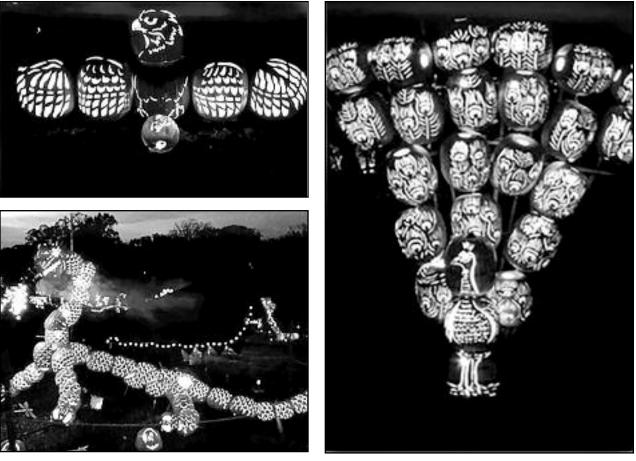
Brite Nites 2018 will occur on the dates of October 12-13, 19-20, 26-28. Entry times start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. Wagner Farm Arboretum is located at 197 Mountain Ave., Warren, NJ 07059. They can be visited online at wfafnj.org.

Admission tickets cost \$15 per Adult; \$10 Senior, \$10 Child ages 4-12, Children 3 and under are free. Tickets are sold online in 15-minute intervals.

No Strollers, No Pets please - paths get muddy

#### ABOUT WAGNER FARM ARBORETUM:

Established in 2004 as a non-profit organization, the Arboretum seeks to enrich, educate and inspire the community by increasing environmental awareness and natural recreational opportunities.



(above) The seventh annual "Brite Nites" Wagner Farm Arboretum will be back this October, with astounding pumpkin sculptures, a "Barn of Fear", and other entertainers.



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## **CALLING ALL GIRLS AND BOYS IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 5TH GRADE!**

Now is the time to check out the Cub Scouts! What do Cub Scouts do? We have FUN! Have you ever.....

- Woken up on a battleship?
- Built a car to race your friends?
- Marched in a parade?
- Slept out in a Lean-To?
- Gone hiking or boating with your friends?
- Shot an arrow or a BB?
- Raced your own sail boat?
- Heard your voice on the radio?

• Done a Good Turn?

WE HAVE!

Join the fun as a CUB SCOUT in PACK 32! Come and check out Cub Scout Pack 32 of Watchung on Friday, October 26, 2018.

We are holding a pack meeting at the Bayberry School All Purpose Room beginning promptly at 7:00 p.m. Come 15 minutes early to have an introduction to Cub Scouts before we jump into our Halloween themed pack meeting. Be sure to bring a parent to learn more about how scouting builds character, promotes good health, and teaches citizenship.

If you have any questions, please contact: Committee Chair at pack32chair@gmail.com







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### OCTOBER EVENTS AT SCLSNJ'S WATCHUNG LIBRARY BRANCH

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All programs listed are free. Registration is required unless otherwise indicated and programs are subject to change; visit SCLSNJ.org or call the library for more information and to register. The Watchung Library Branch is located at 12 Stirling Road, Watchung, NJ and can be reached by phone at 908-458-8455. Visit online at SCLSNJ.org.

#### CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAMS

**Toddler Storytime - Rhyme Time** October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; 10:30-11 a.m. (ages 18-36 months)

Baby/Toddler Storytime - Tiny Tot Time October 3, 10-10:30 a.m.

(ages birth - 3 years) **Preschool Storytime - Miss June's Room** October 4, 4-4:30 p.m. (ages 3-5)

> **Pumpkin Patch** October 8, 10-11 a.m. (ages 3-5 with caregiver)

Bingo with Miss June October 12, 4-4:30 p.m. (ages 4 and up)

Music with Miss Donna October 16, 10-10:30 a.m. (ages birth - 5 years) Cool Critters October 23, 4-4:45 p.m. (ages 7-9)

Preschool Storytime - Just for You Storytime October 26, 10:30-11 a.m. (ages 3-5)

Healthy Halloween Treats October 29, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

Mah Jong Club of Watchung October 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30; 1-4 p.m. History of Witchcraft October 9, 7-8 p.m. Watchung Book Discussion Group October 11, 7:30-8:45 p.m.

## SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SCOUT REGATTA

Students at the Crossroads School in Westfield participated in their annual "Raingutter Regatta," the school's summer version of their annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. In a raingutter regatta two students race handmade sailboats down a narrow channel, whoever reaches the end of the channel first is the winner. The students can decorate and name their boats before the race.

Patriots' Path Council of the Boy Scouts of America has partnered with the Union County Educational Services Commission for over 5 years to provide Scouting programs to special needs youth in Union County at The Crossroads School (Pack 45) and The Westlake School (Troop 1571), both in Westfield. The Westfield United Fund sponsors the program and pays for the students' registration and material costs.

Pack 45 at Crossroads school is led by school social worker Ms. Elaine Liggeri, who enjoys

Students at the Crossroads School in Westfield reticipated in their annual "Raingutter Regatta," e school's summer version of their annual Cub cout Pinewood Derby. In a raingutter regatta

> For more information about Special Needs Scouting in Munsee, Raritan Valley, or Watchung Mountain, please contact Program Executive Will Adams at

will.adams@scouting.org

or 973-765-9322 x234; for Black River, Fishawak, and Sussex, please contact Program Executive Michael Loughman at

michael.loughman@scouting.org

or 973-765-9322 x 226.

For more information about Special Needs Scouting in our area, please contact Program Executive Will Adams at

will.adams@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 x234









(above) Students from Crossroads School in Westfield participating in their annual "Raingutter Regatta," where they raced handmade sailboats down a narrow channel.

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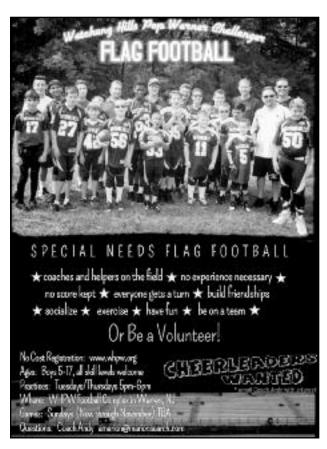
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Somerset County invites girls in grades seven fields. and eight to participate in the Commission on the Status of Women's third annual STEM program.

It will be held Saturday, Oct. 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School on Vogt Drive. Lunch will be provided. The day also will include science games and prizes.

The free event is open to Somerset County residents only and is limited to 90 girls. Preregistration is required.

- Register by Oct. 7 by completing
- and emailing the application form at :

.co.somerset.nj.us/STEM

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to SCCSWomen@gmail.com

Organized by the county Commission on the Status of Women, the program is specifically designed to encourage seventh- and eighthgrade girls to prepare for future success in science, technology, engineering and math

Program sponsors include ExxonMobil, RWJBarnabas Health and the Somerset County Library System.

There will be three interactive areas for learning about science and engineering while developing valuable teambuilding skills. There also will be a panel of successful STEM women to provide insights, answer questions and discuss possible mentoring opportunities.

The Commission on the Status of Women serves as an advisory board to the Board of Chosen Freeholders to address present and potential needs of women and to develop a greater public awareness of women's issues. Email Commissioner Beverly Briggs-Lawson at SCCSWomen@gmail.com with any questions about the STEM program.

To stay up to date with Somerset County events and information, follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



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Special guest Quaid Mobus and former NFL player Lonnie Allgood, CEO Dreams for Kids Foundation will be attending our pre race pasta dinner. NFL players and NFL store will be attending both events.

**Registration:** S35 - FREE prerace pasta dinner and race packet pick-up to all preregistered runners. \$10 donation for pasta dinner.

Sign up for our pasta dinner on our website or pay at the door.

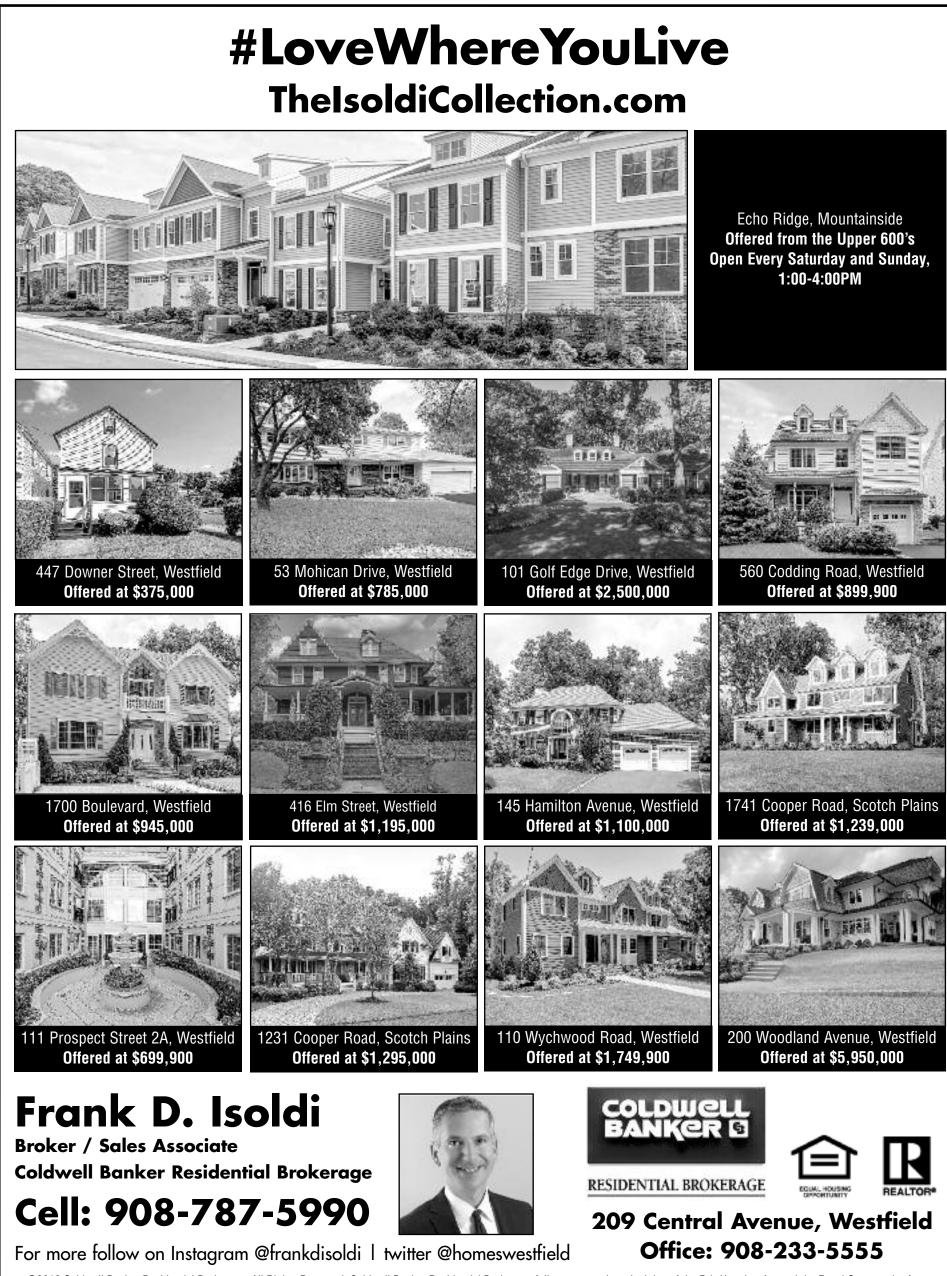


**REGISTER NOW! WWW.guaidmobus.com** i pens to The Ouxid R. Metas Fea scalion.

5K/RUN October 13, 2018 -Watchung Hills Regional High School 108 Stirling Rd. Warren, NJ 07059 7:30 - 9:00 am - Same Day Registration 9:05 am – 5k Runners & Walkers 9:05 am - 1 mile Fun Run/Walk (Ribbons to all 1 Mile Participants) 10:00 am – Kid's Dash (Goodie Bags and Medals) 10:15 am - Awards



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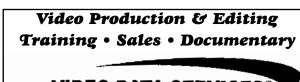
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For information about the Rotary club contact Bob Aznar 908-755-8724 or email rara1055@optonline.net Guests & Prospective Members Welcome



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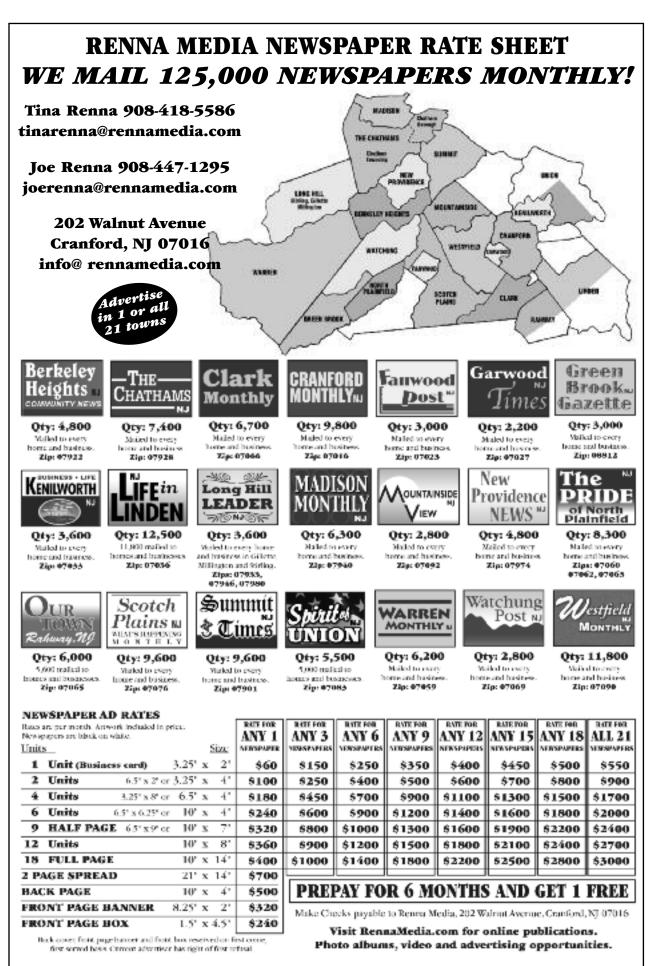
## THE GARDEN CLUB OF WATCHUNG PRESENTS "SEASONAL SPLENDOR"

The Garden Club of Watchung, NJ Fall fund raiser, "Seasonal Splendor" will be held, Wednesday, November 14, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Watchung Valley Golf Club, 600 Mountain Blvd, Watchung. A three-course luncheon will be served at 12:00 followed by a floral demonstration by Beth Riley. Beth, owner of The Potted Garden, will demonstrate how to create an Autumn dish garden, a Fall centerpiece using a pumpkin filled with fresh flowers, seasonal wreath and more. An accomplished floral arranger, Beth earned the Garden Club of America's prestigious Dorothy Vietor Munger Award for floral arrangements of outstanding beauty, along with awards from the New Jersey

Daffodil Society.

The gardening group meets on the first Wednesday of month at 11:30 am in various locations in the Watchung area. The purpose of the club is to stimulate an intelligent interest in gardening and flowerarrangement and to have fun. The club is active in community beautification projects, field trips, horticultural workshops, and has an active youth program, as well as other varied programs. New members are always welcomed.

Reservations are \$60 per person. For further information, visit our Facebook page, email us at: gardenclub2016@aol.com or telephone (908)754-5766.



## **JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST WEEKEND OCT 13-14**

The Vermeule Mansion, 614 Greenbrook Rd, North Plainfield, New Jersey, announces their participation in the annual Weekend Journey Through the Past, a weekend tour of historically significant places in Somerset County. Approximately 30 sites will participate in the event run by the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission, scheduled for Saturday, Oct 13th, 10-5 p.m. and Sunday, Oct 14th noon-4 p.m. This is the 13th year for the program. Complete information about the event and participating sites can be found at SCHistoryWeekend.com.

"The event is a great way for families to learn about the area's local history', explained Johanna Salvemini, president of the Friends of Vermeule Mansion. "Most of us have a general idea about the importance Somerset County residents played in the early centuries of our country. Visiting numerous participating sites during the history weekend also offers a way to learn about various aspects of local history – military efforts, lore, music, craft, food and pastimes in a condensed amount of time." Ms. Salvemini pointed out that it's also a great way for kids who are studying the history of early America in school to allow the textbook information to come alive in a real way because history exists right in town.

The Vermuele Mansion staff has prepared a variety of activities for the 2-day offering. Scheduled activities include:





(above) Linda Russell, musical concert, "200 Years of Popular Song"

Saturday, Oct 13: 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Linda Russell, musical concert, "200 Years of Popular Song" 3:00 p.m. – Jim Del Giudice, presentation, "Gotcha! Snapshots that Made History" Sunday, Oct 14

2:00 p.m. – Linda Russell, musical concert, "200 Years of Popular Song"

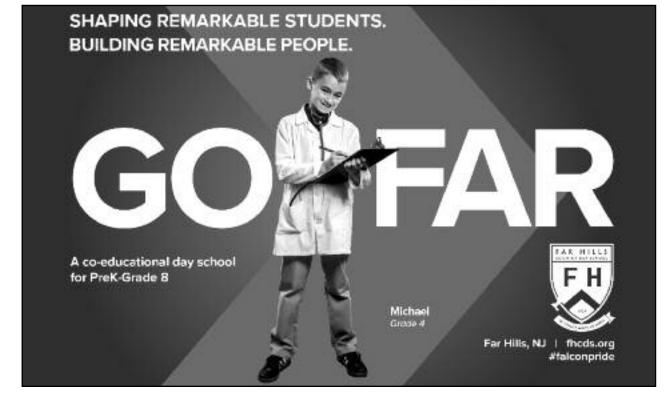
Continuous activities throughout the weekend include tours of the Mansion and the photography museum, children's activities, and light refreshments typical of earlier times in history will be served. Members of the Friends of Vermeule Mansion (FOVM) will be on hand to provide interesting highlights about the Vermeule property and how the Friends organization came into being. Information on activities and membership in the FOVM will also be available.

The Vermeule Mansion is open regularly on Saturdays from 10am-4 pm except holidays and is wheelchair accessible. Have a passion for history and culture and sharing your time and knowledge with the community? Join us on the Journey! Contact the Friends of Vermeule Mansion and like our Facebook page at facebook.com/vermeulemansion, or contact johcre@yahoo.com or 908-755-8098.













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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$7.49
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#### **FRIDAY - SATURDAY**

Lunch 11am	3:30pm	Dinner 3:30p	m • 10:30pn
Adult	\$7.99	Adult	\$11.99
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Kids 3-6		Kids 3-6	\$5.99
2 & Under			•

#### SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER

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Kids 7-10	\$7.49	
Kids 3-6		

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