# Green Brook Gazette

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POSTAL GREEN

## SCRIPT AND CUE'S ANNUAL "CABARET NIGHT" AT WHRHS Submitted by Denis Kelly

including many from Broadway Musicals or from popular recording artists, at the 2018 "Cabaret Night," which was staged by the Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Script and Cue Student Drama Troupe, on Thursday, October 18, 2018 in the school's Performing Arts Center (PAC).

As has become the practice during the last several years, the PAC was adapted into an intimate space for the Cabaret, with both the performers and audience filling the PAC's full stage, arranged sideways.

Included among the performers were many of the cast members from the Fall Drama, presented by Script and Cue. Arthur Miller's iconic Tony Award winning drama, "The Crucible," was staged by the student actors and crew of Script and Cue November 15-17.

The one exception to the solo and duet performers was a student band that has been tentatively named by its members "Band To Be Named Later." Band members included junior Sam Bouffard of Green Brook Township as lead singer, junior Ben Kazokowski of Green Brook on guitar, junior Thomas He Sees Me" from "Waitress." Dardis of Warren Township on guitar, senior Will Broder of Warren on drums, and junior Alti Kabukcu of Warren on keyboards. Sitting in with the band on bass was J.P. Bouffard, the lead singer's dad. They played two songs as the first act after intermission: "Slow Dancing in a Burning Room" by John Mayer and "While My Guitar Gently Weeps," one of George Harrison's masterpieces with The Beatles.

Junior Jack Melillo of Stirling and senior Kayla Martins of from the musical "Dog Fight."

Warren acted as host and hostess for the night. They As many as 19 student performers sang some 17 songs, introduced the acts and also sang songs. Kayla Martins sang "When I was Your Man" by Bruno Mars. Jack Melillo sang "She Used To Be Mine" from the musical "Waitress." He also sang a duet with junior Christine Tanko of Green Brook, "Super Friend," from the musical "The Flash."

> Tanko also sang solo on "My Funny Valentine" by Rodgers and Hart. That song has been performed by hundreds of artists since its debut in 1937 in the musical "Babes in Arms."

> Among the other performers were: Freshman Jordan Pincus of Green Brook, who sang "Everything and More" from the musical "Twisted;" senior Claire Vickery of Millington, who sang "IDon'tWantToBeYourMan" by Billie Eilish; and senior Kaelin Churchill of Stirling who sang "Mamma Mia" by the pop group Abba and from the Broadway musical and movies, "Mama Mia."

> The other singers before intermission included: Sophomore Paul Riedler of Green Brook, who sang "If You Want Love" by the artist NF; sophomore Malvika George of Warren, who sang "What Baking Can Do" from "Waitress;" and junior Kyra Anthony of Green Brook, who sang "When

> After intermission, the singers included: Sophomore Nina DiNorscio of Gillette, who sang in French and played ukulele on the classic "Le Vie en Rose" by Edith Piaf; senior Summer Stuart of Watchung, who sang "Toxic" by Britany Spears; sophomores Olivia Kider of Warren and Maddie Johnson of Gillette, who sang "Poker Face" by Lady Gaga; and junior Giovanna DiSanto of Green Brook, who sang "Pretty Funny"



(above) The full cast of the 2018 "Cabaret Night," staged by the WHRHS Script and Cue Student Drama Troupe.



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## **VETERANS HONORED AT IRENE E. FELDKIRCHNER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Feldkirchner Elementary School observed level teachers as students sang patriotic songs. Veterans Day with an assembly in the Brownie Troop 65038 carried the American flag, gymnasium. Second-grade teachers Mrs. Michelle Larsen and Ms. Kathy Guide arranged

On November 12, 2018 the Irene E. a moving program with support from all grade and 14 veterans connected with the school community attended and were recognized.



Photo by Green Brook Township Public schools.

**CERT ATTENDS TRAINING EXERCISE** Submitted by Bob Longo



(above) On October 13 and 14, 2018, Green Brook CERT attended the FEMA Region II Community Emergency Response Team Symposium and Full-Scale Exercise. This exercise was an interactive, collaborative team building event planned for two days at the City of Newark Emergency Services Training Center. The team participated in a fictional terrorist attack drill and the resulting aftermath.

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## "GWYLLYN" OF OUTLANDER JOINS PIPES OF CHRISTMAS



Attention Outlander fans: STARZ Series' Outlander bard, "Gwyllyn" aka Gillebride MacMillan, has just been added to the 2018 production of the Pipes of Christmas with performances in NYC and Summit, NJ.

Tickets still remaining for the 2 p.m. concert on Saturday, Dec. 15 in NYC and the 7PM concert on Sunday, Dec. 16 at Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, NJ.

Get tickets via www.smarttix.com or by calling (212) 868-5444.

MacMillan will be signing copies of his new CD, "Freumhan Falaichte" (Hidden Roots) after the 7 p.m. performance in Summit, NJ.



## ICONIC RETAILER FABRICLAND, MAKING CURTAIN CALLS SINCE 1934, MOVES TO A NEW LOCATION

Fabricland, the legendary New Jersey retailer, has moved to a new location. After 57 years in North Plainfield, they have moved two miles down the road to 270 Route 22 in Green Brook.

Fabricland and their sister company, Metropolitan Window Fashions have been in business for 85 years, continuously owned by the same family. In 1996 they were honored by New Jersey Monthly Magazine as the "New Jersey Family Business of the Year."

Bruce Heyman, owner and grandson of the founder, explains the reason for the move. "Our business is now 75% window fashions and 25% fabric. The building we occupied for the past 50 years was outdated. We are delighted to move into a 9,000 square foot showroom, the largest window fashions showroom in New Jersey, that highlights our Hunter Douglas Gallery, along with custom and readymade drapery displays."

"We have two businesses under one roof. Metropolitan Window Fashions may have the larger share of the business because of our inhome decorating service, but Fabricland has the larger footprint in the new store. We will continue to stock dress, quilt, drapery and upholstery fabrics."

Fabricland operates from the one location in Green Brook offering fabrics, notions, sewing machines and sewing classes for adults and children. Metropolitan Window Fashions has locations in Green Brook, Route 17 in Paramus and on the Upper West Side in Manhattan.

85 Years – Three Locations – Four Names – 50 Employees

Company founder Philip Heyman came to America as an orphan 100 years ago. He started Chain Decorators at the height of the depression with the goal of opening a 'chain' of decorating stores. From 1934 to 1952 Chain Decorators built and maintained stores in Plainfield, Westfield and Somerville.

In 1952, the business moved from downtown Plainfield to Route 22 in Green Brook (at the time, known as Route 29), and changed its name to Highway Mill End. That was the name of their new store opened in North Plainfield in 1961 when second generation Jay Heyman joined the firm. In 1963 a contest was held to name the new store and Highway Fabric Land was chosen and later shortened to Fabricland.

In 1999, owners Jay and Gertrude Heyman retired. Coincidentally, so did Louis Nassau of Nassau's Window Fashions in Paramus. Bruce Heyman promptly purchased Nassau's to continue the expansion of his custom decorating business.

In 2004, upon opening a third store, this time in Manhattan, the Metropolitan Window Fashions brand was established. Currently, Metropolitan is the largest independent window fashions retailer and dealer of Hunter Douglas window fashions in the metropolitan area. They employ 50 employees across three stores serving the residential, commercial and design community for draperies, motorized shades, blinds, shutters and smart homes.

For more information, or for a free in-home decorating consultation, contact Metropolitan Window Fashions at 877-722-1100 or windowfashions.com. For information on fabrics or to register for sewing classes, call 908-755-4700 or fabricland.com.



## **GREEN BROOK'S SARAI GONZALEZ LAUNCHES BOOK SERIES**

Submitted by Taylan Salvati Green Brook's Sarai Gonzalez shares stories of confidence and resilience in a new illustrated chapter book series for young readers.

13-year-old Sarai Gonzalez of Green Brook became a viral Latin sensation after starring in Bomba Estereo's "Soy Yo," a music video about embracing yourself and loving your flaws. The video garnered over 30 million views, earning Sarai praise from Lin Manuel Miranda on Twitter, an invitation to the White House to meet President Obama, and an interview with New York Times, who called her a Latina icon.

Recently, Sarai teamed up with award-winning Scholastic author Monica Brown to write a chapter book series called SARAI inspired by her life, which feature sweet stories about believing in yourself and loving your family and friends, packed with girl power and Latinx pride.

The first book in the series, Sarai and the Meaning of Awesome, is dedicated to Sarai's third grade teacher Mrs. Pirrone at Irene E. Feldkirchner Elementary School in Sarai's hometown of Green Brook Township, NJ. On Monday November 12, Sarai returned to her old school to visit with Mrs. Pirrone's class, to surprise the whole school with copies of her book, and to inspire the students and remind them that they can do anything with hard work and believing in themselves.



In small classroom visits with both Mrs. Pirrone's class and Sarai's fourth grade teacher, Ms. Wagner's class, Sarai answered students' questions, read aloud from her book, and signed copies for each student. The day ended with a school assembly attended by grades 2-4 (the series' reading level) where Sarai answered questions on stage and then surprised the audience with signed copies of Sarai and the Meaning of Awesome, much to the delight of students who cheered loudly when she announced they would each receive the book.

When asked what she hoped students would take away from her book, Sarai said "I hope readers will learn to love themselves and stick up for themselves and for what's right. I also hope they learn to believe in themselves and know that they are awesome."

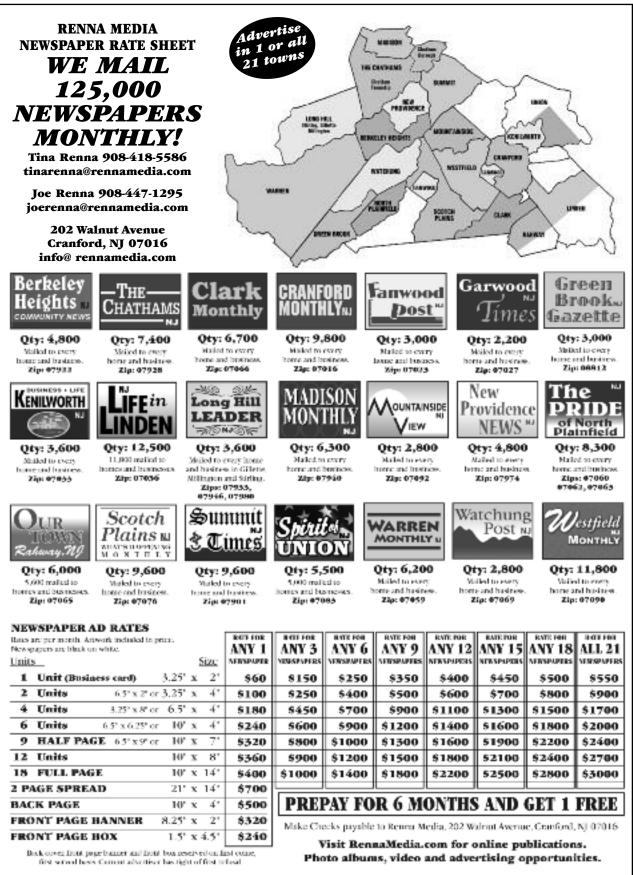
Spending the day with her old teachers was special for both Sarai and her teachers. Mrs.

In small classroom visits with both Mrs. Pirrone gushed, "So often you find that the students so often you find that the students you are trying to inspire, end up being the ones who inspire you. Sarai is one of those students, read aloud from her book, and signed pies for each student. The day ended with a

IEF principal Paul Fornale added, "To have such a talented, accomplished student from our own community succeed on this scale is an inspiration to our students. We are truly happy that Sarai joined us for the day."

Fourth grade students in Mrs. Wagner's class enjoyed the visit: "Sarai walking into our class was like the character from the cover of the book walking into our classroom," said Sophia Rivera, while her classmate Sarah Ferraez added, "Sarai's style and niceness when she visited our class was inspiring!"

Sarai and the Meaning of Awesome is now available and can be purchased wherever books are sold.





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