

Watchung Post

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

NJ

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WATCHUNG HILLS ELKS #/885 PARTY FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN

Submitted by Michael Ryder

On December 16, 2018 the Watchung Hills Elks #/885 hosted their annual Children's Christmas party, for our Special Children, their families and friends. There was plenty of food to eat while being entertained by Morley the Magician - who did a great show that appealed to all and was tuned for those who have heightened sensitivities to light and sound. Later, Santa and his elves came out to deliver gifts chosen specifically for each child.

Betty Volker chairs our Special Children's Committee and was assisted by many but key among them were Deni Heilman for planning and shopping, Kim DeVizio for running the kitchen and Paul "Santa" Staeger and his granddaughter head elf.

"We, as Elks, have continually taken a great deal of pride in talking about our Special Children's Committee's works. However deeds are always better than words therefore we must practice what we preach. We can do this best by seeing to it that any handicapped child needing help in any community in our state is cared for by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Our aim is to help them become self-sustaining and useful citizens so that in the future they may enjoy a happy and normal life."

Do you have a Special Child that could use a week off at Elks Camp Moore this summer, at a program where each child has a 1-to-1 ratio with a dedicated counselor? Additionally, we host many events throughout the year for our Special Children -- If you would like to join our



(above, l-r) Audry Lipinski, Denise Heilman, Kim DeVizio, Betty Volker (PER). In front, Paul "Santa" Staeger and his granddaughter.

Special Children's family, please contact us by email at news@elkslodge885.org and we'll put you in touch with Betty.

On the other hand, maybe you are interested in providing a direct service to special children and making a difference in your community. We have 7 acres of property, a members-only lodge/bar, swimming pool and other facilities -- consider joining the Elks! Start by contacting us at membership@elkslodge885.org.

OPERATION REBOUND INVITES VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS TO ATTEND FEB. MEETING

The New Jersey Veterans Network along with the Operation Rebound Racing Team host free monthly PTSD and benefits meetings which will aim to be fun, while being informative.

The next meeting, featuring a comic performance, will be held on February 25, 2019 at the Scotch Plains American Legion, located at 237 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ at 6:30 p.m.

If interested, please contact Michael D. Boll via email mdbollio@Optonline.net, or call/text (973) 332-1556.

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Watchung Post

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Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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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
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in submitting
content can
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LAWRENCE LAW WELCOMES MAYOR KEITH BALLA TO CELEBRATE GRAND OPENING

On January 16, 2019, Jeralyn Lawrence, Founder and Managing Partner of Lawrence Law, welcomed Watchung Mayor, Keith Balla and other guests for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of Lawrence Law. Located at 776 Mountain Boulevard, Suite 202, Watchung, NJ, Lawrence Law is a boutique family law practice offering a full range of matrimonial and divorce legal services. Attorneys at Lawrence Law include Rita M. Aquilio, Daniel A. Burton, Kristyl M. Berckes, and Ashley E. Edwards.

"Thank you, Mayor Keith Balla for taking time out of your busy day to join us! I have lived in the beautiful town of Watchung for many years and am thrilled to have opened my own law firm in the place I call home. I am excited to become even more involved in our local business community and initiatives." said Lawrence.

A resident of Watchung, Lawrence devotes her practice to matrimonial, divorce and family law, and collaborative law. She is certified by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a Matrimonial Law Attorney. She is a trained Family/Divorce Mediator, admitted to the rosters of Mediators for Economic Aspects of Family Law Cases and of Custody and Parenting Time Cases for Somerset County; is certified by the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML), the preeminent family law association in America, as a Family Law Arbitrator; and is a graduate of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. She has worked with clients in every area of matrimonial and family law, including divorce litigation and mediation, custody and parenting time, alimony and child support, separation and property settlement agreements, adoption and guardianship, domestic partnership matters under the Domestic Partnership Act, domestic violence and sexual abuse, and palimony. She has also handled high profile matters including celebrities and

professional athletes. She takes immense pride and care in helping her clients through these difficult personal matters. Lawrence earned her bachelor's degree from Kean College and her law degree from Seton Hall, where she graduated second in her class.



(above) Jeralyn Lawrence, Founder and Managing Partner of Lawrence Law, and Watchung Mayor Keith Balla cut the ceremonial ribbon during a ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of Lawrence Law.

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WATCHUNG NATIVES MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE FOR DISABLED ARTISTS

Growing up in Watchung, NJ, it was clear that Brad and Dana Chernock's interests and aptitudes gravitated toward "different sides of the brain". Brad was drawn toward medicine and science; His younger sister Dana's passion was the arts. Through the years, Dana recalls, "Brad and I often shared articles and events with each other that combined science/technology with the arts." But even they are surprised at where this collaborative approach has recently taken them.

Brad is currently a fourth-year medical student at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School in Newark. During his third year pediatrics rotation last year, his class spent one day at the Matheny Medical and Educational Center, a special hospital and educational facility in Peapack, NJ,

for children and adults with developmental disabilities. It was a one-day experience that included exposure to issues in caring for individuals with complex developmental disabilities. As part of the day's agenda, the students were given a tour of the Robert Schonhorn Arts Center, home of Matheny's Arts Access Program, which, through the use of innovative systems and techniques, empowers individuals with disabilities to create fine art. Brad found the experience enlightening and breathtaking.

The artists -- most of whom do not have use of their arms and, in many cases, are non-verbal -- work with professional artists who act as their facilitators. The facilitators are working professionals who have been trained to be the arms of the disabled artists, following their instructions and providing a process for them to create works that are purely their own.

"When Brad told me about his tour at Matheny and explained the arts program," Dana says, "I was immediately interested in learning more and seeing how Sotheby's might be able to offer a collaboration in some capacity." She arranged for herself and a colleague, Jennifer Burns, to visit the Arts Access Program last summer, and, she recalls, "I had the chance to view firsthand the inspiring, thoughtful process through which each piece of artwork is made. The fact that art, as a form of self-expression, has been patiently and carefully broken down into each and every possible choice for the artists was incredibly impressive."

The Sotheby's exhibit, entitled The Art of Choice, will be held for three days from February 9-11 2019. It will showcase the work of five Arts Access artists: Chet Cheesman, Ellen Kane, James Lane, Mike Martin, and Cindy Shanks.

Dana and Brad are graduates of Newark Academy, an independent middle and upper school in Livingston, NJ. In October 2018, Dana received NA's "Woman of Distinction" award. She earned an Arts Merit Scholarship to Bucknell University for dance and graduated in 2012 with a BA in Art History and English. After

graduation, Dana started her career at Sotheby's New York where she has held senior roles in Operations and currently manages high profile collections, projects, and important auctions in the global Old Master Paintings department.

Brad is looking forward to a general surgery residency next year with plans to complete an acute care surgery fellowship in the future. He has a bachelor's degree in emergency medicine from the University of Pittsburgh and is a graduate of the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences Surgical Physician Assistant program. He is particularly passionate about improving patient safety through teamwork and has given several talks on this topic.

Sotheby's is located at 1334 York Avenue in New York City. Exhibition hours for The Art of Choice event will be 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, February 9; 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, February 10; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Monday, February 11. It is free and open to the public

About Matheny. Matheny's mission is to provide exceptional care and an optimal quality of life for children and adults with special needs and medically complex developmental disabilities. Matheny was founded in 1946 by Walter and Marguerite Matheny, whose son, Chuck, was born with cerebral palsy. Although there were only three students and an operating budget of \$3,000 obtained through a GI loan, the Matheny School was the first step in a major commitment to provide assistance to young people with physical disabilities and their families. Today, Matheny is licensed as a special hospital and a special education school. Matheny also trains healthcare professionals, therapists, and educators in how to work effectively with persons who have developmental disabilities. Matheny's main campus is in Peapack, NJ, and it operates five adult community residences in Somerset and Warren counties. In addition to providing medical care and education, Matheny strives to improve the quality of life for its patients and students, and the Arts Access Program is, perhaps, the best example of how that is achieved.



(above) Brad and Dana Chernock,
Watchung natives

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GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS "THE NEW JERSEY BLACK BEAR"

The Garden Club of Watchung will host a free presentation by Chief Park Naturalist of Hunterdon County, Tom Sheppard on the New Jersey Black Bear at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at St. Mary's Stony Hill Church, Murray Hall, in Watchung.

The New Jersey Black Bear program strives to promote an understanding of the black bear through education. Tom will discuss the lifecycle of our largest land mammal and what the state has been doing to monitor the population. He will also cover how to make your property less attractive to bear and what to do if you have a black bear encounter.

Tom has had the pleasure of working for Hunterdon County since 2000 and is lifelong resident of the county with roots that date back to the early settlers in the county. Through the years, Tom worked for many individuals in schools, scout, and homeschool groups and offering a wide variety of interpretive and recreation programs. Mr. Shepherd offers a monthly environmental education for homeschool group series, and welcomes inquiries about the county parks and questions regarding our wildlife.

Visit our Face Book page to see who we are and what we do. For membership information call (908)754-5766.

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OWLS IN THE HOUSE

Join the Raptor Trust for "Owls in the House," a family program and workshop, on Saturday, February 16, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.

Learn about New Jersey's owls, meet a live owl and build an owl house for your own backyard! A great gift for family, friends and for the owls!

The program is for ages 7 and up. The cost is \$10 per person, \$40 for optional owl box kit. Please call 908-647-1091 to register or for more information.

Please park in the Visitor's Lot and join us at our education center. The Raptor Trust is located at 1452 White Bridge Road, Millington, NJ.

Owls in the House

Saturday, February 16, 2019 1pm




Family Program and Workshop

Learn about New Jersey's owls, meet a live owl and build an owl house for your own backyard!

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VALENTINE TRIBUTE FROM THE AMERICAN SONG BOOK AT ARTS CENTER

Rio Rio Clemente, "Bishop of Jazz" returns to The Watchung Arts Center on February 9, 2019 at 8 p.m. with a Valentine tribute from The American Songbook. The concert features vocalist Stephen Fuller, Marty Eigen on saxophone, Alex Gressel on bass and drummer, Vernon J Mobley. The show will be followed by a dessert reception with the opportunity to meet the performers.

A native of Morristown, NJ, Rio is a member of its Hall of Fame. He has been named Professional Artist of the Year by the Arts Council of the Morris Area, New Jersey Monthly Magazine named him among its "Top 40 New Jerseyans" and the New Jersey Jazz Society named him Musician of the Year.

Rio's career began with a BMI scholarship for musical theatre and subsequent studies at Juilliard School of Music. A grant from Broadway Tomorrow for new composers followed. Along with his classical training, Rio developed a style embracing a diversity of music that makes him one of the most expressive and versatile pianists anywhere. After several television appearances, Rio advanced professionally to playing at several distinguished concert halls and festivals, including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, Manhattan's famous Birdland and the Oak Room at the Algonquin Hotel, as well as the Newport and JVC Jazz Festivals. Rio also performed at the White House representing the United States Coast Guard and all Auxiliaries. He regularly appears with groups such as The Morris Choral Society and Orchestra and at jazz venues from Manhattan to Cape Code and from Florida to California.



(above) Rio Rio Clemente, "Bishop of Jazz"

Rio has recorded for well-known labels and has published twenty CDs under his own label, Etnemelc Music Productions. Rio in collaboration with Carmine Lombardo has written a number of selections ranging from gospel to Latin, including orchestral arrangements. A children song was nominated for a Grammy and this past October his original musical "VIZHON" had its world premiere performance in Florida. As a music educator, and teacher, he has served as music director for the Generations of Jazz program of the New Jersey Jazz Society, and has presented customized programs in schools, including Viva La Musica Latina with the late percussionist Russ Moy.

Anyone who has listened to Rio Clemente play piano, comes away in awe. This master pianist mixes a strong classical background with a rich knowledge of jazz history, then adds an amazing sense of creativity and interpretation intertwined with classical themes. The result is music that is

different from others, and nearly always produces a standing ovation and cries for "more." When reviewers stumble for words to describe his work, it's because words fail to convey the rich depth of character, nimble facility of play and ease with which his music is crafted and performed.

Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$22 (\$20 WAC members, \$10 students) at the door. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Watchung Arts Center Office or by mail. Include an email address or phone number with mail orders. Tickets may also be purchased online at watchungartscenter.eventbrite.com.

The Watchung Arts Center, located at 18 Stirling Road in Watchung on the Watchung Circle, is a multi-disciplinary arts facility serving Watchung, the surrounding communities and the Tri-State Area. To obtain more information about upcoming performances, classes and workshops, and monthly art exhibitions, please visit WatchungArts.org or call 908-753-0190.



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New York Skyscrapers, Kevin Woyce

February 4, 10:30 am.

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Watch Out! Scams and Seniors,

Christopher Medina, Seton Hall Law School

February 11, 10:30 a.m.

As part of the school's Investor Advocacy Project, this will be a presentation highlighting the latest scams that are targeting the senior population. The presenters will walk through

several scenarios offering suggestions on what to do if you encounter a scam situation. There will be an open discussion after the presentation allowing attendees to ask questions and share their experiences.

The Warrenbrook Senior Center is operated by the Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services.

All Somerset County-operated Senior Centers offer a nutritionally balanced lunch, Monday through Friday, for a suggested donation of \$2.50, for anyone 60 and above. Menu choices include a hot meat-based or meatless entrée or a cold meat-based or meatless boxed lunch. Please make reservations prior to 10:00 a.m. the previous business day. Why not invite a friend or neighbor to join you for lunch!

WATCHUNG SENIORS CLUB MEETINGS

Seniors 55 and older are invited to attend the Watchung Seniors Club meetings which are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September to June at 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Firemen's Exempt Hall (lower level, handicap accessible), 57 Mountain Blvd., Watchung (next to Borough Hall). New members are always welcome to enjoy company, guest speakers, bus trips, and fun parties throughout the year. For more information please call Carolyn at 347-268-6051 or Madelyn at 908-561-1932.

SCLSNJ'S WATCHUNG LIBRARY BRANCH

SCLSNJ's Watchung Library branch

12 Stirling Road, Watchung, NJ.

Call 908-458-8455 or online at SCLSNJ.org.

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.

*Please note the Library will be closed on February 18 for President's Day.

CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Baby/Toddler Storytime - Tiny Tot Time

February 5, 10:30-11 a.m.

(ages 2 and up)

Creative Hands

February 6, 4:30-5 p.m.

(grades K-2)

Miss June's Room

February 7, 4-4:30 p.m.

(ages 4-7)

Preschool Storytime - Just for You Storytime

February 8, 10-10:30 a.m.

(ages 3-5)

Bingo with Miss June

February 8, 4-4:30 p.m.

(ages 4 and up)

Music with Miss Donna

February 11, 10:30-11 a.m.

(birth - 5 years)

From Our Farms

February 22, 10-10:45 a.m.

(ages 3-5)

ADULT PROGRAMS

Mah Jong Club of Watchung

February 4, 5, 11, 12, 19, 25, 26; 1-4 p.m.

Watchung Writers Group

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The Canasta Group

February 7, 14, 21, 28; 1-3 p.m.

Game Night

February 11, 7-8:45 p.m.

Book Discussion: "Circling the Sun,"

on February 14, 7:30-8:45 p.m.

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(above) The Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) now offers Creativebug, an online learning platform for arts and crafts workshop and technique videos. “Once you set up an account, you can learn from anywhere using any device,” said Linda Tripp (pictured), SCLSNJ collection development librarian. “You can stop and start videos or even repeat them - it's all at your own pace. We anticipate the classes, especially those on art, sewing, quilting, and cake decorating, to be as popular with our patrons as our print items.” Explore Creativebug today in branch or at home using your Library card: creativebug.com/lib/sclsnj.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS – JOIN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS

On Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, NAMI is hosting a unique program offering discussion/sharing/learning groups for both those who care for someone with a mental illness and a separate group for anyone who lives with a mental health diagnosis. Each group is led by an experienced facilitator and offers a comfortable environment to share concerns, ask questions, and get support from others. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at RWJ Rahway Fitness & Wellness Center, 2120 Lamberts Mill Rd., Scotch Plains.

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. For more information, please visit the NAMI website at nami.org.

ADELE DELEEUEW SCHOLARSHIP 2019-2020

Submitted by Johanna Salvemini

High school seniors wishing to apply for the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship should obtain applications now from their school guidance office. The scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Deadline for submission of applications is Thursday, March 7, 2019.

Previous DeLeeuw scholarship recipients already in college are eligible to re-apply. They must submit complete official transcripts of college grades with a new application.

This is the twenty-fourth year the scholarships have been offered. To date, the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship Fund, which is a fund of the Plainfield Foundation, has awarded over 1.3 million dollars. The awards are made in accordance with the terms of a bequest from Ms. DeLeeuw, author of 75 books, journalist and arts activist.

The Plainfield Rotary Scholarship Foundation, headed by Michael R. Townley, acts as selector for the scholarships. Area Rotary Clubs assist in

the selection process. Only students attending high schools in Plainfield, North Plainfield, South Plainfield, Warren, Watchung, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Edison are eligible. Location of high school, not student’s residence, is the qualifying factor. The student must also be accepted to an accredited college or university.

Applicants must plan to major in one of the following areas of study: art, poetry, writing, journalism or engineering. They must demonstrate the scholastic aptitude and interest to pursue study in one of these specified areas. They must also prove financial need.

Interested students should consult their guidance counselors to obtain the necessary application information or go to the Plainfield/North Plainfield Rotary Club website at rotarypnp.org/cs-adele-deleeuw-scholarship.php. Questions may be directed to Johanna Salvemini, Scholarship Administrator, at 908-755-8098.

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1 Unit (Business card)	3.25" x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
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4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
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