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WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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WOODLAND STUDENTS OPEN THEIR HEARTS

The Woodland School Service Club, run by Mrs. Christina Beekman Brink, is supporting Helping Hearts & Handbags, Inc., an organization based in New Jersey dedicated to the mission of collecting gently used purses, filling them with personal care items and distributing them to homeless women on the streets or in shelters within NJ as well as throughout the country.

The students of the Woodland School Service Club are requesting medium to large gently-used purses and travel size toiletry items such as soap, lotion, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush/toothpaste, tissue packets, antibacterial wipes/gel, Chap Stick and lip balm.

Collection of the items will run from January 24, 2019 through February 14, 2019 at Woodland School. The club members have already received over one hundred purses and six large bags of toiletries. Mrs. Beekman Brink has raised \$100 dollars on her own to purchase additional toiletry items.

Lisa Smith Wagner, founder of Helping Hearts & Handbags Inc. was inspired by a quote she read from Mother Teresa and decided to do her part to help women in need.

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." - Mother Teresa.

Wagner and her husband started small by collecting extra toiletry items from hotels they had stayed at while traveling. Wagner enlisted the help of a dear friend (who was battling Huntington's disease and who needed to keep his brain engaged) to sort the items into individual baggies. Wagner would then distribute the bags to women on the streets or in shelters.

One day, after years of making and distributing the toiletry baggies, Wagner discovered some old purses that she had in her closet. Wagner decided that it would be much nicer if the women who received these toiletry items were able to carry them around in a handbag instead of a plastic bag, ergo Helping Hearts & Handbags was created.

Like the students of Woodland School, you can donate to Helping Hearts & Handbags to help remind a woman in need that there are people in the world that care about her.

For additional information

visit www.helpingheartsandhandbags.com

or email Lisa@HelpingHeartsandHandbags.com.

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BREAKOUT EDU AT MT. HOREB SCHOOL

Submitted by Shannon Regan

Students at Mt. Horeb School are being challenged by Breakout EDU, an interactive diverse learning experience that enables teachers to facilitate academic games for students at varying levels and ages. Ms. Christine Burkhardt, Library Media Specialist, brought the game to Mt. Horeb and is excited and pleased by the students' reactions.

To play the game, the Breakout EDU Kits are set up by the proctor. Students are divided into teams and placed at a table with their kit. Depending on the topic, which can involve subject matter related to math, science, world language, social studies, ELA, computer science, or library media literacy, a scenario card is distributed along with supporting materials. Students are then given a time limit to crack the case.

Each Breakout EDU Kit is sealed by many multi-locks that can only be opened once a particular question in the game has been

answered. Clues can even be written with invisible ink only to be read once the red lens viewer is broken out of the locked box.

Breakout EDU encourages students to use critical thinking skills, collaboration, creativity and communication. After all of the clues have been given, each question answered, riddles solved and locks opened, students can break open that kit to claim their prize. The students of Mt. Horeb School worked very hard and were proud to hold their "we broke out" signs once they successfully finished the game!

"With escape rooms becoming more and more popular in the area, these Breakout EDU boxes are an engaging way for students to work on life skills such as teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking, persistence and troubleshooting. The games are fun and adaptable to any subject area, and they promote communication and collaboration. It's a win-win," said Ms. Christine Burkhardt.

Photo by Warren Township Schools



(above) Grade 4 students Alexa Cohen, Alexa Velazquez and Addison Long.



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WARREN CUB SCOUTS PARTICIPATE IN KLONDIKE TREK AT WATCHUNG RESERVATION

Submitted by Tricia Patricco

A team of seven Webelo (5th grade) Cub Scouts from Warren's Pack 182 braved sub-freezing temperatures and demonstrated their mettle in the Watchung Mountain District's annual Klondike Trek event held on Saturday, January 26, 2019, at Watchung Reservation.

Our Scouts' team "Warren Tanks" competed against teams from 17 other Packs in the district in 8 categories: Preparedness, Distress, Cooking, Fire Building, First Aid, Knot Tying, Orienteering, and Outdoorsman. Points were earned in each category.

The team, led by Cubmaster Adam Gioia and Assistant Cubmaster Afsaneh Thursfield finished in 2nd place out of the 17 teams entered, earning

193 out of a total possible 195 points. They were only 1 point and 1 minute behind the 1st place team! Pack 182 is proud to recognize Webelos Gideon Minieri, Joseph Guerra, Marcello Gioia, Bernie Ryder, Kayden Thursfield-Ritchie, Mateusz Teepe and Michael Santoro for their proven skills and hard work!

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.



(above, l-r) Klondike Trek Group, Pack 182's Team "Warren Tanks" of Webelo Scouts: Mateusz Teepe, Marcello Gioia, Bernie Ryder, Gideon Minieri, Joseph Guerra, Kayden Thursfield-Ritchie and Michael Santoro. Anthony Patricco, Wolf Scout, was there to cheer the team on.

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(above) Boy Scout Troop 228 races off at the start of the Watchung Mountain District Klondike Derby on January 26, 2019.

Photo by C.Nunes

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SCOUT TROOP COMPETES IN KLONDIKE DERBY

Submitted by Gretchen Minieri

Warren Boy Scout Troop 228 recently competed in the Annual Watchung Mountain District Klondike Derby held at Watchung Mountain Reservation. The boys dragged and pushed a sled through heavy mud, since the derby was without snow this year, to multiple pitstops where they were required to demonstrate to judges at each station outdoor scout skills such as tying knots, cooking and tent setup, campfires, tomahawk throwing, orienteering, shelter building, and first aid. Troop 228 persevered in below freezing temperatures to complete the derby in just under five and a half hours, a marked improvement over previous years, and with one of the youngest teams.

Troop 228 also recently held their Winter Court of Honor. This event is held thrice annually. Scouts are awarded their earned advancement rank and merit badges. Each scout has the opportunity to speak about their favorite merit badge so that fellow scouts have an opportunity to learn what is required. Additionally, every January a new Scout Leadership Team is introduced at this meeting. The new leadership team is Michael Minieri (Senior Patrol Leader), Andy Shi (Assistant

Senior Patrol Leader), Nolan Brunner (Assistant Senior Patrol Leader), Matt Nunes (Patrol Leader), Landon Bush (Quartermaster), Sean Gubitosi (Scribe), Harrison Bush (Historian), and Andrew Conway (Outdoor Ethics Guide).

Please help support the Troop's activities, through their Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. The event will be held at Our Lady of the Mount Church on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 5 – 8 p.m. To go meals are also available. Scouts will serve salad, spaghetti, meatballs, garlic bread, desserts, and drinks. Ticket are available from any scout or just stop in that night! Businesses can support the scouts by placing ads in our colorful advertising booklet to be distributed that evening to all guest. Your support of Troop 228 enables our scouts to continue earning merit badges, camping, volunteering in our community, and completing and maintaining their Eagle projects. It's just a delicious way to help a good cause.

Any boy 11 through 18 is welcomed to come join our troop. Please email troop228warren@gmail.com with any questions and stop by our weekly Monday evening meetings.



(above) Current Scout Leadership receives their position patches at the Winter Court of Honor on February 4, 2019.

Photo by G. Minieri

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WARREN LIBRARY KNITTING GROUP

Submitted by Wendy Willaman

The Yarn & Threads Knitting Group consists of roughly a dozen people, men and women of all ages, who meet every Monday at 10 a.m. on the second floor of the Warren Twp Library to knit, crochet, or do other projects.

With the addition of a yarn donation box, located at the entrance of the Library, we have been able to make items to donate. Some of the projects we worked on include: Mittens and hats for library funding; Blankets for hospice; Hats for newborns; Blankets for churches; Hats and mittens for Veterans and for the needy, and more.

We have completed our first year of donations and are planning for the next year. Mittens and hats are currently being sold at the library across from the showcase through the cold season.

Warren Boy Scout Troop 228 Annual Spaghetti Dinner



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ALT CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR 2019

Broadcasted live from Angelo L. Tomaso (ALT) School, under the direction of Mrs. Susan Jackson, Media Specialist, both Jill Lin, grade 3 student, and Miss Tami Quach, grade 4 teacher, shared a special message and information about the Lunar New Year, on Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

Prior to the broadcast, Lin prepared with Mrs. Mary Sfiris to develop the content for her presentation. Speaking in both English and Chinese, Lin shared information about Chinese customs, including family reunions, decorative poems and whole house cleaning to bring good luck in the New Year.

2019 is the Year of the Pig, and according to Quach, those born this year will be happy and have enthusiastic personalities! Quach also shared the Vietnamese tradition of avoiding arguments to ensure a positive outlook in the New Year.

Both Lin and Quach wished the entire ALT community good fortune and prosperity in the New Year speaking in English, Chinese and Vietnamese!



(above) Miss. Tami Quach, Mrs. Mary Sfiris', and Jill Lin on ALT Live. Angelo L Tomaso School celebrated the Chinese New Year with a special message from a grade 3 student and grade 4 teacher during the morning broadcast.

WARREN RECREATION'S FIRST ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Warren Recreation is pleased to announce our winners from our first annual photo contest. All

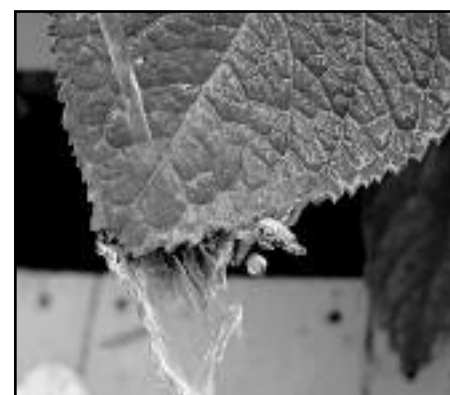
winners are residents of Warren and a local photographer judged the photos.



(above) 1st Place:
"Icicles with Sunset in
Background"
by Alyssa Steinhart



(above) 2nd Place: "
Winter- Waiting for his turn on
the bird feeder in my backyard"
by Carmella Motyczka.



(above) 3rd Place:
"Leaf with Water Running Off it"
by Samara Harmate.



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FELICIA HO NAMED TO HONORS ORCHESTRA

Felicia Ho of Warren, a senior and violinist at The Pingry School, has been named to the Violin I section of the 2019 NAFME (National Association for Music Education) All-Eastern Honors Orchestra, which will perform at The David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh on Sunday, April 7, 2019.

She is among nearly 800 high school students in the Eastern region of the United States who have participated in their home all-state orchestras and were selected for the NAFME All-Eastern Honors Ensembles, which consist of a concert band, symphony orchestra, mixed chorus, treble chorus, and jazz ensemble. The orchestra will have approximately 150 instrumentalists.

Felicia has been playing the piano since age four (becoming a repeat Prize Winner of the Piano Teachers Society of America Competition) and added violin in Grade 4 so she could join Pingry's Lower School Orchestra. Her commitment to the instrument over the years resulted in her becoming concertmaster of Pingry's Upper School Orchestra, and in that role she played the violin solo in an arrangement of the Chanukah song "Al Hanissim" during the

Winter Festival Concert.

"Due to Felicia being a strong and dedicated player, it was an easy decision to have her be the concertmaster," said adjunct Pingry string teacher Alyson Whelan. "She also is very kind and helpful toward myself and her peers in the orchestra."

Throughout middle and high school, Felicia has played in the CJMEA (Central Jersey Music Educators Association) Region II and NJMEA (New Jersey Music Educators Association) All-State Orchestras. She is also Co-President of Horizon Music Volunteers (HMV), student musicians who perform monthly recitals for senior citizens to spread the joy of music.

Having now performed with HMV for six years, she was elected Co-President in her sophomore year. The other Co-President is Pingry sophomore Monica Chan, who was President of HMV in Grade 8 and sought Felicia to be the group's high school representative. "She is really dedicated to what she does," Monica said, "and the combination of her musical talent and her kind heart makes her a perfect match for the role."

Photo by Warren Township Schools



(above) Felicia Ho (right) at one of Pingry's Winter Festival Concerts.

Photo by The Pingry School

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(above, l-r) Coach Kristen Saunders and Rebecca Lubeck

FIGURE SKATER REBECCA LUBECK, 10, PASSES SENIOR GOLD MOVES IN THE FIELD

Figure skater Rebecca Lubeck, 10, of Warren, passed her Senior Gold Moves in the Field test on January 16, 2019. The test results came with honors indicating additional credit earned for technique. This is a significant achievement, as only one percent of all figure skaters in the United States make it to this point.

Rebecca has been figure skating since she was 4-years-old and has won competitions locally as well as along the east coast. At age 9, she passed her Novice Moves in the Field test in February 2018, paving the way for only the last two tests (Junior and Senior) in the United States Figure

Skating test structure to a gold medalist. Rebecca passed her Junior Moves in the Field test in August 2018, just four and a half months before passing Senior.

Per her moves coach, Kristen Saunders, "Passing Senior Moves is a huge accomplishment at any age, but at 10...it's amazing."

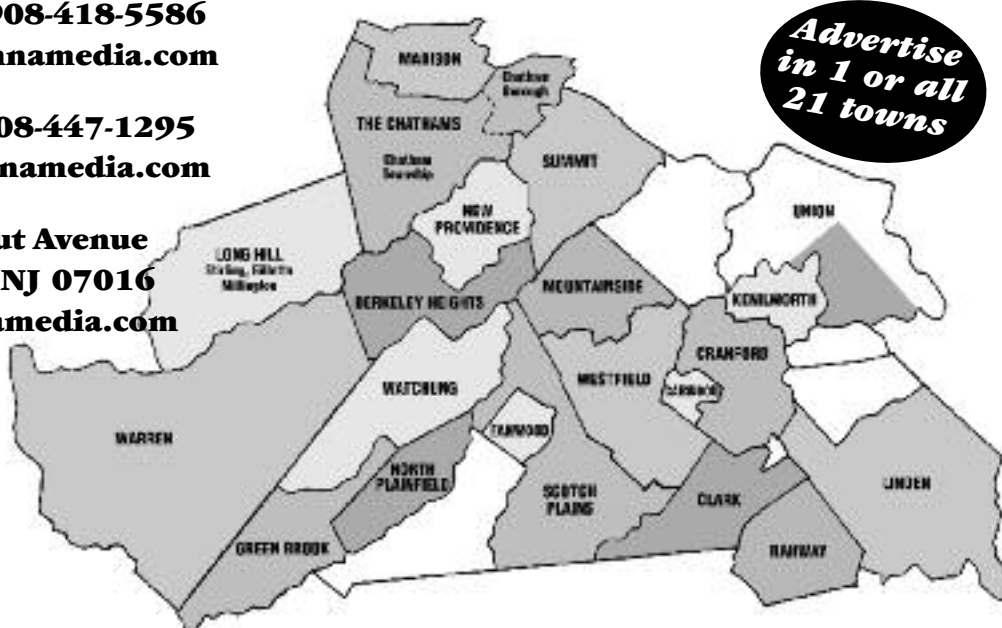
Rebecca's skating goals for this year include landing both a clean double axel and triple salchow and having a successful competition season. Rebecca continues to maintain an A-average with math, science, and writing topping her list of favorite subjects.

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ALT CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY

Submitted by Shannon Regan

On Thursday, January 24, 2019, the Angelo L. Tomaso (ALT) school gymnasium was transformed into an Egyptian paradise. International Day is an opportunity for students to learn about and to strengthen their knowledge of different countries and cultures. This year ALT students were enchanted by the sounds, dress, tastes, scenery, history and lifestyle of the Egyptian civilization. Members from ALT's PTO International Committee spent several weeks preparing for this marvelous event.

As the students and teachers walked through the double doors to enter the gymnasium, they were met by members of the PTO who were decorated from head to toe wearing gold jewelry, sashes, Egyptian Headdress or Head Crowns and makeup, creating a truly authentic experience. To reinforce the originality of the event, the Nile River had been constructed and was running through the gymnasium. The Egyptian flag hung from the ceiling and the walls were painted with student (K-5) artwork representing Ancient Egypt. Surrounding the Nile River, stations were set up for students to take a deeper dive into the Egyptian Culture.

Before setting off on the tour of Egypt, students attentively listened to a PowerPoint presentation where they learned many important ancient Egyptian facts, some of which they would soon experience themselves during the tour.

The Marketplace was the first stop. Students were introduced to a variety of vegetables consumed currently as well as historically in

Egypt. A tasting table was set up for students to sample hummus and pita, a popular snack in Egypt, and among the students of ALT as well!

Next up was cartouche creation. The cartouche is an ornamental figure often found on an oval shield containing characters that represent the names of royalty. Fittingly, students created cartouches, stamping ALT onto a clay oval, which was left to dry overnight to harden into either a key chain, necklace or simply a token on a string to remind the students of their special day.

A few paces over the game of Handball, a very prominent Egyptian sport, was set up. First, the classes listened as the history of the game and playing instructions were shared. Then, the students were divided up into two lines to let the games begin! The Egyptian national handball team has been considered one of the best handball teams in Africa, the students of ALT seemed to greatly enjoy the game as well.

Following the Nile River, the next station included Egyptian collar jewelry design. Students created beautiful pieces that resembled jewelry worn by ancient Egyptian gods and royalty. Next, students discovered the hieroglyphic alphabet and practiced writing their names using the symbols. Lastly, students visited the mummification station where they learned the process of making a mummy and the history of King Tut.

Not only did the students experience an incredibly enriching active learning experience, they had a blast doing it.

"International Day gives us, the ALT PTO, the opportunity each year to truly delve into all aspects of one specific country. We are able to provide the children with a hands-on experience to everything from culture, traditions, inventions, foods, sports and games. The goal of this event was to enrich the children in their daily curriculum, while supporting an environment of cultural awareness, respect and acceptance of differences." - Carina Bellmann, ALT PTO International Committee chair member.



(above) Dr. Matthew Mingle, Superintendent of Schools, Stephanie Greenberg, and Ms. Christine Smith, Principal of ALT, enjoying International Day.



(above) Leslie Morales teaching the students how to spell their names using hieroglyphs.



(above, front row, l-r) Members of the ALT PTO; Shawna Slater, Jessica Bodajlo, Kami Nelson, Amanda Beyus, Christine Brezee; (back row, l-r) Zeina Jundi, Vivian Shehady, Kruti Rumani, Arelis Buzzerio, Michele Araujo, Laura Roberts, Gretchen Minieri, Carina Bellmann, Leslie Morales, Stephanie Greenberg, and Danielle Mazzurco.



Vivian Shehady and Zeina Jundi.



Grade 3: Leila Qadri and Leila Romero

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