WARREN MONTHLYNJ

WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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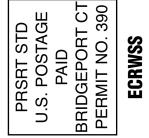
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WHRHS CLASS OF 2020 COLLEGE SIGNING DAY

Submitted by Denis Kelly

Five student athletes in the Class of 2020 who play for the Warriors of Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) announced their intentions to matriculate and play intercollegiate sports at Division I colleges on November College Signing Day, Wednesday, November 13, 2019. As part of the same ceremony, two additional Warrior Student Athletes announced their intentions to matriculate and play intercollegiate sports at Division II colleges.

There are three College Signing Days throughout the high school academic year: November, February and May.

The students signing to matriculate and play at Division I colleges are: Chloe Ferreira, Monmouth University (Hawks), West Long Branch, Metro Atlantic Conference, Soccer; Laura Baeyens, University of Pennsylvania (Quakers), Philadelphia, Pa., Ivy League Conference, Cross Country/Track & Field; Bradley Jelmert, Arkansas State University (Red Wolves), Jonesboro, Ark., Sun Belt

Conference, Track & Field; Mahogany Jenkins, University of Indiana (Hoosiers), Bloomington, Ind., Big Ten Conference, Track & Field; and Christopher Salkowski, Coastal Carolina University (Chanticleers), Conway, S.C., Sun Belt Conference, Track & Field.

The students signing to matriculate and play at Division II Colleges are: Kaitlyn Gully, Bentley University (Falcons), Waltham, Mass., Northeast10 Conference, Field Hockey; and Sophia Cicchetti, Adelphi University (Panthers), Garden City, N.Y., Northeast-10 Conference, Softball.

Both Bentley and Adelphi play in the Northeast-10 Conference, although the Warrior student athletes, Gully and Cicchetti, will play in different sports when they put on their new colleges' uniforms for Field Hockey and Softball, respectively.

And, among the Track and Field athletes, both Jelmart and Salkowski will play on Sun Belt Conference rivals, Arkansas State and Coastal Carolina, respectively, although they specialize in different Field events, Pole Vault and Javelin.



(above, l-r) Seated: Kaitlyn Gully, Bentley University, Field Hockey; Sophia Cicchetti, Adelphi University, Softball; Laura Baeyens, University of Pennsylvania, Cross Country/Track & Field; Chloe Ferreira, Monmouth University, Soccer; standing: Bradley Jelmart, Arkansas State University, Track & Field; Christopher Salkowski, Coastal Carolina University, Track & Field; and Mahogany Jenkins, University of Indiana, Track & Field. Photo by WHRHS





On-line at www.WarrenMonthly.com

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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WATCHUNG HILLS SENIOR DEEPA IRAKAM EARNS GOLD AWARD

Submitted by Anitha Irakam

Deepa Irakam, a member of Girl Scout Troop 65512, recently earned the prestigious Gold Award.

Through her Gold Award, Empower Your Future, Deepa Irakam worked over 80 hours to address the issue of sexual harassment. She educated students, ages ranging from middle school to high school, as many of them have heard about sexual harassment but are still not quite sure what it is, and gave them an opportunity to learn more so that they understood what they can do to make sure it doesn't continue. In addition to working with students in group activities, teaching lessons, and creating discussions, she created a resource guide that included more information on sexual harassment and who to reach out to for help.

The resource guides were distributed to local community centers and schools as a way to spread awareness for sexual harassment education and empower students to speak out

She also created a website with more information to help continue her education platform which includes a printable version of her resource guide. You can find her website deepairakam.wixsite.com/empoweryourfuture.

when they see something that isn't right.

Through the #MeToo Movement and the Time's Up Movement, it's clear that these platforms have started to create positive change to prevent sexual harassment from continuing. However, there is still work to be done. Deepa's project aims to educate students early on about sexual harassment affecting schools, communities, and the workplace, because education is what starts conversations and can serve as a force for meaningful change.

Her Gold Award, Empower Your Future, would not have been possible without the support of her advisor Dr. Susan Cooper, her Girl Scout Troop Leader Sonia Estevez, her Girl Scout Troop, and her Gold Award Team.



(above) Deepa Irakam of Troop 65512 received a Gold Award for her work on "Empower Your Future."





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JANUARY PROGRAMS AT SCLSNJ'S WARREN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BRANCH

42 Mountain Boulevard, Warren Township, 07059 | 908-754-5554 | SCLSNJ.org Program dates and times are subject to change. All programs are free and registration is required unless otherwise indicated. Visit SCLSNJ.org or call the Library for more information and to register.

CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAMS

Construction Zones - STEM Activities for Families (ages 3 and up): Saturday, January 4, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. It's Snow Time (grades K-5): Monday, January 6, 7 - 8 p.m. Let's Cook - Chinese New Year Tasting Party (grades 3-5): Tuesday, January 7, 4 - 5 p.m. **Tween Advisory Board (grades 4-6):** Thursday, January 9, 4 - 5 p.m. "Treasure Island" (families): Saturday, January 11, 3 - 3:45 p.m. Read to a Therapy Dog (grades K-4): Monday, January 13, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Drop-In Craft - Snowman (ages 3 and up) Wednesday, January 15, 3:30 - 7 p.m. Saturday, January 18, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Exploring Tangrams - Lunar New Year,** the Year of the Rat (grades K-5): Thursday, January 16, 4 - 4:45 p.m. Teen Leadership Academy (grades 7-12): Thursday, January 16, 7 - 8 p.m. **Baby Storytime - Story and Play** (ages birth - 18 months): Tuesdays, January 21, 28; 10 - 10:30 a.m. Chess Club (grades K-5): Tuesday, January 21, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. **Toddler Storytime - Story and Play** (ages 18 months - 3 years): January 22, 23, 29, 30; 10 - 10:30 a.m. Family Storytime - Pajama Time (families with children): Wednesdays, January 22, 29; 6:30 - 7 p.m.

Preschool Storytime - Story and Craft (ages 3-5): Thursdays, January 23, 30; 11 - 11:45 a.m. Tween Book Club - "Out of My Mind" by Sharon Draper (grades 4-6): Thursday, January 23, 4 - 5 p.m. LEGO® Club (grades K-5): Thursday, January 25, 11 a.m. - Noon

ADULT PROGRAMS

Yarns and Threads: Mondays, January 6, 13, 20, 27; 10 a.m. - Noon **English Conversation Group:** Tuesdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28; 10 - 11:30 a.m. **Special Needs Social Hour:** Tuesday, January 7, 7 - 8 p.m. **Film Discussion:** Wednesday, January 8, 1 - 4 p.m. iPad Basics for Beginners: Friday, January 10, 11 a.m. - Noon **Somerset Hills Stitching Club:** Tuesday, January 14, 7 - 8:30 p.m. **Book Discussion** Wednesday, January 15, 7:15 - 8:45 p.m. Thursday, January 30, 1:30 - 3 p.m. Writers Group: Wednesday, January 22, 7 - 8:30 p.m. **Recipe Club:** Thursday, January 23, 7 - 8:30 p.m. **Friday Movie Matinee Academy Award Nominees:** Fridays, January 24, 31; 1 - 3:30 p.m. Sewing 101 - Intro to Machine Sewing and **Working With Fabric:** Saturday, January 25, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Getting Help With Snoring and Sleep Apnea:** Tuesday, January 28, 7 - 8 p.m. Please note the Library will be closed on January 1. On January 20, the Library will be open limited hours, from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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NEW JERSEY SEEDS WELCOMES TWO TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES ROBIN OXENDINE AND CALVIN MILLIEN '08 JOINED SEEDS

Submitted by Theresa Murray

New Jersey SEEDS, a nonprofit providing educational access to motivated, high-achieving students from low-income families, announced that Robin Oxendine and Calvin Millien '08 have joined its Board of Trustees.

Robin Oxendine, of Warren, obtained her M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and earned a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering from Georgia Tech. She started her career at Procter and Gamble (P&G), first as an engineer, and then in marketing roles across the globe. As Director of Marketing in China, she led the successful launch of Crest Toothpaste there, achieving market leadership. As P&G Director of Marketing for Northeast Asia, she successfully grew the business by launching new varieties of Pringles in the area.

Robin is a passionate advocate for education. She is a former member of the Board of Trustees at The Pingry School, a former President of The Pingry School's Parents Association, and Vice President responsible for The Pingry School's Spring Benefit. She is currently a member of Yale University's Parent Annual Fund. Robin is Native American from the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and has funded a fellowship and scholarship at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, which is the only college in America founded by Natives for Native education. Her ancestors were three of the seven founding trustees who started the college in 1887, believing that higher education was paramount to improving the lives of the Lumbee people and all people.

"Robin has been a longtime friend and an ardent supporter of SEEDS," says President and CEO John F. Castano. "Robin was introduced to our organization in 2016. The following year, she and her husband, Randall, became active members of our Leading Change Benefit Committee and have been so ever since. Robin is a dedicated volunteer and is a champion for educational access. I am excited to welcome her to our board of Trustees."

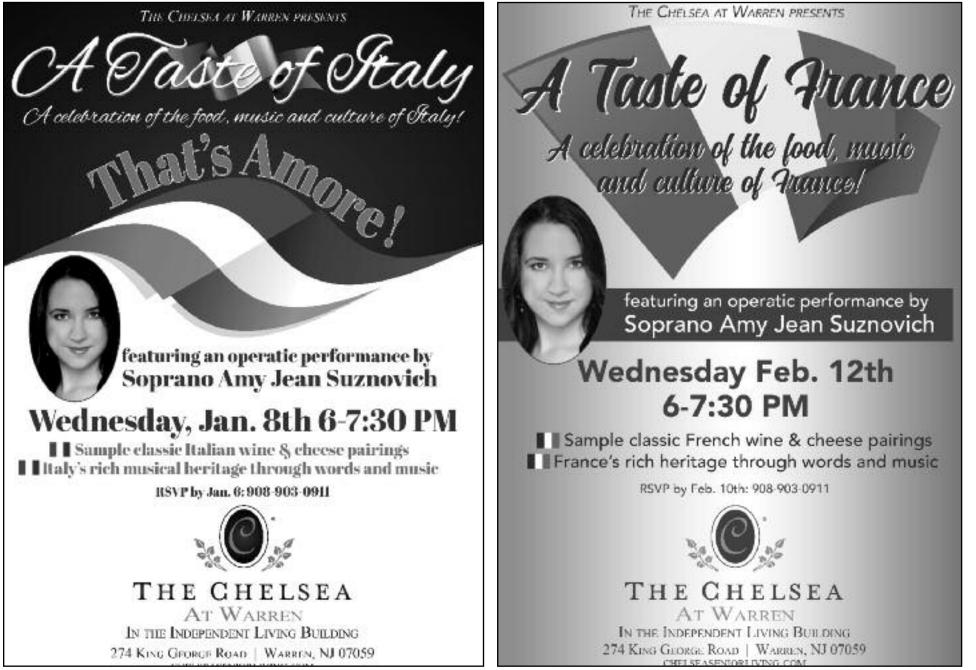
Calvin Millien is a SEEDS graduate who completed the 14-month Scholars Program in 2008, before heading off to Seton Hall Preparatory School and Georgetown University. Calvin is currently the Social/Digital Media Manager at &pizza, where he supports multimarket shop launches and drives key brand initiatives.

Both Calvin and Robin joined the SEEDS Board of Trustees in September 2019.

ABOUT NEW JERSEY SEEDS

For more than 25 years, New Jersey SEEDS has provided educational access for highly motivated, low-income students and created a viable path for them to achieve their full potential. SEEDS strives for a world in which young people's initiative, creativity and intellect can flourish without regard to socioeconomic status. For more information, visit njseeds.org.





CUB SCOUTS PREPARE WEEKEND MEAL BAGS FOR KIDS IN NEED

Submitted by Tricia Patricco

grade Tiger Scouts from Warren Cub Scout Pack 182. Dens 5 & 6 visited the Food Bank Network of Somerset County in Bound Brook. The scouts and their parents and a few siblings worked together to prepare over 300 weekend meal bags for the Feeding America Backpack Program. This program helps children in need to get nutritious and easy to prepare meals so they have enough to eat on the weekends, when school based meals are not available. Items in the meal bags included Ramen noodles, tuna, oatmeal, mac & cheese, Chef Boyardee Spaghetti & Meatballs, snacks and juice boxes.



- Individual music lessons
- for ages 5 and up all instruments. • Group lessons for voice and chamber music.



513 Warrenville Road, Suite 1, Warren, NJ

This activity, coordinated by Den leaders On Wednesday, December 4, 2019 eleven first Michele Araujo and Susie Chu, helped our scouts learn that not every child may have enough to eat at home. We as a community can help each other in many ways, regardless of our age. Our kindness and our efforts to help others in need are important.

Cub Scout Pack 182 in Warren Township serves the local community and surrounding towns. To join Cub Scouts or find out more about 182 visit our Facebook page: Pack facebook.com/Pack182WarrenNJ, our website: warrenpack182.org, or contact us at membership@warrenpack182.org.

Discover



(above) Warren Pack 182 Cub Scouts Lucas Araujo, Thomas Chu, Hunter Noh, Chase Sullivan, Druv Dave, Tyler Hayward, Odin Abines, Luke Roberts, Matteo Santos, James Carter, and Rihaan Takker helped to prepare weekend meal bags for the Feeding America Backpack Program.



VIC SORDILLO HONORED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Submitted by Evamarie Hode Victor Sordillo, Warren Township Committeeman and six-term Mayor, was recently honored by the President of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) of New Jersey for his dedication to safety for over 40 years. The dinner was held at Maggiano's in Bridgewater, New Jersey. About 75 safety professionals from throughout the State of New Jersey were in attendance.

Over the past few years, Mr. Sordillo has written several articles for the National Safety Council website, presented at the ASSP Professional Development Conference, and was published in Professional Safety magazine. He serves on the Underwriters Laboratory Standards Council for safety and security products and services. He is a recognized global expert on risk identification and controls, including the areas of fire protection, safety and security.



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WARREN SENIORS HOST HOLIDAY PARTY

Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 4th, music performed by The Keynotes, dancing, and

The Warren Seniors (55 & older) held a Warren. The day featured a full course meal,

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LEAD WARREN GROUP RECEIVES TEAM SHIRTS FROM THE LIONS CLUB!

Submitted by Shannon Regan Warren Lions Club representatives, Mr. Kevin Helewa, Club President, Sgt. Matthew Saum and former Club President, Mr. Neal Drasin recently came to Warren Middle School (WMS) to present the members of the LEAD (Leadership Development And Excellence) Warren program, with special team t-shirts.

LEAD Warren is a middle school leadership development program comprised of twenty-eight students and co-facilitated by Dr. Susan Cooper, E2 teacher and Mrs. Lynn Degen, social studies

the program.

"The group engages 8th grade identified leaders in roles that foster a variety of ageappropriate leadership skills. Students participate in leadership training, outreach projects and serve as role models, mentors and facilitators for their school and the Warren community."

LEAD Warren team members work together to help fellow students to be successful at WMS by promoting a healthy lifestyle and community service. Additionally, the students work closely

teacher. Cooper shared additional details about together as a team to demonstrate enthusiasm for WMS students, staff and community. Lastly, the students model appropriate behavior, goal setting and the pillars of character - trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

> Cooper, Degen and the entire group of students greatly appreciate the generous donation of their team t-shirts. The students admire the work of the Lion's Club and would like to thank the Warren Lions Club for their dedication to the Warren Township community.



(above) Mr. Kevin Helewa, Warren Lions Club President, Sgt. Matthew Saum and former Warren Lions Club President, Mr. Neal Drasin are photographed with the members of LEAD Warren, after they received their brand new t-shirts courtesy of the Warren Lions Club.

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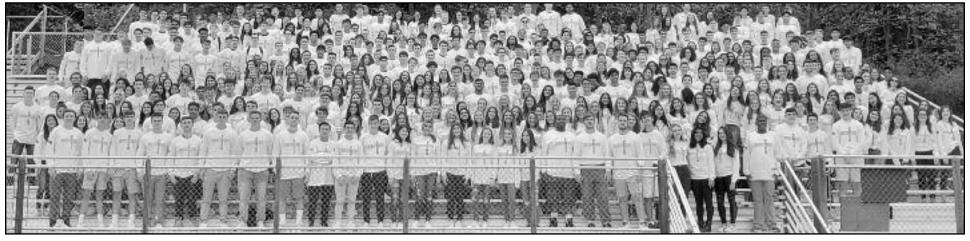
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WATCHUNG HILLS PROJECT GRADUATION 2020



(above) The Class of 2020 on their Senior shirts.

Photos by WHRHS

Submitted by Gina Strong Watchung Hills Regional High School will be celebrating its 29th year of Project Graduation. Project Graduation is a series of year long, small events for the senior class, culminating in a safe,

drug and alcohol free celebration on the night of

Graduation.

WHRHS kicked off this year's Project Graduation 2020 on October 16. The Class of 2020 was presented their "Senior shirts" as the official Senior class yearbook photo was taken. The year's events will conclude with the final



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joerenna@rennamedia.com Visit RennaMedia.com or NJLocalInfo.com celebration held on June 21, 2020 at Dave and Buster's in Woodbridge. The Project Graduation committee, composed of parent volunteers, has planned school day activities for the entire year, plus this unforgettable night of fun for all members of the graduating class. The committee arranges for the venue, transportation, security and chaperones. The night will be filled with food, video and arcade games, and entertainment.

In order for every student to participate, the committee is reaching out to the community for support through a direct fundraising appeal. We need your assistance to continue this worthwhile program.

Please consider making a tax deductible donation today, to sponsor senior students. Checks should be made payable to WHRHS Project Graduation and sent to the school.

WHRHS

Attention: Project Graduation,

108 Stirling Road, Warren, NJ 07059

or via Venmo @WHRHS-Projectgrad

On behalf of the volunteer committee and the students who will benefit from your generosity, thank you for your support, from Project Graduation 2020 Executive Board.

WINTER FESTIVAL BONFIRE & FIREWORKS! JANUARY 11

(rain date January 18) 4:00-7:00 pm 4:20 pm Lighting of the Bonfire 7:00 pm Firework Display

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Food Vendors: Empanada Guy, Angry Archies and more to be announced soon! Follow the event on Facebook by clicking here to stay up to date with event details. **To volunteer for this event please go to:** www.wtrec.ivolunteer.com/bonfire_004

