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WARREN'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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WHRHS SPRING MUSICAL "MATILDA" MARCH 19, 20, & 21



(above) The student singers and actors who performed at the Script and Cue Winter Cabaret, Thursday, January 16, at WHRHS gather for a post-performance photo on the Cabaret stage at the WHRHS Performing Arts Center (PAC). In addition to entertaining an audience of parents, students and fans, most of the students were also sharpening their poise and stretching their range on stage in front of a live audience in anticipation of their participation in the annual WHRHS Spring Musical, "Matilda." Matilda will be presented by Script and Cue in the PAC on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, March 19, 20, and 21, and as a matinee Saturday afternoon, March 21.

Photo by WHRHS

Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) student singers and thespians entertained the fellow students, faculty, parents, and fans at the 2019-2020 Script and Cue Winter Cabaret, Thursday, January 16. The Winter Cabaret was presented using the intimate coffee house format on the PAC stage, as have all the WHRHS "Cabarets" in recent years.

Most of the student performers were also sharpening their poise on stage in front of a live audience in anticipation of their participation in the annual WHRHS Spring Musical, "Matilda." Matilda will be presented by Script and Cue in the PAC on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, March 19, 20, and 21, and as a matinee Saturday afternoon, March 21.

Matilda includes numerous exuberant ensemble numbers, fetching for audiences of all ages.

The musical premiered on Broadway in 2013, and won five awards, including the Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical. The year before, it won 7 Laurence Olivier Awards, presented by the Society of London Theatre. The musical's "Book" was written by Dennis Kelly. Music by Tim Minchin. The musical is based on the novel, "Matilda," 1988, a children's tale by British author Roald Dahl. Dahl is also known for numerous books, including "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," "James and the Giant Peach," and "Fantastic Mr. Fox."



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Salary range \$20-\$25/hr. for: Coordinators (must be certified teacher/experienced) and Health Coordinators (must be Certified EMT or CPR/First Aid);

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Salary range \$15-\$20/hr. Recreation Office Assistant (effective May 11-August 14).

Important Dates: Camp begins Monday, June

29, 2020 and ends July 31, 2020. Pool days are Monday from 12:00-3:00 p.m.; Playground camp is Tuesday thru Friday from 8:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; Staff must attend mandatory training June 27, 2020 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and be able to work all 5 weeks of camp.

All applicants who apply must be 18 years or older by May 1, 2020. Forward resume and application to: Recreation Program Coordinator, 46 Mountain Boulevard, Warren, NJ 07059 or email: aaltavilla@warrennj.org

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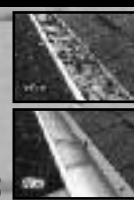
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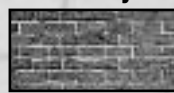
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CENTRAL SCHOOL CEREAL CHALLENGE BENEFITS FOOD PANTRY



(above) Jahnvi Ponnolu and Sydney Paradise walk from classroom to classroom throughout Central School to collect donated boxes of cereal.



(above) Katarina Schroeder, Olivia Deibert and Ms. Alyssa Pech organize donations so they will be ready to be picked up by the PTO for delivery.

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Submitted by Shannon Regan

Central School students participated in the Cereal Box Challenge, a friendly competition between each grade to see which class could collect the most cereal boxes to be donated to a local food pantry. This activity was coordinated by the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). The grade to collect the most boxes was to win a Rice Krispies Social. The event kicked off on January 27 when students wore the color of their favorite cereal box. Two bonus points were given for participation.

Central School Peer Leaders worked with Ms. Alyssa Pech, School Counselor, to collect and tally up the boxes per grade. By Tuesday, January 28 hundreds of boxes had been donated and Ms. Pech's office was filled to the max!

Members of the Central School PTO picked up

and donated 488 boxes of cereal to Feeding Hands Food Pantry, a nonprofit organization addressing the issues of poverty and helping those who are caught in its clutches.

Over the next few days, the cereal boxes kept rolling in. The efforts from the Central School community far exceeded expectations so the donations were shared with another food pantry and an organization for homeless veterans.

By the end of the week, the tally sheets were added together and the number of donated cereal boxes totaled 766! According to the Peer Leaders, the grade three students donated the most boxes of cereal and therefore won the Rice Krispies Social.

Job well done to the entire Central School Community! A perfect example of Shining Brighter Every Day, the district's motto.



(above) Ms. Alyssa Pech and Brendan Archbold smile for the camera as they collect cereal boxes to be donated to a local food



(above) Peter Rexford has his hands full from walking from classroom to classroom to collect donated boxes of cereal.

Photos by Warren Township Schools

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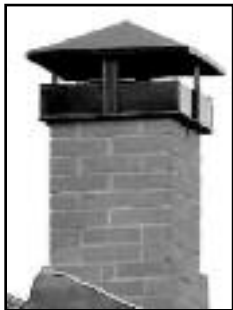
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"Learn More About 'Hygge': The Danish Style of Coziness and Comfort"

Tuesday, March 3, 10:30 a.m.

with Vanessa Young, Thirsty Radish. Learn about the Danish art of hygge, which helps us experience joy and relaxation in a uniquely cozy way. From the warmth of friendship to an inviting home environment, we will explore practical tips for creating well-being and happiness throughout the year. Hygge (pronounced hue-guh not hoo-gah) is a Danish word used when acknowledging a feeling or moment, whether alone or with friends, at home or out, ordinary or extraordinary, as cozy, charming or special.

"Mario Lanza and Me"

Monday, March 9, 10:30 a.m.

with Dominic Mantuano, Opera Singer and Performer, Opera to Broadway and a little in between. Enjoy the music of Mario Lanza, from the 50s and 60s, with some County and Patriotic music in between. Dominic is planning a surprise ending that you will not want to miss.

"The Birds of the World"

Tuesday, March 10, 10:30 a.m.

with Ben Barkley, Naturalist, Somerset County Parks Commission, One of the greatest joys of birding is seeing beautiful blue jays, cardinals, chickadees and goldfinches right in your backyard. However, there are over 10,000 spectacular bird species found throughout the world. The lecture will cover a few families of birds and will introduce their life histories, ranges, descriptions, and interesting facts. Join us for a one-hour lecture about the wackiest, funniest, and most bizarre species from around the globe. This presentation will provide you with a new appreciation for the world of birds!

"Eating Greens"

Monday, March 16, 10:30 a.m.

with Jennifer Korneski, MPH Program Coordinator, Healthy Living Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County Family & Community Health Sciences, Eating Greens! One characteristic of people who live long lives is that they eat healthful foods, especially vegetables. Leafy greens particularly are good for you and easy to prepare for a quick meal. Learn more about the health benefits of greens – kale, Swiss chard, spinach and more.

"Tips on Injury Prevention for the Achy Back"

Monday, March 23, 10:30 a.m.

with Mike Evangelist, PT, MSPT, JAG-ONE Physical Therapy, This talk will focus on the benefits of exercise for low back pain. Areas to be highlighted are: posture education, correct body mechanics for lifting, stretching exercises for tight back muscles and core/abdominal strengthening exercises. This program will be geared towards the senior population.

"The Practice of Formal & Informal Mindfulness"

Tuesday, March 31, 10:30 a.m.

with Lori Morell, Director of Health & Wellness of Parker Life, This Presentation is on the practice of formal and informal mindfulness to help reduce stress, anxiety and increase energy levels for a more focused, productive life. Learn how to identify and manage the various triggers that cause daily mental and physical obstacles for a more focused, rewarding life.

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Effective January 2, 2020, the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) has enhanced the effectiveness of their free notary service program by launching appointment-based scheduling.

“Connecting with a Staff Notary before your visit will help ensure that all parties are prepared for the notarization and allow staff to determine whether SCLSNJ can meet your notarial needs,” said Civic Services Supervisor Nicole Pascoe. “These changes are in direct response to the needs of and feedback from our county residents, and will improve the service our customers receive in our branches. In the event a staff notary is not able to fulfill a request, SCLSNJ maintains a list of comparable service offerings throughout Somerset County so we can point customers in the right direction.”

“It is important to note that notary service is not guaranteed to customers who do not call in advance to make an appointment,” said Pascoe.

Appointment times and Staff Notary availability vary based on location schedules. For questions or to make an appointment, email notary@scslnj.org or call your local branch and ask to connect with a Staff Notary. The Warren Twp. branch: 908.458.8450.

To explore tips for preparing for your notary appointment and other important considerations about notary services at SCLSNJ, visit scslnj.org/using-our-libraries/notary.



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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. Please note the Library closes at 5 p.m. on February 17.

CHILDREN, TWEEN, AND TEEN PROGRAM

Bird Buddies (grades K-5)

March 2, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Let's Cook - Panini Your Way (grades 3-5)

March 3, 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Pop-Up Storytime - St. Patrick's Day (grades 2-5)

March 5, 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Tween Advisory Board (grades 4-6)

March 5, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Storytime With "Matilda" Cast (families with children)

March 7, 11:00 a.m. - Noon

Teen Advisory Board (grades 7-12)

March 7, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Read to a Therapy Dog (grades K-4)

March 9, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Drop-In Craft - St. Patrick's Day (families with children)

March 10, 17; 3:30-7 p.m.

From the Mouths of Owls (grades 3-5)

March 11, 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

Teen Leadership Academy (grades 7-12)

March 12, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Concert for Kids (families with children)

March 14, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Music and Movement (ages birth - 3 years)

March 17, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

DIY - Welcome Spring Craft (families with children)

March 18, 19, 23, 24; 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

March 20, 21; 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Creating a College Resume and Telling Your Story (grades 9-12)

March 19, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Construction Zones -

STEM Activities for Families (ages 3 and up)

March 21, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Stories and Songs With Miss Katie (ages birth - 5 years)

March 24, 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Chess Club (grades K-5)

March 24, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Teen Bad Art Night (grades 6-12)

March 26, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

LEGO® Club (grades K-5)

March 28, 11:00 a.m. - Noon

Shooting Stars Gymnastics (ages 2-6)

March 31, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Yarns and Threads

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; 10:00 a.m. - Noon

English Conversation Group

March 3, 10; 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Film Discussion

March 4, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Somerset Hills Stitching Club

March 10, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Tech Vocab 101 - Computer Basics Class

March 11, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Book Discussion

March 11, 7:15 - 8:45 p.m.

March 25, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Friday Movie Matinee

March 13, 20; 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Amelia Earhart - The Power of One

March 14, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

An Overview of the New Jersey

Early Intervention System

March 16, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Special Needs Social Hour

March 17, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Irish and the American Presidency

March 19, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Professor Led Book Discussion -

"The Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson" by Mark Twain

March 24, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Soldiers Without Guns -

Women Defense Workers of World War 2

March 26, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Recipe Club - Slow Cookers

March 30, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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CUB SCOUTS LEARN LESSONS OF SERVICE TO COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY

Submitted by Tricia Patricco

On Tuesday, January 14, 2020 Second grade Wolf Scouts from Den 2 of Pack 182 were fortunate enough to have two Warren Residents address the Cub Scouts. The Scouts are working on the "Council Fire" requirement, which is a call to duty. They are learning about service to community and country.

Ken Brenn, World War II (1945-1946) and Korean War (1950-1953) Veteran, father of 6, grandfather of 14, 60 year of resident of Warren,

4 Term Mayor, former Board of Education Member, builder and sole donor of our ballfields behind Town Hall and builder of our former Pinewood Derby Track, spoke to the boys.

Mr. Brenn was delighted to speak to the boys about serving our country and what an honor it is. Additionally, he spoke about strong values and contributing to your community. He ended the discussion by saying "wake up happy every day, life is a gift, choose to be happy." He said he never worked a day in his life because of this

motto.

Also speaking to the scouts was Dan Lorimor, Sergeant, Watchung Police Department (25 years)/SWAT Team Leader, (19 years), M.S., Retired, lifelong resident of Warren and father of 4, who is currently a School Resource Officer in New Providence. Mr. Lorimor was an Eagle Scout (Troop 228) and attended his Pack/Den meetings in the very same school as we hold our meetings. He was nostalgic about Cub Scouts and how it shaped him as a man. Mr. Lorimor spoke to the Scouts about service and duty and depending on your teammates. In his years of service, he remarked how important it is to operate as a team and build trust. We spent some time focusing on gun safety and what you should do if you ever find yourself in a situation where you come across a gun.

The Scouts then learned about the US Flag Code passed in 1942 regarding the treatment of the American Flag. The boys learned about how to display, treat and what each fold is representative of during a military burial. We finished up the Den Meeting discussing the history of Warren and how we all can contribute to our community.

Pack 182 is extremely grateful to these men, who set a fine example of what being a good citizen is all about. Thank you Ken and Dan for taking the time to spend with our scouts and help them learn these important lessons.



(above, l-r) Den Leaders: Peter Walpow and Jazz Vesuvio; Speakers: Dan Lorimor and Ken Brenn; Scouts: Lucas Toor, Joshua Walpow, Ben Armento, Cash Bolcar, Jett Vesuvio, Dante Verdun and Alex Chibwe.

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JEFF DEALAMAN NAMED WHRHS 2019-2020 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Submitted by Denis Kelly

Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Social Studies and Special Education Teacher Jeff Dealaman has been selected the 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year.

Dealaman is not only a member of the faculty, he is a 1998 graduate of WHRHS, as are his parents, George and Sue, who are both members of the Class of 1968. In addition, the Teacher of the Year's wife, Karen Dealaman, teaches Mathematics at WHRHS. He said they met at a community social event in a neighboring town in

the Fall of 2006, and started their relationship from that point.

They live in Warren Township, and have three children, Bennett, age 9, and Owen, 7, who are students at Central School in the Warren Township School District, and Wyatt, 4, who will be joining his brothers at Central as a kindergartener in the fall.

Jeff Dealaman received his bachelor's degree from the University of Hartford, West Hartford, Conn., and his master's degree in Special Education from New Jersey City University, Jersey City.

Dealaman splits his teaching duties between teaching American History with the Social Studies Department, and teaching American History and World History with the Special Services Department. In addition to his teaching duties, he is also the Assistant Coach of the WHRHS Girls Basketball Team.

Dealaman said he was informed that he had been selected as this school year's Teacher of the Year during a recent practice of the Basketball Team.

"I was very surprised," he said. "I definitely got choked up a little bit. I am honored and flattered by the selection. It means a lot to me to know that students appreciate me enough to go out of their way to nominate me and write something nice on my behalf."

The Teacher of the Year selection is completed by a combination of nominations that are made and voted on by students, and a committee of faculty members who then select from among the top vote getters.

"It is truly an honor to receive this recognition," Dealaman said. "Watchung Hills is a very special place to me on a personal level. Not only did I graduate from this high school but it's also where my parents met, where I met my wife, Karen, and it's where my three boys will eventually attend high school. To be recognized by the students and staff of Watchung Hills as someone deserving of this award is extremely meaningful to me."

He said that his high school history teachers – Louis Dudas, Anita Falvo and Jim Carden – inspired me to pursue a degree in history from the University of Hartford.

"However, after I graduated, I was unsure of what I wanted to do with that degree," he said. "I did know that I loved sports and working with kids. That summer I became aware of an open coaching position at Watchung Hills with the boys basketball program so I contacted Gene McAteer, the head coach at the time. I was hired to coach the freshman team that winter. Knowing that I would be coaching at the school, I went through the process to become a substitute teacher and started working at Watchung Hills in the fall of 2002. After covering for a variety of different teachers, across many subjects and academic levels, I found myself drawn to working with the school's learning and language disabled (LLD) population."

He said that over the winter break that year, he got a surprising phone call and was informed that one of the school's Special Education teachers was resigning and that he was being offered

Emergency Certification to teach their classes for the rest of the school year.

"I excitedly accepted and went on to teach five self-contained biology classes, scrambling to stay one-step ahead of my students by preparing my lessons the night before each class. I also coached the Junior Varsity baseball team that spring."

He said he could not have gotten through that time without the support of some phenomenal teachers and even better people. He listed Sandi Mann, Bonnie Quigley, Laura Goodson and Lydia Chu, among many others.

"I also want to thank the school's Director of Special Education at the time, Dr. Fran Stromsland, the Supervisor of Special Services Marianne Sales, Athletic Director Mario Diez and Principal Tom DiGanci, for believing in me and having the confidence that I would do a good job despite not having an educational background," he said.

He said that for the following two school years, he worked as an instructional aide as he worked toward his teaching certification as a Teacher of the Handicapped and his master's degree in Special Education at New Jersey City University, Jersey City. During this time, Marianne Sales and he worked together to establish Watchung Hills' Transition Coordinator position and build relationships with businesses in the community to expand the Special Service department's school-to-work program for the LLD population.

"Since receiving my teaching certification," Dealaman said, "I have been in the classroom for the past 15 years and moved from boys basketball and baseball to girls basketball and softball. The highlights of my coaching career include winning the softball state championship alongside Mike D'Alessandro in 2016 and serving as the varsity assistant in the girls basketball program with Sandy Whelan and for the last 6 years, Reese Kirchofer."

He has taught a variety of classes over the past 15 years, he said, including: Self-contained History and English courses and co-taught classes in about every department in the school – biology, chemistry, Spanish, English, algebra and geometry. For the past five years, he has had a consistent schedule of two OCR-level US History 1 classes, two LLD History classes and one co-taught US History 1 class.

"My goal has always been to give the students and athletes that I have worked with a positive experience and something that they can look forward to everyday," he said. It is important to me that my students feel comfortable and heard. I want them to know that they have people here at Watchung Hills that they can approach with any issues they are having and that we have a phenomenal group of educators here that care about them. It is flattering and humbling to receive the appreciation from my students and the staff of such a great school community. Thank you to my students, the student-athletes that I've had the pleasure to coach, colleagues, especially my brothers in LOW and my beautiful and amazing wife, Karen. I take great pride in being valued as an educator and member of this great community."



(above) WHRHS Social Studies and Special Education Teacher Jeff Dealaman has been named the 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year.

Photo by WHRHS

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WOODLAND NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GEOBEE

The National Geographic GeoBee is an annual competition in its 32nd year that is designed to inspire students to learn about the world. Each year thousands of students throughout the country compete in this competition. For the past several years Mrs. Nicole Panos, grade 5 teacher has coordinated the event for Woodland School; this year Mrs. Tiffany Serafin, grade 5 teacher assisted as well.

During the month of January, all Woodland students in grades 4 and 5 participated in the Bee.

Photos of Warren Township Schools



(above) Mrs. Tiffany Serafin (left) and Mrs. Nicole Panos (right) stand proudly with Aidan Segerson after he won the Woodland School GeoBee!

Each homeroom hosted an in-class preliminary competition consisting of seven rounds of 35 questions. The questions covered geography, ancient and world civilizations, cultures, and physical features.

Following the preliminary rounds, ten students moved on to the school-wide final competition. The competition was fierce and lasted about 30 minutes before grade 5 student, Aidan Segerson was determined to be the winner. According to Serafin, the competition ignited a spark in her

class. "The students were very excited about the competition, and many were motivated to learn more about the world and the location of countries, cities, important places, oceans, rivers, etc."

During the week of February 3, Segerson took the state qualifying test, the results will be available on March 2.

Congratulations to all of the Woodland School students who participated during the GeoBee. Keep shining brighter every day!



(above) Participants in the National Geographic GeoBee, Top: Aidan Segerson (grade 5), Finley Giegerich (grade 5), Carolyn Jasaitis (grade 5), Lilla Bellish (grade 5); Bottom: Mrs. Tiffany Serafin, Luke Ferreira (grade 4), Destiny Omeji (grade 4), Benjamin Rosenberger (grade 5), Langdon Ott (grade 5), and Mrs. Nicole Panos.

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WHRHS FALL DRAMA, “ALMOST, MAINE”

Twenty student thespians in the Script and Cue Drama Program at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) tackled the fall drama, “Almost, Maine,” giving life to its charming literary script to deliver a masterful performance.

The WHRHS actors and actresses were supported by an energetic behind-the-scene team of student and professional Production Staff members. They contributed all the numerous tasks required to stage a live drama in four performances, including three evening performances and a Saturday afternoon matinee.

THE CAST, IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:

John Doucette played Pete and Kaelin Churchill played Ginette, in the scene trilogy titled, “Prologue/Interlogue/Epilogue,” at the opening, closing and Intermission of the play; Act 1: Andrew Moberly played East and Christine Tanko played Glory in a scene titled, “Her Heart”;

Lucas Melo played Jimmy, Giovanna DiSanto played Sandrine, and Sydney Waddy played Waitress in “Sad and Glad”; Ariya Blow played Marvalyn, and Jack Melillo played Steve in “This Hurts”; and Jordan Pincus played Gayle and Nicholas Harrison played Lendall in “Getting It Back”; Act 2: Mia Hoinis played Deena and Maddie Johnson played Shelly in “They Fell”;

Matthew Mackrell played Phil and Olivia Kider played Marci in “Where It Went”;

Jack Melillo played Daniel and Catherine Quirico played Hope in “Story of Hope”; and

Andrew Moberly played Dave and Nina DiNorscio played Rhonda in “Seeing The Thing.”

In addition, Paul Riedler and Christian Takleszyn portrayed Townspeople in several scenes.

PRODUCTION

“Almost, Maine” was directed by WHRHS Drama Teacher Douglas Eaton. Chief Assistant Director was Portia Rowley. Assistant Director was Talia Hooke. Production Stage Manager was Alexander Martin. Set Designer was Douglas Eaton. Scenic Artist was Kate Griffin. Costume Designer was Gail DeCicco. Lighting Designer was Chris Valenti. Sound Designer was Rick Clark. Set Construction was Nick DiNizio. Assistant Stage Managers were Elena Celeste and Melissa Miketen. Technical Director and Set CAD Layout was Chris Valenti. Video Projections and Lighting Effects were Chris Valenti, Rick Clark and Nick DiNizio. Prop Master was Rachel Krouk. Head of Costume was Lauren Quinn. Rigging was Zayn Khalil. Sound Board was Krystyna Leski. Special Effects was Kayley Garcell. Lighting Board Operator was Cat Teo.

RUNNING CREW:

Jennifer Buser, Carolina Delvalle, Tyler Isherwood, Autumn Rodriguez, Crosby Sayan, Ally Valatare, Siya Wadhare, Jaimie Wu and Janice Wang. Props Crew were: Gregory Katchko, Virginia Paris, and Pavithra Ponnolu. Costume Crew was: Josette Sapia, Lydia Eberle; and Nora Lange. Co-heads of Hair and Makeup were: Sophia Formissano and Hannah Stevens.

Hair and Makeup Crew were: Julia Cornell Nathan Gennaro. Ushers were: Emily Dec, Maddie Leong. Erin Pinto, and Michael Wong.mScript and Cue Business Manager is Dianne Krutz. The Program includes this note of thanks: “A special thank you to: Megan Krutz for designing the cover art; and Rachel Krouk for making the program.”

Photo by WHRHS



(above) The case of WHRHS fall performance of “Almost, Maine”

FEBRUARY COLLEGE SIGNING DAY

Submitted by Denis Kelly

Three student athletes in the Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) Class of 2020 who play interscholastic sports for the Warriors announced their intentions to attend next year and play intercollegiate sports at Division I colleges, at a February College Signing Day Ceremony, Wednesday, February 5, at the school.

One of the athletes competes on the WHRHS Track and Field Team, and two compete on the WHRHS Fencing Team.

The students signing to matriculate and play at Division I colleges are:

Teresa Rotolo, who plans to attend and compete in Track and Field at Villanova University (Wildcats), Villanova, Pa., Big East Conference;

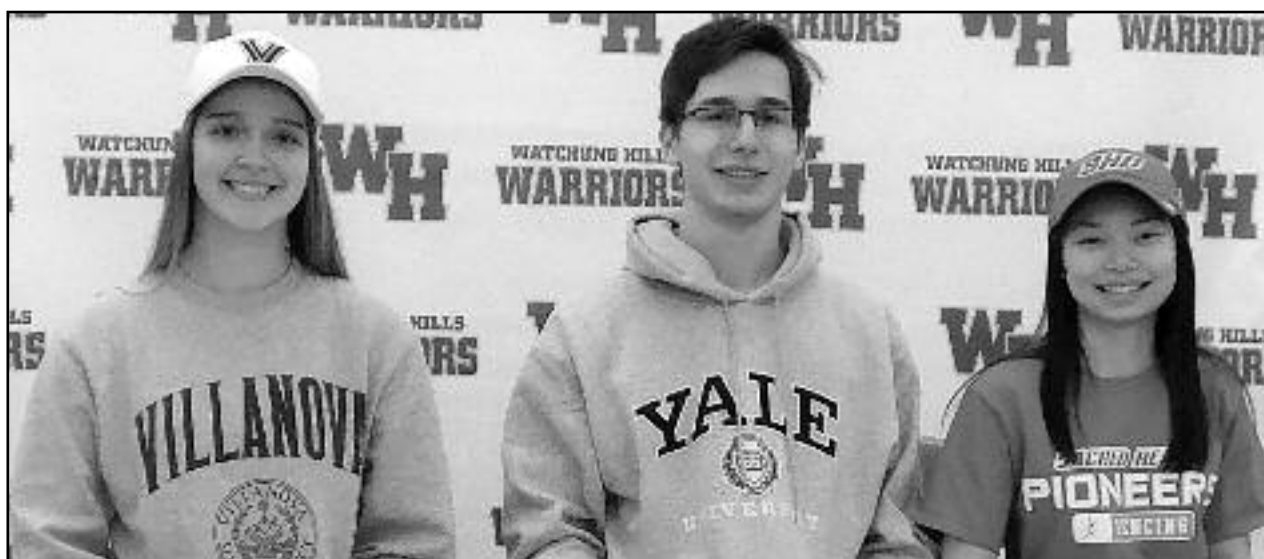
Chloe Mok, who plans to attend and compete in Fencing at Sacred Heart University (Pioneers), Fairfield, Conn., Northeast Conference; and

Victor Odoliniec, who plans to attend and complete in Fencing at Yale University (Bulldogs), New Haven, Conn., Ivy League Conference.

“Congratulations to our student-athletes who have decided to continue their academic and athletic careers at such wonderful Universities,” said WHRHS Athletic Director Dan Root. “We are very proud of them.”

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

Earlier in the 2019-2020 School Year, an additional seven WHRHS student athletes in the Class of 2020 who play interscholastic sports for the Warriors announced their intentions to attend and play intercollegiate sports at Division I or Division II colleges, on November College Signing Day, Wednesday, November 13.



(above) WHRHS students Teresa Rotolo, Chloe Mok, and Victor Odoliniec will continue their athletic careers at Division I colleges next year.

Photos by WHRHS



VISITING AUTHOR DAY AT ANGELO L. TOMASO DAN GUTMAN RETURNS TO WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Mr. Dan Gutman, popular children’s author, well known for his “My Weird School” series returned to Warren Township Schools on Friday, January 31 to visit the students and staff members of Angelo L. Tomaso (ALT) School for Visiting Author Day.

The special day was coordinated together by Mrs. Susan Jackson, Library Media Specialist and the ALT Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Gutman received a warm welcome upon his arrival. The library was decorated with Gutman’s books, student artwork, a framed illustration Gutman himself created during a previous visit and a large cut-out picture of Gutman which he referenced on his own twitter feed, “Finally I

have reached my goal of becoming larger than life.”

Gutman met with each grade level during his visit to share aspects of his life, including his family, travel experiences, co-workers, his daily routine and what inspires him to write children’s books that are beloved by students, parents, and teachers.

The students were incredibly excited to meet Gutman and that became even more evident at the closing of Gutman’s presentation when he asked his audience if they had any questions. Students got up on their knees and reached their hands as high as they could to be called upon. In addition to asking Gutman questions like, what

his favorite book is and why he became a writer the grade three students also shared many suggestions for future book ideas.

Ms. Christine Smith, principal of ALT enjoyed Gutman’s visit, especially seeing the excitement on the students’ faces. “Mrs. Jackson worked for months to build up the excitement for our students who were in complete awe of such a talented author! Dan Gutman was truly an inspirational model of both writing and resilience! A huge thanks to our PTO for sponsoring his visit to ALT today!”

Jackson and the PTO were very impressed with Gutman’s visit on Author Day. Jackson will continue to introduce her students to Gutman’s work and authors alike who spark a love of reading in children. According to Jackson, “Dan Gutman’s motto is to Read Like Crazy, and that’s exactly what the children do with his books!”

Photos by Warren Township Schools



(above) ALT PTO members and ALT staff share a moment with Gutman. Seated: Carina Bellmann, Leslie Morales, Susan Jackson, Dan Gutman, Christine Smith, Susie Chu, Gretchen Minieri; Standing: Meredith Landau, and Preen Mehta.



(above) ALT Grade 3 students take a picture with popular children’s author, Dan Gutman. First row: Nathaniel Chu, Jake Mazzurco, James Dowd, Rishi Dev, Alessandra Purpora, Kelly Bocket-Matthews; 2nd row: Heath Brezee, Christopher Molina, Dan Gutman, Nikhil Raju, and Phoebe Goldman.

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A GRAND RE-OPENING OF THE CENTRAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

Submitted by Shannon Regan

Central School held a grand re-opening of the new and improved school library with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony in conjunction with the celebration of World Read Aloud Day on Wednesday, February 5.

Principal Alison Tugya began the ceremony by thanking Dr. Matthew Mingle, superintendent of schools, Mrs. Patricia Leonhardt, business administrator, Ms. Stacey Modugno, curriculum supervisor, Mr. Michael Pate, supervisor of buildings and grounds and Mrs. Lindsay La Neve, library media specialist for their hard work, dedication, support and efforts in designing and creating such an amazing learning space for the students of Central School.

The Warren Township Board of Education provided funding for updates to each elementary school library in the 2019-2020 budget.

As the ceremonial ribbon was cut the students eagerly walked into their new vibrant library. The students' eyes widened and their smiles grew with excitement as they looked around their new learning space. The library had been closed for two months while volunteers from the Parent-Teacher Organization boxed up and re-shelved books, as well as the buildings and grounds staff, completing most of the physical labor that was involved.

In addition to the freshly painted walls, the students knelt down to touch the colorful new carpet and walked around the moveable bookshelves on which they can now easily see all of the books that are available to them. An area that once took up a large portion of the library as a circulation desk is now a special reading corner with a comfortable, curved couch perfect for sharing with classmates.

The library now has movable and flexible furniture which allows the space to be more accommodating to larger groups as well as

promoting collaboration while also designating areas for quiet or independent work and reading.

Tugya is delighted with the outcome of the library. "We're beyond thrilled about how well the space turned out. Our focus during the redesign was not only to make the library fun and inviting but also to create zones for learning and flexibility so that the space can continue to adapt to changing needs and purposes in the future. There are areas for instruction, as well as areas for students to read quietly and comfortably, collaborate with peers, create, and of course to explore books! Most of the furniture, including

the stacks, are mobile so that the area can transform depending on the need. It took a village to get this project completed, and I am so grateful. The possibilities for this new space are limitless."

As happy as Lindsay La Neve, library media specialist, is about the new space she is just as excited about the students' reactions. "The library redesign has exceeded all of my expectations, and the students are loving the new space."

On Monday, March 23 at 7 p.m. the Warren Township Board of education meeting will be held in the Central School library.



(above) Mrs. Lindsay La Neve, library media specialist, Mrs. Alison Tugya, principal and Dr. Matthew Mingle, superintendent take a quick picture just before the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Central School Library.

Photos by Warren Township Schools

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SANIA SHAREEF PERFORMS IN OFF-BROADWAY HIT

Submitted by Meher Sultana

Sania Shareef, a 7th grade student at Warren Middle School, has had a passion for dance since she was three years old. She loves lighting up the stage with her unique energy and confidence for each performance. In the past, Sania Shareef participated in a Nickelodeon live show in NYC. She was also in a Halloween commercial for the Universal Kids TV Channel.

On the weekend of January 4-6, 2020, Sania performed in an off-broadway show called Over the Rainbow (OTR) in NYC. She participated in the show on forty-second street at the Playwrights Horizons Theater. This show is based on the movie "The Wizard of Oz," although modified as a modern version. Over the Rainbow is about a young girl named Dorothy who becomes lost in a tornado. This causes Dorothy to drift into a deep sleep. She then finds herself in Munchkin Land as she wakes up. Along the way, Dorothy meets three new friends like the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Lion. These four friends have to pass many obstacles and the

witch together to get to the wizard to be sent home.

This off-broadway show was originally a five-minute competition dance. After the first competition performance, one of the judge's responses was, "This dance should be on Broadway." The producer/director of this play, Marlowe Scott, took the message to heart and wanted to make this dream come true.

OTR first premiered in July of 2019. This was the first time the cast members did the routine out of the competition world. At the beginning of January 2020, the whole new cast performed its Broadway premiere show. Over the Rainbow was sold out for all four shows in NYC. Scott hopes for this production to gradually grow and make it on Broadway. For this show, cast members came all the way across the country to participate. All of the members came together from different dance studios and put on an outstanding, power-packed show!

Sania enjoyed her journey to finally make it to the Off-Broadway theater.



(above) Warren Middle School 7th grader, Sania Shareef is all smiles during her performance week of Over the Rainbow.

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