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## CLASS OF 2020 URGED TO BOLDLY EMBRACE THEIR FUTURE

*Submitted by Denis Kelly*

Under slightly overcast skies, the 63rd Commencement at Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) on Wednesday, July 8, in the WHRHS Tozier Stadium finally gave the Class of 2020 the gift they were hoping for since late March: One last opportunity to get together as a class, review their time at WHRHS, and declare their readiness to boldly embrace the start of their future.

The weather and latest decree by the state government COVID-19 Watchdog officials finally permitted outdoor graduations of up to 500 people. WHRHS, with the size of graduating seniors just under 500, took full advantage of the 100 yards of its Stadium's artificial turf to seat the Class of 2020 with the required 6 feet between each student.

Highlighting the Commencement were: Tight, thoughtful and, in the end, hopeful remarks by four student speakers; two elegant coffee-house type musical interludes, featuring singing duets and acoustic guitar accompaniment; congratulatory and encouraging remarks by the Principal, Superintendent and Board of Education President; and on the jumbo screen, a pre-recorded rendering of the "Star Spangled Banner," the National Anthem, with lyrics by Francis Scott Key (1814), featuring 11 senior Choral Music members of the Class of 2020.

The Commencement was unofficially and effectively "Graduation Part II." On the day the Class of 2020 was originally scheduled to graduate before the COVID-19 Shutdown changed everything, Friday, June 19, the Class of 2020 participated in a Graduation Car Parade. That was the day a veritable sea of cars assembled in the Stirling Road-side parking lot in front of the WHRHS building. Beginning on about 11:45 a.m., Friday, June 19, the Car Parade ferried the Guests of Honor - the WHRHS Class of 2020 - in front of scores of applauding, cheering, encouraging teachers, staff and well-wishers. It took the better part of an hour for all the cars to complete the parade's route through campus. The participating students, often accompanied in their cars by parents, siblings, other relations and even for some with family pets. Everyone appeared to genuinely enjoy the opportunity to get together as a class for the first time since March.



*WHRHS, with the size of graduating seniors under 500, took full advantage of the 100 yards of its Stadium's artificial turf to seat the Class of 2020 with the required 6 feet between each student.*



*(above) Katie Tan delivers the Valedictory Speech in the school's Tozier Stadium.*



*(above) Mayur Sharma delivers the Salutatory Speech at the WHRHS Commencement.*



*(above) All School Council (ASC) President Roopa Irakam presented Opening Address.*



*(above) Senior Class President Deepa Irakam welcomed everyone to the 2020 Commencement.*



*(above, l-r) Musical interlude was performed by graduating seniors Christine Tanko, Ben Kosakowski and Jack Melillo.*

Photos by WHRHS

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# Watchung Post

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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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## STUDENTS START WARREN BRANCH OF ALLIANCE OF YOUTH LEADERS IN THE UNITED STATES

*Submitted by Stanley Liu*

On June 1, 2020 four students, Wesley Liu, Stanley Liu, Nikolai Przybylski, and Kanav Desai, from Watchung Hills Regional School District in New Jersey founded the Warren branch for the Alliance of Youth Leaders in the United States (AYLUS). It is the 57th branch of AYLUS.

We created our branch in response to the coronavirus pandemic. After seeing the struggle of local businesses, hospitals in need of supplies, and other terrible consequences that the pandemic has had on our society, it was our duty to help and give back to our community in this time of hardship.

Our mission is to support our community and those in need and engage students in volunteer work that teach important skills. We will create and work on projects that include fundraising,

tutoring, food drives, and much more. Through these projects, we aim to improve our community and create an environment that inspires students to take initiative in volunteer events and be more generous.

As the first event, on June 17, the AYLUS Warren Branch donated its first batch of 3D printed face shields. The Warren Branch reached out to a Patient Navigator at the RWJ Steeplechase Cancer Center, who expressed a need for the face shields. The branch plans on continuing to donate face shields as needed. We also plan on contacting other local businesses to help them meet their needs.

We encourage more students to join and help out as well.

Please visit our website [aylus.org/warren-nj](http://aylus.org/warren-nj) and email [ayluswarren@gmail.com](mailto:ayluswarren@gmail.com) if you are interested.



(above) Wesley Liu, Stanley Liu, Nikolai Przybylski, and Kanav Desai, students from WHRS, founded the Warren branch for the Alliance of Youth Leaders in the United States (AYLUS).



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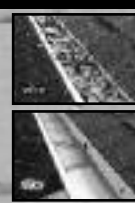


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## GARDEN CLUB'S TREE OF REMEMBRANCE

Just as a tree undergoes changes as it grows from a seedling to maturity, our lives are full of unique and important people and events that define us as individuals. The Tree of Remembrance encourages us to treasure each of life's moments and remember those people and events that touched our lives. The Garden Club of Watchung's tree is in remembrance of those who perished on 9/11.

The Garden Club chose the Heritage River Birch as our Tree of Remembrance. The tree loves to be near water and the leaves turn a brilliant yellow in the Fall. On June 22, 2020, the tree was planted by Watchung's Department of Public Works on the bank of Best Lake in Watchung.

Follow The Garden Club on Facebook for more information of the club and what they do for the community.



(above) The Garden Club planted a Tree of Remembrance on the bank of Best Lake in Watchung in memory of those who died on 9/11.

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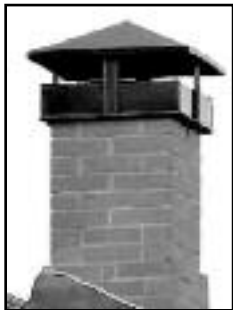


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# JOYOUS ATMOSPHERE MARKS CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION CAR PARADE

*Submitted by Denis Kelly*

A veritable sea of cars assembled in the Stirling Road side parking lot in front of Watchung Hills Regional High School (WHRHS) on Friday, June 19, to ferry the guests of honor, the WHRHS Class of 2020, in front of scores of teachers, staff and well-wishers at the Graduation Car Parade.

After several end-of-year virtual events that marked the completion of the Class of 2020's experience at WHRHS, the nearly 500-member graduating class came together in one place for one of the first times since Distance Learning started in Mid-March for the Car Parade. The atmosphere was visibly joyous.

It required the better part of an hour for the entire fleet of cars to one-by-one crawl along the parade route. They pushed off from the Stirling Road Parking Lot. First, they rode past the cadre of teachers, administrators and board members cheering for the graduates along the internal on-campus roadway leading to the WHRHS baseball diamond.

Next up were the separate row of lawn signs for each graduate, which lined the road down to and around the road just before the baseball stadium. There the parade route and graduate signs curled up to the parking lots in back of the Old North Building.

Once again teachers, staffers, and well-wishers, congregated there, spread out in the parking lot, down as far as the access path down to Tozier Stadium where the graduates in the past have processed down on foot. The Car Parade route then proceeded back to the access road down to the baseball stadium, and again lined by more cheering teachers, staffers, and well-wishers. Throughout the parade, teachers, staffers and well-wishers were clapping, cheering for the students, and shouting words of encouragement for continued success in college and along the road ahead.

Some of the cars were driven by the graduates,

themselves, but the vast majority were passengers in convertibles, or cars with sunroof. Notable too by their prevalence were 2 or 4-door Jeep Wranglers, whose tops, and sometimes even doors, were removed. Graduates stood, like the dignitaries in a parade up the ticker-tape-parade Canyon of Heroes in lower Manhattan, waving, cheering, and often shouting thanks to teachers, staffers and well-wishers all along the parade route. Many folks took photographs. Several of the twins in the class rode together. Some cars sported more than one graduate.

Nearly all the cars also had parents and siblings, and in many cases family pets, in the cars, who themselves seemed to be basking in the festive atmosphere. Cars were decorated, some with balloons, proclaiming their pride in being part of the Class of 2020.

Many graduates wore caps and gowns informally. Some had already decorated the tops of their hats with Letter Sweater-type logo lettering from the colleges they plan to attend next year.

Several banners were hung on the fences near the Stirling Road Parking Lot. One hung from the

school's Front Entrance Canopy, proclaiming "Congratulations Class of 2020." Other banners, proclaimed: "Congratulations Class of 2020 We Miss You, We Salute You... Despite The Distance We Will Never Forget You;" also "Congratulations Class of 2020, United in Strength and Courage."

One banner outside carried the photo that was also reproduced on the front page of the school's Website, whrhs.org. On the banner is a class photo taken earlier in the school year in the stands at Tozier Stadium. All students were wearing the signature "Senior White" T-Shirts, in a stunning show of solidarity.

The photo seems to echo the resolute spirit of the participants of the Class of 2020 Car Parade. It is also reminiscent of the "Senior GLC Bulletin Board" inside the school. The board was put up in September, and all year showed the signature self-confidence, personality and collective resolute spirit of the Class of 2020. It borrows a style used by the TV show, "Friends." Up top, the bulletin board head reads still, as it read all year: "Senior GLC, Season 20: Episode 20, The One Where They Graduate."



*(above) Bright and sunny weather greeted Class of 2020 graduates for their special Car Parade Day.*



*(above) What else is there to say, besides, "Thumbs Up!"*



*(above) Or another way to remember the say is to use the symbol for two levels of meaning: "Victory," sure, but also "Peace!"*



*(above) Class of 2020 Graduate Scott Romankow was piloted around the WHRHS Campus during the Car Parade by his parents, Stephanie and David Romankow.*

Photos by WHRHS



(above) Class of 2020 graduate Lucas Mammon, a noted acoustic guitar player, appears to also show distinctive taste in the artistic expressions on his distinctive Graduation Car parade 4-wheel drive rig.



(above) Like his fellow Class of 2020 graduates, Chris Miller rides the back of a convertible like he is a guest of honor in a "Canyon of Heroes" ticker-tape parade.



(above) For athletes, what else is there to say, besides, "Victory!"



(above) So many Class of 2020 graduates were beaming from their cars as they passed well-wishers, they seemed to be saying they were ready to reach for the stars.



(above) Class of 2020 Graduate Sofie Marsillo was accompanied on her Car Parade journey by her mom, Nancy Marsillo, who just happens to be a WHRHS Cross Country coach.



(above) Siblings Ava and Jack Melillo shared the memorable experience of their Class of 2020 Graduation Car Parade together.



(above) Teachers, staffers, and well-wishers applaud Class of 2020 graduates as the Car Parade passes.

## SCLSNJ'S AUGUST 2020 VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

All programs listed are free. Registration is required unless otherwise indicated. Programs are subject to change. Visit [sclsnj.libnet.info/events.org](http://sclsnj.libnet.info/events.org) for SCLSNJ's complete calendar of events. For questions contact SCLSNJ staff at [ask@sclibnj.org](mailto:ask@sclibnj.org).

### ALL AGES

#### Adopt Your New Best Friend

August 7, 3-4 p.m.

#### Magnolia Street String Band Bluegrass - Virtual Summer Concert

August 15, 3-4:30 p.m.

### CHILDREN AND TEENS

#### An Adventurous Children's Concert (entering grades Pre-K-2)

August 1, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

#### Preschool Storytime

(ages 3-5 years and their caregivers)

August 3, 11, 10, 17; 10:30-11 a.m.

#### Hour of Code (entering grades 2-5)

#### Puppy Adventure

August 3, noon - 1 p.m.

#### Escape the Dungeon

August 17, noon - 1 p.m.

#### Science Bites

(entering grades 3-6 and their caregivers)

August 3, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

#### My First Book Club

August 3, 4-5 p.m.

"Mercy Watson to the Rescue" by Kate DiCamillo (entering grades 1-4)

#### Music With Ms. Jenni

(ages birth - 3 years and their caregivers)

August 4, 31; 10-10:45 a.m.

#### Creatures Beyond Imagining (families with children)

August 4, 2-2:45 p.m.

#### Tween Trivia (entering grades 5-8)

August 4, 4-5 p.m.

#### Family Storytime - Twilight Tales (families with children)

August 4, 18; 7-7:30 p.m.

August 5, 6:30-7 p.m.

#### Toddler/Preschool Storytime

(ages 18 months - 5 years and their caregivers)

August 5, 19; 10-10:30 a.m.

August 27, 11-11:30 a.m.

#### Fantasy Castle Design (entering grades K-4)

August 5, 3:30-4 p.m.

#### Baby Storytime

(ages birth - 18 months and their caregivers)

August 6, 10-10:30 a.m.

August 20, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

#### Arms and Armor Through the Ages (families with children)

August 6, 2-2:45 p.m.

#### Learning Lab - Fairy Tale Science

(entering grades K-5 and their caregivers)

August 6, 4-5 p.m.

#### Play and Music Sampler

(ages birth - 3 years and their caregivers)

August 7, 10-10:30 a.m.

#### Study Buddy Summer STEM Program (entering grades 3-6)

August 7, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### Creative Writing Workshop (entering grades 7-12)

August 7, 2-3 p.m.

August 21, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

#### Choose Your Own Adventure

Escape the Castle (entering grades 1-4)

August 10, 3-3:30 p.m.

### STEAM

#### Op Art (entering grades 3-4)

August 10, 4-5 p.m.

#### Shaving Cream Creations

(entering grades K-5 and their caregivers)

August 20, 4-5 p.m.

#### Book Club - Dragons and Magic (entering grades 3-6)

August 11, 2-3 p.m.

#### LEGO® Club (entering grades K-5)

August 11, 4:30-5:15 p.m.

August 13, 4-5 p.m.

August 27, 2-3 p.m.

#### Toddler Storytime

(ages 18 months - 3 years and their caregivers)

August 12, 10-10:30 a.m.

(continued on page 9)



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## CRAFTY KIDS

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**Popsicle Stick Creations**

August 12, 2-2:30 p.m.

**Egg Carton Creations**

August 26, 2-2:30 p.m.

**Draw a Story - Fairy Tales Around the World**  
(entering grades K-2)

August 12, 4-4:45 p.m.

**Family Storytime - Pajama Time**  
(families with children)

August 12, 26; 6:45-7:15 p.m.

**Baby/Toddler Storytime - Discover Stories**  
(ages birth - 3 years and their caregivers)

August 13, 10-10:30 a.m.

**DIY Kitchen Science - Baking Soda Vinegar**  
**Volcanoes** (grades K-8 and their caregivers)

August 13, 11-11:45 a.m.

**Kids in the Kitchen**

(entering grades 3-5 and their caregivers)

August 13, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

**Puppet Time** (ages 2-5 and their caregivers)

August 14, 21; 10-10:25 a.m.

**Nature Explorers** (entering grades K-2)

August 14, 11 a.m. - noon

**Wizards Cook**

(entering grades 1-5 and their caregivers)

August 14, 2-3 p.m.

**Creatures From Around the World**

(entering grades K-5)

August 15, 10-10:30 a.m.

**Teen Summer Reads Book Club**

(entering grades 9-12)

August 17, 6-7 p.m.

**Toddler Sing With Pat**

(ages 1-3 years and their caregivers)

August 18, 10:30-11 a.m.

**Teen Trivia** (entering grades 9-12)

August 18, 2-3 p.m.

**Explore Art** (entering grades 1-5)

August 19, 1-2 p.m.

**Honey Heist** (entering grades 6-12)

August 19, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

**Math Matters** (ages 3-6 and their caregivers)

August 20, 11-11:30 a.m.

**Teen Trivia Night** (entering grades 6-12)

August 20, 7-8 p.m.

**Dino Days** (entering grades 3-8)

August 24, 2-3 p.m.

**Graphic Novel Book Club - "SheHeWe" by Lee**  
**Nordling** (entering grades 3-5)

August 25, 4-5 p.m.

**Once Upon a Building**

(entering grades 2-4 and their caregivers)

August 28, 2-2:30 p.m.

## ADULTS

**Why New Jersey Has an Official State Microbe**

August 3, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Presented by Dr. Jeffrey Boyd

**Selected Readings - SCLSNJ Unites the**  
**Community Through Verse**

August 4, 11, 18, 28; 11-11:45 a.m.

**De-Stress and Unwind With Yoga**

August 5, 12, 19, 26; 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Do You Believe? A Paranormal Survey**

August 5, 7-8 p.m.

**Nutrient Dense Salads**

August 6, 7-8 p.m.

**History of the Jersey Shore**

August 10, 7-8 p.m.

Presented by Kevin Woyce

**Ending Stigma in Somerset County - Raising**  
**Awareness About Mental Health**

August 11, 6-7 p.m.

**Belly Dance Bhangra World Dance Fusion**

August 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

Presented by Stephanie Pappas

**Employment Resources for People W/ Disabilities**

August 13, 1-2:30 p.m.

**Sweet Treats, Desserts Delicacies From the**  
**Garden State**

August 13, 7-8 p.m.

Presented by the

Museum of Early Trades and Crafts

**Smart DriverTEK Workshop**

August 14, 2-3:30 p.m.

Presented by AARP

**Mastering the Interview**

August 17, 7-9 p.m.

**Transforming Journalism**

August 18, 7-8 p.m.

**The Roaring Twenties**

August 19, 7-8 p.m.

Presented by Professor Jeff Kampf

**Making Your Job Search Work for You**

August 25, 7-8:30 p.m.

**The History of the Great Swamp**

August 26, 7-8 p.m.

Presented by the New Jersey Audubon Society

**How to Use Facebook to Increase Business**

August 27, 7-8 p.m.

**Virtual Readers' Roundtable**

August 31, 1-2 p.m.

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We mail 135,000 newspapers to every home and business in 21 towns. You can advertise in any number of towns. ads start at \$60.

## FULL COLOR PRINTING

We print flyers and menus, full color, two sided, on coated stock for only \$35 per thousand.

## DIRECT MAIL

Insert your flyer into the newspapers and get it mailed to every home and business for \$60 per thousand and as low as \$30 per thousand for higher quantities.

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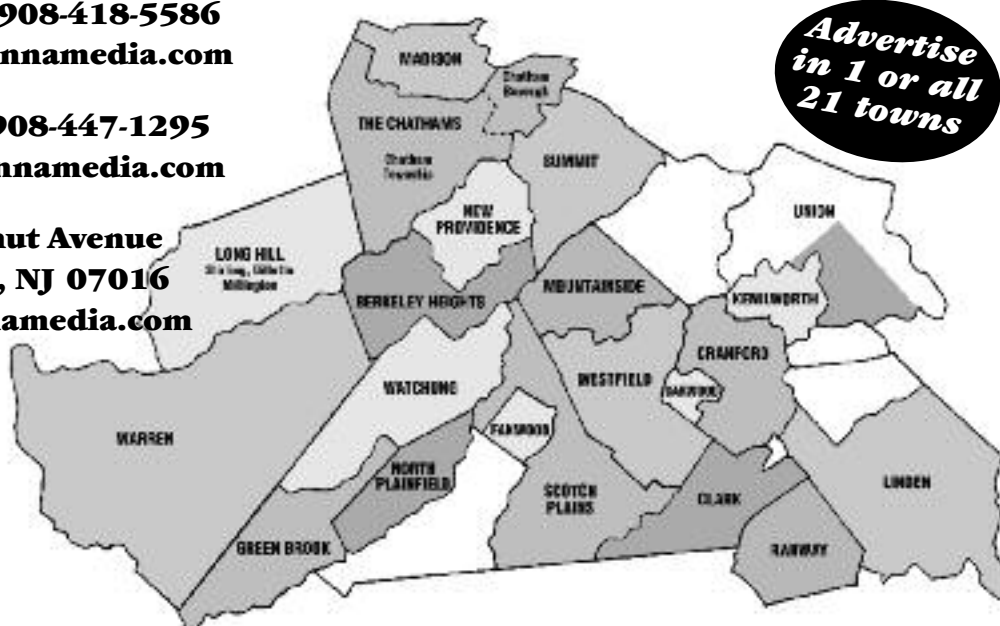
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**Advertise in 1 or all 21 towns**

<b>Berkeley Heights</b> COMMUNITY NEWS Qty: 4,800 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07922	<b>THE CHATHAMS</b> NJ Qty: 7,400 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07928	<b>Clark Monthly</b> NJ Qty: 6,700 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07066	<b>CRANFORD MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 9,800 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07016	<b>Fairwood Post</b> NJ Qty: 3,000 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07023	<b>Garwood Times</b> NJ Qty: 2,200 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07027	<b>Green Brook Gazette</b> NJ Qty: 3,000 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 08812
<b>BUSINESS + LIFE</b> <b>KENILWORTH</b> NJ Qty: 3,600 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07033	<b>Life in LINDEN</b> NJ Qty: 17,400 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07036	<b>Long Hill LEADER</b> NJ Qty: 3,600 Mailed to every home and business in Gillette, Millington and Stirling. Zip: 07933, 07946, 07980	<b>MADISON MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 6,300 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07940	<b>MOUNTAINVIEW</b> NJ Qty: 2,900 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07092	<b>New Providence NEWS</b> NJ Qty: 4,900 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07974	<b>The PRIDE of North Plainfield</b> NJ Qty: 8,300 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07060, 07062, 07063
<b>OUR TOWN</b> <b>Railway, NJ</b> Qty: 12,400 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07065	<b>Scotch Plains</b> NJ Qty: 9,600 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07076	<b>Summit &amp; Times</b> NJ Qty: 9,600 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07901	<b>Spirit of UNION</b> NJ Qty: 5,500 5,000 mailed to homes and businesses. Zip: 07083	<b>WARREN MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 6,200 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07059	<b>Watchung Post</b> NJ Qty: 2,800 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07069	<b>Westfield MONTHLY</b> NJ Qty: 11,800 Mailed to every home and business. Zip: 07090

### NEWSPAPER AD RATES

Rates are per month. Adwork included in price. Newspapers are black on white.

Units	Size	RATE FOR ANY 1 NEWSPAPER	RATE FOR ANY 3 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 6 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 9 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 12 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 15 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ANY 18 NEWSPAPERS	RATE FOR ALL 21 NEWSPAPERS
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25" x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
2 Units	6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"	\$100	\$250	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900
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 8" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000
2 PAGE SPREAD	21" x 14"	\$700							
BACK PAGE	10" x 14"	\$500							
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25" x 2"	\$320							
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5" x 4.5"	\$240							

Back cover, front page banner and front box reserved on first count. First served basis. Current advertiser has right of first refusal.

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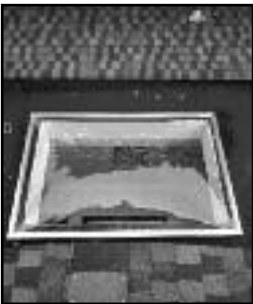
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