Green Brook Gazette

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CUB SCOUT PACK 182 IS BACK TO CAMPING!

Back into the wild before the storm! In October Pack 182 Scouts enjoyed their first official two-night camporee since the start of the pandemic. Thanks to the local Watchung Reservation for hosting the Warren Cub Scout Pack along with Pack 32 from Watchung and Pack 35 from Cranford. Warren Cub Scouts were eager to get back into their tents after a long wait. Overnight camping filled with adventures and activities has been a longstanding tradition in Cub Scouting, one that families look forward to year after year. After well over a year without a camping experience, Pack 182 leaders came together to plan and execute this wonderful event! The focus of this camporee was to expose K-5th grade Scouts and their families to an array of outdoor skills while having plenty of fun! Thanks to Den Leader, Mariette Dzeletovic, and Assistant Cubmaster, Ryan Valentino, for spearheading this camping extravaganza. Cubmaster, Chris Bellmann, took the reins on supporting the archery range and teaching safety and skills across all ages and ranks while Rangemaster, Tom Ventriglia, ran the BB gun range. Many leaders and parents came together to ensure a safe and action-packed weekend! There were nature hikes, lessons in knots and survival, an epic Capture the Flag game, as well as delicious campfire meals, and of course the coveted s'mores.

How can you join the Fun? Boys can enroll in Pack 182 Warren Cub Scouts at any time during the year, with many joining simultaneously at the start of a new school year. Scouts from surrounding towns are welcome. To learn more about Scouting, please contact, membership@warrenpack182.org.

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Green Brook Gazette

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NEW MEMBERS NEEDED

Green Brook Fire Department

Did you know that the Green Brook Fire Department is 100% volunteer? The Department is looking for new members with varying levels of availability (daytime, nighttime or any combination). Anyone interested is invited to attend a meeting on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. at the Fire House (115 Greenbrook Road) or you can email Fire Chief Geno Panella at gbfirechief@optonline.net for more information. The Township pays all costs for your training to become a firefighter/EMT when you register to become a member. As a volunteer not only will you get a chance to serve your community, but you will also have unique training opportunities and you will gain the ability to operate the Township's great fleet of fire apparatus. In addition, volunteers are also eligible for the NJ

Volunteer tuition reimbursement program for the volunteer, spouse and children and are allowed a credit of \$600 a year toward county colleges that participate. Volunteers are also offered a clothing reimbursement stipend based on participation level as well. Come down to the fire house or contact Chief Panella to find out more!



WHRHS HALL OF FAME SEEKING NOMINATIONS

Watchung Hills Regional High School

The Watchung Hills Regional High School Hall of Fame Committee is now accepting nominations for The Class of 2022 Hall of Fame. The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2022. Nomination forms may be found on the school website whrhs.org, under the Community heading. Forms may also be picked up in person at the WHRHS, 108 Stirling Road, Warren.

The Hall of Fame was set up to recognize individuals who have achieved distinction either during their high school days and/or in their professional or community life thereafter, as well as those who have served, with diligence and devotion, as Watchung Hills educators, coaches, board of education members, volunteers, and so on. Alumni nominees must have graduated at least 10 years ago.

To date, 69 individuals have entered the Hall of Fame in a wide variety of different fields, including education, athletics, humanities, the arts, medicine and volunteerism. Those selected to the Class of 2022 will be honored at a ceremony to be held in May of 2022. Those not selected will still be considered for future classes.

For more information, please feel free to contact Ms. Laurie Grafer, Administrative Assistant to the Principal at 908-647-4800 ext. 4870 or e-mail her at lgrafer@whrhs.org.

GREEN BROOK SENIOR CITIZENS

again in safe and healthy ways. If you are Judy Schwayher at judys22@optonline.net.

The seniors group in town is looking to add interested in getting together with other Green members and would like to start getting together Brook seniors, please send a note to Bob and

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VOLUNTEER GRIEF SUPPORT FACILITATORS NEEDED

need for children's grief support programs has never been greater. Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss, a non-profit organization based in Mountainside and Newark, exists to support children in New Jersey who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, or close family member. Imagine offers free peer support groups for children ages 3-18, young adults 19-30, and the parents and guardians of the children in the program. Groups for Spanish-speaking bereaved adults are also available. Currently, all groups are being held virtually, however, there are plans to

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In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the transition some groups to in-person as soon as it are needed as well. Volunteers serve as feels safe to do so.

> Imagine's support groups are only possible because of our amazing team of volunteers who facilitate the groups. Imagine currently has a wait list of families looking to join our support groups. We are unable to offer them support at this time because we do not have enough volunteers to begin another Night of Support. We need your help!

Imagine's volunteer facilitators come from all walks of life and no special background is required, other than, a willingness to listen, a heart inclined to serve, and the ability to be with children and adults in grief without trying to fix, solve, or give advice. No prior experience is necessary, but volunteers must be 18 years or older. Bilingual (Spanish-speaking) volunteers

companions and caring listeners for those who are grieving to help create a safe space where participants can share tears and embrace the joys of life.

We are hoping to fill our upcoming training with lots of wonderful new volunteers! We are planning to offer virtual facilitator training December

10-12th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. For information on joining Imagine's team of volunteers, please contact Imagine's Program Manager, Veronica Ortiz, by emailing veronica@imaginenj.org, or by calling 908-264-3100. Please help us address the growing need for children's grief support and ensure that no grieving child is required to wait to receive the support they need.

CURBING HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

This year residents donated 17,000 pounds of food to Curbing Hunger, Inc., which will be distributed to food-insecure families in Somerset County.

Donations of non-perishable food are accepted throughout the year and delivered to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County for distribution to county families in-need. Residents can place non-perishable items in a plastic bag and mark it "food" with a permanent marker and leave the bag at the curb with their recyclables for collection on their regularly scheduled pickup

days and/or donate canned goods at Somerset County's First Saturday Drop-Off events.

BOBO Fridays (Buy One, Bring One Fridays) runs all year. Green Brook residents can leave cans of food any day of the week in the blue bin located in lobby of Green Brook Town Hall at 111 Greenbrook Road, Green Brook, NJ 08812.

For more information about how to donate to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County, visit somersetfoodbank.org. To learn more about Curbing Hunger, Inc., go to https://curbinghunger.org/







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CHILL OUT WITH WINTER HOLIDAY SONGS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

'Tis the season — to stress out? According to a 2018 survey, a whopping 88 percent of Americans feel stressed out during the holidays.

But, did you know that "music can be used as a therapeutic tool to not only reduce stress, but to also promote healing and improve one's overall emotional well-being?"

Chill out this holiday season with a playlist from the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) composed of tracks from CDs available in the Library's collection.

The playlist features songs that highlight Hanukkah*, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the Winter Solstice.

Take a mental vacation and travel down "Holiday Road" (aka the theme song from the comedy classic film "National Lampoon's Vacation") with former Fleetwood Mac guitarist and vocalist Lindsey Buckingham, then say "Mele Kalikimaka" to the residents of Hawaii with '60s pop sensations the Monkees.

Celebrate the Festival of Lights with rock tracks from funny man and musician Jack Black, pop-rockers the Barenaked Ladies, and sibling trio HAIM.

Welcome the Winter Solstice through the poetic lyrics and gentle melodies of alternative

piano queen Tori Amos and her original song "Winter's Carol."

Commemorate community, family, and culture and learn the "Kwanzaa Dance" featured on the children's album "Kwanzaa for Young People (and Everyone Else!)."

Get funky this Christmas and walk in a "Winter Wonderland" with bluegrass, jam band the Infamous Stringdusters, and discover a "Christmas in Hollis" with hip-hop legends Run-D.M.C.

If you're feeling a bit bah-hum-bug, there are songs here for you, too, Scrooge. Joni Mitchell's journey of heartbreak during the holiday season is chronicled in the folky-blues track "River." While Lindsey Stirling and Sabrina Carpenter tell the Grinch how it is, through their electronic, violin-fueled rendition of "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch."

If classical music is your cup of hot cocoa, explore SCLSNJ's digital resource Naxos Music Library, a streaming service that features a comprehensive collection of choral, orchestral, chamber music, and more, available 24/7 with your Library Card.

Discover the "40 Most Beautiful Winter Classics" composed by the likes of Bach, Mozart,

and Tchaikovsky. Learn the history of "Chanukkah in Story and Song" as narrated by actor Leonard Nimoy and performed by Western Wind Vocal Ensemble.

Celebrate "Christmas and Hanukah: I'll Be Home for the Holidays," through the soothing sounds of piano, cello, and violin as performed by Eaken Piano Trio. And, welcome the "Seasons of Hope" with the United States Air Force Strings.

Warm up this holiday season with Naxos Music Library and SCLSNJ:

SCLSNJ.org/Naxos.

ABOUT SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM OF NEW JERSEY

Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ) partners with you to connect, to explore, to share and to discover. Together we enrich lives, expand knowledge and strengthen communities. SCLSNJ branches can be found in Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Hillsborough, Manville, North Plainfield, Peapack & Gladstone, Rocky Hill at Mary Jacobs Memorial Library, Somerville, Warren Township, and Watchung. Additionally, there are two SCLSNJ reading stations in Branchburg and Washington Valley. Visit SCLSNJ.org.

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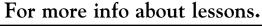
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TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 21ST ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 23rd season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 18 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) in New York City for a 2PM performance. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 19 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ with performances at 2PM.

For those weary of the ceaseless stream of secular seasonal music from department stores to TV, the Pipes of Christmas offers a spiritual and traditional take on the season that connects concertgoers to the holiday in a fresh, meaningful way. The show features tunes such as, Highland Cathedral, Joy to the World, and Amazing Grace, all performed live on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, and organ and brass and more. Not only does the performance define Christmas cheer, but also it inspires those of Celtic descent to retrace and reconnect to their ancestry.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Featured performers include singer Margaret Kelly from Aberdeen, Scotland, James Robinson from the film "Braveheart," New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more. **TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW**

Tickets may be purchased online exclusively through ShowTix4U. (Be certain to select "The Learned Kindred of Currie" as the organization name.)

LEARNED KINDRED'S ONLY FUNDRAISER

This annual concert is the Learned Kindred's only fundraiser, generating their operating budget for the year ahead. Losing the concert income is financially devastating to outreach programmes which support young people in education in Scotland, Canada and the United

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States through scholarships and sponsorships.

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which includes the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School as well as annual gifts to the National Piping Centre, the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland), Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Royal National Mor and the Gaelic College in Nova Scotia, among others.

ABOUT THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

Since making its debut in 1999, The Pipes of Christmas has played to standing room only audiences. Now a cherished holiday event, the concert provides audiences with a stirring and reverent celebration of the Christmas season and the Celtic spirit. Audience-goers return year after year to experience the program, many reporting that the Pipes of Christmas has become part of their family's annual Christmas tradition.

The concert has been lavished with critical acclaim. In his review for Classical New Jersey Magazine, Paul Somers wrote, "The whole evening was constructed to introduce gem after gem and still have a finale which raised the roof. In short, it was like a well constructed fireworks show on the Glorious Fourth. The Westfield Leader described the concert as "a unique sound

of power and glory nowhere else to be found."

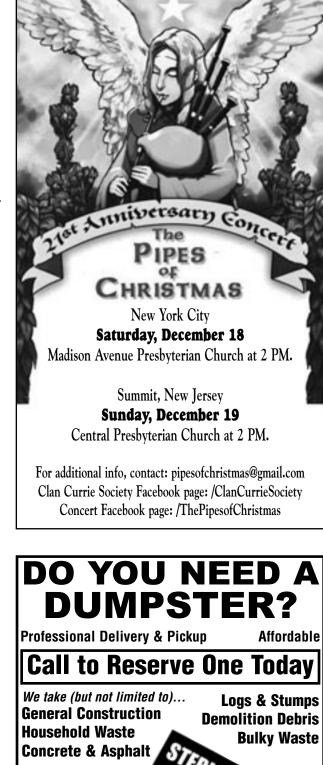
The Pipes of Christmas Virtual Concert, produced by The Clan Currie Society / The Learned Kindred of Currie, has been nominated for an award in the prestigious MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards (Na Trads) 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert (Bob) Currie (United States) currierobert82@gmail.com, (908) 858-6357 Neil Gunn (Scotland) neil@ngwriting.com,

07493 509991

Clan Currie Society Facebook page: facebook.com/ClanCurrieSociety Concert Facebook page: facebook.com/ThePipesofChristmas







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Season's Greetings 😹

As the holiday season is upon us, we reflect on the challenges we have faced as a community and think of those who have helped us during the tough times. Thank you to all who have trusted me with the purchase or sale of their home in 2021, and I look forward to helping many more of you in the coming year. I wish you good health & best wishes for 2022. Roseann

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