

Watchung Post

Watchung's Hometown Newspaper

NJ

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TIM CANARY ASSISTS RESTORATION OF HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSE

The US Coast Guard Auxiliary

A major initiative to renovate the historically designated Stamford Harbor Lighthouse maritime beacon and wildlife den is being aided by Watchung resident Timothy S. Canary, communications staff officer of Somerville NJ's Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 014-04-08. A volunteer to the restoration project, Tim has applied his electrical engineering skills to assessing unique features of the lighthouse's power needs and installing innovative solutions to satisfy them.

"Our Auxiliary members often serve their communities by personally volunteering their time to projects of interest," said Thomas F. Smith II, newly elected Commander of the unit. "We encourage this kind of service, and especially are glad that Tim is able lend a hand on something of great interest to recreational boaters."

Stamford Harbor Lighthouse was built in the Connecticut town's waterway approach during 1882 to guide East Coast mariners past potentially hazardous rockpiles and shallows. A



(above) Timothy Canary and his electrical engineering handiwork.

well-known navigational feature to Long Island Sound boaters, the lighthouse had fallen into disrepair with other "legacy" maritime beacons due to maintenance being deferred as emerging satellite-location technologies gained favor. Under private ownership, however, the current reclamation began, and the need for a revamped power system became paramount.

"It's a significant challenge that this lighthouse is offshore," noted Tim Canary. "The only power available is via direct current or solar charged batteries for the systems there," he added. These uncommon circumstances prompted Tim to devise tailored solutions, which included his building a custom weather sealed enclosure for the solar charge controller, fuses and blue tooth interface for monitoring.

In addition to Tim's work the ongoing project will target removal of maritime debris, rebuilding the lighthouse boat dock, preserving waterfowl and crustacean enclaves, and restoring local oyster beds.

The USCG Auxiliary is comprised of dedicated volunteers who provide educational materials, training and other resources in support of recreational boating safety, community service events, marine environmental protection, and US Coast Guard missions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

On the USCG Auxiliary: cgaux.org

On the lighthouse restoration project: stamfordlighthouse.org

To learn more visit njvn.org.



(above) Stamford Harbor Lighthouse maritime beacon and wildlife den.

Courtesy photos

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CHERIE BERGER TEAM The Cherie Berger Team Ashley Berger Freitas M: 908.432.9818 cheriebergerteam@compass.com O: 973.310.6816	69 Average Days on Market ▲ Increased from last month	7 # of houses on the market ▲ Increased from last month			

Watchung Post

Renna Media, LLC, Publishers
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THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
Celebrate Women's History Month

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THURSDAY
MARCH 6, 2025
7:00PM

WATCHUNG ARTS CENTER
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MARCH 30 AT 3 PM: RE-LIVE THE BEATLES

Step into a time machine and relive the magic of the Fab Four's illustrious career. This isn't just a concert—it's a nostalgic voyage that captures the essence of an era and celebrates the music that changed the world! Experience iconic moments like The Ed Sullivan Show, Shea Stadium, the Sgt. Pepper era, and Abbey Road. Enjoy timeless hits like "I Want to Hold Your Hand," "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds," and "Come Together." This immersive performance features dazzling costume changes, exquisite musicianship, powerful vocals, and a stunning multimedia backdrop, transporting you straight back to the 60s.

APRIL 6 AT 3 PM: MICHAEL PATRICK'S RING OF FIRE BAND: A JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE

Prepare to be captivated by Michael Patrick's heartfelt tribute to the legendary Johnny Cash. Over a decade ago, Michael Patrick fell in love with Johnny Cash's music—the simplicity, sincerity, and deep, expressive voice. Enjoy classics like "Ring of Fire," "Walk the Line," and "Folsom Prison Blues." Jenni Bee performs the songs of June Carter Cash, including "Jackson" and "Wildwood Flower." The Ring of Fire Band has shared the stage with Cash Family members and legends like Randy Travis and Clint Black. With annual tours in the South and sold-out shows from NYC to Boston, the Ring of Fire Band keeps Johnny Cash's legacy burning bright.

Don't miss these spectacular performances by New Jersey's best bands! These talented local

musicians bring their passion, energy, and unique sound to every performance. Experience the vibrant music scene of New Jersey and support your local artists. Whether you're a fan of rock, pop, doo-wop, or tribute bands, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Join us for an unforgettable musical journey and be part of the excitement!

Tickets are \$30-45 Get your tickets before they sell out! Visit GDPresents.simpletix.com or call 917-567-5842. For group rates and phone orders, email us at GDPresentstix@gmail.com.

<p>Come Together on a Magical Journey</p> <p><i>Re-Live</i></p> <p>THE BEATLES</p> <p>A Tribute to the Music that Changed The World</p> <p>March 30 - 3pm</p> <p>gdpresents.simpletix.com 917-567-5842 gdpresentstix@gmail.com</p>	<p>Michael Patrick's RING OF FIRE BAND</p> <p>A TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY CASH</p> <p>Special Guest JENNI BEE AS JUNE CARTER</p> <p>April 6 - 3pm</p> <p>DREW UNIVERSITY The Concert Hall Madison, NJ</p>
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ARIN HARKAWAT SPARKS CHANGE

Warren Hills Regional High School

Arin Harkawat, a senior at Watchung Hills Regional High School, is an environmental advocate who recently sparked change on 1,4-Dioxane Contamination.

The journey into environmental advocacy for Arin began with a poignant encounter at an environmental conference. While networking with speakers and attendees, Arin Harkawat, who grew up in Warren, was inspired by a man's heartfelt concerns over the deteriorating quality of his local waterways and tap water. This conversation prompted a deep dive into reports detailing toxic compounds in New Jersey's waterways, with one standing out repeatedly: 1,4-Dioxane. This chemical, commonly found in personal care products like shampoos and cosmetics, poses significant risks to human health, including potential liver and kidney damage, or even death. Alarmingly, New Jersey had no regulations addressing its presence. Recognizing the potential for severe environmental and health consequences, Harkawat resolved to act.

WHY 1,4-DIOXANE?

The decision to focus on 1,4-Dioxane was strategic. New York enacted regulations on the chemical in 2023, creating momentum for addressing this issue. The Environmental Justice Coalition, the campaign led by Catherine Callinan and Arin Harkawat and sponsored by Senator Raj Mukherji, decided to build on that progress in New Jersey, a state known for its environmental consciousness. Tackling 1,4-Dioxane served as a manageable first step, with hopes of expanding efforts to address broader concerns like lead contamination in the future.

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Harkawat's campaign was rooted in extensive research. He pored over scientific studies, regulatory reports from agencies such as the EPA and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and details of New York's legislation. Additionally, he leveraged a network of environmental leaders, professors, and members of the American Public Health Association's Environmental & Environmental Justice Committee. This network provided valuable insights, ensuring the campaign was informed and strategic.

MENTORSHIP AND GUIDANCE

Mentorship played a crucial role in shaping the advocate's approach. He drew inspiration and guidance from Dr. Natalie Sampson at the University of Michigan, who advised on growing the campaign. Other mentors from his summer internship with the Children's Environmental Health Network offered support



(above) Arin Harkawat is a Warren resident and a senior at Watchung Hills Regional High School.

Photo by WHRHS

on policy framing and legislative engagement. These experiences provided the tools needed to navigate complex advocacy efforts effectively.

ENGAGING LEGISLATORS

Interacting with legislators proved to be a key learning opportunity. Harkawat emphasized the importance of presenting well-researched, clear, and relatable arguments. Legislators sometimes lack expertise in specific environmental issues, making it critical to convey the urgency and practicality of proposed solutions in an accessible manner. This skill proved vital in gaining legislative support.

IMPACT ON CAREER AND FUTURE PLANS

The experience of pushing for a 1,4-Dioxane regulation has deeply influenced the advocate's career aspirations. It enhanced his understanding of environmental justice, policy development, and effective advocacy. Harkawat expressed a commitment to continuing this work by addressing water quality issues, particularly in marginalized communities, and expanding his focus to other environmental challenges. He

aims to measure the impact of their efforts and collaborate with others to drive meaningful change.

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

Persuading legislators to prioritize 1,4-Dioxane contamination was not without challenges. Harkawat noted that the real hurdle lay in fostering understanding and care for the issue. Identifying and working with the right legislators who shared his vision was critical to making progress. The advocate addressed these challenges by framing the issue as both urgent and solvable, emphasizing its long-term environmental and public health benefits.

MAKING COMPLEX SCIENCE ACCESSIBLE

One of the campaign's successes was simplifying complex scientific information about 1,4-Dioxane to engage a broader audience. Collaborating with peers and asking clarifying questions helped distill the issue into clear and actionable messages. By using human connections and storytelling, he was able to make the topic accessible to diverse audiences.

BALANCING ADVOCACY AND ACADEMICS

Balancing advocacy efforts with academic responsibilities required careful time management and dedication. Much of the advocacy work was done over the summer, allowing him to focus on his studies during the academic year. He acknowledged the importance of resilience, accepting setbacks, and finding motivation in the impact his work could have on others.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Looking ahead, Harkawat envisions a future where environmental justice is prioritized in underserved areas. He plans to expand his advocacy efforts, tackle new environmental challenges, and continue pushing for impactful legislation. His ultimate goal is to ensure cleaner waterways and healthier communities, proving that change starts with a single voice and the determination to make a difference.

To learn more about Arin Harkawat's campaign, please visit environmentaljusticecoalition.org.

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If you are an intermediate mahjong player and would like to play this game of skill.

Take control with Exercise

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.

This is an ongoing exercise program, in video form, for all skill levels.

Zumba Gold with Judith

Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.

This class is achievable for beginners. Cost is \$40 for the 8-week program.

Bridge Group with Ronnie

Tuesdays, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

New members and beginners welcome (lessons available).

Geri-Fit

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Seated (standing optional) exercise program.

Pre-registration is required.

Craft Activities

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1- 4 p.m.

We all work on doing craft work for Community Service projects.

Line Dancing with Linda Hyland

Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

You don't need a partner.

Seated Legs & Core Exercise (Video)

Thursdays, 1 p.m.

This low-impact class easy to learn.

Card/Table Games

Thursdays, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Mahjong, Bridge, Dominoes, Left-Right-Center Dice games, Rummikub, Canasta, and more.

Tai Chi (Video)

Fridays, 10:15 a.m.

This program can be practiced while either standing or sitting. No session March 21.

Bridge

Fridays, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Bridge is a mentally challenging card game that offers intellectual and social stimulation.

Healthy Feet

March 3, 11 a.m.

Proper foot care, the role of the podiatrist.

The Somerset County Traveling Library.

March 3, 1 p.m.

Sign up for a library card, get help troubleshooting technology, check out a book.

Mardi Gras Trivia

We will play Mardi Gras Bead Roll Game & also do Mardi Gras Puzzle, Secret Message, crossword, Fat Tuesday Quilt & word search.

Bingo

March 5, 11 a.m.

sponsored by Country Arch Care Center.

What is the Quality of your Water

March 6, 11 a.m.

Learn about how our water quality is tested and maintained, and how Water is kept safe.

Brains n Games and Hand Bells

March 7 & 28, 11 a.m.

Mind-tingling, brain-stumping word games and a fun-filled musical workout using hand bells.

Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

March 10, 11 a.m.

New Jersey was the most important theater of the Revolutionary War.

Armchair Travels to New Orleans

March 11, 11 a.m.

Explore the vibrant streets of the French Quarter and immerse yourself in the culture.

Monthly Book Club

March 11, 1:30 PM

Meets Every Second Tuesday of the month. Warrenbrook Senior Center Participants Only*

Holi- The Festival of Colors - Holi

March 12, 11 a.m.

Bollywood dance moves, and play fun games.

Breathing techniques for mental wellness

March 13, 11 a.m.

Practices that can be used to distract the mind and induce calm during an anxiety episode.

Casino Games

March 14, 11 a.m.

All ability levels and are trained to teach people how to play a variety of table games.

St. Patty's Day Craft

March 17, 11 a.m.

Celebrate the St. Patrick's Day with creating a bracelet. All materials will be provided.

Pre-registration is required.

Studio 60+

March 17, 1 p.m.

Plan the events they are interested in.

Wordle

March 18, 11 a.m.

Wordle is a word-based brain game.

March 19, 11 a.m.

Comedy Magic Show

A magic show with a blend of mentalism, rope and card magic, juggling.

Bingo

March 20, 11 a.m.

Bingo promotes socialization, strengthens hand-eye coordination, and improves skills.

St. Patty Day Musical Entertainment

March 21, 11 a.m.

We're bringing the spirit of Ireland to life with a musical performance by Kevin.

Mastering the Art of Homemade Soups

March 24, 11 a.m.

Explore the nutritional benefits of soup.

Boggle

March 25, 11 a.m.

This is a challenging game that is played using a grid of letters.

Maintain your Brain

March 26, 11 a.m.

Reduce risk of cognitive decline.

March 27, 11 a.m.

Stained Glass Technique using Vellum Paper

Create a stained-glass look using Vellum paper. Pre-registration required, and supplies provided.

Fall Prevention Presentation

March 31, 11 a.m.

Interactive discussion will focus on fall prevention strategies.

Ridewise

March 31, 1 p.m.

Sarah will join us to discuss the various transportation options .

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FILIPINO STUDENTS RECEIVE DONATED BOOKS

Friends of the Watchung Library

Filipino students and teachers recently celebrated the arrival of donated books from Watchung. These students attend under-funded schools, one of which had no books at all until a Filipino American family in Watchung began collecting books to supply them. One of the schools helped by the Watchung family is in an

area so remote that the books had to be hand carried up steep mountain paths.

The Friends of the Watchung Library are pleased to have been able to help supply much needed books for these young scholars and to continue to do so. To donate books to help supply Filipino schools, please contact the Friends by emailing watchunglibraryfriends@live.com.



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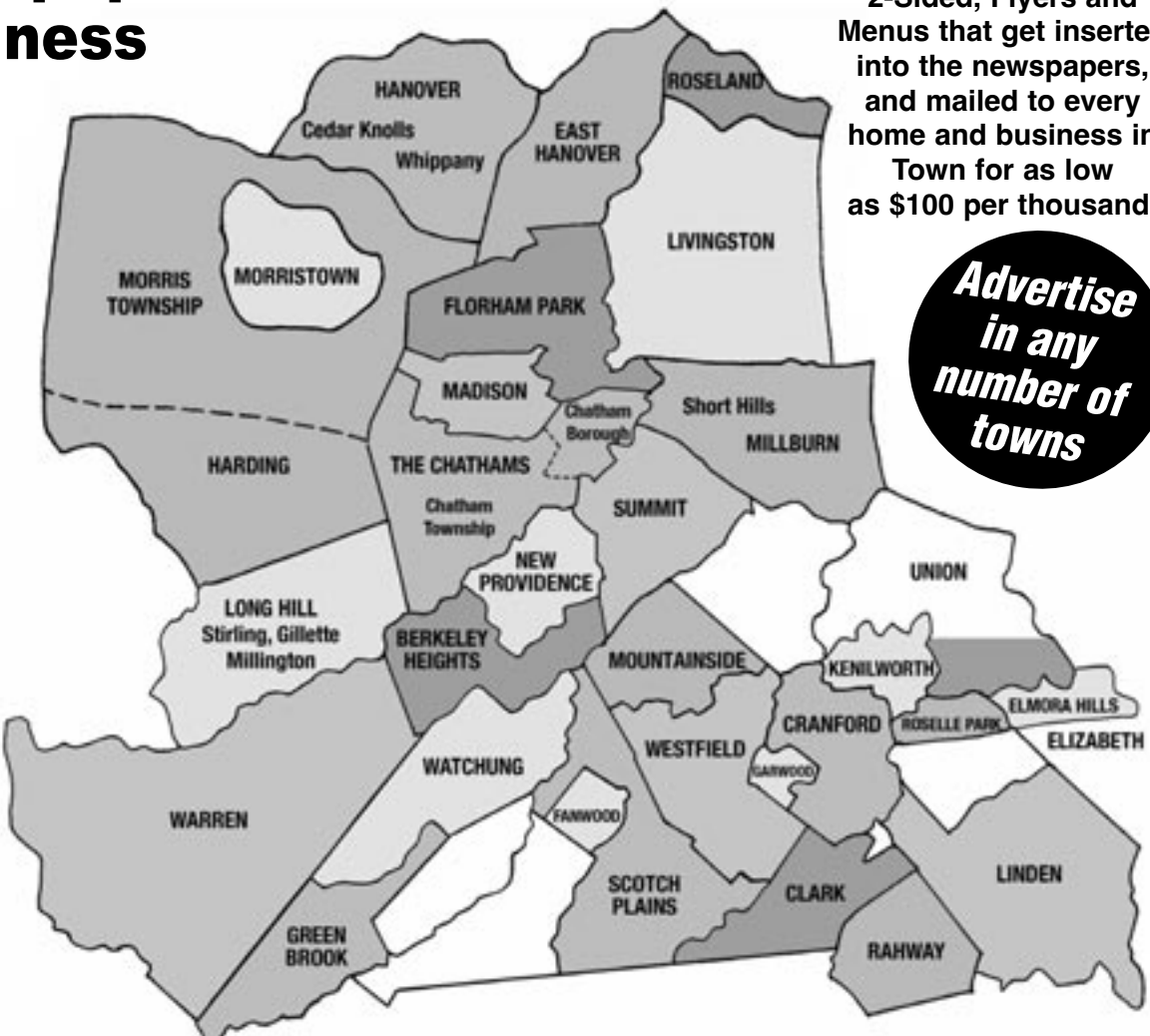
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Section of Elizabeth, NJ

Fanwood Post NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07023	Florham Park Press NJ Qty: 6,000 Zip: 07932	Garwood Times NJ Qty: 2,500 Zip: 07027	Green Brook Gazette NJ Qty: 3,300 Zip: 08812	HANOVER TOWNSHIP PRESS NJ CEDAR KNOLLS WHIPPANY Qty: 6,100 Zips: 07927, 07981	BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH NJ Qty: 3,500 Zip: 07033	NJ LIFE in LINDEN NJ Qty: 18,000 Zip: 07036	Livingston Monthly NJ Qty: 12,100 Zip: 07039
Long Hill LEADER NJ Qty: 3,500 Zips: 07933, 07946, 07980	MADISON MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,300 Zip: 07940	Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	MORRIS TOWNSHIP TIMES NJ Qty: 13,500 Zip: 07960, Harding 07976	MORRISTOWN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 7,000 Zip: 07960	MOUNTAINSIDE VIEW NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07092	New Providence NEWS NJ Qty: 5,100 Zip: 07974	OUR TOWN Rahway, NJ NJ Qty: 13,100 Zip: 07065
Life in Roseland NJ Qty: 3,000 Zip: 07068	ROSELLE PARK MONTHLY NJ Qty: 5,600 Zip: 07204	Scotch Plains NJ WHAT'S HAPPENING MONTHLY Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07076	Summit & Times NJ Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 7,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,500 Zip: 07059	Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	Westfield MONTHLY NJ Qty: 12,000 Zip: 07090

NEWSPAPER AD RATES		1 TOWN	3 TOWNS	6 TOWNS	9 TOWNS	12 TOWNS	15 TOWNS	18 TOWNS	21 TOWNS	24 TOWNS	27 TOWNS	30 TOWNS
Units (wide x High)	Size											
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25"x2"0	100	260	360	460	560	600	660	700	800	900	1000
2 Units	6.5"x2" or 3.25"x4"	150	360	560	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300
4 Units	3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units	6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE	6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
2-PAGE SPREAD	(2) 10"x14"	800										
BACK PAGE	10"x14"	600										
FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25"x2"	360										
FRONT PAGE BOX	1.5"x4.5"	320										

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WATCHUNG LIBRARY PROGRAMS

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CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Baby/Toddler Storytime

Birth to 3 years (with caregiver)

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

Introduce your child to the beginnings of storytime in this interactive program featuring rhymes, movement, songs, and stories.

Family Storytime

Birth to 5 years (with caregiver)

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

Discover songs, stories, and movement in this active storytime.

Music with Miss Donna

March 17, 10:30am - 11:00am

Take time to bond with your children while making music in this interactive session. Enjoy music, fingerplays, and playing instruments.

Bingo with Miss June

Ages 4 and up

March 19, 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Share your love of Bingo with other players as you compete to win prizes.

Drop-In: KEVA Plank Building

Grades K & Up

March 15, 10:30am - 1:30pm

Build with KEVA Planks.

Drop-In: Chess

Grades K-5

March 4, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

An hour of informal play. Open to all abilities.

Giant Games

March 5, 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Play fun classic games that are giant.

Paint and Snack: Saint Patrick's Day Rainbow

March 11, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Discover how to paint step-by-step using watercolors. Pre-packaged snacks and drinks will be served.

LEGO® Fun

March 12, 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Join the fun if you like building with LEGO® bricks. Bring your creativity and prepare for a challenge.

STEAM: Sphero

March 25, 4:30pm - 5:15pm

Discover coding by using Sphero robots.

Makers Day Drop In Crafts

Grades 4 and up

March 21, 1:00pm - 5:30pm & March 22, 10:30am-1:30pm

Participate in New Jersey Makers Day. Design and make a button (for all ages).

Make a felt bird bookmark (recommended for ages 10 and up).

Cookie Decorating for Tweens

Grades 5 - 8

March 13, 4:30pm - 5:15pm

Decorate cookies for St. Patrick's Day

Teen Volunteer Afternoon

Grades 6-12

March 20, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Write letters and make cards for a good cause. Attendees will earn one hour of service time.

ADULT PROGRAMS

How Can We Support You?

March 4, 11:00am - 12:00pm

This program is presented by the Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services

Watchung Library Writers Group

March 5, 12, 19 & 26, 10:30am - 12:30pm

The Watchung Library Writers Group welcomes experienced writers interested in providing constructive feedback.

Chocolate Making

March 8 & 12, 10:30am - 12:00pm

Make chocolate candies using molds.

Drop-In Tech Help

March 13 & 27, 11:00am - 12:00pm

Connect with one of our library staff members to get answers to your questions about technology.

Adult Book Discussion

Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir

March 13, 6:30pm - 7:45pm

"Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir moderated by Manny Miracle.

Mastering the Interview

March 20, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Learn to prepare for job interviews, testing

Makers Day: Make your own soap

March 21, 11:00am - 12:00pm

Celebrate New Jersey Makers Day by making your own scented bar soap



VERA ALICE STINE REMEMBERED

Borough of Watchung

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Vera Alice Stine, who passed away peacefully on Friday, February 14, 2025.

Beyond her professional life, Vera dedicated herself to serving her community. She was a proud member of the Watchung Rescue Squad from 1967 to 1999, and in 1977, she became its first female captain. Her commitment to service extended to the Watchung Cub Scouts, where for 15 years she played an instrumental role in shaping young lives long after her sons were adults, earning her the esteemed Good Scout of the Year Award in 2021.

The Borough of Watchung is proud to honor her history and lifelong dedication to service, despite facing some of life's most difficult ordeals. Vera Stine was a role model for carrying on and making a difference in people's lives. We offer our condolences to the family.

UGLY HOMES WANTED FOR TELEVISION PROGRAM IN THIS AREA

We need 30 Ugly Homes with Ugly Kitchens, Bathrooms, Siding, Window, etc., Inside or Outside that need fixing or Remodeling. We will Repair and Remodel them and shoot video for training film and future TV show on Home Remodeling Work.

Must Sign Release, for purpose of filming job! This must be a complete remodeling job, not just patch up work. This remodeling is to be specially priced, with compensation going back to the homeowner for a signed release.

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Ask for TV Project Department, for job evaluation and estimate of cost and compensations!

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ROBERT A. MAYERS PASSES

Borough of Watchung

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of local author and historian, Robert A. Mayers, a resident of Watchung since 1962. At 94, he passed away peacefully on January 25th. He became a full time Historian in 2002 and in 2020, he authored several books, including the "Historic Tales of Watchung." He has contributed significantly to Watchung's own Historical Committee. The Mayor and Council greatly appreciate Bob and all of his contributions to the Watchung community and to the Historical Committee.

Excerpt from Bob's obituary:

In 1962, the family built their dream home in

Watchung, NJ on high on a hill with a panoramic view of the valley below. When they first moved to this "wilderness" the street was nothing more than a dirt road that ended at their house. The road was extended and many young families joined them in new homes. These neighbors became lifelong friends. The Mayers children had endless playmates and attended Watchung grade schools and Watchung Hills High School. Bob was an assistant scoutmaster for his sons. Summers were at the Brook Hill Swim Club in town, and weekends and vacations at the family summer home at the Jersey Shore at Shark River Hills. Full obituary can be found: higginsfuneralhome.com/tribute



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18 Quail Run, Warren, NJ
5 Beds | 6 Baths | 1 Half Bath | \$2,928,000

EXCLUSIVE LISTING



545 Johnston Drive, Watchung, NJ
4 Beds | 5 Baths | \$2,200,000

COMING SOON



128 Mountainview Road, Warren, NJ
4 Beds | 4 Baths | 1 Half Bath | \$1,315,000

ADULT COMMUNITY



21 Johns Drive, Warren, NJ
2 Beds | 2 Baths | \$1,225,000



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The Cherie Berger Team is a team of licensed real estate salespersons affiliated with Compass. Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by equal housing opportunity laws. *Source G5MLS 01.01.23 - 12.31.23. **#1 2022 closed sales volume. T. Velt, "eXp Realty, Compass earn No. 1 spots in RealTrends 500 brokerage rankings," RealTrends, Online, HW Media, 3/09/2023. <https://www.realtrends.com/articles/realtrends-500-exp-realty-jumps-to-no-1-sides-compass-no-1-volume/>.