

# LEARNING

## STUDENTS CELEBRATE CULTURAL ARTS WEEK



Courtesy photos

Far left: The traditional attire of a Bolivian dancer.  
 Left: Some Bolivian dancers perform at Pomfret Community School earlier this month for Bolivian Cultural Arts Week. The dancers are from the "Fraternidad Folklorica Boliviana de Rhode Island."  
 Middle left: Here, Pomfret Community School seventh- and eighth-grade students participate in a Latin dance workshop during Cultural Arts Week earlier this month. The workshop was run by the PTO-sponsored Latin Dance troupe Grasshopper Arts, out of Willimantic.  
 Below: During the Bolivian Cultural Arts Week, third-graders wrote, performed and acted out various Bolivian folk tales on stage during the culminating Bolivian Dinner and Carnival Dance Performance Thursday, April 19. There was some help on the production from the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.



## Johnson to sign copies of book

WOODSTOCK — Dallas, Texas, author Perla Sarabia Johnson will give a talk and sign copies of her book, *Global WarNing*, from 12:45 to 2 p.m. Friday, May 1, at Bracken Memorial Library, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock.

Imagine a world where ungodly temperatures create a hell on earth for mankind. This heat leads to a frightening evolution of living things. Animals grow at astronomical rates; monstrous creatures roar the earth. The power of photosynthesis rises to new heights. Giant plant-life towers the heavens and challenges the agricultural industry. A city becomes so polluted that humans must live underground where they can escape the mighty beasts. This is the scenario of the science fiction book *Global WarNing*.

*Global WarNing* takes a fictional look at the dangers that could befall Earth if climate change is ignored, as well as illustrates a new approach to dealing with the country's economy. This adventure starts in the present and spans to the future.

Perla uses her Cuban heritage to illustrate the Latino lifestyle. The plot unfolds with drastic political changes in her parents' homeland. The protagonist in the story even travels to Poland, where he gets tangled in a web of murder and corruption.

While conducting the research for the book, Perla interviewed several high profile professionals who are experts in their field, including Dr. Fabien JG Laurier, program officer for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program; Dan T. Tom, Grid Integration team leader of the Solar Energy Technologies Program; Dr. Samuel T. Ariaratnam, professor of construction management at Arizona State University; Stephen R. King, associate professor in the Department of Horticultural Sciences of the Vegetable and

Fruit Improvement Center at Texas A & M University, and Matthew Carrano, curator of dinosaurs at the Smithsonian Institution.

Perla's work in news promotions and marketing has helped develop her creative writing. She received her Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of

Texas at Austin in 1983. Her writing experience includes jobs in newspaper, radio and television.

*Global WarNing* is available at [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com) and [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

Pomfret Community School celebrated its PTO-sponsored Cultural Arts Week earlier this month and extensively studied Bolivian culture. Here, some eighth-grade students peruse the Bolivian marketplace set up on the school stage with authentic Bolivian food, handicrafts, music and activities.

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