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ISSUE 108 • AUGUST 2022

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WHRHS CLASS OF 2022 PROJECT GRADUATION

2022 marked the 31st year of Watchung Hills Regional High School's Project Graduation. A volunteer team of parents of WHRHS seniors comes together to plan events for the graduating class throughout the year that lead up to a safe and fun graduation celebration for the entire class, free of charge to the students.

This year's action-packed night was held on June 16th at Iron Peak Sports & Entertainment in Hillsborough, NJ. Food and drinks were provided throughout the night. Graduates choose from a full night of fun, including rock climbing, ninja courses, basketball, pickleball, volleyball and other sports, a new video arcade, live entertainment and so much more.



Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Green Brook Gazette page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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Green Brook Gazette

WHRHS STUDENT CREATES THE BUDDY-UP PROGRAM TO HELP THE ELDERLY

Anmol Bhatia, a Watchung Hills Regional High School junior, created the Buddy-Up Program at Abingdon Care & Rehabilitation Center in Green Brook to help give lonely residents someone to chat with.

Anmol has always been passionate about helping the most needed in healthcare. While volunteering in the activities department last summer at Abington, he realized that most activities were canceled due to Covid, and many residents were very lonely and had few visitors. Bhatia created the Buddy-Up Program to keep lonely residents company by having them chat with community volunteers online.

Anmol's goal of connecting students to residents was a huge success. Community members and students offered to chat with the lonely residents on 30 minute Zoom calls through iPads provided by the center. "It makes you feel good to help someone else in your community," says Bhatia, who has raised funds to purchase more iPads. "We've had fifty-five volunteers sign up, and nothing but positive reviews from the residents."

Bhatia recently collected funds to purchase three new iPads for the program but is always looking for more volunteers and donations. To sign up as a volunteer, send an email to

buddyupprogram@gmail.com, or you can donate funds to purchase more iPads, at <https://gofund.me/df476cc5>.



(above) Anmol Bhatia, the program Founder and Director presenting iPads to Love-E Raynes, the Activities Director, and Dr. Patricia Barsanti, the Medical Director at Abingdon.

Courtesy photos



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MICHELE FORD RECEIVES NJBIZ'S 2022 ICON AWARD

Green Brook resident Michele Ford, President & CEO of Inroads to Opportunities, was recently honored with the NJBIZ's 2022 ICON Award. Inroads to Opportunities is a Union County, NJ based non-profit human services agency that provides programs and services to individuals with disabilities ranging in age from 16 to retirement.

NJBIZ's ICON Awards are given to New Jersey leaders over the age of 60, who have made major contributions to their designated field as well as their significant impact on the state's larger business community.

For over 35 years, Michele Ford has dedicated her life to serving the needs of individuals with disabilities. A life-long advocate, Michele has been a champion for this most vulnerable population by serving on Union County Non-Profit Consortium, Union County Crisis Consortium and most recently addressing members of the US Commission on Civil Rights in Washington, D.C. to raise awareness of choice in defense of employment options for individuals with disabilities.

According to Ford, "I hope this award is another way to bring true recognition to the important work being done in the rehabilitation field to provide New Jersey Employers with a diverse, qualified and enthusiastic work force. I am extremely honored and accept this award in recognition of Inroads to Opportunities and the amazing team I work with every day to prepare individuals with disabilities for independence and employment."

With over 35 years of experience, Ford has made a tremendous impact on the lives of employees and participants in the Inroads to Opportunities program. Demonstrating selflessness and compassion, Ford has dedicated her life to support individuals with disabilities.

Within the last year, Ford has been recognized by The Union County Board of Commissioners with the Shero Award as well as receiving the 'Inventive Leader in Adult Services, Courage and Compassion Award' presented by the NJ Association of Mental Health & Addiction Agencies (NJAMHAA).

ABOUT INROADS TO OPPORTUNITIES:

Since 1959, Inroads to Opportunities, formerly the Occupational Center of Union County, has provided programs and services to over 400 individuals each year with all types of disabilities and ranging in age from 16 through retirement. Programs and services include vocational preparation, transition from school to work, job placement and mental health services.

Inroads to Opportunities is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), an approved provider of the NJ Department of Labor, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Commission of the Blind and Visually Impaired. Inroads is licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Human Resources, NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to provide partial care and Division of Developmental Disabilities to provide Day Habilitation Services. Inroads is an approved Medicaid provider and an approved Employment Network under the Ticket to Work Social Security initiative.



(above) Green Brook resident Michele Ford, President & CEO of Inroads to Opportunities.

Courtesy photo

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DAR CHAPTER CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Submitted by Holly Dunbar

“Celebrating 125 Years of Service” was the theme as members of Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently gathered for a belated observance of the chapter’s 125th anniversary.

Green Brook Mayor Jim Van Arsdale, DAR State Regent Bonnie Matthews and the State Board of Managers were honored guests at the event held on June 11 at the Dunellen Hotel.

“Today we celebrate our chapter’s many accomplishments,” said Regent Ashley Salsano. “As we follow in our ancestor’s footsteps, we look forward to carrying on their tradition of service.”

Continental Chapter was organized on January 23, 1896 in Plainfield and in 2002 merged with Elizabeth Snyder Chapter of Dunellen. Now based in Green Brook, the chapter continues to serve areas of Somerset, Middlesex and Union counties.

At the event, Barbara Navatto of Somerville was honored with a DAR Community Service Award for her years of service to the Somerset County 4-H Program. In addition, a donation of \$300 was presented to the DAR State Regent in support of Semper Fido, an organization that trains service dogs for veterans.

Guests enjoyed a slide show retrospective of chapter history. The chapter is perhaps best known for its leading role in the preservation of Washington Rock in Green Brook. Chapter memorabilia was on display, including gavels

made from the wood of the British warship, Augusta, sunk in 1777, and the chapter charters.

A highlight was a musical performance by Patricia Turse, harpist with the Metropolitan Orchestra of New Jersey.

Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter sponsors students in DAR contests that promote the study of American history and good citizenship, collects holiday gifts for hospitalized veterans, and gathers supplies for the Plainfield Area Humane Society. Members support local

conservation efforts, patriotic observances, and state and national DAR projects.

The DAR is a nonprofit service organization open to women 18 and over who can trace their descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter also sponsors the Pis-Cat-A-Qua Society of the Children of the American Revolution, open to girls and boys from birth to age 22. New members to both organizations are welcome. Learn more at DAR.org.



(above) State Regent Bonnie Matthews (2nd from left) with the members of Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR.

Courtesy photo

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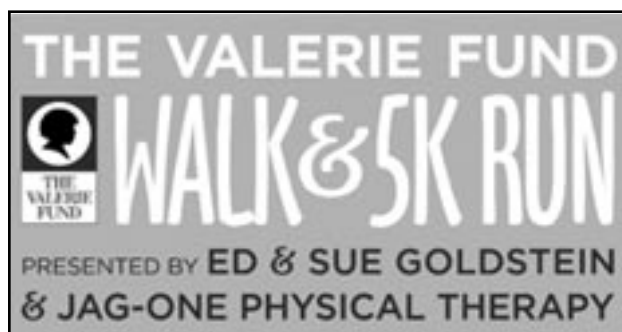
The Valery Fund

Overcoming unimaginable obstacles to accomplish great things and making a difference in their communities. Sue and Ed Goldstein, longtime Warren, New Jersey residents, suffered an unthinkable tragedy not once, but twice: losing both their daughters to cancer. In the face of their grief, the Goldsteins used their losses to help others, creating programs in the wake of each daughter's passing. Their extraordinary efforts over the past 40 years resulted in the creation of The Valerie Fund and The Stacy Goldstein Breast Cancer Center at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey. Both organizations continue to provide hope and life-saving treatment for thousands of people.

The Valerie Fund is excited to partner with Warren Township residents this year in an initiative to support The Valerie Fund Walk & 5K to be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022. Now in its 17th year, the walk will take place in Verona Park on September 17th. The local effort is spearheaded by Helena, a freshman at Watchung Hills Regional High School. Participating high school students are learning fundraising skills, while also making a difference in the lives of kids battling cancer and blood disorders. Registrations and donations can be made online at thevaleriefund.org/about/board/ed-sue, or checks can be mailed to The Valerie Fund 2101 Millburn Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040.

ABOUT THE VALERIE FUND

The Valerie Fund relies on the dollars raised to help the children who live in our community. The Walk and 5K Run will support our mission to provide comprehensive health care for children with cancer and blood disorders. Every step you walk or run and every dollar you raise helps at The Valerie Fund Centers. Patients receive far more than treatment for their physical illnesses. Our philosophy is that to truly heal the children with whose care we are entrusted, we must treat them emotionally, socially, and developmentally, as well as medically. Each patient is provided a team of social workers, psychologists and child life specialists that support them through their journey, which eases the burden so the family can concentrate on healing.



(above) Saturday, September 17, 2022, join us in Verona Park, Essex County, for our Walk & 5K Run. Registrations and donations can be made online at:

thevaleriefund.org/about/board/ed-sue, or checks can be mailed to The Valerie Fund 2101 Millburn Ave., Maplewood, NJ 07040.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS

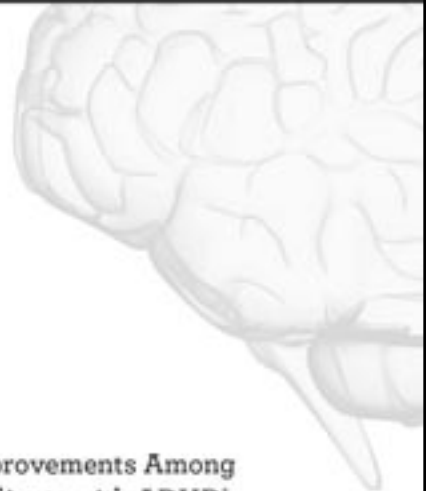
The Green Brook Cultural, Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee/Green Brook Historical Society is always looking for people of all ages interested in joining our group as a volunteer or member. There are also opportunities to get involved on an occasional basis, for special events or work days.

In October, we will be participating in the county-wide 'Weekend Journey Through the Past' event, which will be held on Saturday, 10/8 and Sunday, 10/9. We are hosting a table up at Washington Rock and distributing information about the history that took place there in 1777. General George Washington will make an appearance on Saturday, from 1 – 2 p.m. to give an interesting presentation. The Rock has also been the site of other interesting happenings throughout the decades.

The Dr. John Vermeule House at 223 Rock Avenue, Green Brook will be open for visitors, on 10/8 from 10 am – 5 pm and 10/9 from 12 pm - 4pm. The House dates back to 1799 and offers an interesting glimpse into 19th-20th century rural living. There are some interesting outbuildings and farm equipment to see, on the 2-acre property.

Mark your calendars and consider participating as a volunteer or enjoy the event as a proud resident!

Our meetings are held at Green Brook Town Hall, 111 Greenbrook Road on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. We also offer Zoom, for those who can't come in person. Our group has a lot of fun exploring our local history and doing our best to preserve and document its rich heritage. Please consider joining us!



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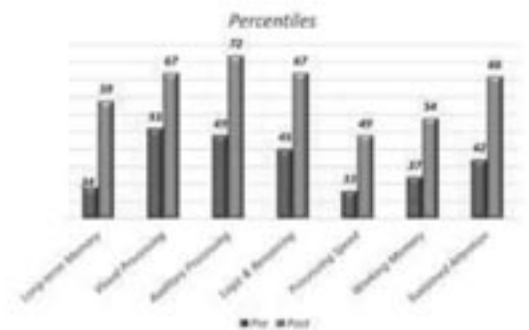
While we do not diagnose or treat ADHD, our programs have improved the cognitive performance of clients with many diagnoses, including ADHD.

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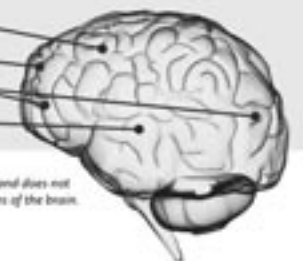
- Among 6,446 clients who came to us with ADHD, the mean age was 12 years, and the largest gains were seen in IQ scores, auditory processing, long-term memory, and broad attention.
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Cognitive Improvements Among LearningRx Clients with ADHD*



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CHESS FOR FUN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

Chess for Fun is a casual group of chess players who have been meeting for roughly 50 years. The group's players come from all over, and in the case of Larry Morse, as far away as Whitehouse Station. The most senior player, at 98 years old, is still playing strong.

It their earlier years the group met at the Rahway Public Library when it was located on St. Georges Avenue. In 1999 a flood destroyed the library. Chess for Fun has been meeting in

the Clark Public Library every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. And at Max's Pizza & Bistro in Scotch plains on Monday mornings at 11 a.m.

There are no formalities to the group. It is not an established club with officers or membership. Everyone of any ability is welcome to participate. Regulars bring their own board to share so it is not necessary to bring a board, but it would be helpful if you can.



(above, standing, l-r) Players and hometowns: Larry Morse, Whitehouse Station; Mark Shoengold, Colonia; Jack Rothstein, Edison; John Foy, Scotch Plains; Bodre. (seated, l-r) David Goldstein, South Plainfield; Neil Landau, Edison; Matthew Bistis, Mountainside.

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Roseann O'Keefe is a proud sponsor of
Green Brook's National Night Out on August 2nd from 6 - 9 p.m.
at the Green Brook Middle School, 132 Jefferson Avenue.
Please stop by our table to say hello and spin the wheel for some fun prizes for the kids.
The real estate market is rapidly changing and evolving.
Call me anytime for a no obligation conversation about the current state of the market.

Who you choose to work with matters
My Featured Properties and Recent Transactions in Green Brook



FOR SALE
206 Second St, Dunellen
4 Bed / 1 Bath / 1 Car Garage
Sun-filled home on a beautiful street



FOR SALE
98 Morning Glory Rd, Green Brook
3 Bed / 2 Bath / 2 Car Garage
Immaculate and move-in ready



FOR SALE
116 Greenbrook Rd, Green Brook
4 Bed / 1.1 Bath
Beautifully updated home



FOR SALE
1 Hidden Hollow Ct, Green Brook
4 Bed / 4.1 Bath / 3 Car Garage
Sprawling home w/Sunroom & Conservatory



FOR SALE
10 Blue Hill Terr, Green Brook
3 Bed / 1 Bath / .45 Acres
Beautiful park-like property



UNDER CONTRACT
4 Windy Hill Rd, Green Brook
Buyer Representation



UNDER CONTRACT
63 Ridge Rd, Green Brook
4 Bed / 4.1 Bath / 3 Car Garage
Walk-out basement
w/full 2nd kitchen



SOLD 6/28
1036 Shadowlawn Dr, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 6/10
14 Cedar Ridge Rd, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 6/9
8 Linda Lane, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 6/6
150 Wallace Ct, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 5/11
45 Ridge Rd, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 5/6
18 Ridge Rd, Green Brook
Buyer representation



SOLD 4/27
6 Gold St, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 4/7
34 Rock Road West, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 3/1
3 Renda Place, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann



SOLD 2/28
207 Tallwood Lane, Green Brook
Listed by Roseann

★★★★★ **Client Testimonial**

"Roseann and her team were great to work with - professional, knowledgeable, available and understanding. I will be recommending her to anyone I know buying or selling a home." John A.



*Each office is independently owned and operated. If your home is listed with another broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. All above reported transactions are located in Green Brook, NJ