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OVER 150 SENIORS ENJOYED PROJECT GRADUATION 2022

Berkeley Heights Public Schools
Governor Livingston Project Graduation 2022 was a HUGE success.

Over 150 seniors enjoyed a fun-filled night at the Branchburg Sports Complex.

The event ran from 9:30 pm - 2 am.

There were a variety of activities available to the students including Gaga, Laser Tag, an arcade, basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, soccer, an inflatable obstacle course, a casino (with Amazon gift card prizes), BINGO (with varied gift card prizes), caricaturists, airbrush tattoos, tarot card readers, a photo booth and so much more!

Mountainside EMT Hannah Miller was on hand for the entire evening as were police officers from each town....Detective Yasinski from Mountainside and Officer Rodriguez from Berkeley Heights. A huge shout out to the EMTs and Police Officers!

Eleven event volunteers traveled by bus to and from the event; without them this event wouldn't be possible.

Those amazing volunteers were: Jordan Hyman, Tracey Gardner, Lisa Fabio, Gina Perrotta, Dana Liloia, Jill Vaidman, Rosa Fontes, Raphael Fontes, Joyce Wallen and Marie "Zoe" Cortez and on-site coordinator, Michelle Tilyou.

A team of 20 additional volunteers, led by Jennifer Doll and Amy Radick, helped with registration and bag check in the GL parking lot before the 5 busloads of seniors departed.

A huge thank you to the Berkeley Heights Board of Education, Mr. Nixon and the GL administrators, local businesses for their generous donations (including 20 dozen donuts donated from the Berkeley Heights Dunkin Donuts located on Springfield Avenue).

Freshmen, Sophomore and Junior parents, please consider getting involved with Project Graduation in the future.

Project Graduation includes many activities throughout the year including a Senior Breakfast in the fall, Prom Fashion Show in February, a



Senior Picnic on the day of the prom and finally the Project Graduation event. The Project Graduation committee is also responsible for sale of the graduation lawn signs as well as the sale of the Highlander Way pavers and seat and parking spot raffles for Graduation.

Jeanie Ruban shares that it has been a pleasure being the Project Graduation Coordinator for the past 6 years.

If you would like to get involved please reach out to the new Project Graduation Coordinator, Chrissy Kiesewetter at cmkiesewetter@msn.com.

(More photos on pages 8 and 9)

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

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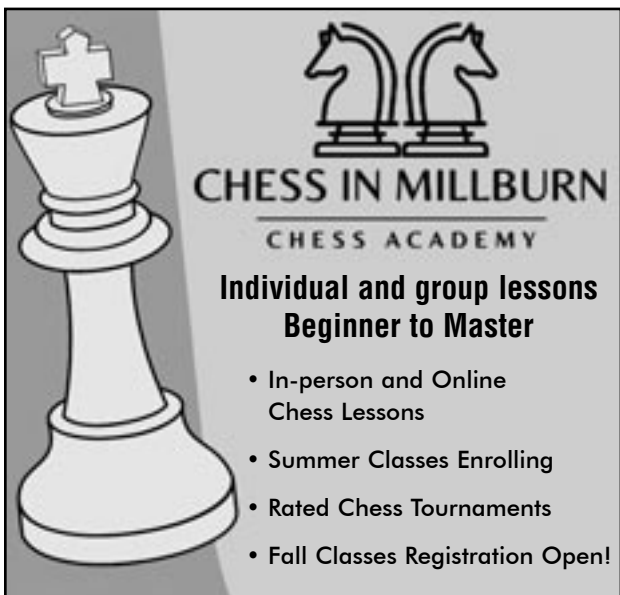
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Chess for Fun is a casual group of chess players who have been meeting for roughly 50 years. The group's players come from all over, and in the case of Larry Morse, as far away as Whitehouse Station. The most senior player, at 98 years old, is still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



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GENE JANNOTTI RECEIVES NJBIZ ICON HONOR

Gene Jannotti, CEO of GWACC (Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce), received the NJBIZ ICON Honor Award during a breakfast held on June 28, 2022, at The Palace at Somerset Park. This award recognizes New Jersey business leaders over the age of 60 for their notable success and demonstration of strong leadership both within and outside of their chosen field.

Gene graduated Cum Laude from Siena College in Loudonville, NY and was elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. He received a



(above) Gene Jannotti

Courtesy photo

Teaching Fellowship to St. John's University obtaining a master's degree in Mathematics. Following a military service as an officer in the US Army Reserves, Gene began a career at New York Telephone (NYT) Company in the fledgling computer department as a programmer assistant, ending his career there as a Division Manager. NYT selected Gene to attend the Master's Degree Program for Executives at Columbia University where he graduated with an M.S. in Business Policy. Upon retirement, he joined Bell Atlantic Yellow Pages as Vice President and Chief Information Officer. With the merger of Bell Atlantic and NYNEX, Gene left the Bell System to join Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), an international outsourcing and consulting firm, as a Director of Operations. Gene managed the outsourced IT department of General Dynamics; performed transformation services for companies such as Nortel, Motorola, and the NSA. He then moved to the CSC consulting division and worked for several Fortune 500 companies managing large IT projects for them. He spent one year in Asia working for AIA, at the time when they were the Asian insurance subsidiary of AIG, and for Manulife Insurance, operating as John Hancock in the United States. His wide range of program and project management skills and experience gave him the opportunity to work for many diversified corporate clients. His projects were valued at several million dollars.

Upon retiring from CSC, Gene joined GWACC, the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce in 2014. He raised the membership

level from 260 business members to approximately 500 now. The Chamber started a 501c3 Foundation with the purpose of providing scholarships to high school students in the five towns served by GWACC, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield and to also provide grants to non-profit GWACC organizations.

In 2016, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Patriots Council of the Boy Scouts. Gene is a past member of the Trinitas Medical Center Foundation Board, a past President and current member of the Board of Trustees of the Union County Performing Arts Center and currently on the Board of the Union County College Foundation. He is also Vice President of the World County and Line DanceSport Federation and had competed Internationally in line dance competitions. Gene enjoys dance, world travel, golf, music and reading James Patterson novels, his high school friend.

ABOUT THE GWACC

Established almost 75 years ago, the GWACC is the primary business organization in Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, and Westfield. The chamber promotes local business opportunities, economic development, and community growth. The GWACC includes 500 member businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more information, go to GWACCNJ.com or contact Gene at the GWACC office, 908-233-3021, or email him at gene@gwaccnj.com

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2022 PROJECT GRADUATION PHOTO ALBUM (continued from page 1)



(More photos on page 9.)



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INTERNS HONORED – SEEKING NEW INTERNS FOR THE FALL



(above) Intern Leah Weiss, a senior at Westfield High School, with her gift basket outside the Westfield Service League Thrift Shop & Consignment Shop.



(above) Intern Nina Johnson, a senior at Scotch Plains Fanwood High School, accepts a gift basket from Westfield Service League co-presidents Rosann LiVolsi and Susan McClelland. Thrift co-chair Jan Herringer, left, supervises interns for the League.

Submitted by Ann Ormsby

Westfield Service League Co-Presidents Rosann LiVolsi and Susan McClelland recognized the organization's first two volunteer interns during a membership luncheon held on June 7 at the Echo Lake Country Club. The students, Nina Johnson and Leah Weiss, have volunteered at the League's Thrift and Consignment shops this past year.

LiVolsi and McClelland thanked the students for their energy and enthusiasm and presented each with a check for \$250, a gift certificate to the shop and a basket of college essentials — a small token of appreciation to begin their college careers.

Johnson is a graduating senior at Scotch Plains Fanwood High School and plans to attend New York University in the fall. In accepting her gifts, Johnson described how impactful volunteer service has been to her.

She began volunteering at the shops after a shopping visit with her mother and worked during COVID when students did virtual learning from home. Johnson, who spent her lunch breaks working at the shops, said volunteering "was a breath of fresh air." She added that she wrote her college essay on the League. "Thank you for helping me get into my dream school," she told League members at the luncheon.

"The Westfield Service League helped me realize how incredibly easy it is to be generous with your time and help others, and how much gratification it leaves you with. I hope that another person will have the opportunity to spend as much time as I did at the Westfield Service League."

Weiss is a graduating senior at Westfield High School and will be attending Penn State University in the fall.

"Volunteering at the Westfield Service League has shown me how important up-cycling clothing is," she said of her experience. "Just because one person is done with a clothing item doesn't mean somebody else won't love it. Having access to clothing that makes you feel confident is so important."

Thrift Shop Co-Chair Jan Herringer, who chairs the Intern Committee, praised the interns for a job well done.

"Nina and Leah were such great additions to our shops. They brought a new and refreshing perspective to how we showcase our inventory, especially for younger shoppers," she said. "To build upon their success, we decided to formalize and expand the intern program and look forward to working with other students in the future."

The League's internship program will be open to juniors and seniors in the surrounding area and begins with the new school year in September. (The shops are open during the school year and close during the summer.) Interns will be expected to work approximately 30 hours over the school year. Each intern will be assigned a mentor who will provide an orientation to the Westfield Service League and be available to answer questions. Responsibilities include visual merchandising of store displays, assisting with special events, such as a holiday sale or a fashion show for seniors, and sorting and pricing donations of clothes, toys, and household items.

Students interested in applying for an internship should send an email to WSLinterns@gmail.com to request an application.

The Westfield Service League has actively assisted the Westfield and surrounding communities through volunteer service and charitable donations since 1932. WSL manages Thrift and Consignment shops at 114 Elmer Street in Westfield. Shop proceeds help fund grants, which are awarded to other non-profit and service organizations in Westfield and the surrounding area. During its almost 90-year history, the League has awarded \$2.9 million dollars to dozens of organizations. Each year, the League members seek and recruit volunteers to work in the shops during spring, fall and winter months. In addition, League members also volunteer at Mobile Meals of Westfield and the Holy Trinity Food Pantry.

To learn more about the shops or volunteering, visit thewestfieldserviceleague.org.

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PROGRAMMING CLUB TEAM RANKS IN THE TOP 25

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

GLHS students in the Programming Club (also known as the Coding Club) participated in the "American Computer Science League" Competition which ran from November 2021 through May 2022. During the competition, the GL team competed against over 500 teams across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia.

In the "Senior 3" Division, the GL team scored in the Top 25 of all schools, edging out competition from schools across the United States, China, Indonesia, Canada, Taiwan, and more.

In addition, three students – Juniors David Andrews and Daniel Long, and Sophomore William Ng, competed in the ACSL Invitational Finals in late May. Out of over 500 students, the team scored in the top 300, with Daniel Long finishing in 32nd place and earning Bronze medal honors.

This relatively new club was formed three years ago by GLHS Juniors David Andrews and Daniel Long. The overall goal of the club is to

learn coding (no experience necessary), talk about and develop projects, find resources for skill building, and explore STEM applications. The club members themselves found the ACSL competition and decided to participate in it.

According to GLHS Math Teacher and Club Advisor Justin Polce, "The students in the club are diligent, self-motivated, and very helpful when it comes to learning code, discussing cool projects, and competing in the ACSL. I'm very proud of them for the work they have done, and the foundations they have built for programming at Governor Livingston High School. Computer Science is a key skill to have now, and in the future, and we explore everything from Python to C++ to Boolean Algebra. These students are the leaders we need to help advance the district and the community in these areas."

Congratulations to all the members of the club: David Andrews, Susan Gleason, Daniel Long, William Ng, Aiden Racelis, Poorva Vakaria, and Alex Watson on these tremendous accomplishments.



(above, l-r) Poorva Vakaria, Alex Watson, Daniel Long, David Andrews, Sean Gleeson, William Ng

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SAGE WORKSHOP RENEWS FATHER’S DAY GIFT

Ed Midgley of Berkeley Heights received a bench as a Father’s Day gift from his children. After years of outdoor weathering and exposure to the temperatures, it had fallen apart in a distant corner of his garden. While spring cleaning this year, Ed decided to have it refurbished at SAGE Workshop in Summit and it is now a focal point of curbside appeal for his home. “Coming into the workshop in the basement” said Ed, “is like coming into Santa’s Workshop with every workstation abuzz with elves working on gifts for the holiday.”

Simon Rosenstein, workshop volunteer, chose mahogany flooring to restore the bench. He measured, cut the wood planks to fit the originals, and painted the wrought iron back to its original glamour. “Repairing this bench for Ed was an honor,” said Simon.

Since 1961, the SAGE Eldercare Workshop has offered the public fine-quality furniture repair. The volunteers will consider repairing any piece of furniture that can be carried into the workshop. The Workshop has a reputation throughout Union County and beyond for its fine reweaving of caned and rushed chairs. Our artisans are all highly trained volunteers. Proceeds from the Workshop benefit SAGE programming. Prices are reasonable and depend upon the condition of the chair or furniture item and the materials required in the restoration process.

The Workshop started out over fifty years ago as a place for older men who no longer had access to a home workshop. Dozens of women have worked in the historically male enclave.

Most volunteers are former professionals including investment bankers, college professors, physicians, and scientists. Over the years, they have taught each other caning, rushing and a myriad of other techniques needed to fix the aging furniture brought to them for restoration.

The Workshop is in the basement of the SAGE building located at 290 Broad Street, Summit and is easily accessible. Shop hours are Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. For more information about the service, or to schedule an appointment to bring in furniture, call 908-598-5531.

ABOUT SAGE ELDERCARE

SAGE Eldercare supports the independence, wellbeing and quality of life of older adults, their families and caregivers, through the provision of client-centered health, social and support services. Founded in 1954, SAGE is both the oldest and one of the few nonprofit eldercare agencies in the United States that offers a broad and comprehensive array of services under one roof that assist elderly, often frail, adults to remain independent in their own homes. SAGE Eldercare programs include: HomeCare; Meals-on-Wheels; Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center; InfoCare free information and referral service; Fall Prevention Initiative; Chore Service; Shopping Service; Bill Paying Service; PREP caregiver support group; and SHIP(State Health Insurance Assistance Program). SAGE Eldercare serves over 5,000 older people and their families annually in Union, Essex Morris and Somerset counties. For more information, call 908.273.5550 or visit sageeldercare.org.



(above) Ed Midgley of Berkeley Heights with bench after repairs.



(above) Bench before repairs.

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6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700	\$3000
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000	\$3400
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SUPERINTENDENT’S STUDENT OF THE MONTH – EMILY RADDICK

Berkeley Heights Public Schools

In an effort to showcase our students in BHPS who have excelled in either academics, leadership, community, or have shown excellent growth in any of those areas, the district is hosting a ‘Superintendent’s Student of the Month’. For June, we honor senior Emily Radick.

Emily has been a member of the Class of 2022 Student Council during all four of her years at GLHS and culminates her time on Council as the Student Council Executive Board President. In addition, she is the Executive Board President of the Student Movement Against Cancer (SMAC) and is a four-year member of the GLHS Student Ambassador Team. Recently, Emily joined the GLHS Diversity Committee and worked on the newly formed district Diversity Council where she has collaborated with other students, faculty

and administration to help move the school district forward towards its diversity and inclusion goals. She is also one of the founding members of the Jewish Students Action Team (JSAT) where students learn about cultural aspects important to the Jewish community. Emily has been the Manager of the Girls Varsity Spring Track and Field for four years. She is a member of both National Honor Society and Athletic Honor Society.

Outside of school, Emily has been a volunteer on Congressman Tom Malinowski’s Youth Advisory Council, worked on the Alzheimer’s Association Congressional Advocacy Team, and has been a Girl Scout (K-12) where she earned Bronze and Silver Awards.

Emily will be attending The College of William & Mary in the Fall. Congratulations Emily and best of luck to you!



(above, center) Emily Radick was named Superintendent’s Student of the Month in June. Emily will be attending The College of William & Mary in the Fall.

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The Mountainside Rescue Squad is in need of Mountainside residents, over the age of 18, willing to help their fellow neighbor. We pay for all training and no experience is necessary. If you or someone you know has ever considered joining please give us a call at 908-233-6338 or email us at squad@ems22.com, and we will answer any questions you may have. If you’re ready to join, please fill out an application at www.ems22.com/join.



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