Green Brook Gazette

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PROJECT GRADUATION SEEKS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Elly Silverio, 2025 Project Graduation Chair

2025 marks the 34th year of Watchung Hills Regional High School's Project Graduation. Each year, a volunteer team of WHRHS Senior parents 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.

Traditional events include the Senior Panoramic Picture Day (shown in the photograph), where each senior is given their Senior Warrior t-shirt, and several Senior Week events, including a Color WARriors fun day, the Yearbook Signing social, a Senior Breakfast and the end-of-year substance-free event held on graduation night!

The committee is excited to announce this year's action-packed night will be held at Iron Peak Sports & Entertainment in Hillsborough, NJ. Graduates can 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. Of course, food and drinks will be provided throughout the night for them to share this final night with their classmates.

All 440 WHRHS are welcome to attend the Project Graduation event free of charge. Every senior will participate in the Senior week events leading up to Project Graduation as well. The committee relies entirely on fundraising to make this enormous event happen, including donations from the WHRHS Community.

If you or your business is interested in donating or providing a service, please fill out the donation scan the QR Code to be taken directly to the sponsorship form.

The organization accepts Venmo @WHRHS-ProjectGrad2025 or send your donation directly via check made out to WHRHS Project Graduation, 108 Stirling Road, Warren, NJ 07059.

All donations are tax deductible and will be mentioned in the Graduation program and in various WHRHS and local social media outlets. Reach out with questions to projectgradwhrhs @gmail.com Thank you in advance for supporting our students having a safe and substance-free graduation celebration.



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STIRLING ELKS 2392

The Stirling Elks is made up of men and women from Long Hill Township, Berkeley Heights, Basking Ridge, New Providence and other surrounding towns who are citizens of the United States, at least 21 years old and who believe in God.

There are many Elk programs that benefit special needs children and adults. The Elks also has various scholarships, involvement with scouting, athletic teams, veterans, youth activities, and patriotic programs.

The Special Children's Committee sponsors several functions a year for special needs children, adults and their families. The Stirling Elks hosted its annual Special Children's Halloween party on Sunday, Oct. 29. It was a beautiful day, and everyone enjoyed great food, music and entertainment by Magician, Tommy Knucklehead.

For further information on the Elks and or the special needs activities, please contact Pat Mocarski at 908-647-1537.



(above) Magician Tommy Knucklehead and Jessica Walpow from Warren.





(above) Kelly Mazzocchi, Peapack and George Hoehn, from Stirling.

(above) Paisley MacIntosh and her Grandma Carin from Greenwood Lake.

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ESTATES ROADSHOW BUYING EVENTS

Three weekends in February - Three locations

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FEBRUARY 24th thru 28th 9am to 4pm HOLIDAY INN 36 Valley Road CLARK

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EstatesRoadshow.com Speak to the company's owner: Marshall Smoller: 609-781-6559

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 Piquet | Cartier | Omega | Vacheron
- Tiffany I Cartier I Val Cleef & Arpels I Harry Winston I David Yurman I David Webb & More



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(above) Township Committeeman Jim Benscoter was selected to serve as Deputy Mayor for 2025. The Oath of Office was administered by Assemblywoman Michele

GREEN BROOK WINTERFEST - FEB. 22

The Green Brook Recreation and Open Space Committees are proud to announce our 2nd Annual Winterfest. The event will be held on Saturday, February 22, from 2-5 p.m., at the Green Brook Middle School, 132 Jefferson Avenue. In addition to a new location for 2025, we will be partnering with the Green Brook Education and Athletics Foundation.

Winterfest will feature horse-drawn carriage rides, arts and crafts, hot chocolate, and other food treats, a snow machine, and games. In case of inclement weather, the crafts and food portion will occur in the Bengal's Den (north gym).



2025 REORGANIZATION MEETING

The Green Brook Township Committee Reorganization Meeting held on January 6, 2025. Newly elected and appointed officials for 2025 were sworn in.



(above) Assemblywoman Nancy Muñoz Township Committeeman Bruce Martins. Prior to his election, Martins served 12 years on the Board of Education.



(above) Committeeman Jim Van Arsdale was administers the oath of office to newly elected sworn in to another 3 year term and was selected to serve as Mayor for 2025. Assemblywoman Nancv Muñoz administers the oath, as Jim's wife Connie and son James look on.



(above, l-r) Mayor Jim Van Arsdale administers the oath of office to the 2025 Officers of the Green Brook Fire Department: Chief Rick Connolly, Assistant Chief Marc Gottlick, Captain Ethan Gottlick, and Lieutenant Patrick Esmerado.

Courtesy photos





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DR. JOHN VERMEULE HOUSE OPEN FOR TOURS

On the 3rd Saturday of every month February 19, 2025 from 10am-12pm. At this time, there are no bathroom facilities available. The Green Brook Cultural, Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee/ Green Brook Historical Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month - February 20, 2025 7:30pm-8:30pm Town Hall 1st floor up one flight, All are welcome. For more information please email: info@gbhsnj.org



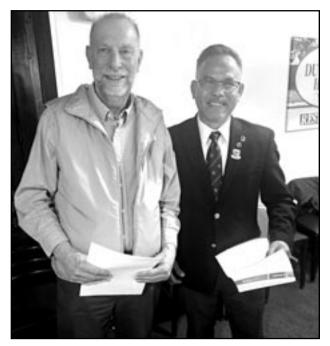
GREEN BROOK LIONS CLUB

The Green Brook Lions Club supports sight and hearing preservation, local community initiatives and scholarships, and local and global humanitarian causes.



(above, l-r) During a recent meeting, District Vice Governor Rogelio Bautista presented Green Brook Lions Club President Pat Boccio with a 20 year service award. Additional awards were presented to Green Brook Lions Club members John Guarino and Nick Koumarianos for 40 years of service.

Visit greenbrooklionsclub.com for more information or call (908) 256-2405. The Green Brook Lions Club is one of more than 49,000 clubs in 200 countries around the world.



(above, r-l) Green Brook Lions Club member Mark Kinney receives an award from District Vice Governor Rogelio Bautista for 15 years of service.

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO WHEN SELLING YOUR HOUSE. #1. Call me (I'll handle the other 9)

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NJ REALTORS CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE SALES AWARD - SILVER LEVEL



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NJ REALTORS CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE SALES AWARD - BRONZE LEVEL



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DAR CELEBRATES MEMBERS AND MILESTONES

Five new members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) were sworn in at the 129th Anniversary Luncheon of Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter held at Prezzo's in Warren on January 25, 2025. The new members are Kathryn Van Arsdale and Kathryn and Nancy Stoll, of Green Brook; Maryellen DeCoster of Warren; and Tara Fettes of Basking Ridge.

Women celebrating milestone membership anniversaries were recognized, including Pam Pasko, 40 years; Cheryl Carroll, 35 years; Karen

Five new members of the Daughters of the Miller of Dunellen, 30 years; Nancy Ryno, 25 merican Revolution (DAR) were sworn in at years; and Marti Kalko of Warren, five years.

The chapter received 12 awards in 2024, including a national Blue Ribbon Chapter Achievement Award. Ashley Salsano was honored as N.J. State Outstanding Junior Member and Ruth Ryno was named a N.J. Daughter of Distinction. Receiving individual national and state committee awards were Karen Miller; Holly Dunbar and Ruth Ryno of North Plainfield; Beth Kavanaugh of Oldwick; and Catherine Strohmeyer of Watchung. The luncheon featured a brief business session and a program on America's participation in the 1900 Paris Exposition by Jean Stumberger. The chapter will resume monthly meetings in March.

The DAR is a nonprofit service organization open to women 18 and over who can prove descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter is based in Green Brook and serves areas of Somerset, Middlesex and Union counties. New members are welcome. Contact the chapter at ESCchapterDAR@gmail.com.



(above) DAR members honored in 2024 include Ashley Salsano (l.) named N.J. Outstanding Junior and Ruth Ryno, a N.J. Daughter of Distinction. Courtesy photos



(above) The DAR Winter Meeting and Luncheon celebrated chapter achievements of the past year.



occur on May 2nd at 6:00 pm in the high school

or the ceremony, please contact Ms. Laurie

Grafer at lgrafer@whrhs.org or call (908) 647-

For more information about the Hall of Fame

performing arts center.

WHRHS ANNOUNCES THE CLASS OF 2025 HALL OF FAME

Watchung Hills Regional High School is Orleans Saints and New Orleans Pelicans. Mr. honored to announce its newest members to their Hall of Fame. The Class of 2025 will include for the first time teams, clubs, or school-affiliated groups who have distinguished themselves during their high school years or within the community since graduation. We are proud to formally recognize and welcome the 1957-1958 Board of Education members, who helped orchestrate the opening of Watchung Hills Regional High School and the 1973 undefeated football team. In addition, the Hall of Fame will induct three deserving individuals.

Virginia Procino Hartmann, Class of 1968. Ms. Hartmann is a retired Lieutenant Colonel, who served in the United States Air Force Academy for 24 years. Among her duties, included being an air training officer who helped train one of the first group of women cadets to attend the United States Air Force Academy.

Dr. Nan Masterson, a former nurse at the high school, is the founder of Global Health Services, a non-profit charitable organization that provides children of orphanages access to facilities, supplies, and food to address malnutrition and the resources necessary for children to attend schools in such countries as Kenya and Haiti.

Mr. Michael Stanfield, Class of 1982, a former three-sport letterman at Watchung Hills, is currently the Vice President of Sales for the New

Stanfield was with the Saints during the devastating Hurricane Katrina and was part of the relief, recovery, and resurrection of New Orleans that followed.

The ceremony honoring all the inductees will 4800 ext. 4870.

HOF COMMITTEE SEEKS COMMUNITY'S ASSISTANCE

Watchung Hills Hall of Fame Committee

The Watchung Hills Regional High School Hall of Fame Committee needs your help! Among those selected to the Class of 2025 Hall of Fame were the men and women who were instrumental with the formation of Watchung Hills Regional High School in 1957 as the inaugural Board of Education members. During the passing of a referendum in October 1954, through the time period that led to students entering in 1957, fourteen individuals were all part of the original board and two successive boards that brought together three townships (Passaic, Warren and Watchung), two counties (Somerset and Morris) and the state. Their mission was to establish the new school with all the required plans and accomplishments of the necessary details to achieve their goals in time, which remain inspiring to the thousands of students, staff and boards that would follow.

While unfortunately these individuals are no

longer with us, we are hoping to find relatives of those board members so they can take part in the celebration of the board's accomplishments which will take place on Friday, May 2, 2025, at Watchung Hills Regional High School Performing Arts Center as part of the Class of 2025 Hall of Fame ceremony.

Those board members include the following individuals: D.G. Baldwin, William E. Ganss, Hubbard A. Knox, jr., Howard Krausche, Edwin L. LeBright, G.W.S. Marsh, Mrs. C. Scott McKinley, F.W. Oberle, J.S. Parkinson, Andrew B. Reid, Robert Slorah, L.M. Stahl, Percey S. Young and Clifford A. Warren.

If you are a family member, or know of someone who is related to these individuals, please reach out to either Mrs. Carol Prasa at prasal@verizon.net or Ms. Laurie Grafer at lgrafer@whrhs.org. The WHRHS Hall of Fame Committee thanks you in advance for your assistance.





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WARRENBROOK SENIOR CENTER FEBRUARY EVENTS

Mahjong for Intermediate Players Tues, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. For intermediate mahjong players. Take control with Exercise - Tues, 10:00 a.m. Strengthen core muscles, improve flexibility. Zumba Gold with Judith – Tues, 10:15 a.m. This class is achievable for beginners. Cost is \$40 for the 8-week program. Bridge Group - Tues, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. (lessons available). Geri-Fit - Weds, 10:00 a.m. Seated (standing optional) exercise program. Craft Activities – 2nd & 4th Wed, 1- 4 p.m. Creating cards for our Meals on Wheels clients. All supplies will be provided. Advanced Bridge - 1st & 3rd Weds, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. Available by invitation only. **Line Dancing with Linda Hyland** Thurs, 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. You don't need a partner. suitable for participants with limited mobility.

Seated Legs & Core Exercise Thurs, 1 p.m. - (Video)The exercises are very clear and easy to learn. Card/Table Games – Thurs, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Mahjong, Dominoes, Left-Right-Center Dice, Rummikub, Canasta, Mexican Train and more. Tai Chi (Video) – Fris, 10:00 a.m. Shifting body weight through a series of light, controlled movements that flow rhythmically. Bridge – Fridays, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Bridge is a mentally challenging card game. February 3, 11 a.m. - Craft Ceramic Bisque Heart Photo Frame. Pre-registration is required. February 4, 11 a.m. - Boggle Challenging game using a grid of letters. February 5, 11 a.m. -Bingo sponsored by Country Arch Care Center.

February 6, 11 a.m. Grandparenting for Drug-Free Kids

Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey.



February 7 & 21, 11 a.m. **Brains n Games and Hand Bells** Solving puzzles or challenging yourself with new mind-stretching activities February 10, 11 a.m. **Cozy Valentine Celebration** Discover festive recipes. February 10, 1 p.m. – Drum Circle Soothe the mind, body and spirit. February 11, 11 a.m. **Nelson Mandela & Apartheid in South Africa** Watching documentary about Nelson Mandela February 11, 1:30 PM – Monthly Book Club Meets Every Second Tuesday of the month. New members are always welcome! February 12, 11 a.m. – Craft – Pinecone roses Create beautiful rustic "roses: using pinecones February 13, 11 a.m. **Breathing techniques for mental wellness** Practices that can be used to distract the mind and induce calm during an anxiety episode... February 14, 11 a.m. Valentine's Day Musical Entertainment The wonderful John Sudia will be joining us to sing and play your favorite love songs and dance hits. February 14, 1 p.m. Valentine's Day Fitness Trivia We will be following Dr. Stephen Cain's video for the simple seated and standing exercises. February 17 - Closed In observance of President's Day February 18, 11 a.m. - Wordle - Wordle So, dig deep into your vocabulary repertoire and identify some words. February 19, 11 a.m. - Maple Sugaring A Naturalist will help participants discover the secrets inside a maple tree. February 20, 11 a.m. **Black History Month Bingo** Celebrating the incredible achievements, figures, and cultural contributions that have shaped our world. T February 24, 11 a.m. Back in the Day Trivia Step back in the time and put your knowledge of the past to the test with questions about music, movies, history and pop culture. February 25, 11 a.m. - Technology: Your Gateway to a Connected World From smartphones to tablets, there's a device out there for everyone. Discover how simple tech tricks can help you. February 26, 11 a.m. – Joyfully Neat Whether you are preparing for a move or home sale or want to finally get organized, you will

receive helpful information. **February 27, 11 a.m. – Weaving Mats – Craft** Participants will interlace the strips of paper to create mats.

February 28, 10 a.m. – Blood Pressure Screen The Rutgers Ernest Mario Pharmacy students will meet with you individually and take your blood pressure and answer your questions.

February 28, 11 a.m. – Educational Games Join Rutgers Pharmacy Students and take part in fun, interactive game to learn about Blood Pressure, Heart health and wellness.





Roseann O'Keefe Broker Associate

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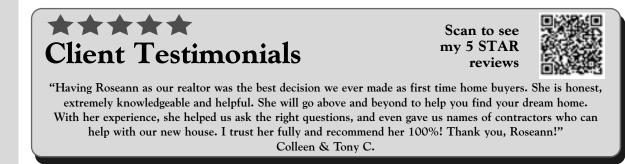
- 1. Your Monthly Housing Expenses Have Risen
- 2. You're Finding It Difficult to Maintain Your Property
- 3. You Have Empty or Unused Space
- 4. You're Considering a Lifestyle Change
- 5. You're Looking to Convert Your Home Equity

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*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. N