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Green Brook Gazette

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THE GREEN BROOK
CULTURAL HERITAGE
AND HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE
MEETING:
THIRD THURSDAY OF
EACH MONTH
7:30 pm
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8

LIONS CLUB HOST OPERATION SHOEBOX NJ PACKING EVENT

On the morning of Saturday, October 12th, the Green Brook Lions hosted a "packing" event for OperationShoeboxNJ. This event revolved around volunteers filling plastic gallon sized bags with various items for our troops overseas.

The Green Brook Firehouse graciously hosted the event, as an assembly line that would make Henry Ford proud, packed over 300 boxes in just over an hour. Jerry Searfoss spearheaded the event for the Lions and commented that "the event went very well, we had some great volunteers from all over the community, as well as neighboring areas. There were many items donated including financial support for the postage."

Executive Director of OperationShoeboxNJ, Rod Hirsch, was also on hand to direct the efforts. Special thanks to all the volunteers, Green Brook Fire/EMS, CVS in North Plainfield and Sgt. R Jebodh, US Army Reserve who just returned from an 11 month deployment.

The Green Brook Lions is a local service organization. Membership information can be found at

http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/greenbrook.

More information on OperationShoeboxNJ can be found at opshoeboxnj.org. Volunteers wanted!



(above, back row, l-) Al St. Louis (Lions), Jeff Daley (Lions), Rod Hirsch (Exec Director of OpShoeboxNJ) Jerry Searfoss (Lions), Mark Kinney(Lions) & Ray Murray (Lions). (front row, l-r) Bob Beattie (Lions), Sgt. R Jebodh (US Army Reserve) Tim Boykoff (Lions).

THE EYES HAVE IT

As you know the Lions Club is all about service, especially to the visually impaired. With that in mind the Green Brook Lions had a special guest at their first meeting of October. Robert Pudlak, CFO of The Seeing Eye in Morristown, gave a special presentation about his organization and the phenomenal things they accomplish.

The Seeing Eye is a philanthropic organization whose mission is to enhance the independence, dignity, and self-confidence of blind people through the use of Seeing Eye dogs. Since 1929, The Seeing Eye has partnered with people who are blind who seek to enhance their independence, dignity, and self-confidence through the use of Seeing Eye dogs. Bob spoke about the cornerstone of the program, the "puppy raisers". These are selfless individuals or families that raise a puppy from the age of 7-8 weeks to about 16-18 months. After that time they return the dog to the Seeing Eye for the remainder of its training and never have contact again. Bob mentioned that these folks are integral to the process.

There are many dedicated full time employees that handle boarding, breeding, training and many other tasks that allow



(above) Lions Club volunteers sort donations for OpSheboxNJ.

The Seeing Eye to operate on a daily basis. However, they can always use your help. Please visit www.SeeingEye.org for information on donating/volunteering and follow them on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube!

Special thanks to Bob Pudlak for his presentation and Lion Bob Beattie for arranging the visit.

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JOSHUA'S CLOSET RAISES MONEY FOR CANCER!

On Tuesday, September 24th members of Joshua's Closet, a North Plainfield non-profit organization that donates to cancer research, picked up over 50 bags of donated clothing from Chubb Insurance located in Warren, NJ. Chubb employee, Katie Stachler, coordinated the 2nd annual week long clothing drive. At the employee picnic money was raised via 50/50 raffle which totaled \$448.00 and the companies matching gift program totaled \$300.00. With the donated clothing, Joshua's Closet sells it to A&E Clothing Corporation who in turn pays \$0.20 per pound. The Chubb Insurance clothing drive, and other donated bags, resulted in 1,355 pounds, totaling \$271.00! All monies donated and from A&E Clothing Corporation is donated to the Cancer Institute of New Jersey located in New Brunswick, NJ. For more information about Joshua's Closet, please find them on Facebook or email joshuascloset@live.com.



(above) Representatives of Joshua's Closet and clothing drive participants of Chubb Insurance.

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ROTARY CLUB

had a very busy month with three major events! Earlier this month, Rotary Club president Jesse Lacerda, presented a check in the amount of \$500.00 to representatives of the Giving Hope Network and the Hear Me Now Project for

The Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club has Autism. Hear Me Now is a major project of Giving Hope Network. The Hear Me Now project is an effort to assist people who suffer from ASD (autism spectrum disorders), especially young children.

Their second event was in support of March



(above, l-r) Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club members Joan Henry, Sherri Leabman, Dale Granberg, Jesse Lacerda, Joe Spera presents a check in the amount of \$500.00 to representatives of the Giving Hope Network and the Hear Me Now Project for Autism, Mike Szot and David Lee of the Giving Hope Network.



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of Dimes. The mission of the March of Dimes is to give every baby a healthy start by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club president Jesse Lacerda presented a check in the amount of \$50.00 to Julie Davis, a representative of the March of Dimes. The funds raised support important research and community programs that help moms have fullterm pregnancies so babies can begin healthy lives.

Lastly, on October 15th, they held a very successful Second Annual "A Night of Comedy" at The Dunellen Theater. Over 200 guests were delighted by the presentation by Sherry Davey and Buddy Fitzpatrick of "The Mom & Dad Show." Over \$8,100 was raised to support the Club's Scholarship Fund for graduating Dunellen and Green Brook high school seniors. During Intermission, Club President Jesse Lacerda presented a \$300.00 check to Rich Sturtevant for the Green Brook Fire/EMS, and \$150.00 checks each to Ashley Snyder of the Dunellen Rescue Squad and Sue Connolly of the Dunellen Fire Department.

The Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club is part of Rotary International, a world-wide organization of over 1,200,000 members. At the club level, they support scholarships, local volunteer organizations, little leagues, boys and girl scouts, food banks, public libraries and more. Major public events include Holiday Tree Lighting at Washington Park, in Dunellen, in early December; Pasta Festival on Mondays in April; a Classic Car Show in Skinner Plaza, in Dunellen, in June; and the Comedy Night in October. The club meets weekly for lunch at 12:15 on Thursdays at the Dunellen Hotel, North Washington Avenue, Dunellen. If you would like to join, please drop in or contact Jesse Lacerda at 908-578-1167, or go to www.dunellengreenbrookrotary.org for more information.



(above, l-r) Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary President Jesse Lacerda, Green Brook Fire/EMS member Rich Sturtevant, Dunellen Rescue Squad President Ashley Snyder, Dunellen Firefighter Sue Connolly.

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