Green Brook Gazette

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Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

ISSUE 16 • JANUARY 2015

Green Brook
Cultural Heritage
and Historic
Preservation
Committee and
The Green Brook
Historical Society
meeting:

3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 7:30 pm

GREEN BROOK TOWN HALL

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CASWELL AND CLARKE RECOGNIZED AS ANGELS AMONG US

Watchung Hills Regional High School student seniors Leanna Caswell and Laura Clarke, both of Green Brook Township, received recognition at the 42nd ARC Angel Gala "Celebrating Volunteerism" on Friday, Nov. 14, at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, Bedminster Township.

Caswell received an "Angels Among Us" award for her active role in the school's Peer Outreach elective course. Through this course, mainstream students work collectively with their special needs peers on a daily basis. She also works as a special needs swim instructor.

Clarke was honored with an Angels Among Us award for having given 250 volunteer hours at a preschool and as a therapeutic equine instructor for students with special needs.

Also receiving an Angels Among Us award was Laura Cavanaugh, a student at Immaculata High School, Somerville. She gave more than 1,000 hours of volunteer service working with HAPHA (Higher Achievement Programs for Handicapped Adults) and a number of other smaller groups that serve the special needs community.

Presenting the awards was Assemblyman Jack Cittarelli, R-Somerset, and Lauren Panarella, executive director of The Arc of Somerset County.

Caswell, who is a member of the Watchung Hills Swim Team and is involved in the Care Club, also is a swim teacher after school and sometimes teaches children with disabilities, such as Autism and Cerebral Palsy, how to swim.

Clarke said she started volunteering at her local horse riding barn in 2012, and became a summer camp counselor that first summer. For the summer camp, she taught children how to ride as well as the basic care, such as feeding and grooming.

She is involved with the preschool program at Watchung Hills, something she has been doing for the last three years. Clarke said she plans to major in animal science and zoology when she goes to college next year.

Three prominent corporate supporters of The Arc of Somerset County were honored for "The Arc Angel Award." L'Oreal, Henkel and Janssen have collectively played a vital role in the success of The Arc and have positively impacted the children, adolescents and adults who participate in The Arc's various programs, Panarella said. All three companies have dedicated hundreds of hours over the course of the past



(above) Watchung Hills Regional High School students Leanna Caswell and Laura Clarke, both of Green Brook Township, were among several volunteers and supporters receiving recognition at the 42nd ARC Angel Gala "Celebrating Volunteerism" on Friday, Nov. 14, at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, Bedminster Township.

(l-r) Assemblyman Jack Cittarelli, Somerset, with award recipients Clarke of Watchung Hills Regional High School; Laura Cavanaugh of Immaculata High School and Caswell of Watchung Hills High School; and Lauren Panarella, executive director of The Arc of Somerset County.

five years in efforts that have enhanced the mission of The Arc and have created long lasting friendships within the organization, Panarella said.

The Arc of Somerset County provides services and advocacy to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to support development and achievement at every stage of life, Panarella said.

The Arc of Somerset County programs include the Jerry Davis Center for Children and Families, the Early Intervention Program, Camp Jotoni, the PACT (Parents And Children Together) program, four employment services programs, and 27 residential programs throughout Somerset County.

For more information on how to support The Arc of Somerset County, or for volunteer opportunities, call the Development Department at (908) 725-8544, ext. 610.



Green Brook... Gazette

On-line at RennaMedia.com

Green Brook Gazette is published by Renna Media. 3,000 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Green Brook, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations
who are interested
in submitting
content can
email Lynn Sjurset
at
lynn@rennamedia.com.

BOY SCOUTS COLLECTED OVER 57 BOXES FOR SCOUTING FOR FOOD EVENT

Submitted by Rick Couch

Green Brook Boy Scout Troop 129 (sponsored by Green Brook PTO) would like to thank all Green Brook residents who contributed to this years' Scouting for Food event

The Troop collected over 57 boxes of food as well as toys and toiletries for Fish, Inc.-

Dunellen Area, a local food pantry.

Troop 129 meets weekly on Wednesday nights from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Green Brook Middle School cafeteria. All boys who are at least 10 years old and have completed 5th grade or are 11 years old or older are welcome to attend a Troop meeting.



(above, back row, l-r): Christopher Couch, Pat Boccio Assistant Scout Master, Griffith Humphrey and Rick Couch Scout Master. (front row, l-r) Patrick Humphrey, Ethan Sihlanik, Jake Sihlanik, Jake Potter, Jake Butterline and Nicholas Couch. Also assisting but not pictured were Jack McCullen.







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Kids 7-10	\$5.39	Kids 7-10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6	·	Kids 3-6	\$5.99
2 & Under	•	2 & Under	•

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm		Dinner 3:30pm · 9:30pm	
Adult	\$7.99	Adult	\$10.99
Kids 7-10	\$5.99	Kids 7-10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6	•	Kids 3-6	\$5.99
2 & Under		2 & Under	FREE!

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Kids 3-6	•
2 & Under	•

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106 STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Some 106 seniors at Watchung Hills Regional High School were inducted into the National Honor Society at a ceremony attended by the students and their families on Thursday, Dec. 4, in the school's Performing Arts Center. Students received the congratulations of administration and faculty members, and were each called on stage and presented with the National Honor Society Gold Honor Cord, which they will wear next in June on graduation day.

The National Honor Society was founded in 1921 and is designed "to recognize academic developing achievement while other characteristics essential to citizens in a democracy," according to the program distributed to everyone who attended the ceremony. The Watchung Hills chapter is one of 13,500 chapters in the United States.

Every year, students are asked to select a teacher they have had at Watchung Hills who should be named honorary member of their National Honor Society chapter. Social Studies teacher Ken Karnas was selected by the students to be so honored, and new student member Charlotte Kwon made the presentation. Kwon said that Karnas teaches with an enthusiasm that is contagious, and that he makes learning fun. He also goes beyond merely teaching the subject matter.

The newly inducted students are: Catherine Alapatt, Kristina Alfano, Mark Armanious, Camille Bahr, Nicholas Berger, Shayna Bezozo, Tuhina Bhat, Marlene Blajsa, Melissa Bonaccorso, Remy Borinsky, Mikaela Brandon, Katherine Briski, Nicholas Briski, Aaron Bu, Michael Carlucci, Brian Corneiro, Avery Carrico, Kimberly Chao, Karen Chi, and Anthony Cuonzo.

Also, Joseph Da, Helen Dai, Kaila Davis, Jessica DeLuca, Laura DeAngelis, Alexa Deo,



(above, l-r) Student speakers at the induction ceremony of the Watchung Hills Regional High School chapter of the National Honor Society are newly inducted society members, Kevin Guo of Warren Township, Jaytin Gupta of Watchung, Charlotte Kwon of Warren Township, Katherine Briski of Watchung, Karen Chi and Kimberlie Chao of Warren Township, Anh Ngo and Isabella Perone of Green Brook Township, and Mikaela Brandon of Warren Township.

Benjamin Devico, Alexa Farrah, Carina Farrah, Rebecca Pasch, Joseph Pecoraro, Matthew Peer, Fogel, Mitchel Fung, Simran George, Jason Gerber, Jennifer Gilmore, Andre Gou, Ashay Grover, Kevin Guo, Jaytin Gupta, Amanda Halper, Brandon Hao, Claudia Hirsekorn, Amy Hu, Matthew Hunt, Allison Ivan, and Garrett Jochnau.

Also, Eshan Kaul, Jacquelyn Keyasko, Stuart Ki, Matthew Kiel, Jacob Krowicki, Sarah Kweit, Charlotte Kwon, Amanda Larson, Joy Li, Christina Liao, Devin Lin, Lucy Liu, Sharon Liu, Amanda Marques, Katherine Mathison, Jill McInerney, Ashley Metzler, Dana Nara, Anh Ngo, Rebecca Novik, Benjamin Overzat,

Hannah Feldman, Elizabeth Fogarty, Olivia Isabella Perone, Rachel Pester, Andrew Piccirilli, and Claudia Przybylski.

Also, Patrick Qi, Jason Regimbal, Brittany Rica, Evan Riddell, Cara Rosamilia, Paul Roushdy, Lynette Santhakumar, Valeria Saro-Cortes, Anoushka Saxena, Katrine Schechter, Grace Schwartzstein, Ryan Shen, Angeline Shieh, Victoria Sipe, Elizabeth Skrobacz, Sarah Smith, Samantha Snyder, Hannah Song, and Abhay Srinivas,

Also, Valerie Tan, John Tekin, Ashley Thach, Andrew Tu, Colin Vergilio, William Vorius, David Voychuk, Andrew Wang, Shawn Weng, Brooke Werner, Justin Xia, and Emma Zeng.



Submitted by Frank Sena

The Watchung Hills Soccer Association NJE opponents throughout the season and Coach During the season, the Spurs outscored their performances.' opponents 37-11 and completed 2,261 passes. Their possession passing game frustrated their Long Hill and Green Brook.

Spurs completed their undefeated season (10-0) Mark Lowdon commented, "I have never with a win against the Millburn Blues. It was a coached a more talented group of girls. This hard fought battle which the Spurs won 3-2. team has produced some top class

The team consists of players from Warren,



(above) U9 Girls soccer team: Top (l-r) Megan Carmody, Claudia Ferreira, Alexis Perez, Ellie Wojie, Emma Clintock and Olivia Holliday. Bottom (l-r) Abby Franks, Hallie Sussner, Ava Tommaso, Paige Thomas and Francesca Sena

"STOPIT COP" CYBER **SAFETY PRESENTATION**

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Watchung Hills Regional High School Performing Arts Center Tuesday, January 27th, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. FOR PARENTS ONLY

Sgt. Tom Rich will present a parent information session on cyber safety. In a world of cell phones and Facebook, Sgt. Rich will show parents and professionals how these forms of technology are affecting our youth. He will examine real life examples of cyber-bullying and the dangers of on-line chatting. He will also take an in-depth look at Facebook profiles and explain how to protect youth through the use of privacy settings.

Sgt. Tom Rich, aka the "STOPit Cop," is STOPit's cyber safety expert and key spokesperson for student and parent rallies, where he encourages the creation of positive school communities. Sgt. Rich travels the country educating all ages about the safe use of technology.

His presentations cover cyberbullying and how technology fuels this epidemic, including detailed looks into the most popular social media sites of the moment and incorporating real-life examples.

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(above, l-r) Poet Sharon Olds, right, who was the New York State Poet Laureate from 1998 to 2000, is greeted at the Dodge Poetry Festival, Friday, Oct. 24, at the NJPAC, Newark, by Watchung Hills Regional High School students, from left, Jodi Todtenkopf and Erin Hamilton of Warren Township, and Bim Semmling of Green Brook Township.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND LARGEST POETRY FESTIVAL IN NORTH AMERICA

Submitted by Denis J. Kelly

Thirty creative writing enthusiasts from Watchung Hills Regional High School traveled to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark on Friday, Oct. 24, to attend the 15th Biennial Dodge Poetry Festival, the largest poetry festival in North America.

"It was a life-changing event," agreed students Bim Semmling of Green Brook Township, Jodi Todtenkopf of Warren Township, and Dan Connolly of Watchung, who were among the Watchung Hills students attending the festival. They said they had learned so much from meeting professional poets, hearing first hand from them some ideas about how to sharpen their own writing craft, and even taking photos with the poets who were more than willing to talk to the students about

The invited speakers at the festival who gave physically-challenged.

readings, held small group discussions, and mingled with the students is a veritable who's who of contemporary poets. Joining the students from Watchung Hills at the festival were students from 14 states. It was held for four days, from Thursday, Oct. 23, to Sunday, Oct. 26. The Watchung Hills students attended on the festival's day set aside especially for students. Accompanying students were several Watchung Hills English teachers: Katy Engelmeyer, Laura Goodson, Heather Farrington, Caren Abschutz, and English Supervisor Marlene Stoto.

Goodson added that one of her favorite parts of the festival was the contributions of several physically-challenged poets, two who were sight-impaired and two who had Cerebral Palsy. They shared how liberating it is to write poetry, a medium in which they are by no means

OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

This year, the New Jersey Department of Education announced a new program: the Governor's Award for Outstanding Educator of the Year. This new celebratory program integrates the Teacher of the Year Program with the Governor's Teacher/Educational Services Professional Recognition Program to continue to recognize the state's best teachers and educational services professionals. Irene E. Feldkirchner (IEF) Elementary School of the Green Brook School District has nominated two staff members for this prestigious award: Mrs. Michelle Larsen - Governor's Teacher of the Year nominee, and Mrs. Shaune Casazza -Governor's Educational Services Professional of the Year nominee.

The Governor's Outstanding Teacher

Larsen. Mrs. Larsen is in her fifteenth year of teaching at IEF School. She has served as first grade teacher for twelve years, and she has been a second grade teacher for the past three years. .

Mrs. Larsen is the Teacher/Advisor to the IEF Student Council/the CLUB; she presents at parent and teacher workshops; and she is a member of the School Improvement Panel. She also serves on district level committees: Professional Development and the District Evaluation Advisory Council. .

The Governor's Outstanding Educational Specialist nominee from IEF School is Mrs. Shaune Casazza – Guidance Counselor. Mrs. Casazza is in her fifth year serving as Guidance Counselor at IEF School. .

Along with her role as Guidance Counselor at nominee from IEF School is Mrs. Michelle IEF School, Mrs. Casazza is also the school- of the I&RS/504 Committees.



(above, l-r) Mrs. Michelle Larsen, Mr. Armand Lamberti, Mrs. Shaune Casazza

based testing coordinator, Anti-Bullying Specialist, Teacher of Character Education (K-4), Facilitator of Social Skills Groups, and Chair

GREEN BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL'S OUTSTANDING TEACHER AND EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST OF THE YEAR FOR 2015-2016

Green Brook Middle School has nominated two staff members for the Governor's Outstanding Teacher/Educational Services Professional Recognition Program: Christine Wetzel – Governor's Teacher of the Year nominee, and Dr. Emilia Muglia -Governor's Educational Services Professional of the Year nominee.



Ms. Wetzel is in her 8th year working for Green Brook Township Public Schools as a 6th-8th grade math teacher. She serves on several district committees, lending her expertise to areas such as professional development and teacher evaluation through the ScIP and DEAC, and curriculum concerns.

Dr. Muglia is in her 38th year in education. Four years were spent outside of the district. She has been in her current position as the School Psychologist in the district for 23 years and prior to that she was the remedial reading teacher/reading specialist in the district for 10 years. She keeps current in her knowledge by participating in Professional Peer Groups and engaging in research in the field. coordinates the Child Study Team and works to assure compliance while maintaining a collaborative approach to developing programs for students.



(above, l-r) Dr. Emilia Muglia, Ms. Christine Wetzel





Munsee District
Boy Scout Chess Tournament

Saturday, February 21, 2015

10:00 am to 2:00 pm Sign-in/setup starts at 9:00 am

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Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers.

Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess. Registration is \$6
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Email Jim Parlapiano jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

Commemorative ribbons and gift bags for all participants.

Lunch will be provided by White Castle for all players.

This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

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