

# Green Brook Gazette

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ISSUE 27 • DECEMBER 2015

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

**3RD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 7:30 pm**

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## WHITE CASTLE HOSTS BOY SCOUT CHESS TOURNAMENTS

The Scotch Plains Baptist Church was the site for the latest Boy Scouts Chess Tournament sponsored by White Castle. The tournament was open to all registered Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers. This was the second annual tournament for the Watchung Mountain District.

Robert Mehorter of Scotch Plains won third place honors. Second place was won by Harrison Hahne-Lum of Springfield and first place went to Kevin Cavicchia of Summit, who won all four of his games.

White Castle purchased 20 sets, boards and clocks for the Boy Scouts and will continue to sponsor tournaments in all seven Boy Scout Districts in New Jersey.

The company covered expenses for running the tournament including trophies for the top three winners and ribbons for participants. They also supplied lunch for all players and spectators. White Castle will continue to support the Boy Scouts and the Chess program. The Program is coordinated by Joe Renna of Renna Media, a Chess Merit Badge Counselor.

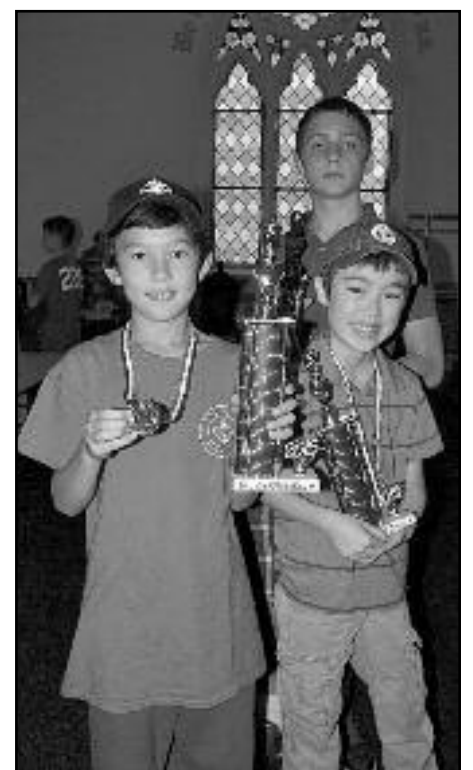
Boys and girls who are Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers are invited to play in all districts. The next scheduled tournament will be in Cranford on Saturday, February 27, 2016.



(left, l-r) Joe Renna of Renna Media and Jasmin Arroyo, General Manager of the Green Brook White Castle with tournament players and Charlean Mahon, Boy Scouts of America District Executive.

## SAVE THE DATE

Munsee District Chess Tournament will be on Saturday, February 27 in 2016. Get details from your Scout Troop leader.



(above, l-r) First, second and third place finishers Kevin Cavicchia, Harrison Hahne-Lum, and Robert Mehorter.

Photos of this and other events can be found at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on the Fanwood Post Facebook page. Feel free to "Like", "Tag", and "Share".

(left, l-r) Green Brook Boy Scout Sohail Wali



(left, l-r) Charlean Mahon, first place winner Kevin Cavicchia and Jasmin Arroyo, General Manager of the Green Brook White Castle.



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## A GIFT WITH MEANING FROM DUNELLEN/GREEN BROOK ROTARY CLUB

On Tuesday, November 10th, Theresa Talian of the Dunellen/Green Brook Rotary Club visited Green Brook School District's Irene E. Feldkirchner (IEF) Elementary School to present a Rotarian gift of A Student's Dictionary to all 3rd grade students. This marks the tenth year running that the Dunellen/Green Brook Rotary Club has gifted IEF School 3rd graders with a dictionary. On behalf of the 3rd grade students and teachers of IEF School, Mr. Lamberti extends a thank you to the Dunellen/Green Brook Rotary Club for their generosity and support!



(above) Theresa Talian (Rotarian) and Armand Lamberti (IEF School Principal) distribute dictionaries to 3rd graders at Irene E. Feldkirchner Elementary School.



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202 Walnut Ave. Cranford, NJ 07016  
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Email: [joerenna@rennamedia.com](mailto:joerenna@rennamedia.com)

### THE ROTARY CLUB OF WATCHUNG-WARREN HAS CHANGED IT'S MEETING DAY.

The Rotarians now meet on  
**WEDNESDAY (instead of Tuesday).**  
THEY MEET AT TWIN BROOKS COUNTRY CLUB  
at 12:15 PM

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HONORS VETERANS

On Thursday, November 12th, Green Brook School District's Irene E. Feldkirchner (IEF) Elementary School recognized and honored veterans of the United States Armed Forces at a Veteran's Day Assembly. The event – sponsored by the IEF School Student Council under the leadership of teachers Michelle Larsen and Kathy Guide – was held in conjunction with Jeans for Troops Day. Students and staff wore jeans/patriotic colors and collected monies to contribute to the G.I. Go Fund. Monies collected will assist active armed forces members as well as veterans.

The veterans honored at the assembly on November 12th are members of the IEF School Community. They are:

- James Botte (Sergeant – Marines);
- Adrian Pegeron (Master Sergeant – Air Force);
- Ralph Bellafronte (Sergeant E-5 – Army);
- Ronald Stevinson (Staff Sergeant – Army);
- Alex Yanes (Corporal – Marines);
- Marc Morris (Staff Sergeant – Air Force);

- Donald Noble (Spec 4 – Army);
- Eugene Sillib (Sergeant E-5 – Marines);
- Andrew Lynch (Private First Class E-3 – Marines);
- Ken Hart (Sergeant E-5 – Army);
- and Philip Muniz (SPEC 4 – Army).

Aside from recognition of the veterans in attendance, the assembly included: the Pledge of Allegiance and patriotic songs; students reading essays about the value of those who serve our country in the United States Armed Forces; a slide show honoring veterans produced by Jennifer Collett (Computer Teacher); and presentations by Kevin Carrol (Superintendent), Maria Botte (Teacher), and Armand Lamberti (Principal).

On the actual date for Veteran's Day – November 11th – IEF School observed the day with the daily Pledge of Allegiance and patriotic song along with a moment of silence in honor and remembrance of all those who have served our great nation.

## PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

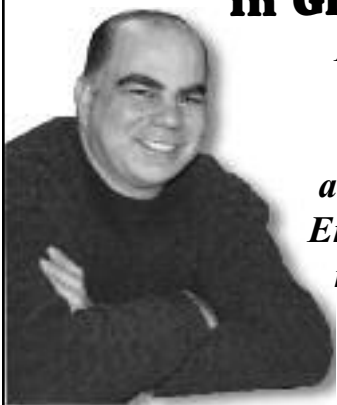
Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos of recent events.

Organizations  
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[lynn@rennamedia.com](mailto:lynn@rennamedia.com).



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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG BECOMES OUTDOOR LEARNING FOR STUDENTS AT GREEN BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sometimes learning opportunities present themselves unexpectedly. Thanks to Lynn Rakos, an archaeologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, students at Green Brook Middle School had that opportunity.

Recently, Ms. Rakos and colleague Carissa Scarpa were scheduled to perform an archaeological survey on the grounds of Green Brook Middle School in Green Brook, NJ. They were to examine soil for artifacts to test for archaeological resources prior to construction of an access road. The road is part of the Army Corps of Engineers' expansive Green Brook Flood-Control Project which is designed to reduce flood risk from the Raritan River and Green Brook that has plagued the area for decades.

Prior to the dig, Ms. Rakos, realizing a learning opportunity, contacted the school offering to speak with students about the work and that of the Army Corps of Engineers. The school agreed and arrangements were made for two classes to visit the site: one in the morning and another in the afternoon. On a bright October morning, students arrived as Ms. Rakos and Ms. Scarpa were excavating soil. Speaking to social studies students from Brian Mojta's, Dana Sweeney's, and Kevin Weeks' classes, artifacts common to Native American and local historic sites were displayed. Students were asked to identify the artifacts and point out the most recent (newest) artifact — a lens from a pair of sunglasses. Handouts of historical maps from the Revolutionary War era through the mid-20th century were distributed on which the school's location was identified, so students could see what had been in the vicinity of their school through time.

Students were also quizzed on the meaning of archaeology. One student responded: "Things left behind by people who lived in the past," which is close to the technical definition: The study of past cultures through materials (physical remains) that people left behind. The class witnessed first-hand the process of testing sites. Several students recorded and videotaped Ms. Rakos and Ms. Scarpa answering a series of questions as part of a National History Day competition, a nationwide initiative motivating children to study the past. Some questions were: How has archaeology helped the progression of science? In your opinion, how will archaeologists of the future view this time period and our impact on the environment?



(above) Lynn Rakos, Brian Mojta and Carissa Scarpa.

In the afternoon, fifth graders descended on the area for a similar lesson. They witnessed soil sifted through a screen to look for artifacts. A plastic sheet below the screen was used to collect the soil to help refill holes and limit disturbance to the school grounds. After each test, findings were recorded on a survey sheet — types of soil(s), depths, artifacts collected, etc. Standard equipment used at the site included: a shovel, trowel, measuring tape, drawing equipment, and a screen to sift soils. On this day, no significant artifacts were found, just pieces of glass and ceramic tile — nothing impacting planned construction.

Archaeological work in the Army Corps of Engineers' New York District is not restricted to land. Ms. Rakos and Ms. Scarpa oversee remote sensing and dive surveys of New York Harbor and offshore areas searching for shipwrecks and artifacts prior to dredging. Ms. Rakos said what she enjoys most about archaeology is field work, noting, "It's great to be outside, and when you dig you never know what you will find," adding, "I also like to read the landscape to determine what the soils might hold." When asked about challenges, she spoke about piecing together evidence from the field with documentary research to tell the story of the site.

## GENEROSITY DEMONSTRATED THROUGH SCOUTING FOR FOOD PROGRAM

One of the cornerstones of the Boy Scouts of America is service to one's community. This was demonstrated on November 7th as Boy Scouts Troop 129 and Cub Scouts Pack 129 worked together to gather food donations for the needy. Each Autumn the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts run their "Scouting for Food" drive throughout Green Brook. Through the generosity of the people of Green Brook, much needed dry goods and children's toys are collected and provided to Fish, Inc- Dunellen Area for distribution to those in need. This year 1,200 dry goods and canned food items were collected weighing in at approximately 900 lbs. Lisa Couch, chairman of the Fish Food Room had this to say about the Scouts' food gathering program:

"Each year the Scouting for Food Program makes such a huge impact on our program and our ability to meet the increasing calls for food assistance."

(above) Cub Scout David Schreck drops off donated food for those in need.



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## 26 HILLS STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO TRI-M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY

Twenty-six students at Watchung Hills Regional High School were inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society on Thursday, Oct. 22, in the Performing Arts Center at the school.

It was the first such induction to the Music Honor Society at the school, according to choral music teacher and Watchung Hills Honor Society chapter advisor, Angela DiIorio Bird.

The Tri-M Music Honor Society has added 470 new chapters in the past two years to raise the total number of chapters to 1,700, including 24 international chapters in 15 countries. There are now some 67,080 members of the society.

The society is a program of the National Association of Music Education (NAfME). According to the NAfME Web site, [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org), "The Tri-Music Honor Society is the international music honor society for middle/junior high school and high school students. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for the accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership." Tri-M offers chapters and members webinars, chapter resources, service project and fundraising ideas, awards, scholarships and merchandise.

The students who were inducted for vocal performance are: Nikhil Bhat, Krishti Bhaumik, Jillian Carbone, Allison Horvath, William Johnson, David Kalwicz, Sarah Kelly, Hannah

Melillo, Veronica Mu, Jack Pacetti, Jordon Reynolds, Julia Sluyter and Amelia Stapperfenne.

The students who were inducted for instrumental performance are: Chris Barry, Ryan Branco, Owen Di Donna, Stella Hung, Andrew Morrison, Ethan Marmolejos, Laura Osborne, Justin Panzarino, John Ray, Emilie Ricciardi, Alyssa Rosenblum, Simon Yang and Isis Zhang.

The students named as officers of the Watchung Hills chapter are: President-Vocal, Jillian Carbone; President-Instrumental, Andrew Morrison; Vice President Jordon Reynolds; Secretary, Alyssa Rosenblum; Treasurer, Justin Panzarino; and Isis Zhang, historian.

Guest speaker for the induction ceremony was Angelika Nair, an Austrian-American mezzo-soprano opera singer and voice professor, who has been described as having a "very warm and unique mezzo timbre." She "infuses her roles with aching beauty and a mesmerizing focus," according to critics.

In addressing the students, their parents and teachers in the audience, Nair said she wanted to share two lessons she has learned during her more than two-decade-old career.

The first lesson, she said, is "Be curious, never settle and work hard." The second is, "It's not just playing/singing the right notes."

She said she grew up in a musical environment in Austria, with accomplished musicians in her family. When she was four, she learned the

recorder and switched to the flute after a year. At 14, she went to a music gymnasium, which in Austria was an academic high school where students received both general education as well as a music education at a conservatory level. She became the principal flute in the conservatory orchestra and sang in an ensemble touring around the world.

After graduation she continued her study with voice and added Musicology and Conducting. She said, "I figured I need to know the history of what I'm performing. I need to know what the person waving around with a stick in front of me needs and looks at, in order for me to be a good singer."

She said she received performance engagements and conducting assignments with choirs, but still felt she was missing something.

She said she "went on a mission," researching "every book there is and going to workshops. But it was when I looked for literature outside the German speaking countries that a whole new world opened up to me."

Nair said these discoveries were enlightening, but also led to the realization that she would have to "start from square one, putting everything on hold – no concerts or solos for almost a year – to take time to work on a completely new technique.

Looking back, Nair said, "It was one of the best decisions I ever made. Because now I was able to do what I've seen in all the elite singers, but more importantly, with the new technique, I was able to express all my musical ideas the way I wanted to get them across."

With regard to her second lesson, Nair told the students that performing on stage is "just the icing on the cake." She recalled that since early on she worked a lot of jobs in the theater, including being an usher, keeping the books, handling administrative duties, supervising staff in international competitions and symposia, and more.

"Every single one," she said of these wide and varied tasks, "has made me a better musician."

She quoted the conductor Sir Georg Solti, who has said, "For one hour of music a day there are 10 hours of work behind the stage."

Nair added, "The artist is nothing without all the people that are working behind the scenes, who help make the musician look good and give him or her the freedom to focus on the music."

In closing, she said, "Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition, because they somehow know what is right and what you truly want to become. Be open minded and never stop learning something new."



(above) The newly inducted student officers of the Watchung Hills Regional High School chapter of the Tri-M Music Honor Society gather with their faculty advisor, Watchung Hills Music teacher Angela DiIorio Bird, fifth left, and guest speaker, Mezzo-Soprano Opera Singer and Voice Professor Angelika Nair, fourth left. From left are: students Alyssa Rosenblum, chapter secretary; Isis Zhang, chapter Historian; and Jillian Carbone, vocal president; Nair; DiIorio Bird; and students Andrew Morrison, instrumental president; Justin Panzarino, treasurer; and Jordon Reynolds, instrumental vice-president

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# KALWICZ AND POPOLILLO NAMED HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN

The Watchung Hills Regional High School Homecoming Court King and Queen for 2015 were announced and presented on Friday, Oct. 23, at Watchung Hills' Tozier Field during halftime ceremonies at the game versus Union High School. Union won the game, 40-27. King is David Kalwicz and Queen is Giuliana Popolillo.

They were selected from among five boys and five girls who form the Homecoming Court. Last spring, the Junior Class nominated the court. The

All School Council (ASC) determined the nominees: The top five girls for queen and the top five boys for king. In September, the entire school voted for King and Queen from among those five boys and five girls.

The five boys in the Homecoming Court are: Kyle Andersen, David Kalwicz, Jack Lane, Connell Rae, and Gregory Seawright.

The five girls in the Homecoming Court are: Stacie Bernhaut, Parima Kadihar, Claire Chen, Giuliana Popolillo, and Lauren Stone.



(above) The 2015 Watchung Hills Regional High School Homecoming Court are, from left: Parima Kadikar, David Kalwicz, Stacie Bernhaut, Jack Lane, Lauren Stone, Connell Rae, Claire Chen, Kyle Andersen, Giuliana Popolillo and Gregory Seawright. From among them, the two selected King and the Queen are David Kalwicz and Giuliana Popolillo.

## "LAW AND ORDER: FAIRY TALE UNIT" AT GBMS

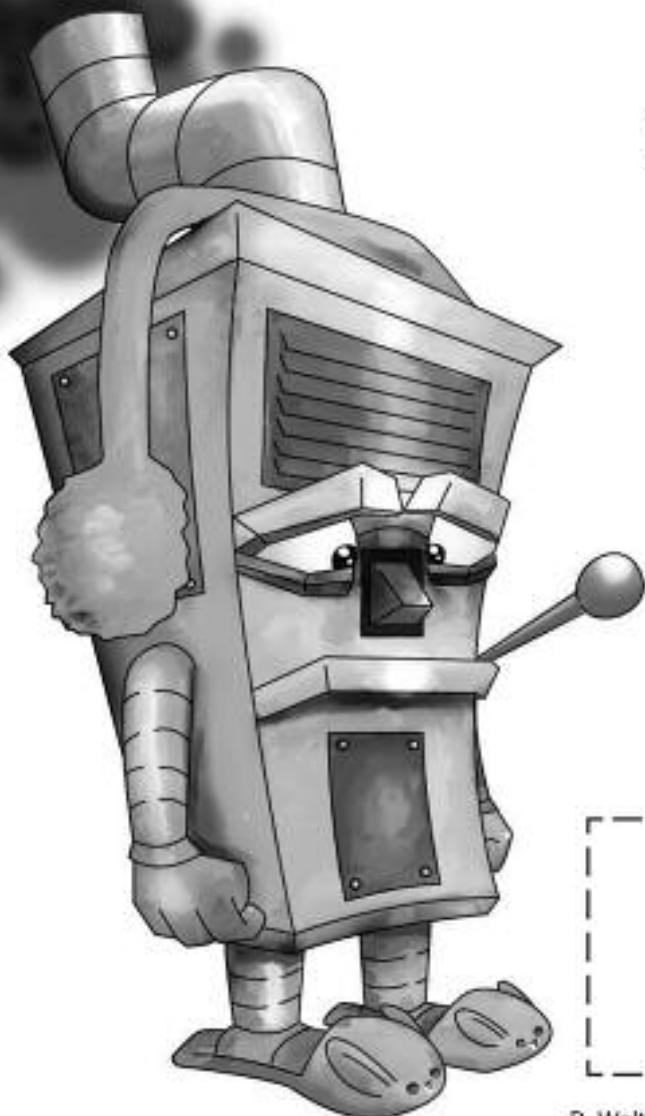


Green Brook Middle School will present a theatrical production of "Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit" in December. The 45 minute play will be directed by William Alzahr, teacher of the schools Choral Music Program. The production will showcase the acting, singing, dancing, and stage production talents of nearly 75 Green Brook students.

Curtains rise for opening night on December 10th with a final performance on December 11th in the Green Brook Middle School Auditorium (132 Jefferson Ave, Green Brook N.J.). Both performances begin at 7pm with doors opening at 6:30pm.

Tickets are \$10 and can be bought at the door. To avoid missing the show due to sell out, contact us by email to reserve your tickets! Please email: GBMStickets@gmail.com

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# Fresh Fruit &

# Vegetable Market

Freshly baked Portuguese and Italian bread delivered daily!

somersetfarms@verizon.net  
somersetfarmsnj.com

**908-757-7730**

**950 Route 22 East • North Plainfield, NJ**



**Store Hours:** Mon-Sat: 9:00 am to 7:00 pm  
Sun: 9:00 am to 5:00pm

**"We're Not Just Produce"**



### HOLIDAY ITEMS

- Panettone
- Toronne
- Almond paste
- Chestnuts
- Dried fruit and nuts

## FRESH FRUIT OR VEGETABLE PLATTERS

Platters over stuffed with the best the season has to offer.



- 14 inch 24.99
- 16 inch 29.99
- 18 inch 39.99



**Perfect for Special Occasions!**

### COUPON

## FRESH SHRIMP

**\$9.99** GRE12  
**lb** 16/20 size

By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 1/15/16.

## FRESH FISH

Available Thursday to Sunday

Filleted, Steaked,  
Cleaned to your liking!

### COUPON

## FRESH TALAPIA

**\$5.99** GRE12  
**lb**

By the pound only. Limit 1 lb per customer per coupon per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offers good thru 1/15/16.

### COUPON

## Boar's Head Genoa Salami

**\$5.99** GRE12  
**lb**

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 1/15/16.

### COUPON

## Sicurro Mild Slicing Provolone

**\$5.99** GRE12  
**lb**

Must purchase 1 lb. Limit 1 lb. per coupon. Coupon may not be combined with other offers. Limit 1 offer and coupon per day. Offer expires 1/15/16.

### COUPON

**\$1.00 OFF** your purchase of **\$20.00 OR MORE**



Excludes garden center and fish purchases. Limit 1 offer per customer per day. Not to be combined with other offer. Offer expires 1/15/16.

## GARDEN CENTER

Large selection of freshly cut

**Christmas Trees \$29.99 and up**

**CHRISTMAS WREATHS, GRAVE COVERS, ROPING AND MUCH MORE.**



**Call Today To Order! 908-757-7730 • 950 Route 22 East North Plainfield**  
Open 7 Days Daily 9am-7pm / Sunday 9am-5pm



**Fresh Fruit Arrangements & Chocolate Covered Strawberries**

**PERFECT GIFT FOR**  
• Birthdays • Thank You  
• Get Well  
• Deepest Sympathy  
• I Love You  
• Centerpieces  
**PERFECT DESSERT ADD ON**  
**Available For Pick Up Or Delivery**

*December Special*  
**Chocolate Covered Strawberries**



**\$24.99**  
**BOX OF 12**

**Strawberry Holiday Special - Pick up only**

**\$5 OFF**



**YOUR FRUITFUL CREATION \$39.99 OR MORE**

GRE12 Offer expires 1/15/16