

10 Town, NCFL open two special-needs residences

BY JOHN SNYDER
OF PASCAK PRESS
RIVER VALE

Two new community residences for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) were the setting for cheers at a ribbon-cutting on Friday, Sept. 12, at 49 Greenhalgh Lane.

New Concepts for Living CEO Steve Setteducati, River Vale Borough Administrator Gennaro Rotella, and Mayor Mark Bromberg cut the ribbon at 10:30 a.m., leading to tours, refreshments, and presentations to 2 p.m.

The homes were developed by NCFL, on Township-donated land as part of River Vale's affordable-housing efforts.

The Joint Planning Board's July 17, 2024 resolution granted preliminary and final major subdivision approval with bulk variances.



Bromberg spoke warmly about the town's partnership with New Concepts for Living as a "win-win."

According to the Planning Board's resolution, the site was subdivided to create two community residences, each designed for four residents (eight total). A 30-year deed restriction limits the use to low-income community residences for developmentally disabled adults; if NCFL defaults, title reverts to the Township.

NCFL says each new River Vale residence offers 3,200 sq. ft., four bedrooms with dimmable lighting, two specially equipped bathrooms, two laundry rooms, advanced safety technology, and 24/7 on-site supervision.

The board noted the project advances River Vale's affordable-housing obligations under its settlement and the Mount Laurel doctrine and characterized this housing type as inherently beneficial under New Jersey law and consistent with the Township Master Plan.

The location sits by municipal uses including the new public safety complex and a 24-unit, 100% affordable development to the north, improving access to services and utilities.

Among the conditions of approval: a \$27,075 landscaping contribution (tree restitution in lieu of 57 plantings), county/soil conservation clearances, required fire hydrants, and completion of a



NCFL CEO Steve Setteducati, River Vale Borough Administrator Gennaro Rotella, and Mayor Mark Bromberg cut the ribbon in front of NCFL's new homes for adults with special needs. Courtesy photos.

paved entry and minor frontage elements before occupancy.

Founded in 1981, the Paramus-based nonprofit operates 18 community residences across

North Jersey (it says with pride that another four are well under construction) and runs day programs in Paramus and Rochelle Park.

PVHS Girls Soccer debuts 'Kick or Treat' 5K

The Pascack Valley High School Girls Soccer Program is teaming up with Next Level Physio of Woodcliff Lake to kick off a new tradition: the first annual Kick or Treat 5K. The Halloween-themed run steps off Sunday, Oct. 5, from the Stonybrook Swim Club.

Proceeds will benefit the PVHS Girls Soccer team, funding new equipment, expanded weight training, and team-building activities. "Our soccer program builds confidence in young women and teaches them to be part of a team while making a difference in their community," said head coach Dr. Leah Jerome. "We hope to share the love of soccer and running with families in the Pascack Valley through this fun event."

Runners of all ages are encouraged to don Halloween

costumes. The day includes gifts, prizes, and activities led by players at the team's themed tent. The PVHS Environmental Club will also collect gently used costumes to upcycle.

Next Level Physio, which has sponsored endurance events across the region, is serving as event organizer. "We're excited to bring this new 5K to Pascack Valley and to work with PVHS Girls Soccer to enhance opportunities for their athletes," said James Koh, Team Next Level race director.

The PVHS Girls Soccer team is coming off a successful 2024-25 season with a 13-7-2 record and a run to the state semifinals. Their 2025 season began Sept. 3.

Registration is open at my.raceresult.com/350840/registration.

Westwood Rec's preschool registration open

Registration is still open for the 2025-26 Westwood Recreation Preschool, a state-licensed program for children ages 3-5 as of Oct. 1, 2025. Classes meet three days a week in half-day sessions, offering developmentally appropriate learning opportunities in literacy, math, social studies, science, art, and music, along with free play.

Tuition is \$2,400 for Pre-K 4

(ages 4-5, Mon/Wed/Fri., 9 a.m.-noon) and \$2,000 for Pre-K 3 (ages 3, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 12:30-2:30 p.m.). A first payment of \$675 (Pre-K 4) or \$525 (Pre-K 3) is due at registration, with a \$25 additional fee for nonresidents. Proof of address and birth certificate are required, and all children must be potty-trained.

Call 201-664-7882 or visit westwoodnj.gov/208/Preschool.

Pastime:

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"There are lots of adaptive sports out there, but baseball isn't always included because it's so skill-heavy," Weinstein said. "That's exactly why I want to take on the challenge. I want kids who don't usually get the chance to experience the teamwork, the fun, and the growth that baseball offers."

Weinstein plays outfield for Pascack Valley, moved to varsity this year after a junior season on JV. He is being recruited to play at the college level, with school

visits on deck this fall.

He credits his dad, Jay, with teaching him the game from T-ball on up, and he points to Yankees star Aaron Judge and veteran Ben Zobrist as role models — Judge for his presence, Zobrist for his smarts and adaptability.

And he says he's had terrific coaches every step of the way.

The project also reflects his family background: his father is a special education attorney, and Ian has volunteered as a Hebrew school teacher at Congregation B'nai Israel in Emerson.

But mostly, he says, it's about leaving a mark with the sport he loves.

"I know how much baseball

has given me," he said. "This is a way to share it, to include people who don't always get the chance. When we embrace and involve everyone in our community toward a common goal, sharing and celebrating our national pastime, then everyone wins."

The program has already drawn support, including donations of new and used equipment, mentors eager to help, fields provided by the Hillsdale Recreation Commission, and backing from the Hillsdale Baseball and Softball Association.

Registration is available on Community Pass. For more information or to contribute, email jaydubbs15@proton.me.

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Sunday, October 5 at 10 am

Feast of the Dedication celebrating Grace Church's 120 years in Westwood
Followed by Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for new Accessibility Ramp and reception

Kinderkamack Rd. at Harrington Ave. (5 Corners), Westwood, NJ www.gracwestwood.org 201-664-0407

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WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30 PM

Sunday Masses:
7:30 AM (no music)
9:30 AM
11:00 AM
12:30 PM - Spanish

Evening: 6:15 PM

DAILY MASS

Monday thru Friday
6:30 am and 8:30 am

Saturday Morning: 8:30 AM

Rectory: 201-391-5315 • Religious Ed: 201-391-3590
Academy: 201-391-3838

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