

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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Walk-a-Thon Held to Benefit Mill Neck Manor *Making Hopes and Dreams a Reality for the ECC*

A “Hopes & Dreams” Walk-a-Thon to benefit the Mill Neck Manor Early Childhood Center was held on Saturday, October 22 amid perfectly sunny skies and crisp temperatures. Close to 40 walkers, which included several ECC families, joined in to raise money for the much-needed “Restoring Hope, Building Dreams” renovation of the ECC. The Walk-a-Thon served as the kick-off to the ECC Capital Campaign to raise funds for the project which is slated to begin in the spring of 2012. Before starting their 5K (3.1 mile) trek around part of Mill Neck’s 86-acre campus, participants enjoyed a tasty breakfast featuring wraps, bagels, pastries and fruit, along with coffee and juice, generously provided by Atria of Glen Cove.

Following a short presentation by Director of Advancement Nancy Leghart, the walkers, who each received a complimentary commemorative t-shirt and button, headed out into the sunshine around 9 a.m. Those with small children and strollers did their laps around a shorter, flat course, while other walkers took the more challenging course, which led down a hilly path to the athletic field, then back up to the finish line at the ECC. Several student volunteers from The Green Vale School’s Interact Club helped direct the walkers, while other Club members manned the water station. No matter how many steps they took, every walker ended the course to cheers and applause.

As Ms. Leghart explained before the walk began, the Early Childhood Center is scheduled to undergo necessary renovations in order to maintain the exceptional early intervention services available for preschoolers. These services address deficits in speech, language/communication, cognitive and gross and fine motor development, as well as autism spectrum disorders. The funds raised from the Walk-a-Thon will not just directly benefit the preschool, but will also be matched by the Mill Neck Manor Board of Trustees.

The Mill Neck Manor Early Childhood Center would like to express their gratitude to all the walkers, volunteers and other supporters who came out for the event and also wishes to thank

these generous sponsors: Atria of Glen Cove; Locust Valley Rotary; Brosnan & Hegler, LLP; Galleria Ristorante; The Green Vale School; Green Vale Interact Club; Locust Valley Interact Club; Cecelia Lynch: the Silver Family; Southside Physical Therapy; Gwen Watson. Your support in making the hopes and dreams of Mill Neck's preschoolers and their families a reality is greatly appreciated!

Founded in 1991, the Early Childhood Center provides early and intensive assistance to children, ages 3 and 4, who may have deficits in speech, language/communication, cognitive and gross and fine motor development. The Center also provides full evaluations of preschool children suspected of having developmental delays. Most children who attend the program graduate and attend kindergarten in their home school districts. For more information about the Early Childhood Center, please call (516) 922-4100, ext. 276, or visit <http://www.millneck.org>.

Photo Captions:

- 1. Mill Neck student Seamus Coll and his dad lead the way.*
- 2. ECC student Tyler Peck and his mom, Kannika, head toward the finish line.*
- 3. Mill Neck Manor Director of Advancement Nancy Leghart joined by students from the Greenvale Interact Club.*
- 4. Two walkers pause by the finish line after their trek.*
- 5. ECC alumnus JJ DiBartolo (center) and his family making their way through the victory balloons.*