

# NEW JERSEY

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
NEW JERSEY STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION



# GOLF



## Venerable

### MONTCLAIR GOLF CLUB

welcomes the NJSGA Open  
to help commemorate  
its 125th anniversary

SUMMER | 2018





# Building Blocks

**Past success has helped Donnelly Construction of Wayne work on a number of other golf clubhouse renovations**

**ABOVE:** Crestmont Country Club is in the midst of completing facility upgrades

A new building for the First Tee of Plainfield at Plainfield West in Edison and renovation projects at Crestmont Country Club in West Orange, Upper Montclair Country Club in Clifton and Green Brook Country Club in North Caldwell all have something in common. They are projects undertaken by Donnelly Construction of Wayne.

Over the years, Donnelly has completed a long list of area golf club renovations, including Canoe Brook in Summit, Somerset Hills in Bernardsville, Baltusrol in Springfield, Glen Ridge in Glen Ridge and North Jersey in Wayne, among many others.

"Having 30 years of experience in the club renovation business, and always delivering a first-class product keeps us at the forefront of the business," said principal Rod Donnelly, a member at Baltusrol and Preakness Hills.

"Our relationships with the New Jersey

Club Managers Association and the NJSGA keep us prominent," said Chris Powers, Donnelly Construction's president. "We also have a pretty intimate feel for what committees and board members are going for. That gives us insight our competitors don't have.

"What set us apart from competitors is that we try to get involved early on in the projects when budgeting is required, which helps guide club committees during the process all the way to the finish line. Another thing is, we can control time-sensitive projects with our own people. We employ a large field staff that our competitors typically don't have, which helps us to keep projects on schedule."

The Crestmont project began in January and will be completed in September.

"The exterior was tired. The clubhouse exterior will have a totally new skin and other upgrades on the outside of the building



## First Tee Growth Comes to Edison

Plainfield West Nine Golf Course in Edison now boasts one of the finest First Tee facilities in the nation.

As a chapter of the First Tee of Metropolitan New York, substantial donations to the \$400,000 project were made by the Wilf Family Foundation and the PGA Tour.

The year-round facility of 1,800 square feet includes a classroom, putting greens and hitting bays with automatic doors, along with camera-ready technology. There also is a short-game area.

Since 2005, the NJSGA has been a supporter of the area First Tee chapters.

Plainfield West Golf Course is owned by Plainfield Country Club. Club member Paul Zoidis serves on the First Tee Board of Directors and was a major advocate of the project, which was completed by Donnelly Construction of Wayne.

In 2015, Bill Castner, head professional at Plainfield West Nine and program director of the First Tee of Plainfield, received the PGA of America Youth Player Development Award. This award recognized his 40 years of dedication to the growth of the game and helping young golfers reach their full potential.

"The facility will allow us to expand our team program, girls program and mentoring program," Castner said. "We have always wanted to teach kids life skills and we can do that here."



Builder Rod Donnelly (left) and Bill Castner, the head professional at Plainfield West 9, were on hand to open the new First Tee facility

**ABOVE:** Donnelly's work at Crestmont C.C. includes renovations to its swimming pool complex

include two porte cocheres (car ports) and a renovated observation deck overlooking the golf course. The interior renovation includes the lounge, pre-function area, Donald Ross room and ballroom. The pool area will have a new permanent outside bar for members. The members grill will be completely rebuilt," Donnelly said.

Donnelly Construction also began work at Upper Montclair in May and will finish in November. The large outside patio that faces the ninth hole of the South Course will be enclosed with a second floor added.

"That members' grill will have a second floor with an open deck for viewing the golf course," said Donnelly. "The two-story members' grill will include magnificent views. We are also constructing a larger pro shop to better serve the members."

Green Brook's new owners, Bruce Schonbraun and Eric Witmond, the same duo that purchased Edgewood Country Club in Bergen County and quickly refurbished it, are doing the same to their latest addition.

"The first phase at Green Brook is to update tired areas in and around the clubhouse," Donnelly said. "There will be a new indoor dining facility at the pool patio, along with an expanded outside dining area at the pool as well. We are also renovating the main entry and lobby of the clubhouse and creating a new pre-function bar, facing the first tee."

In the rear of the clubhouse, an all-new members' casual dining room and bar with access to the rear patio will face the 18th green.

"That is expected to be the social centerpiece of the club and completed by September," Donnelly said. 🌱





Hailed as "Bergen County's Newest Family Resort", Edgewood Country Club in River Vale has transformed itself into a full service and amenities-driven facility with the help of Donnelly Construction.

From renovations to the clubhouse to a brand new fitness center, it is clear to see that we build it better.

 **Donnelly Construction**  
donnellyconstruction.com | 973.672.1800