

A passion for altruism leads to a small business

By VICTORIA BRESNAHAN

When Josh Rosenblut sees a problem in his community, he wants to help solve it.

That's why he founded JFR Businesses in 2017.

Blind Brook High School junior donates profits from his small business to Feeding America

The young entrepreneur started small by going door to door in his neighborhood and shoveling driveways for free during the winter. He was only a Blind Brook Middle School seventh-grader at the time, but he saw the potential to grow a business from his altruistic passions.

He began scouting his friends to work for him during the winter season and shovel more driveways.

Since then, Rosenblut's reach has expanded from the streets in the neighborhood around his Holly Lane home to the entire Rye Brook community.

"I was able to think, what other problems are there in our community that I want to solve?" he said. "Then I thought, what are the problems that parents have in Rye Brook specifically?"

When restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic required some businesses to close, Rosenblut saw an opportunity to further help his neighbors. JFR Businesses began to offer a concierge car washing service to keep vehicles looking fresh despite the temporary closure of local car washes.

He posted his services on the Rye Brook Residents Facebook page, and from there his business took off.

"We saw the problem and we wanted to solve it. That was a way to help others in our community," Rosenblut said.

After connecting with new faces in Rye Brook through the social media page, he was able to start offering babysitting and tutoring services as well.

JFR Businesses now offers six main services including social media marketing and storm cleanup. However, Rosenblut said since it is a local business, he and the other workers are committed to helping anyone with whatever they need.

"Immediately when we saw that (Tropical Storm Isaias) was coming, we saw that there was a problem," Rosenblut said. "We knew that there was a solution that we could come out and help people clean up their yards as fast as possible."

For more information, visit jfrbusinesses.com.

The Blind Brook High School junior aspires to pursue a career in business. Ultimately, he hopes to keep expanding and transforming JFR Businesses throughout his life to solve problems within communities.

That's why Rosenblut has committed to donating 15 percent, or about \$350 so far, of his earnings to Feeding America.

"I wanted to help people who are in need—especially now," Rosenblut said. "I wanted to give back."

During his most profitable time this winter, Rosenblut said JFR is considering donating another 15 percent to the organization.

"My future goal is to use this company in the future—its name and things like that—as a local service in the future. Not just when I'm living in Rye Brook, but just all the way through life."



Blind Brook High School junior and founder of JFR Businesses Josh Rosenblut washes a car as a part of his company's concierge car washing service. The 16-year-old started the business in 2017 to help those in the Rye Brook community.

COURTESY OF JOSH ROSENBLUT