

# LIFE<sup>in</sup> LINDEN

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Issue 93 • November 2017

## LINDEN POLICE HOST “COFFEE WITH A COP” EVENT

Police officers, residents, and elected officials celebrated National Coffee with a Cop Day at Starbucks in Aviation Plaza at Linden Police Department’s “Coffee with a Cop” event on Wednesday, October 4th. There was nothing formal about the event, just a chance for the community to meet with officers and talk with them over a cup of coffee. The event is designed to bring officers and residents together in a relaxed setting, and by all accounts it succeeded. “Most people are only used to seeing us in an emergency situation, so the event generated a lot of interest and we saw a really great turnout,” explained Lt. Christopher Guenther. “After talking for a little while, I think a lot of people were surprised to find out that they had more in common than they realized.”

The event was sponsored by Starbucks, who handed out giveaways, free coffee, and snacks to those in attendance. “Starbucks is very involved in our community events,” said Lt. Guenther. “They have been very generous and are always looking for ways to get more involved.”

Linden Police Officer Michelle Bonilla even spent some time behind the counter as a Barista. “It was much harder than I thought it would be,” said Ofc. Bonilla. “I have a whole new respect for what they deal with!”



The first “Coffee with a Cop” was held in Hawthorne, CA in 2011. Since then the program has expanded to become one of the most successful community policing programs across the United States. This was the second “Coffee with a Cop” event hosted by the department and there are plans to host a series of community events throughout the year.

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6,500 newspapers are printed monthly. 5,400 are mailed to homes and businesses and 1,000 distributed free at distribution sites throughout Linden.

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## POLICE HOLD ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

The Linden Police Department held it Awards Ceremony at the JTG Center on Monday, September 11th. The annual ceremony, traditionally held after the department picture and inspection, recognizes Officers for extraordinary actions taken beyond what is normally encountered.

About 100 awards were presented during the ceremony, the highlight of were Awards connected to the arrest of now convicted bomber Ahmad Khan Rahami on September 19th, 2016. The room erupted in applause as Ofc. Padilla, Ofc. Guzman, Inv. Kahana, and Inv. Hammer were awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest award given by the department.

The most prestigious award is the Officer of

the Year award. Each year it is awarded to the Officer that best exemplifies the values expected of our Officers. Investigator Peter Hammer was unanimously chosen as this year's recipient. While his actions on September 19th, 2016 were impressive and commendable, equally impressive was his work as lead Investigator in a number of fatal crashes that resulted in criminal convictions.

On October 17th Mayor Armstead and the City Council officially recognized Hammer with a resolution honoring his achievement. "Pete didn't just rise to the occasion that day," said Chief Parham. "Pete comes to work every day intent on making a difference, and that is why he is so deserving of this award."



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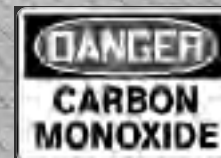
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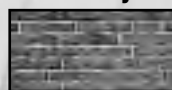
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## BROADWAY VERSION OF A CHRISTMAS CAROL COMING TO CDC THEATRE

Ebenezer Scrooge and his ghostly encounters will come to life at CDC Theatre beginning December 8. Written and scored by Broadway heavy hitters, Alan Menken (Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Little Shop of Horrors) and Lynn Ahrens (Ragtime, Seussical, Once on This Island), A Christmas Carol is a spectacular adaptation of Charles Dickens' most well-known story; proving its staying power with a decade-long run at the Theatre at Madison Square Garden.

This family friendly show will be directed by

Matty Price. "I chose a Christmas Carol because it has a wonderful message about change," said Price. "That change for the better is possible and it is never too late to change. I think it applies to all people in all walks of life and at any stage. Our cast represents this with the variety of ages we have onstage working together to create this show. I think telling this familiar tale in the musical theatre style makes it new and exciting and the story will feel right at home on the CDC stage!"

Ebenezer Scrooge is a prosperous curmudgeon who believes that personal wealth is far more valuable than the happiness and

comfort of others. With an infuriated "Bah! Humbug!", Scrooge sums up his feelings about Christmas tidings and charitable giving, but he's forced to face his selfish ways when on Christmas Eve three ghosts lead him through his Past, Present and Future. Thanks to their guidance, Scrooge recognizes his faults and greets Christmas morning as a changed man and with a cheerful "Happy Christmas!"

The production boasts a talented cast of over 30 local performers and will run for 8 performances from December 8 through December 16. Details and ticket information can be found at [cdctheatre.org](http://cdctheatre.org).

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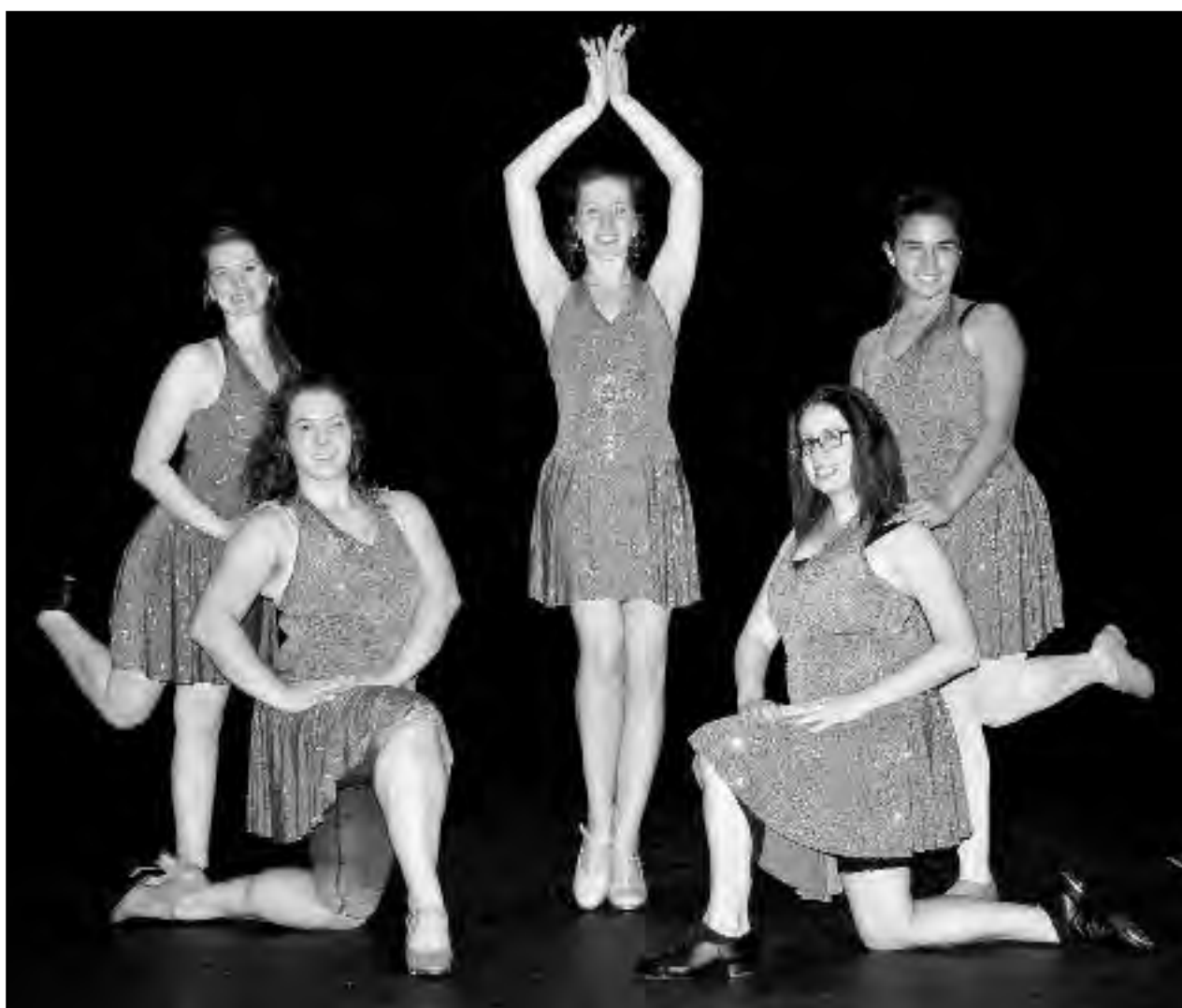
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(above, l-r) Charity Elves Amanda Dunsdon, Kylie Francis, Kimmi Zimmermann, Annamarie Carlo and Michele Greenspan prepare to dance into CDC Theatre in December.

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# HIGH SCHOOL TO RETIRE NUMBER OF JETS STAR MUHAMMAD WILKERSON

The Linden High School football team will retire the number of New York Jets star Muhammad Wilkerson, who was a standout football player for the Tigers before graduating in 2007.

Wilkerson has enjoyed one of the best careers of any professional athlete ever to pass through Linden High School. He has been a leader on the Jets defensive line since 2011, was selected to the NFL Pro Bowl in 2015, and was second team All-Pro in 2013 and 2015. He was chosen team MVP in 2013, and has accumulated 41 sacks in his NFL career.

Wilkerson is known for his No. 96 for the Jets, but he wore No. 91 in high school. No. 91 will be retired at Homecoming on November 22 and will hang in a place of honor at Tiger Stadium at Edward R. Cooper Field. A resolution for the plan to retire his number was approved unanimously by the Board of Education. Homecoming is 7 p.m., Nov. 22, at Tiger Stadium at Cooper Field, against Linden's longtime Thanksgiving rival Union Farmers.

"Linden Public Schools and the Linden Athletics family is truly honored to retire Muhammad Wilkerson's No. 91 jersey," said



Athletic Director Steven Viana. "Muhammad's accomplishments on the field are well-documented, but his contributions to our community and our students are most gratifying. He is a mainstay at our events, an avid supporter of anything and everything Linden."

Wilkerson was selected as first team All-Area by the Home News Tribune and second-team All-Union County by The Star-Ledger in his senior season as a defensive tackle, and accumulated 16 sacks and nine blocked passes over his high school career.

"Mo was one of the most gifted athletes ever to put on a Linden uniform, in football and basketball," said former longtime Linden football coach James "Bucky" McDonald, who coached Wilkerson. "He had that rare size to go with being a great athlete. And every time I see Mo, he's still the same person. That's what's really great about him. He's given so much back to Linden."

Current Linden football coach Al Chiola is thrilled to be able to honor Wilkerson.

"This a great moment for Linden High School and the Linden community," he said.

"Muhammad has gone above and beyond for the city and children of Linden. Retiring his jersey is well-deserved and Linden football couldn't be more proud."

Wilkerson remains a committed member of the Linden Public Schools community. He founded TEAM 96 to offer assistance to college-bound athletes from Linden, and holds a free football camp each year in Linden, as well as bowling events to raise scholarship money for Linden athletes. Wilkerson has also auctioned memorabilia to raise money for Linden athletics, and has donated his own time and money to the Linden Public Schools.

"He hasn't forgotten where he's from," longtime Linden basketball coach Phil Colicchio said of Wilkerson, who was a key part of Linden's back-to-back Group 4 state basketball champions in 2005 and 2006. "A lot of guys can go on to make money and send money back to the community. But he's in the community every day. Still with the same friends he hung out with since they were little kids coming to our basketball games."

"He comes to about 80 percent of our games, no fanfare, he just shows up. It's not just the programs he runs in town for the kids, but the fact that he's physically here and he's visible to the community. That's pretty unique among today's athletes."

Wilkerson played college football at Temple University, where he was named first team All-Mid-American Conference and the team's defensive MVP as a junior. He was selected by the Jets in the first round of the NFL Draft in 2011.

Photo courtesy of the New York Jets.

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## FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH TAKES ROOT AT SCHOOL NO. 8

The costumes made students think that Halloween had come early, but instead of sugary candy they were treated to healthy snacks of apples, grapes and carrot sticks.

Workers from Pomptonian Food Service dressed up as fruits and vegetables for lunch at School No. 8's "Tiger Cubs Café" Wednesday, October 11, to mark Farm to School Month. The workers handed out fresh produce from the cafeteria's "Farm Stand" to highlight the importance of good nutrition.

Pomptonian, which is based in Fairfield and handles food services for all of Linden Public Schools, offers healthy food options in the serving line each day at all the schools.

"We believe that giving students a variety of healthy options will encourage them to make nutritious choices," Pomptonian says on its website. "It is for this reason that we have designed The Farm Stand. The Farm Stand is proven to increase fruit and vegetable consumption by allowing students to choose from

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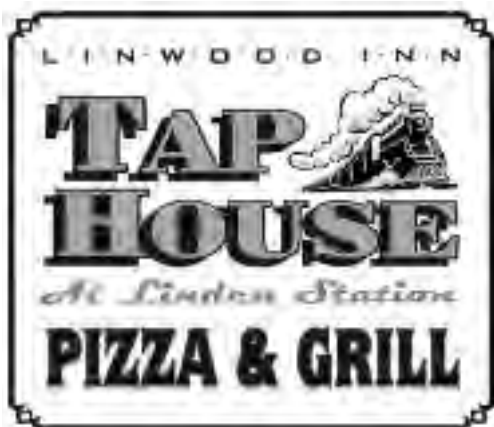
Marcia Morgan, Pomptonian's food services manager for Linden Public Schools, welcomed Cindy Sue Schaller, operations manager for Pomptonian, to School No. 8 for the event. Schaller chipped in to the effort by handing out healthy snacks while dressed as a carrot.



(above) Pomptonian Operations Manager Cindy Sue Schaller dressed as a carrot, handing out fruit to School No. 8 students to celebrate Farm to School Month.



(above l-r) Marcia Morgan, Pomptonian's food services director for Linden Public Schools; School No. 8 Principal Michelle Rodriguez; food servers Yarity Hernandez, Sara Vasquez, and Maritza Artunduaga; and Pomptonian Operations Manager Cindy Sue Schaller at School No. 8's "Tiger Cub Café."



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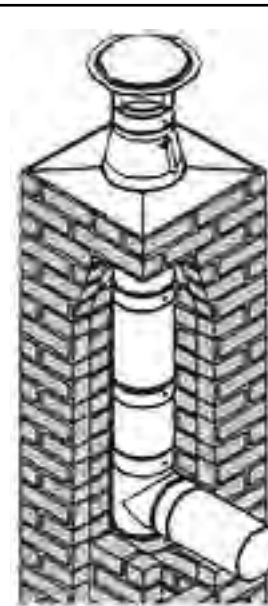
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## LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS CELEBRATE “WEEK OF RESPECT”

*Submitted by Gary Miller*

Linden Public Schools celebrated “The Week of Respect” from October 2 to 6 with programs and curriculum focused on teaching students to treat each other with kindness and caring and to avoid bullying, as well as how to react if they are bullied.

Throughout New Jersey, school districts are directed to use the first week in October to reinforce the importance of fostering a positive school climate, social and emotional learning, and character education. Linden Public Schools offered age-appropriate anti-bullying programs and practices throughout the district. The district wide observance was highlighted with class lessons and social activities centered around respect and bullying prevention throughout all

the schools.

Linden High School students engaged in a competitive anti-bullying door-decorating contest along with various classroom lessons. Middle school students “teamed up” against bullying by wearing their favorite sports jersey.

Linden’s eight elementary schools received character-education lessons from the school-

based social worker along with various creative activities throughout the district.

“The Linden Public Schools pride themselves in our clear and consistent message not only during the Week of Respect, but throughout the school year about maintaining a positive and safe learning environment for our students,” said Annabell Louis, supervisor of student services.



(above) School No. 1 students made morning announcements about what respect means to them and made posters to hang in the hallways. Pictured are Vice Principal Rachelle Crawley with, left to right, Christian Cavezza, Skylar Adams, Nilah McKeever, Alexa Martinez and Michael Kepa.



(above) School No. 8 got a visit from the anti-bullying superhero “Omegaman,” who taught children to make good choices and be “dream makers” not “dream breakers.” Here, Omegaman is talking with second-grader Kevin Byron.



(above) Students and staff dressed as superheroes for Omegaman’s visit. (back, l-r) School 8 social worker Anne-Marie Spricigo, first-grade teacher Despina Cordeiro, reading coach Deirdre Seaman, Supervisor of Student Services Annabell Louis, second-grade teacher Peter Spoganetz, and Principal Michelle Rodriguez. (front, l-r) Ingrid Ventura, Damien Ramirez (Spiderman), Kadir Glover (Iron Man), Jalianette Villanueva and Aryanna Diana.



(above) Highland Avenue School No. 10 invited all staff and students to wear a blue shirt to celebrate “Blue Shirt Day: World Day of Bullying Prevention.” (back) social worker Alicia Dinis, Nicole Figueroa, Tatiana Rivera, Isabella Moreira, Xavier Mejia, and third-grade teacher Kim Kefalas. (front) Violet Suros, Brielle Suros and Madelyn Duran.

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Johnnie Walker Black.....	1.75 l.....	59.09
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Cakebread Napa Valley Cab.....	750 ml.....	59.99
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Korbel Brut Extra Dry.....	750 ml.....	11.99
La Marca.....	750 ml.....	13.99
Liberty Creek (All Types).....	1.5 l.....	7.99
Mark West Pinot Nior.....	750 ml.....	9.99
Mi Amore Red/White.....	750 ml.....	8.99
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Rex Goliath (All types).....	1.5 ml.....	10.99
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Ruffino Chianti.....	1.5 ml.....	13.99
Santa Margeritha.....	750 ml.....	20.99
Senor Sangria.....	1.5 l.....	11.99
Silver Oak Cab.....	750 ml.....	59.99
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Sobieski.....	1.75 l.....	18.99
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Svedka.....	1.75 l.....	19.29
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## GIOVANNI LAVORATO PRESENTED WITH ITALIAN HERITAGE AWARD

Giovanni Lavorato, owner of Ill Amici Ristorante in Linden, was honored during The Italian Tribune's 47th annual Columbus Day Awards Gala, held on Friday, October 6th, 2017.

One of New Jersey's finest Italian chefs, Giovanni Lavorato was the recipient of this year's Italian Heritage Award. Born in Calabria, Italy, Mr. Lavorato began his culinary studies at the young age of 14 at the prestigious Scuola Alberghiera at Senigallia, near the capital city of Ancona, in the Marche region of Italy. He then went to Jesolo, near Venice, where he received his diploma. It was the ambition of young Giovanni to learn, understand and be able to create the specialties from many of the regions of Italy, so he traveled and he learned. He traveled extensively and brought his culinary skills to restaurants in France, Switzerland and Germany.

In 1967, Mr. Lavorato was offered the elite position at one of Canada's most revered Italian restaurants – Bianco Franco, in Montreal. He came to the U.S. one year later and in 1975, established the Appian Way Restaurant in Orange, New Jersey.

Mr. Lavorato received significant exposure and recognition for his incomparable kitchen skills. Favorable reviews and write-ups followed from the New York Times, Gourmet Magazine and even from the Italian government. After eight years, he purchased Bel'Vedere Ristorante in Clifton, which would duplicate the recognition and acclaim of the Appian Way. An exclusive restaurant offering finest in dining and service. Mr. Lavorato received numerous awards while owning the Clifton establishment, including one by Il Messaggero Mondiale. It was during this period that he was granted the title of Il Cavaliere of the Order of Saint George.

In 1990, he opened Ill Amici Ristorante in Linden, and once again, culinary enthusiasts found his specialties to be extraordinary and the restaurant was greeted with rave reviews. His menu features an extensive array of northern and southern Italian specialties, set within a classic Italian décor, including a Roman lounge. Mr. Lavorato is assisted by his son Dante, who is the

restaurant's general manager and his daughter Teresa, who is the office manager. He feels nothing can make him prouder than partnering with his children in his restaurant.

He was awarded Man of the Year by Il Ponte Italo-Americano International Cultural Magazine in 1995, commending him for his achievements and leadership within the restaurant and food

service industry. Other awards followed, including an award from the Italian Council of New York, and in 2006 Giovanni was honored as Business of the Year by the Union County Chamber of Commerce. In 2016 he was named the Linden Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year and his generosity to the Linden community was noted by many.



(above) Giovanni Lavorato with daughters Alexandra and Teresa.

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Adult .....\$7.99	Adult .....\$11.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$7.49
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
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## YMCA OFFERING FUNDRAISING TICKETS TO TONY DANZA: STANDARDS & STORIES

The Gateway Family YMCA has announced a Fundraiser in support of their 2017 Annual Campaign. The Gateway Family YMCA branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union are selling tickets to Tony Danza: Standards and Stories at the Union County Performing Arts Center on November 25th. A portion of all tickets purchased directly through The Gateway Family YMCA will support the Y's Annual Campaign.

Tony Danza: Standards & Stories will be held at the Union County Performing Arts Center, located at 1601 Irving Street, Rahway on November 25th at 8pm. Fundraising tickets are available at The Gateway Family YMCA thru November 17th. To purchase tickets in support of The Gateway Family YMCA, visit the Elizabeth Branch 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, Five Points Branch 201 Tucker Avenue, Union, Wellness Center Branch 1000 Galloping Hill Rd, Union or Rahway Branch 1564 Irving Street, Rahway or contact the Association Office at 908.249.4800. Ticket sales in support of The Gateway Family YMCA include Orchestra seating for \$75.00 and VIP seating for \$125.00.

"Every day the YMCA works with donors and volunteers to take on the challenges that shape our community's future. This fundraiser will allow us to directly support those in the community in need and provide a fun night out at a great show," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO. Annual Campaign donations help to ensure that everyone in the community has access to vital community programs and resources that support youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

The Union County Performing Arts Center stats of Tony Danza: Standards & Stories, "Combining timeless music with wit, charm, storytelling, and a dash of soft shoe and ukulele performances, Danza is accompanied by his talented four-piece band. Danza performs a selection of his favorite standards from the Great American Songbook, as well as selections from the hit Broadway musical Honeymoon in Vegas (which he also starred in), while interweaving stories about his life and personal connection to the music.

The Gateway Family YMCA, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening the foundations of community and stands For Youth Development, For Healthy Living and For Social Responsibility. The Gateway Family YMCA impacts the community by providing quality services to people of all ages, races, faith or incomes.

To learn more about supporting the Y's cause, please contact The Gateway Family YMCA – Association Office at 908.249.4800 or visit [www.tgfyymca.org](http://www.tgfyymca.org).

## AFTER SCHOOL KIDS DISCOVER THEIR POTENTIAL AT THE Y

A new school year is filled with potential - a chance to start new routines and habits, build new friendships and discover new possibilities and interests. It's an exciting time for many kids, however at the end of the school day, 11.3 million kids head to homes where they are unsupervised from 3 to 6 p.m., according to Afterschool Alliance, a nonprofit public awareness organization. As children transition from summer to fall, The Gateway Family YMCA is offering programs to school-aged children throughout our community to keep youth active, busy and engaged during out-of-school time. Through a well-rounded approach to youth development, the Y's programs offer activities in a caring and safe environment during the critical hours after school. Whether through sports, mentorship, or academic support, the Y nurtures the potential of youth throughout the school year.

"One in five children do not have someone to care for them after school, an essential time to help increase children's success in school," said Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "Afterschool at the Y is an opportunity for families to ensure their kids are receiving additional support, continued learning and a chance to participate in meaningful activities that

can inspire children's motivations and abilities to succeed."

The Y is a leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of every child and teen, supporting their social, emotional, cognitive and physical development from birth to career. The Gateway Family YMCA offers Before and After School programs in many elementary and middle schools in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union. In The Gateway Family YMCA's afterschool program youth receive homework help and can also explore Arts, Literacy, STEM and healthy activities. Financial assistance is available to those in need, to ensure every child and teen has the opportunity to learn and grow at the Y.

The Gateway Family YMCA employs Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) standards in afterschool programs that help build a healthier future for our nation's children by encouraging healthy eating habits, limiting screen time and providing physical activity to keep every child healthy.

For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA's afterschool program, please visit [www.tgfyymca.org](http://www.tgfyymca.org) or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch 908-688-6922 or Rahway Branch 732-388-0057.



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## YMCA PROGRAMS COMBAT CHILDHOOD OBESITY

The Y wants families to understand how adopting healthy habits can help reduce childhood obesity. Many families need support changing their family's habits with the ultimate goal of being a healthy weight. That's why The Gateway Family YMCA wants families to improve eating habits and increase physical activity.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), obesity affects one in six children in the U.S. and one in three are overweight, which poses greater risks for many health problems such as type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and some cancers. Here in New Jersey nearly 1 in 4 children are overweight or obese according to the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health.

"Successfully lowering obesity rates in children requires the whole family to change their eating and physical activity habits," said Krystal R. Canady, CEO of The Gateway Family YMCA. "In our preschool and afterschool programs our Healthy U program is included in the curriculum."

"The goal of Healthy U is to promote the healthy behavior changes that will help prevent childhood obesity through a three-pronged approach of nutrition education, increased physical activity, and family involvement," stated Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO of The Gateway Family YMCA.

The following tips are some great ways to incorporate healthier eating habits and more physical activity and into your daily family routine:

**Eat & Drink Healthy:** Make water the drink of choice and encourage everyone to fill half their plates with fruits and vegetables by offering two or three colorful options at every meal. As a family choose a new fruit and veggie every week to taste together. Place a full pitcher of water on the table during meals, and allow children to pour their own water.

**Play Every Day & Go Outside:** Children should have at least an hour a day of unstructured play (outside when possible) and break a sweat at least three times a week by getting 20 minutes or more of vigorous physical activity. Join your children in games that get hearts pumping and bodies moving.

**Get Together:** Eat as a family as frequently as possible. Involve kids in meal planning, preparation and clean up. In addition, adults should take a break from electronics and spend one-to-one time each day with their kids, enjoying one another's company.

**Reduce Recreational Screen Time:** Time spent in front of a television, computer, tablet, cell phone or video games should be limited to two hours or less per day. Make a family plan to reduce screen time at home. For example, turn off screens during meals, go for a walk, set a timer to remind you to power down the screen.

**Sleep Well:** Kids and adults need to keep a regular sleep schedule; unwind together in the evenings by reading a book or listening to soft music to ensure the body is preparing for sleep. Kids are growing and need 10-12 hours of healthy sleep per night and adults need seven to eight hours.

The Healthy U program is the result of a collaborative partnership between The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey and the New Jersey YMCA State Alliance. Through preschool, after-school and school-based programs, Healthy U impacts more than 90,000 children, ages 3 to 13, at 480 YMCA and elementary school sites statewide. These YMCA afterschool and preschool programs and partnering schools are implementing environmental strategies and activities, and education to increase physical activity and promote good nutrition for students and their families. Since its inception in 2007, The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey has awarded three grants totaling \$4.62 million through 2019.



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**NORTHBOUND** to Exit 136: Exit and turn left at traffic light on to Centennial Ave. At third traffic light make a right onto Myrtle Street. Quarter mile to address, on corner of Commerce Drive.

## NJROTC HONORS VETERANS AT NAVY/MARINE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The Linden High School NJROTC on Friday, Oct. 27, held a ceremony in the school's gym to celebrate the Navy and Marine Corps birthdays and to honor local veterans.

The ceremony included a flag presentation to the guest of honor, Carl Periera of Linden, president of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 779, serving Union County. The names of all the other veterans in attendance were read off along with their branches and years of services. The songs for each branch of the service were played, with guests standing as the song for their branch was played.

"On occasions like today, I am especially proud to be a citizen of this great country and the ideals and freedoms that it represents," NJROTC Commander Boyd Decker said in his opening remarks. "These ideals and freedoms were won and defended by veterans – the men and woman who put our country before themselves.

"I also know that we all share tremendous pride in seeing these impressive NJROTC cadets in their uniforms, representing the best of our future. While only some of them will go on to serve our country in the armed services, all of them are amazing individuals that I know will go on to serve this country in some capacity. ... The veterans that we honor today share several fundamental qualities — courage, pride, determination, selflessness, dedication to duty, and integrity – all the qualities needed to serve a cause larger than one's self. I and the other instructors are awed by what we see in these cadets, as they demonstrate these same qualities on a daily basis."

A sheet cake marked the dates that the Navy and Marine Corps were founded: Oct. 13, 1775, and Nov. 10, 1775, respectively. The cake was cut by Regimental Executive Officer Bermuda Pierre, using her sword. The first piece was given to the guest of honor, followed by the

oldest and youngest veterans present, and the oldest and youngest cadets.

There are about 450 cadets in the all-volunteer NJROTC program, whose focus is on developing good citizens through character education and service.




(above, front, l-r) Commander Boyd Decker, senior NJROTC instructor; freshman Rachael Bakare, youngest cadet; senior Bryan Galvis, oldest cadet; Regimental Executive Officer Bermuda Pierre; guest of honor Carl Periera, president of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 779, Union County; Regimental Command Master Chief Janali Casanas; Regimental Commanding Officer Jet'aime Thompson; Regimental Operations Officer Alexandra Alvarez.. (back row, l-r) LHS teacher Peter McTiernan, a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, and Robert Kratzer, custodian and groundskeeper at Tiger Stadium at Cooper Field, a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War.



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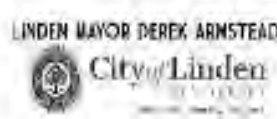
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# THE Taste of LINDEN

*Fifth Annual*

## Fundraiser

**Monday, November 13, 2017  
 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**The Grand Banquet Hall, 12 N. Stiles Street, Linden**

Donation: \$20 Per Ticket (in advance) / \$25 at the door  
 \$10 for Children (12 and under)

### 50/50 Raffle

**3 Tickets = \$5. and 10 Ticket = \$10.**

First Place receives 25%, Second Place receives 15% and Third Place receives 10%

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Linden Food Pantry,  
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Please "LIKE" our Facebook page, Taste of Linden, for updates.

Proceeds from the event to benefit the Kiwanis Club of Linden's  
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Saturday – November 25, 2017



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## LINDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

November 28th

8:30-10 AM

LINDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## LINDEN NJROTC DONATES \$1,300 TO HELP FIGHT BREAST CANCER

The Linden High School NJROTC recently gave a check for \$1,300 to Susan G. Komen North Jersey to help find a cure for breast cancer and to aid those afflicted with the disease.

The cadets all wore pink aiguillettes -- decorative braids on their shoulders -- in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness month.

Commander Boyd Decker gave all the credit for the project to Regimental Executive Officer Bermuda Pierre, an LHS senior who thought it would be good for the NJROTC to raise money

to fight breast cancer. Each cadet who participated was responsible for raising at least \$20. Of that, \$10 went toward buying the pink aiguillette and the rest went toward the donation.

The program has 450 cadets; 130 took part in raising money.

"Maybe next year it will be \$3,000 or \$4,000," he told the cadets.

Tina Jacobs, director of community health for Susan G. Komen North Jersey, visited the school to accept the donation and give the cadets a short

presentation. Jacobs, a 20-year breast cancer survivor herself, told the students about the history of her organization and said much of the work she does is to help patients who don't have insurance.

Decker said he hopes to continue the tradition started by Pierre, and would like to see it grow.

Jacobs said she was thrilled when she got a call from Decker about the donation.

"Thank you, thank you!" Jacobs told the cadets. "I hope to be back here next year."



(above) Linden Naval Junior ROTC cadets who participated in the fundraising effort to fight breast cancer on the steps of Linden High School. In the front row are Chief Petty Officer Mark Velez, Commander Boyd Decker, Regimental Command Master Chief Janali Casanas, Regimental Executive Officer Bermuda Pierre, Tina Jacobs of Susan G. Komen North Jersey, Regimental Commanding Officer Jet'aime Thompson, Regimental Operations Officer Alexandra Alvarez, and Linden High School Principal Yelena Horre.



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## FIRE CHIEF SPEAKS TO STUDENTS DURING 9/11 REMEMBRANCE

Linden Fire Chief Joseph Dooley spoke during a unique 9/11 remembrance service held at Linden High School that brought together students from both New Jersey and Texas.

The commemoration included a video conference with high school students in Allen, TX, a school which reached out to Linden in the spirit of unity and compassion shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The two schools have maintained a close relationship ever since through their "Tale of Two Cities" program.

"As a New Jersey fireman, the idea that people in Texas cared about us opened my eyes," Dooley said to the students in Allen via video conference from Linden High School's Academy of Science and Technology. "The fact that your schoolmates, your alumni, cared enough to come up here to find out about us, what was happening, it meant a lot. It meant

we weren't alone.

"Now 16 years later, you can see the same thing happening for your state. As you deal with Hurricane Harvey, as Florida deals with Hurricane Irma, there are police, fire and EMS workers from New York and New Jersey in Texas, in Florida, because we've never forgotten. People took care of us during that time, and that's something we will always remember."

The program also featured current and former students who were part of the "Tale of Two Cities" program, which over the years has brought students and faculty from the two schools together in both Texas and New Jersey.

Board of Education member Theresa Villani also spoke at Monday's remembrance about her personal experience working in the World Trade Center and losing co-workers on 9/11. "I think something like this really helps keep the

memory alive of the people we lost," she told students during the video conference.

Joseph Cataline, an administrator who helped found the program in October 2001, said it has been his passion. "I've been in education for 45 years, and this program has been the highlight of my career," he said. "Over the years, I have gained so many personal friends in Allen, Texas, I feel often that they are part of my family."

Linden High School Principal Yelena Horre said the students in the program were able to take the tragedy of 9/11 and make "something really beautiful." "Sitting with me today, and there in Allen, are students that don't remember 9/11. But you keep it going, because you understand the importance of that. Allen and Linden, we're a family," Horre said. "We will continue to keep the charge, and make sure that we never forget the heroes of 9/11."



(above) Linden Fire Chief Joseph Dooley at Monday's 9/11 commemoration at Linden High School's Academy of Science and Technology. Seated behind him, from left, are Board of Education members Vice President Tracey Birch, Theresa Villani and Dawn Beviano.



(above) Joseph Cataline, a Linden Public Schools administrator who helped create the "Tale of Two Cities" program with Allen, TX, speaking during a video conference between the two schools to commemorate 9/11.



(above) Linden High School senior David Sousa lighting candles at 9/11 commemoration.

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## LINDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OKTOBERFEST

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Life in Linden page on [facebook.com](http://facebook.com) Feel free to "Like", "Tag" and "Share"



## STUDENT-RUN TV STUDIO IS EYES, EARS AND VOICE OF LINDEN HS

Inside Linden High School's Academy of Science and Technology is the Linden Public Schools' media hub – a TV studio that produces a weekly news show and teaches students real-life technical skills for the 21st century media landscape.

And along the way, everyone tries to have a little fun.

Those are the keys for the Linden High School TV/digital media classes, which produce the weekly school news and various other video projects for school organizations.

The classes are taught by Chris Paskewich, but the work is done by the students, both on camera and behind the scenes.

"It's all hands-on," said Paskewich, who is in his fifth year teaching in Linden and heading the TV production program. "I'm not one to lecture, 'This is how you use a camera.' I let the kids actually pick up a camera and produce videos. That's the way I learned and I feel that's the best way to learn."

Among the highlights for the students is an annual trip to NBC headquarters in New York, where they tour various studios, check out the equipment, and create a "Tonight Show"-style talk show. Last year, as a bonus, they got to see the backing performers for Chance the Rapper rehearsing for "Saturday Night Live."

The TV/Digital Media program is holding a fundraiser this Wednesday, Oct. 25, at Blaze Pizza in Clark to help pay for the trip to NBC. For anyone who shows the group's flier, part of their bill will be donated to the TV/Digital Media program and DECA, the school's student business organization. A similar fundraiser will be held next Wednesday at Chipotle in Clark for the two student organizations.

The TV program is divided into two levels. TV 1 is the entry-level half-year class where students learn the basics of taking camera shots and editing video. TV 2/3 is for students in the 2nd and 3rd years of the program. They produce the weekly news show, and film the Board of

Education meeting, concerts and other special events.

"Students in the TV/Digital Media class are vital to the culture of LHS," said Principal Yelena Horre. "Our weekly student-produced show is viewed every Friday during homeroom and is highly anticipated by students and staff alike. Through the efforts of these talented students, events, activities and community service outreach are communicated and the voice of LHS is heard."

The news shows, available on Schoottube.com, aim to inform students, but in a fun way that keeps the creators and the viewers engaged. The students know not to go too far.

"We try to keep it professional when we do the school news," said senior Kareem Issa. "We don't try to be a clown on it. Even though we try to make the school look fun, we don't want to give a bad impression because it's public. We don't want to make the school look bad."

Issa is a rarity in the program; it is his fourth year in the three-year program.

"Since I enjoyed this class so much, I talked to guidance and got to do a fourth year," said Issa, who now helps Mr. Paskewich in teaching the others students. "I help show the other kids how to film, how to edit, how the news show gets done, how our production gets done."

"I like showing people new things, and even though I'm teaching someone, I'm still learning."

The program, which has about 125 students through the year including 20 in the advanced class, instills a team atmosphere, with students pitching in wherever needed – hosting, editing, shooting video, working the teleprompter.

"The students are great," Paskewich said. "They're totally involved and it seems like they always have fun. It's just a great program, and I have fun being here and doing this."

"I think this is a very valuable program because this is a field for the future. And I'm

using all equipment that's used in the field, from Final Cut Pro editing software to the cameras we use. So I give them real-life experience."

Ludmila Muntian, a junior in the advanced class, was attracted to the program because she likes watching BuzzFeed videos. But as she got involved, she learned more aspects of TV and video production.

"When I started, I would just sit there and let other people do things for me," she said. "But I learned from people, and the experience, and Mr. P taught me things. It's a team thing."

"I think a lot of people should take this class. It's a great experience and it's not super difficult as long as you pay attention and learn to use the tools."

Justin La Pierre is a senior who is just starting out in the intro class.

"Doing the news show was a good experience because it got me out of my comfort zone," he said. "All this is new to me. At first I didn't know how to feel, I was really nervous, because I've never been on camera with someone recording me. But it feels good now. I like it."

Some of the projects the class was working on this week include a promo for the school's homecoming dance featuring football players and cheerleaders, and a Halloween special modeled on the blockbuster movie "It." Last year's Halloween special featured one of the program's news anchors being kidnapped – a project some students listed as among their favorites.

The classes use gear that equals the equipment used by professions – preparing students for what comes after high school.

"I know kids who have taken this and done movies on their own or started little businesses on their own who went through Linden High School," Paskewich said. "And I always hear from them, saying 'I learned a lot from your program.'"

"This is something that you can take here and use for the rest of your life."



(above) TV/Digital Media teacher Chris Paskewich, center, showing a completed promo for the school's homecoming dance to students who participated at Linden High School's Academy of Science and Technology.



(above) Seniors Samantha Jezowicz and Kyle Yeldell in TV/Digital Media class at Linden High School's Academy of Science and Technology.



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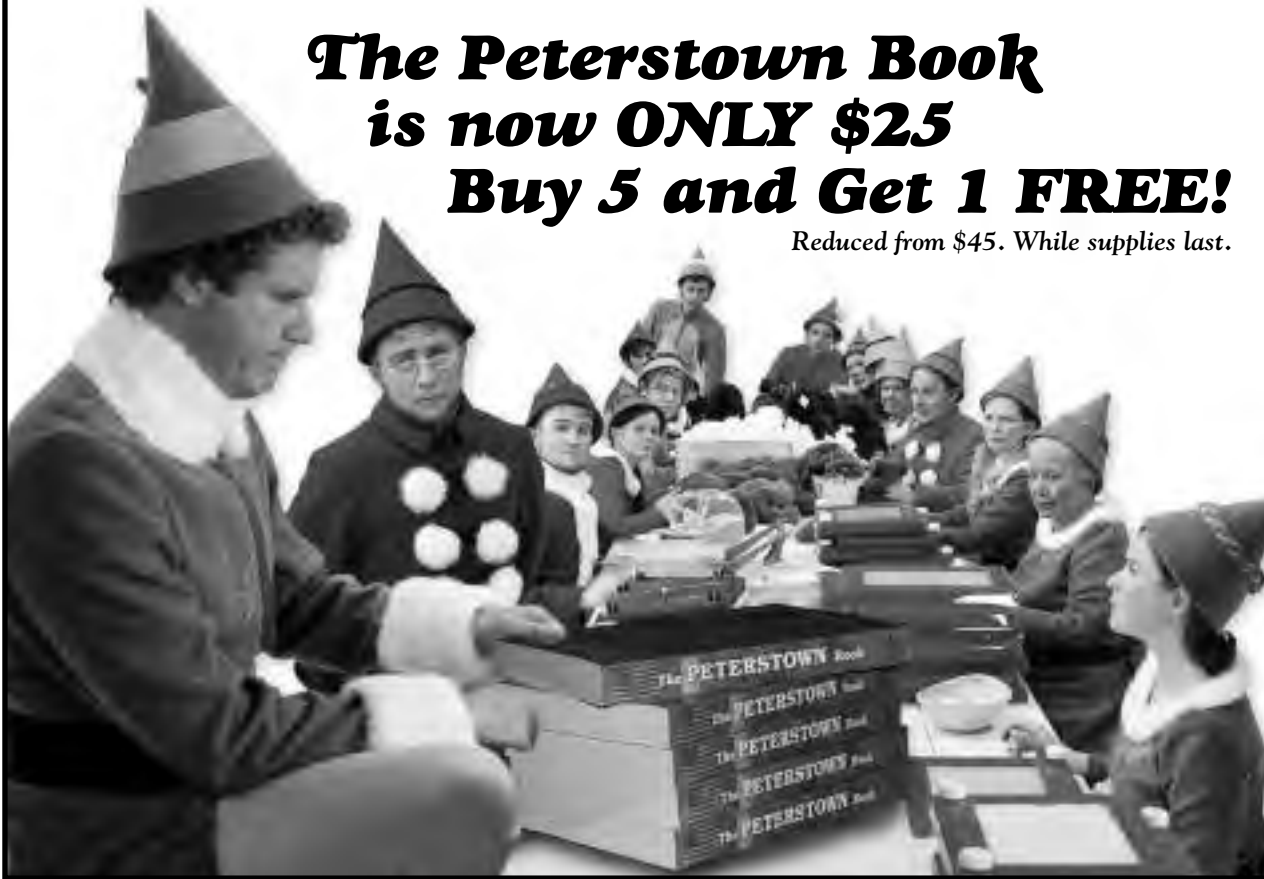
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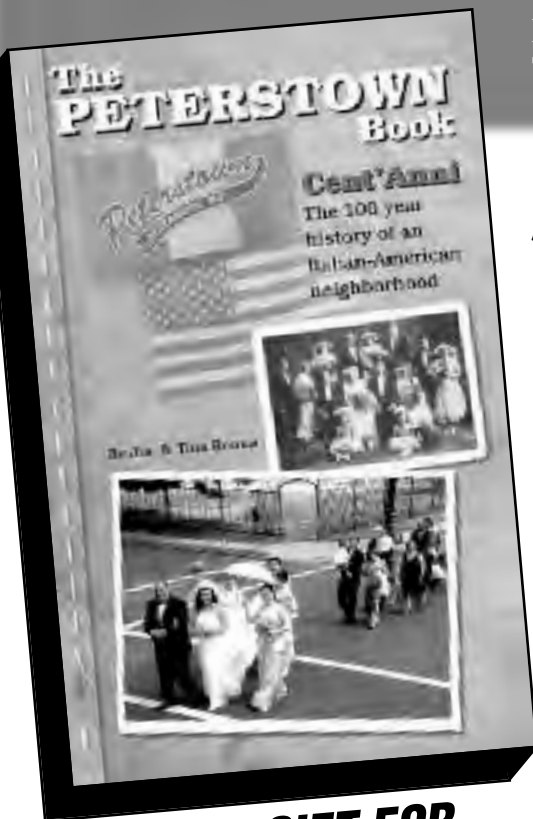
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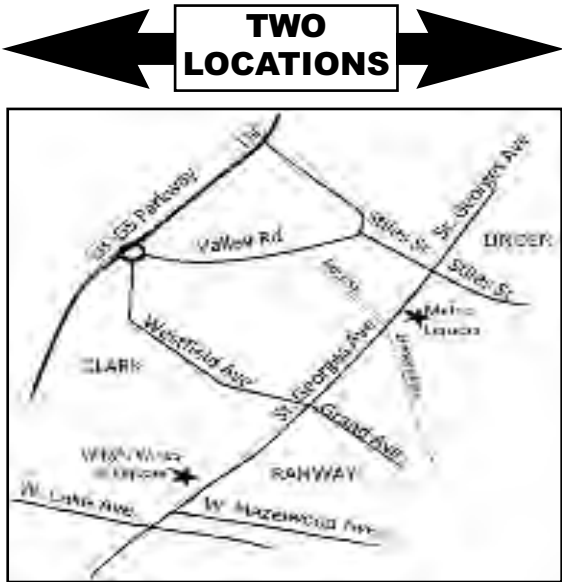
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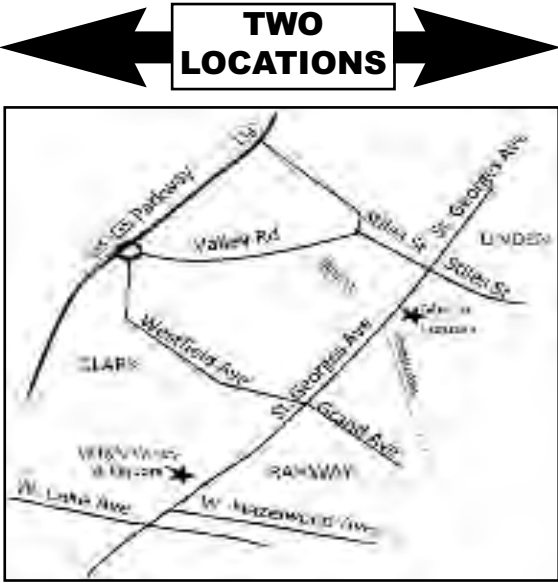
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Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio .....	1.5L	\$12.99
Mi Amore Red .....	750ml	\$ 8.99
Moet Imperial Champagne .....	750ml	\$39.99
Noble Wine 337, 667 .....	750ml	\$10.99
Papi (All Types) .....	1.5L	\$10.98
Real Sangria .....	1.5L	\$10.99
Rex Goliath (All Types) .....	1.5L	\$10.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select .....	750ml	\$ 8.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select .....	1.5L	\$16.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet & Merlot .....	750ml	\$15.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay .....	750ml	\$11.99
Rombauer Chardonnay .....	750ml	\$30.99
Ruffino Chianti .....	750ml	\$ 7.99
Ruffino Chianti .....	1.5 L	\$13.99
Ruffino Pinot Grigio .....	1.5L	\$11.99
Ruffino Chianti Gold .....	750ml	\$30.99
Ruffino Tan label .....	750ml	\$19.99
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio .....	750ml	\$20.29
Senor Sangria (All Types) .....	1.5L	\$11.99
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet .....	750ml	\$70.99
Simi Chardonnay .....	750ml	\$12.09
Sonoma Cutrer Chardonnay .....	750ml	\$20.99
Sutter Home (All Types) .....	1.5L	\$ 8.99
Tom Gore (All Types) .....	750ml	\$ 9.99
Woodbridge (All Types) .....	1.5L	\$10.99
Yago Sangria .....	3L	\$14.99
Yellow Tail (All Types) .....	1.5L	\$11.49

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