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ST. THERESA THANKSGIVING TRADITION IN KENILWORTH

On November 17th, 2018, several Kenilworth community civic groups came together to help the Saint Theresa's Social Concerns committee organize 300 bags containing the makings for satisfying and delicious Thanksgiving meals for families in need. All the food had been donated.

The Kenilworth PBA #135, Kenilworth Silver Card Association, Kenilworth Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Kenilworth Veteran's Center, and Percaro Trucking together donated funds to purchase 265 turkeys. The Garlic Rose Restaurant in Cranford, arranged for their distributor to provide the turkeys at wholesale price. The turkeys were added to the bags to be distributed to families. An unexpected snow storm delayed the delivery of the turkeys and so an extra effort was made to get the dinner bags assembled on the day of distribution, November 17, the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

The Social Concerns Committee provides food year-round to needy families and their pantry is always in need of restocking. No appointment is necessary to make a donation. Non-perishable foods and gift cards to any supermarket can be left in the Crying Room in the Church on Sundays, and the Rectory during business hours Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Supermarket gift cards and checks made payable to St. Theresa's can be mailed to Social Concerns c/o The Church of



(above) Members of the St. Theresa Social Concerns Committee had many helping hands to assemble and distribute the makings for Thanksgiving dinners to local families.

Saint Theresa, 541 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth, NJ 07033.

If you are in need of food you can contact the Rectory at 908-272-4444, they will arrange for a volunteer to meet you at the pantry. The identities of people who receive assistance from the pantry are kept confidential. Names and contact information aren't required to receive assistance. For more information contact the Church of Saint Theresa 908-272-4444.

ST. THERESA GIVING TREE IS DECORATED WITH WISHES

With Thanksgiving behind them, Social Concerns is collecting donations for a "Giving Tree" which is located in St. Theresa's church.

The tree is decorated with tags with needed items written on them. Donors simply take as many tags as they wish and return the items to the church for distribution.

The orders on the tags were collected from needy families within the community as well as Covenant House, Catholic Charities and St. Joseph's Social Service Center located in Elizabeth.

If you are in need please call the Rectory (908) 272-4444.

(right, l-r) Volunteers hanging wish list ornaments on the St. Theresa Giving tree, Kristen Williams, Samantha McEvoy, Polly Johnston, Dianne Perona, and Dee Phillips.



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ST. THERESA 2ND GRADERS ENJOY A VISIT TO NITSCHKE HOUSE

Mrs. Karen DeMaio and her 2nd grade class at St. Theresa School in Kenilworth took a stroll up the Boulevard to visit the Historical Nitschke House. The children learned all about the farmhouse which was once owned by Mayor Oswald J. Nitschke.

The house is a living museum and cultural arts center. Shirley Boyden Maxwell started the tour speaking to the children about the Teaching

Garden.

Mrs. DeMaio is a member of the Historical Society and spoke to her class on what it was like living in the 1800's. The children enjoyed it when the house phone rang and Neha Padikkal was asked to answer it.

The students enjoyed the learning experience and were all treated to pumpkins then a quick visit to the Veterans Memorial next door.



(above) Mrs. Karen DeMaio and her 2nd graders enjoyed a visit to the Nitschke House where they learned about life in the 1800's.

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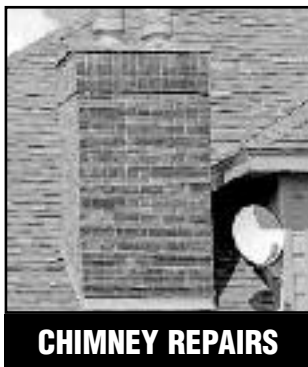




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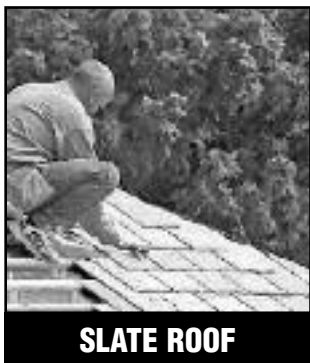
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SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS

The Kenilworth Municipal Welfare/Social Service Department will be ringing the bell to collect funds for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 8, 15, and 22 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

We are looking for volunteers to help this important fundraiser be a success. Can you give 1 hour on one of the Saturdays? If interested in helping out please call Paulette at 908-276-6461. Leave your name a contact telephone number.



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KENILWORTH COMMUNITY HONORS VETERANS

Veterans Day, Sunday, November, 11, 2018, marked the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I.

As they do every year on this day, Kenilworth VFW Post 2230 honored all veterans by celebrating a Mass at St. Theresa's Church, and then hosted a service at 11 a.m. at the VFW Hall.

On Saturday November 3, 2018 the Post organized a Flag Deployment at Graceland Cemetery where volunteers decorated the graves of veterans.

The ceremony was led by Post Commander Robert Jeans and was attended by VFW Boy scout Troop 83 who posted the colors. The visiting dignitaries included an invocation by Chaplin Ed Sulenski, VFW 2230; Kenilworth Chief of Police Chief Zimmermen; and Mayor Anthony DeLuca, among others. Refreshments were served after the service.

Mayor DeLuca read a proclamation from the Borough which stated in part "On Veterans Day, we salute the soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and coast guardsmen who have rendered the highest service any American can offer, and we rededicate ourselves to fulfilling our commitment

to all those who serve in our name; and our community has a continuing sense of gratitude to those who have gen so much in the defense of the freedoms, and we are reminded of our solemn obligation: to serve our veterans as well as they have served us."



*(above) Wreaths were presented by:
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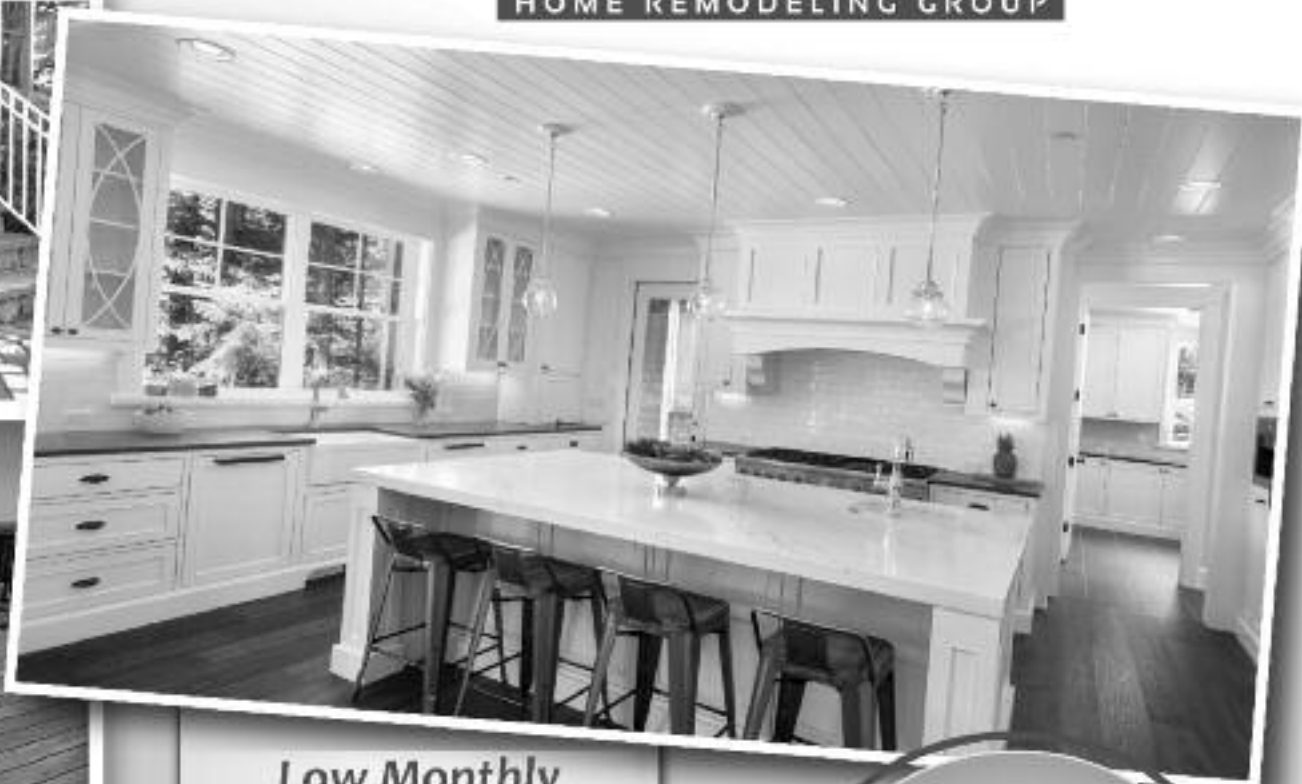


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(above) Joseph C. Gasper is fundraising for his Eagle Scout Project, which will build an equipment shed at DiMario Park.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT TO BENEFIT KENILWORTH RECREATION DEPARTMENT, DIMARIO PARK & THE COMMUNITY

Joseph C. Gasper is currently 16 years old and is a Life Scout in Troop 83 of Kenilworth. Within the Troop, he is the Senior Patrol Leader and loves to help and guide the younger scouts, so that one day they can become Eagle Scout's like him. Joseph is pursuing the rank of Eagle Scout, and to do so must complete a project.

An Eagle Scout Project consists of the scout planning and preparing a project that will benefit his town and community while showing his leadership skills. Through the years, Joseph has seen that the Recreation Center of Kenilworth was growing so massively that they needed more space for equipment storage. Since the

Recreation Center uses DiMario Park as the main location for summer camp activities, soccer, softball games, and other town activities, storage for all the equipment is needed.

Joseph's project is to build a shed large enough to house all of the Park's equipment, providing a safer environment for the children, as well as much needed storage for the Recreation Dept.

The estimated cost of this project would be 3,500. Joseph is humbly requesting donations for funds for his project. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

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WHAT, WHERE, AND WHEN IN OLD KENILWORTH – KENILWORTH'S FIRST CHRISTMAS TREE

The spirit of the Christmas season has graced many villages, towns, and cities across the land for centuries. Generations ago communities began to designate an "official" Christmas tree standing at some prominent location within its borders to herald in the holiday. Decades ago this became more ecumenical with towns adding a

Jewish menorah and symbols of other faiths.

Early Kenilworth was no exception. Records suggest that the Borough's first official Christmas tree was placed about the year 1920 near the old Borough Hall. The Senior Citizens Center now occupies that site.

Residents gathered there to sing Christmas

carols to help usher in this festive time of year. Wide-eyed children no doubt licked candy canes as they scampered about the tree during the singing. The tree was adorned with electric "candles" as the lights then were called. A treat for locals as many still used waxed candles or no lights at all on household trees. Christmas trees for the home were sold along the Boulevard by various groups including the Volunteer Fire Department which did so on the grounds of the old Kenilworth Inn Stables where the Wells Fargo Bank now stands. Boy Scouts continue that welcomed tradition by selling trees at the VFW Center on So. 21st St.

In the 1930s the Borough began to decorate an evergreen growing on the lawn of the public library rather than placing a cut tree near the borough hall. The library stood for over 40 years but was cut down in the early 1980s to make way for the then new addition to the library. Residents ended up getting two trees for the price of one as two large evergreens at the front of the present Municipal Building were awarded the honor of becoming the community's official trees. The grounds annually are beautifully decorated for the joyous occasion. And yes, a menorah is displayed as well.

Research provided by Walter E. Boright, Ed. D., historian, and Historic Signs, Inc. Persons with inquiries about this or other aspects of Kenilworth history may contact Dr. Boright at drbori@aol.com or 908-256-5200.

Photo courtesy of Kenilworth Historical Society.



(above) Kenilworth's official Christmas tree about 1921 with Jitney bus to Roselle Park near old borough hall. Anthony Grippo, local magistrate and future mayor, stands at the center.

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(above) Joseph Napolitano, Milania Lopez, Madison Johnson, Faith Forenza with their spooky mummies craft.

KENILWORTH SENIOR PROGRAMS

The Kenilworth Senior Program Director, with funds from the Community Development Block Grant and the Borough of Kenilworth, is providing free programs for all Kenilworth Seniors age 55 or older.

Monday: Exercise Class at 1 p.m.,
upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center

Tuesday: Bowling at 1:00 p.m.,
Garwood Lanes, 346 North Ave., Garwood

Wednesday: Healthy Bones at 9:30 a.m.,
upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center

Friday: Zumba Gold at 1:30 p.m.,
upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center

In addition:

Monday December 10 at 10:00 a.m.
Free Craft Class

Monday December 17 at 10:00 a.m.
Free Ceramic Class

Both classes will be held upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center. Registration is required for Craft and Ceramic Classes 5 days in advance by calling 908-686-2035.

Kenilworth provides free bus service to seniors to the Senior Center, shopping, and other places. If interested in this service or for more information, call 908-868-4180.

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SPOOKY MUMMIES CRAFT

Mrs. DeMaio's 2nd grade class at St. Theresa School in Kenilworth made spooky mummies out of mason jars. A simple craft of gauze, glue, eyes

and a little battery operated votive made this 2nd grade class very spooky and happy!



(above) Mrs. DeMaio and her 2nd grade class.

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DAVID BREARLEY HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING DANCE

Submitted by Mary Ann Gasper

David Brearley High School in Kenilworth held their annual Homecoming Dance on October 17, 2018. Over 300 students gathered and danced the night away dressed in their finest. The dance was an amazing success this year with the addition of our new Homecoming Prince and Princesses.

Delicious catered food and beautiful flowers were supplied by our local, loyal businesses, Mike's Place and Especially Yours. Music and a star lit room were provided by DJ Cieran Dougherty, Mr. Dougherty and Joe Gasper.

Many thanks are given to our dedicated faculty members, administration and PTO who

volunteered their time to give our students a memorable evening.

Our Homecoming King and Queen were announced and celebrated at October 20th's football game. The 2018 David Brearley Homecoming King, Queen and Court smiled proudly at the game.



SPECIAL SWEET DELIVERIES

Krispy Kreme donuts were hand delivered to various First Responders by Student Council President Grace Williams.

St. Theresa School HSA in Kenilworth held a school fundraiser selling the delicious treats to help with the cost of various events. Grace

Williams and her family started a GoFundMe page for out of state family members who wished to contribute but wouldn't be able to enjoy the treats and they sold over 100 boxes.

Grace asked if she could donate them to First Responders, Fireman and Policeman. She then

hand delivered them to Kenilworth, Union, Elizabeth & Mountainside Police and Fire Departments with her parents.

Mayor Chris Bollwage from Elizabeth also put her in touch with shelters in Elizabeth to deliver the special treats to families.



(above) Student Council President Grace Williams delivers donuts to first responders.

**KENILWORTH CHAMBER
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Kenilworth Public Library director Lorraine Ruiz and Terry Zuckerman, representative for the Ralph Errington Charitable Foundation, announced the recent addition of the new color LED monument sign erected on the front lawn of The Kenilworth Public Library.

The new LED sign will assist with the promotion of library services and programs, bring community awareness, and provide better visibility for the library.

Funding for this sign was made possible by The Ralph Errington Charitable Foundation.



(above) Library Director Lorraine Ruiz and Coordinator of Children's Services Robin Koerner viewing the new color LED monument sign with Terry Zuckerman.

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KENILWORTH PBA 135 ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE BENEFITS ST. THERESA'S CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Kenilworth Life • Page 11 • December 2018

A Thanksgiving food drive to benefit St. Theresa's Church food pantry was held on Sunday, November 11, 2018 in the Municipal lot next to the Kenilworth Police Station. The event was sponsored by Kenilworth PBA 135 and was chaired by Kenilworth residents officer Travis Dilts and his wife Christine. The Kenilworth PBA has been running this annual food drive for over 20 years.

Despite a snow storm, a small group managed to make it to St. Theresa's on the night of Thursday, November 15 to sort the food into 250 baskets to be distributed that weekend. Volunteer organizer Vicki Devlin reported "A great group of Boys Scouts, and a few Girl Scouts, worked together very well to finish the task in less than three hours. I am very proud of how hard they worked."



(above) Kenilworth Cub & Boy Scouts



(above) Kenilworth Girl Scouts

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