

# KENILWORTH BUSINESS + LIFE

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## ST. THERESA 2ND GRADERS VISIT NITSCHKE HOUSE



Mrs. Karen DeMaio and her 2nd grade class at St. Theresa School in Kenilworth recently 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.

## 'PAINTING NIGHTS' TO BENEFIT NITSCHKE HOUSE

The Kenilworth Historical Society once again will be presenting a series of "Painting Nights" with resident artist Patricia Hubinger to benefit the historic Oswald J. Nitschke House "living history" museum and cultural arts center. The enlightening, enjoyable, two-hour painting sessions, held in the Nitschke House cultural arts center (49 South 21 Street, Kenilworth), give participants of all ages, backgrounds and abilities an opportunity to create unique paintings under the guidance of a master artist instructor. The next "Painting Nights with Pat" will take place on Tues., Feb. 5; Thurs., Feb. 21; Tues., March 5; and Thurs., March 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Acrylic paint, brushes, canvases, easels, smocks and other

art supplies will be provided as part of the \$25 admission price. Participants are asked to arrive by 6:15 p.m. and are invited to bring food and beverages. Advance registration is required, as seating is limited. To make reservations for any of the Painting Nights, to receive information about future painting sessions and/or to arrange for private painting parties, please call 908-709-0434. Gift certificates are available.

Proceeds will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) "living history" museum and cultural arts center by helping defray the cost of an elevator that makes all levels of the newly restored site fully accessible to everyone.

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## MEMO FROM THE MAYOR

February 2019

Hello Kenilworthians, as February rolls in, it would seem like winter is finally here. On a good note we are not far off from Spring! Please remember to bundle up when going outside in inclement weather and check in on your elderly or sick neighbors.

If any residents have not received their 2019 Information Guide or may have misplaced it, one can be obtained at Borough Hall in the Clerk's office. Also, there is a free app available for your smartphones called Recycle Coach, it has the entire Borough DPW calendar and it will even send you reminders. Not sure how to dispose of an old TV, furniture or batteries? Recycle Coach will provide an answer.

Please check in with our web site [kenilworthBorough.com](http://kenilworthBorough.com) for events and goings on throughout the Borough, as always, the month will be busy. Speaking of busy, go on the [kenilworthlibrary.com](http://kenilworthlibrary.com) page and check out some of the exiting new events and happenings as well as the continued programs for young and old alike. Director Ruiz and all the people working at our Library do an outstanding job! We are lucky to have such a dedicated group, keep up the good work!

Reminder, February 14 is Valentine's Day, and there is a wealth of shops and businesses from which to make that special someone's day. Especially Yours Florist is on 20th street and I don't have to tell you about the numerous places to take that someone out to a great dinner or lunch!

I want to thank everyone out there that is doing something to make this town better, every little bit helps. Also thank you to the Kenilworthians who have brought forth your comments, thoughts and ideas on multiple issues throughout the Borough. The success of any town starts with the people who work and live in it, the more you communicate and be a part of it, the stronger it will be. Many wonderful people are volunteering their valuable time and giving back to the community. The idea is to be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

In conclusion, I would like to talk about the most the most important thing you can do and oddly enough for some it is the hardest. Kenilworthians, take care of ..... yourself. Health and Happiness in mind and body, with all the things you have going on in your life, the job, the bills, the activities, the rough times. Health is often overlooked. A good longtime friend recently had an issue with his heart; he is only 52, way too young. I am hoping and praying for his speedy recovery and looking forward to having a few more salads and a few less steaks with him as we grow old together and watch our children drive us crazy. Life is too damn short, cherish the moments and be grateful for what we have

God Bless you all  
And God Bless America

*Mayor Anthony P. DeLuca Jr.*

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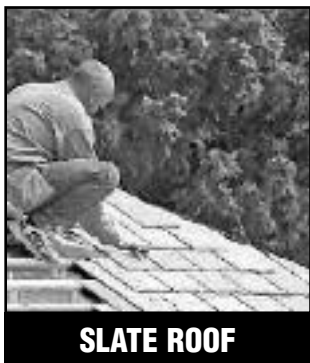
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# WHAT, WHERE, AND WHEN IN OLD KENILWORTH - AFRICAN-AMERICAN ROOTS



(above, left) Howard Anthony, Sr., (1872-1953) first African-American to serve on a NJ board of education. (above, right) Napoleon Anthony (1894-1856), WWI veteran, nearly killed in action



(above, left) Mamie Wakefield (1885-1973), a founder of the Union Baptist Church (above, right) Addie Smith (1880-1963), first African-American businesswoman

February is Black History Month – an opportunity to examine Kenilworth’s early African-American roots.

One of the earliest documented African-Americans living here was slave girl Eva Sayre. Born about 1795, she lived, until about 1870, on the former Sayre farm on Springfield Rd. adjacent to Black Brook Park. John Storts (b. 1801), one of the earliest African-American landowners, had a farm in the 1840s on Galloping Hill road near the entry to the Merck complex.

In the late 1800s there were many African-American farm laborers who lived here with families that employed them. The first established church was the First Baptist Church, founded in 1904 and soon led by Rev. William Hawes. African-American voters were credited for the passage of the 1907 referendum that created Kenilworth as an independent community, carved from parts of Cranford and Union. In 1910 African-Americans comprised over 10% of the Borough’s population, mostly

living Downtown, where much of today’s 3% African-American population resides.

A most prominent African-American in the 1920s-1940s was Howard Anthony. A respected businessman, he was appointed to the board of education in 1925, being the first African-American on a New Jersey school board. His son, Napoleon, served in WWI and narrowly escaped being killed when an enemy bullet passed through his helmet.

Mamie Wakefield was a prime mover in forming in 1923 the Union Baptist Church now on Sheridan Ave. Addie Smith, the first African-American businesswoman, lived on N. 17th St. Her family was among the founders in 1918 of St. Paul’s AME Church now on Monroe Ave.

An extensive history of Kenilworth’s African-American roots is available at the public library in books authored by the writer of this article, Walter E. Boright, Ed. D. Persons with inquiries about this or other aspects of Kenilworth history may contact Dr. Boright at drbori@aol.com or 908-256-5200.

Photos courtesy Historic Signs, Inc.

## CHINESE NEW YEAR AT NITSCHKE HOUSE - FEB 10

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a Chinese New Year Celebration at the historic Oswald J. Nitschke House (49 South 21 Street, Kenilworth) on Sunday, February 10, starting at 2 p.m.

An entertaining and informative interactive program, to be presented by certified tea specialist and cultural educator Darlene Meyers Perry, will provide insight into the fascinating history, customs and foods of the Chinese New Year, which was first celebrated in ancient China to mark the end of winter and the beginning of spring. Participants will have an opportunity to enjoy tea along with a sampling of various foods that are traditionally part of the annual Chinese holiday celebration.

Admission is \$20. Advance registration is requested, as seating is limited. For information/reservations, please call 908-709-0434. The Nitschke House has an elevator and is

fully accessible.

Proceeds from the February 10 event will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society’s Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) “living history” museum and cultural arts center by helping defray operating and programming costs.

Darlene Meyers Perry, whose nearly 25-year study of tea with respect to international cultures has allowed her to build many lasting friendships throughout the world, is owner and president of the online retail store, “The Tea Lover’s Archives.”

The Kenilworth Historical Society (www.kenilworthhistoricalsociety.org) is an independent, volunteer-based non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to the research, preservation and interpretation of the Oswald J. Nitschke House, local history and culture.

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

### Monday: Exercise Class, 1 p.m.

upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center

### Tuesday: Bowling, 1 p.m.

Garwood Lanes, 346 North Ave., Garwood

### Wednesday: Healthy Bones, 9:30 a.m.

upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center

### Friday: Zumba Gold, 1:30 p.m.

upstairs at the Kenilworth Senior Center.

### Free Craft Class and / or a Ceramic Class.

Every Monday in February,

and March 11 & 25, at 10 a.m. 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.

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## PANCAKE BREAKFAST TROOP 84 FUNDRAISER

Please join us in thanking our Veterans at the Troop 83 3rd Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday, February 24, 2019 from 8:30-11:00 a.m. at Kenilworth's VFW Hall, 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth.

Tickets are \$7.00 per person, children under 5 eat free. Purchase tickets at the door or by emailing troop83mom@gmail.com.

Veterans Eat FREE!

## REGISTER FOR A FREE 4-DAY SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCE AT TURTLE BACK ZOO

The Kenilworth Public Library invites children and teens to register for an opportunity to participate in a free 4-day camp experience at Turtle Back Zoo located in West Orange, NJ. The Raph Errington Foundation will provide funding for 40 children and teens to gain an appreciation for wildlife and the natural world through fun and educational activities.

The camp experience will be held on July 1, 2, 3 and 5, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Free bus transportation will be provided. Drop off and pick up will take place at The Kenilworth Public Library. A \$10.00 deposit will be required at the time of registration. The deposit will be refunded to all children and teens who complete the 4 day camp experience.

This program will be open to children and teens entering grades 3 – 8 in September 2019.

Camp groups will consist of 15 third and

fourth grade participants, 15 fifth and sixth grade participants, and 10 seventh and eighth grade participants.

Campers will be introduced to the extraordinary world of animals, nature, and science. They will enjoy age appropriate camp activities that include games, teacher-led lessons, behind-the-scenes visits, up-close animal encounters, hands-on science projects, and fun crafts. Children and teens will learn about the responsibilities of a zoologist, animal scientist, and zookeepers.

Registration is in person only at Kenilworth Public Library beginning on Friday, February 1, 2019.

For more information about registering for this free summer camp experience, please contact The Kenilworth Public Library at 908-276-2451 or visit 548 Boulevard.



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# KENILWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Located at 548 Boulevard. Library website is [www.kenilworthlibrary.org](http://www.kenilworthlibrary.org).

Registration for programs may be done in person or by calling 908 276-2451.

The Library is handicapped accessible. [facebook.com/kenilworthworth.public.library](https://facebook.com/kenilworthworth.public.library)

## The Winter Reading Program

is underway and continues through  
Friday, February 22, 2019.

Children who were registered for the  
Fall 2018 reading club we be preregistered  
for the winter session.

Registration is required for all library programs:  
Mommy, Daddy & Me, a parent and child at-home  
reading program for children ages 2 to 5.

I Can Read, a reading program for children who are  
just starting to read on their own from ages 6 to 8.

Club Reads a lot, a reading program  
for children ages 9 to 12.

## Lap Sit for ages 0 to 23 months

will be held on the following  
Tuesdays from 10:30 to 10:50 a.m.:  
February 5, 12 & 19.

## Toddler Time for 2 year olds

will be held on the following  
Wednesdays from 10:30 to 10:50 a.m.:  
February 6, 13 & 20.

Stories, puppets and music just right for young  
listeners will be introduced.

## PJ Story Time for children ages 3 and up

will be held on the following Thursdays  
from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.: February 7, 14 & 21.  
Children are invited to wear their pajamas to this  
program, and bring along a stuffed animal, too.

## NEW PROGRAM: Tech Time At The Library for children ages 4 – 10 years old

will be held on Thursdays at  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.: February 7, 14 & 21.

Children will have an opportunity to independently  
explore various educational apps featured on one of  
the library's Samsung tablets. Children under the  
age of 10 years old must be accompanied by an  
adult in order to borrow a tablet. A library card will  
be required in order to participate in this program.

Headphones will be provided or Children are  
welcome to bring their own headphones or earbuds.

## Lego At The Library for 4 - 12 year olds

will be held on the following  
Fridays from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.:  
February 8 & 22.

Lego at the Library is made possible by donations  
from the Walmart Local Giving Program and Jackie  
Fidurski.

## Bingo for Young Children

will be held on Friday  
from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

for children ages 3 and up: February 15. Games  
may include A-B-C Bingo, Number Bingo and  
Color & Shape Bingo. Parents must remain in the  
library during the program.

## Bingo for Children Who Can Read

will be held on the following  
Friday from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

in the Activity Room: February 1. Games may  
include Book Bingo, USA Bingo, History Bingo  
and Kenilworth Bingo. Parents do not participate in  
this program.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### February is National Children's Dental Health Month.

An interactive program to raise awareness about the  
importance of good oral health will be presented for  
children ages 4 and up. Dr. Mouli Surti of Pediatric  
Dentistry of Union will present this program on  
Thursday, February 7 at 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

### A Valentine's Day Celebration

will be presented by local children's author  
Laura Sassi

Thursday, February 14 at 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.

Children ages 4 and up will have an opportunity to  
listen to the story Love Is Kind read by the author  
and participate in a Valentine's craft at the  
conclusion of this event.

## VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE LIBRARY

Children's author Laura Sassi will present story  
time and a craft based on her book, Love is Kind  
on Thursday, February 14, 2019. Children will  
have an opportunity to listen to Sassi reading her  
book and participate in a related Valentine's Day  
craft project.

Laura Sassi has a passion for telling stories in  
prose and rhyme. Her picture books include  
Goodnight, Manger (Zonderkidz, 2015),  
Goodnight, Ark (Zonderkidz, 2014), Diva  
Delores and the Opera House Mouse (Sterling,  
2018) and Love is Kind (Zonderkidz, 2018). She  
lives in New Jersey with her husband, two  
children, and a black Cockapoo named Sophie.

Registration is required. For more information,  
please call the library at 908-276-2451 or visit  
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## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS – JOIN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS

On Tuesday, February 26, 2019, NAMI is hosting a unique program offering discussion/sharing/learning groups for both those who care for someone with a mental illness and a separate group for anyone who lives with a mental health diagnosis. Each group is led by an experienced facilitator and offers a comfortable environment to share concerns, ask questions, and get support from others. Meetings begin at

7:30 p.m. at RWJ Rahway Fitness & Wellness Center, 2120 Lamberts Mill Rd., Scotch Plains.

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.

For more information, please visit the NAMI website at [nami.org](http://nami.org).

## OPERATION REBOUND INVITES VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS TO ATTEND FEB. MEETING

The New Jersey Veterans Network along with the Operation Rebound Racing Team host free monthly PTSD and benefits meetings which will aim to be fun, while being informative.

The next meeting, featuring a comic performance, will be held on February 25, 2019

at the Scotch Plains American Legion, located at 237 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ at 6:30 p.m.

If you are interested in attending please contact Michael D. Boll via email [mdbollio@Optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@Optonline.net), or call/text (973) 332-1556.

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**Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm**

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## NEWARK BAIT AND FLYCASTING CLUB

The Newark bait and Flycasting Club was founded in 1907 and remains the oldest fishing clubs in the nation. We are listed on Amazon Smile and are a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit. We provide outings to support veterans, adults and children as well as people with disabilities which focus on environmental education, fishing knowledge and practice.

We are always looking for new members, donations, and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth, NJ, on the first Tuesday of each

month at 7 p.m. (except July and August). There is no fee to attend a meeting.

Our Annual Kids Seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, V.F.W.33 South 21st street Kenilworth, NJ.

A Guest speaker to be announced and topics of discussion will be safety while fishing, fish identification, and practice casting. Prizes will be awarded and snacks will be served. There is no fee to attend.

For more information visit nbfcc.org or contact Bob Jones BJonesJRNJ@hotmail.com or 908-272-3545.

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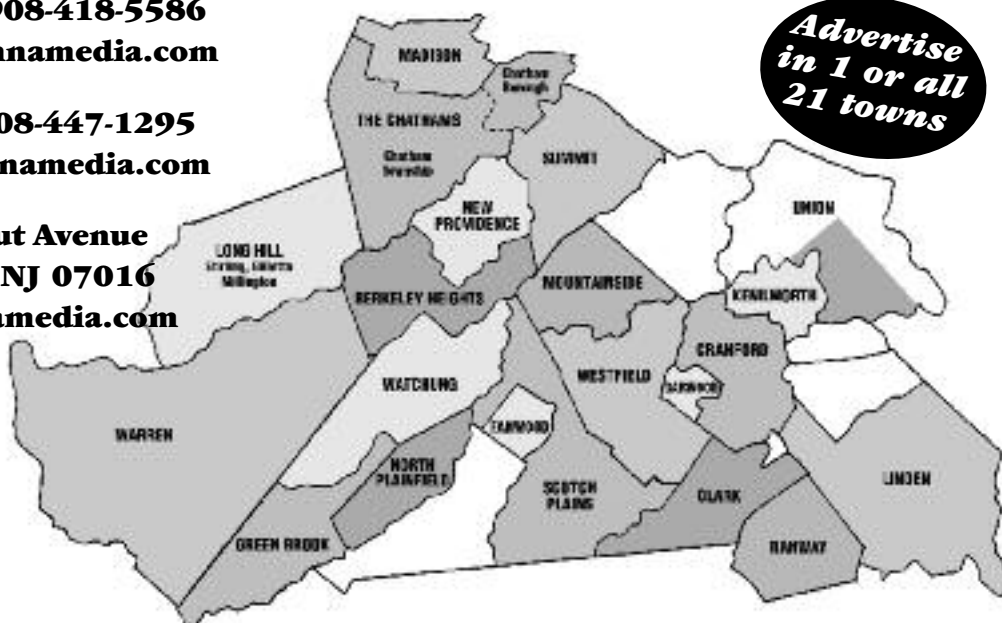
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Registration is \$15 • Note: this is a non-rated tournament.  
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For More Information: Email Jim Parlapiano at [jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com](mailto:jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com)  
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Scouts can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link  
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