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NEWS 4 WEATHER TEAM STORMS THROUGH SCHOOL #8

Submitted by Gary Miller

A whirlwind blew through School No. 8 on Thursday, February 28, 2019 in the form of the NBC New York's Storm Team 4.

Meteorologists Janice Huff of NBC 4 and Andrea Romero of Telemundo 47 came to teach fourth-graders at School No. 8 about different weather phenomena and how they track and predict storms such as tornadoes and hurricanes. They also took four volunteers from the classroom and demonstrated different types of cloud formations by spraying shaving cream in different shapes on their arms.

The program is part of the station's Weather Kids program, which gives elementary school students throughout the Tri-State Area classroom weather instructions.

School No. 8 was chosen after first-grade teacher Staci Wegrzynek submitted an application for a visit, which stood out among 1,300 applications due to the district's newly implemented science program and the school's innovation in teaching and hands-on learning.

"When I heard that her application was accepted from among thousands for the visit, I was so thrilled," said Principal Michelle Rodriguez. "As the principal, it's so special when teachers like Ms. Wegrzynek go above and beyond to provide these enriching opportunities for our students."

All of the students were given certificates and wristbands to show they had completed the program.

Students were also given the chance to go outside to tour and learn about Storm Tracker 4, the station's high-tech weather van.

Huff and Romero also visited the Student Vanguard Studio, where students record the weekly Channel 8 news segments. They praised the students' work, saying they were very impressed by the studio and their professionalism. They then recorded a segment in the studio

for the students to include in their news show.

Rodriguez praised Huff and Romero for their interaction with the school's news team.

"The Storm Team's impromptu visit to our Student Vanguard while they were in the midst of producing our School 8 digital news was an added and unexpected bonus."



(above) Meteorologists Andrea Romero of Telemundo 47 and Janice Huff of News 4 New York formed cloud formations on student volunteer Abigail Ruales' arm using shaving cream during their visit to School No. 8 in Linden.



(above) Meteorologists Andrea Romero of Telemundo 47 and Janice Huff of News 4 New York with fourth-graders and staff from School No. 8 in Linden.

Photos by Linden Public Schools

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DIANNE SPINELLI - NAMED 2019 OUTSTANDING SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Dianne Spinelli, resident of Linden since 2007, has been chosen Linden's 43rd Annual Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year. This award is bestowed annually by the Linden Department of Parks and Recreation Division upon the Senior Citizen who displayed the most exceptional service to the Community.

Retired since 2007, Dianne thought the years to come would be ones spent reading good books and taking long walks. She was wrong! Dianne started to fill her days and nights volunteering.

First was the Ann Ferguson Senior Club where she participated and coordinated senior trips in addition to being Club President. She also represented her club by being an advisor to our past Mayor on Senior Citizen affairs.

Dianne also worked for 34 years in Trinitas Hospital and upon retirement took up volunteering for the hospital and continues to do so to this day.

Also keeping her busy is her involvement in the Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Church here in Linden where for the past twelve years she has participated as Eucharist Minister, lecturer/reader at masses and Altar Coordinator.

Dianne Spinelli also upon her retirement has joined and served in civic, fraternal and religious organizations inclusive of The American Red Cross, St. Michaels Parish Council, and The Linden Retired Mens and Womens Club.

So you can see, Dianne has worn many hats during her Linden years, never once shirking from any responsibility and always ready to multi-task at a moment's request. One can well comprehend that the above accomplishments

point to a woman worthy of the title 'Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year.'

All residents are invited to attend the celebration honoring Dianne Spinelli as Linden's John T. Gregorio Recreation Center's 'Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year.' Please join us Friday, May 3, 2019 at 1:00 p.m., 330 Helen Street, Linden. Refreshments will be served.



*Dianne Spinelli Named 2019 Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year
(above) Dianne Spinelli Named 2019 Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year*

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LIFELONG NATIVE DIODATO 'DEE' FRANCESCO VILLANI PASSES AWAY AT 91

CEO with family bus company and WWII veteran, active in fraternal and service organizations in Linden area, 91

Diodato "Dee" Francesco Villani, 91, born and raised in Linden, N.J., passed away on Monday, March 4, 2019 at RWJ University Hospital, Rahway.

Dee graduated from Linden High School in 1944. Upon graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was a veteran of World War II. He then



(above) Diodato 'Dee' Francesco Villani

went on to graduate from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa., where he was a member of the Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity.

He returned to Linden and made good use of his bachelor's degree in Business working at the Villani Bus Company. Dee was the proud president of the company since 1950, promoted to CEO in 2014, and excited to celebrate its 100th anniversary this year. He began working on buses at the young age of 5 as his hands were small enough to fit into tight places and began driving at just 7 years old!

Dee was dedicated to his family, his company and his community. He was a past president of Linden Lions Club, a member of Frenchtown Lions Club, Loyal Order of Moose, Linden; Elks Lodge 225, Linden; Knights of Columbus Council 2859, Linden; American Legion Post 102, Linden; VFW Post 1397; VVA Post 779, Linden and Elizabeth Chapter UNICO National, which awarded him "Citizen of the Year" 2005.

"Dee," known as "Sonny" by his family, was the beloved husband of the late Linda K. (Beirn) Villani and the late Dorothy (Olenik) Villani; and the devoted father of Deanna Maiolo and her husband, Joseph, of Westminster, Colo.; Frank Villani and his wife, Karen, of Prescott Valley, Ariz.; David Villani and his wife, Theresa, of Linden; and Courtney Villani and her husband, Hector Torres, of Linden.

He was the loving brother of Joanna (Jay) Colucci of Linden; Carmella (Nina) Sadry of Boynton Beach, Fla.; Aida St. John of Rahway, N.J.; Francesco (Ciccio) Villani of Linden; and the late Clara Troiano, Rosalie Bosco, Carmine Villani and Francisco (Tot) Villani, and the cherished grandfather of Anthony Maiolo, Stephanie Aragon, Joanna Maiolo, Armand Villani, Henry Villani, Gianna Villani, Francesca Villani and Diodato Francesco Villani Torres, and great-grandfather of Julian Aragon, Lucas Villani and Noah Villani.

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JOSEPH OGWOWSKI CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY



The Linden Senior Men & Women's Club held a 100th Birthday Party for member Joseph Ogonowski, on February 26, 2019 at the JTG Recreation Center. Ninety-six members attended to celebrate with him and enjoy the day. Linden's Mayor Derrick Armsted attended and presented Joseph with a Proclamation from the City wishing him well. Shamiradance of Ridgely, NJ performed for Joseph and many of the members joined in the dancing. A large birthday card was signed by all attendees with their wishes of good health and happiness.

LINDEN SENIOR MEN & WOMEN'S CLUB CELEBRATING GOOD TIMES

The Linden Senior Men & Women's Club held their annual St. Patrick's Day Party, on March 12, 2019 at the JTG Recreation Center. 110 members and guests attended and sang and danced to the music of Irish DJ Kevin Westley, and enjoyed a buffet catered by Mr. J's Deli of Cranford.

A Birthday Cake was presented to member Frances Niemczyk celebrating her 95th birthday.

The Club is celebrating their 60th Anniversary this year and a banquet will be held in June. It is the most active senior club in the area. Meetings are at 1 p.m. every Tuesday, at the JTG Recreation Center, from September through June.

Any Linden Senior Citizen looking for many good times, come on over and join the fun!

(right) Frances Niemczyk celebrated her 95th birthday during a recent gathering of the Linden Senior Men & Women's Club.



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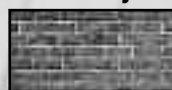
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LONGTIME LINDEN HIGH BOWLING COACH GOING TO HALL OF FAME

Submitted by Gary Miller

When most people look at Cherie Pizzano's coaching career, they see the rings. They see the long list of titles, the trophies, the awards, and the elite athletes that have come through her championship bowling program at Linden High School over the past 19 seasons.

But she sees it differently. She sees the faces of boys and girls whom she has treated like family and whom she has helped improve and to grow into successful adults.

"The best part about coaching is not the wins and the losses," Pizzano said. "It's seeing your athletes grow and develop into productive members of society. Those bonds that I've formed with those athletes, that's what indicates to me what a good coach or what a good teacher is. That's my legacy. Winning championships is absolutely amazing. I always want to win, and I demand excellence, but it's those relationships that I have forged with those kids."

Because of nearly two decades of successes on and off the alleys, Pizzano has been chosen for induction into the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame. She was honored March 24, 2019 at an induction dinner in Princeton.

Pizzano said she was shocked by the selection.

"To know that I'm going into a Hall of Fame where I see my idols is so humbling," she said. "It's so overwhelming that you almost can't even believe it. I know of other coaches that are in there and I know how much of an impact they've had on sports in New Jersey."

Athletic Director Steven Viana said he was "delighted" at Pizzano's well-deserved honor.

"Coach Pizzano has been a mainstay in the Linden athletic program for over 25 years," he said. "She has built teams and relationships that span the decades. Talk to any one of her players and they will all tell you the same thing, that Coach Pizzano knows how to pull the best out of every single individual on her team."

Pizzano is the sixth coach – and the first woman – inducted into the Hall of Fame from Linden Public Schools. The others are Edward Cooper (inducted in 1967), Joseph Martino



(above) Linden High School bowling coach Cherie Pizzano has been chosen for induction into the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

(1977), Frank Catale (1985), Wilbur Aikens (2002) and Phil Colicchio (2011).

Pizzano's résumé as bowling coach is impressive since taking over the program in 2000. Her teams have an overall record of 228-65. The Tigers won sectional titles in 2005, 2008, 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2018; Union County titles in 2003, 2005, 2015, 2018 and 2019; and Watchung Conference titles in 2004, 2005, 2015 and 2018.

This past season, the Tigers finished at 14-3, capped off a 43-match winning streak that stretched back two seasons, and won the Union County Tournament. They may have added to the hardware in the states, but a key bowler, sophomore James Fitz, was struck by a fluke injury. The rest of the varsity quintet included senior Darius Lewis, and juniors Anthony Golabek, Matt Soto, and Justin Peters.

Pizzano deflects a lot of the credit for her success to her bowlers and support system.

"I have been very blessed to have a multitude of talented athletes who work very hard," she said. "Plus, the dedication and devotion of families, parents who have had my back, no matter what. Getting up at 6 o'clock for a tournament on a Saturday. I've always had the

most amazing support from the bowling family."

Viana said Pizzano is being modest.

"Coach Pizzano is as unassuming as they come," he said. "She doesn't look for the spotlight even though her well-documented successes speak for themselves. This honor could not be bestowed upon a more deserving individual."

Individually, Pizzano was named Star-Ledger Bowling Coach of the Year for North Jersey Section 2 three years in a row, 2003-05, and NJSCA Bowling Coach of the Year in 2007.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have Ms. Pizzano as a coach and teacher at Linden High School," said Superintendent Danny A. Robertozzi. "The care that she shows for her athletes on the bowling team and for all her students make her a Hall of Famer on a daily basis. She is one of the best coaches we've ever seen in Linden and is a perfect choice for this honor. Congratulations!"

Upon induction, Pizzano joined two Hall of Fame coaches who have had a great impact on her personally. The first was Kathy Matthews, the longtime basketball coach at Union Catholic, where Pizzano graduated in 1989 after starring on the basketball and softball teams. Her basketball team played in the first Tournament of Champions final in her senior year, losing in double overtime.

To illustrate Pizzano's notorious competitive streak, that loss still sticks with her.

"Thirty years later and I can't let go of it," she said. "My coach laughs at me. She says, 'You're so intense.' I say, 'Coach, I'll never forget it for the rest of my life.' It can go on my tombstone."

The other Hall of Famer to impact Pizzano was Linden's own Joseph Martino, who after coaching went on to be athletic director, Linden High School principal, and superintendent. He hired Pizzano to work at LHS in 1994.

"When I got hired here, I didn't know Joe at all," recalled Pizzano, a native of Rahway. "But that summer, I got a phone call from Joe. He said, 'Are you the girl who played for Union Catholic with the high hair?' – They always remembered me for my hair! As they still remember me for



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BOWLING COACH (continued)

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my hair! – But he said, ‘You’re that basketball and softball player from UC, aren’t you?’ I said, ‘Yes, sir, that is me.’ And he said, ‘Well, you’re going to come to the high school. I’ve got plans for you.’ Then in my first year here, they made me the softball coach.”

Pizzano coached softball at LHS from 1994 to 2010. She was tabbed in 2000 to coach bowling without ever having applied for the job. Joe Quinn, an all-state bowler for Linden at the time, pushed for her to get the vacant job. They knew each other because Pizzano bowled with members of Quinn’s family, but she didn’t know that he asked for her to be coach.

She said she was called into the office of Principal Barry Black, along with Athletic Director Steve Yesinko.

“They started asking me bowling questions,” she recalled. “They’re asking me about surfaces on lanes, surfaces of balls, what’s this, what’s that. And I was answering them. Then they said, ‘You’ve got the job.’”

Pizzano’s main job at LHS is that of a special education teacher of history.

“They’re very similar skills,” she said. “Sometime it can be high intensity, stressful, trying to adapt yourself to motivate all different types of learners and all different types of athletes. Knowing the strengths of your students in the classroom and knowing the strengths of your athletes on the lanes.”

“Coach” is part of everything she does. She loves to read coaching biographies and sees Duke

basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski and former Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi as her role models.

“That’s partly why I became a teacher, not only because I had a love for special-needs children,” said Pizzano, who graduated with a degree in education from Kean College, where she also starred on the softball field, “but I knew it would give me an avenue someday, if I was lucky enough, to give back to athletics and to kids the way my coaches gave to me.”

And, of course, there’s her competitive nature.

“I always tell my bowlers, ‘There’s a fine line between confident and arrogant. You need to walk that line for me,’” she said. “They’re still young, but they gave it to me when we needed it. Like in the county final, they were screaming and high-fiving.”

Pizzano has considered retiring from coaching, to have more free time and to concentrate more on her own sons and their athletic pursuits.

But her love of her athletes keeps pulling her back.

“I was ready to retire a few years ago,” she said. “I thought, ‘OK, I’ve had a good career. It’s time. I want to breathe a little bit, to have some free time.’ But when I got that new group that are juniors now, it’s like I fell in love all over again. So now I can’t leave, I have to stay to see them graduate. And then Fitz comes! And his mother says, ‘You’re not leaving!’”

“So I think, here we go again,” she laughed. “Now I’m locked in again for four years!”



(above) Linden coach Cherie Pizzano with her bowling team after they won the Union County championship this season. From left are Matt Soto, Anthony Golabek, James Fitz, Darius Lewis and Justin Peters.



(above) Bowling coach Cherie Pizzano talking to sophomore bowler James Fitz during a match at Jersey Lanes in Linden. At left are juniors Matt Soto and Justin Peters.



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LINDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOWS SOME LOVE TO SENIOR CITIZEN NEIGHBORS

Submitted by Gary Miller

School No. 4 hosted a Valentine's-themed breakfast on February 13, 2019 for residents of the senior citizen apartments located across the street from the school.

The 11th annual "Heart Tea Breakfast" was presented by the school's K-Kids, a student service organization sponsored by the Linden Kiwanis Club. The students put on a presentation of Valentine's Day acrostic poems and sang "I Can't Help Myself" and "It's Always Been You." After the performance, they helped serve and joined about 50 residents of the Ann Ferguson Towers for a breakfast of French toast, eggs, bacon, sausage and hash browns, as well as coffee and juice.

"This is a great community event," said School No. 4 Principal Anthony Cataline. "It's a chance for us to say thank you to the community and the businesses that support us, and gives them an opportunity to come out and see the fine work that's done at School 4."

Cataline credited K-Kids adviser Danielle Piscino for putting together the breakfast, as well as Vice Principal Suzanne Olivero and school social worker Jennifer D'Alessio for helping host and serve.

Superintendent Danny A. Robertozzi said the breakfast is a great way for students to serve their hometown.

"An event like this just strengthens the already strong bond between Linden Public Schools and

the community as a whole," he said. "The students get to meet and talk with neighbors they might not otherwise get to know, while learning valuable lessons about being a good citizen. And their visitors get to see some of the wonderful children we have in our district. Everyone really enjoys getting together."

Cataline said the breakfast highlighted just a few of the positives of the school for the community.

"I think the residents are impressed by the fact that our children are so helpful — helping them get their food, and asking, 'Would you like another drink?'" he said. "They see the good side of today's youth. They're going to be our ambassadors and say, 'I was at School 4 and they have wonderful kids and wonderful programs. They were so helpful and personable.'"

Cataline said the children also reap lasting benefits from playing host.

"The members of the K-Kids who have participated in this event will never forget it," he said. "Being part of the School 4 K-Kids will be part of their school memories forever. They'll remember events like this. It gives them a chance to reflect back on what citizenship is."

Also joining the students and residents for breakfast were members of the Linden Housing Authority, which operates the Ann Ferguson Towers; Kiwanis Club; and representatives of business sponsors, including Infineum, ConocoPhillips and Northfield Bank.



(above) Members of School No. 4's K-Kids, along with Principal Anthony Cataline and adviser Danielle Piscino, posing with members of the Linden Kiwanis Club, which sponsors the K-Kids.



(above) Members of School No. 4's K-Kids, along with Principal Anthony Cataline and adviser Danielle Piscino, posing with members of the Linden Housing Authority, which operates Ann Ferguson Towers.

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VISITING THERAPY DOG DELIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Submitted by Gary Miller

Students at Deerfield School No. 9 in Linden had a special visitor when math coach Walter Schweikardt brought in his dog, Buster, who is a retired therapy dog.

Third-graders at the school are learning about different kinds of service dogs, so Schweikardt thought it would be a good time for them to meet Buster, who is 15 years old.

In several sessions on Thursday, February 21, 2019, Schweikardt brought Buster into classrooms and talked to the students about him. Schweikardt told students about different kinds of service dogs, including police dogs and Seeing Eye dogs.

He explained that therapy dogs go to hospitals, nursing homes and schools to cheer up people who are going through hard times.

Schweikardt also told the story of how he got Buster. When he was a teacher at School No. 2 in Linden about 15 years ago, he found Buster on the playground as a tiny puppy and adopted him.

He later came to realize that with his calm

demeanor, Buster would make a great therapy dog. Buster is retired now because as he got older, he lost much of his hearing, making it difficult to give him commands.

The students loved getting the chance to meet and pet Buster, watching Schweikardt give him treats of dog biscuits and carrots, and asking insightful questions about the life of therapy dogs.

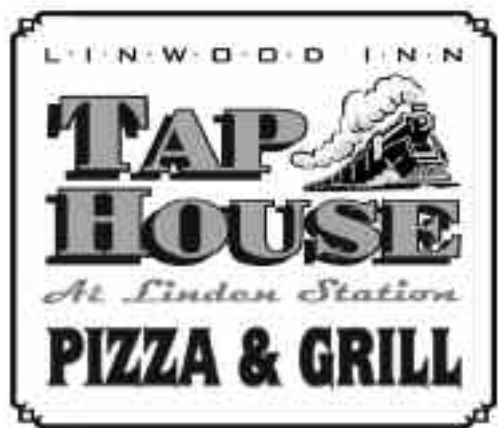
Photos by Linden Public Schools



(above) Buster with Deerfield School No. 9 Principal Larry Plummer.



(above) Walter Schweikardt, an elementary math coach in Linden Public Schools, tells students in Casey Mulroe's class at Deerfield School No. 9 about how he adopted Buster and how Buster became a therapy dog.



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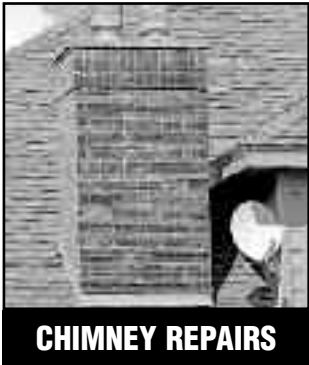




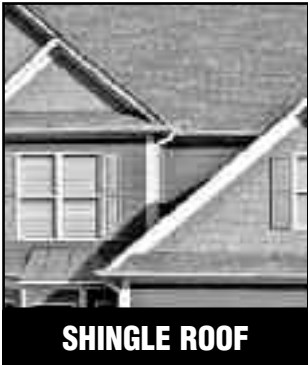
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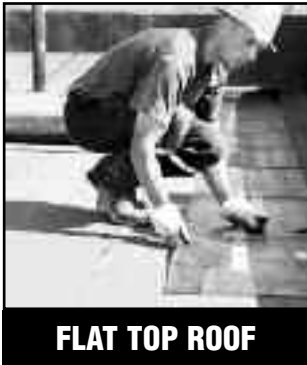
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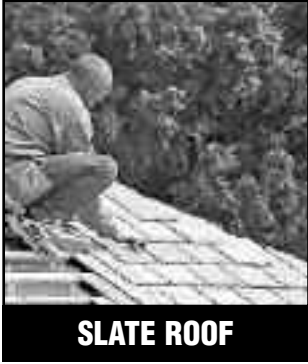
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TEACHER USES 'MAGIC' TO BOOST INCLUSIVENESS

Submitted by Gary Miller

As a Spanish teacher at Soehl Middle School in Linden, Eliana Peñaranda takes her role far beyond classroom lessons on language. She is an ambassador for English Language Learners and their families, making sure they know they have a voice in their education. She is also a vocal proponent of embracing the cultural diversity of the school and the district.

And at times, she is a mother figure to her students.

"What I focus on is how to be good citizens, how to be good people. It's about teaching them tolerance," she said of her role as adviser to the Diversity Club. "We're all different, and we need to appreciate that. Once you understand why people do what they do in their culture, or why they behave certain ways, you appreciate it."

It was because of these and other efforts that Peñaranda was named as one of the "Teachers Who Make Magic" by the radio station Magic 98.3 and the New Jersey Education Association. She was surprised that she was chosen for the honor, after being nominated by colleague Michael D'Amato, a social studies teacher at Soehl.

Peñaranda moved to the United States from Colombia in 2001 and started at Soehl in 2005. She has a master's degrees in Spanish language and culture, as well as instructional technology, and is certified as an Apple Teacher.

She pushes students in the Diversity Club to excel by making it clear that she has high expectations of them, and that they have to be leaders in the school.

A big project for the group is an annual diversity conference at Kean University with other middle and high schools that are part of the university's diversity council. It's a day of workshops about bullying, stereotyping, and standing up for others.

One drawback is that the conference is limited to 20 students per school, which limits the size of the Diversity Club at Soehl, because Peñaranda doesn't "have the heart" to leave anyone behind. But the good news is that the Soehl students take what they learned at the Kean conference in November, and will use it for a schoolwide diversity conference of their own in April.

Superintendent Danny A. Robertozzi praised Peñaranda for being honored among the "Teachers Who Make Magic" and for all she does to promote an atmosphere of inclusiveness.

Peñaranda, along with fellow Spanish teacher Barbara Cepeda, also started a Spanish Club, which is in its second year. Everyone is welcome and there is no requirement that members speak or study Spanish.

Also in their second year are the district's classes to teach staff members how to speak Spanish. The classes came about because of a change in how world language classes are being taught. The adult classes were meant as a way of giving the Spanish teachers some practice at the new methods, while also giving any staff member who is interested the chance to learn conversational Spanish.

One of the added benefits is that staff members who can speak Spanish can help families who speak Spanish, which Peñaranda sees as critical to bringing the district together as one family. She relayed a story of one staff member who, after taking the Spanish classes, was able to help Spanish-speaking families register their children for school.

Photo by Linden Public Schools



(above) Soehl Middle School Spanish teacher Eliana Peñaranda has been included among "Teachers Who Make Magic" by radio station Magic 98.3 and the New Jersey Education Association.

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THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA LAUNCHES 2019 ANNUAL SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

LIFE in LINDEN • Page 15 • April 2019

The Gateway Family YMCA announced the launch of their 2019 Annual Support Campaign with a goal of raising \$575,000 by May to support financial assistance to those in need in the local community. Annual Campaign donations help to ensure that everyone has access to vital programs and resources that support youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

Every day, The Gateway Family YMCA works to support the people and neighborhoods that need it most by addressing unique challenges within the community. The Gateway Family YMCA uses financial gifts to help individuals and families in need participate in programs such as Early Learning Readiness (school readiness), Diabetes Education (chronic disease prevention), employment skills training, teen leadership programs, supportive housing and social services in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union. Last year, The Gateway Family YMCA provided over \$600,000 in financial assistance for membership, programs and services to the communities served in Northern Middlesex County and Eastern Union County.

“Because of the Y, millions of people develop the skills and relationships they need to be healthy, confident, connected and secure – helping to build equity in communities across the country,” stated Joseph Venezia, Leadership Council Chairperson. “When you donate to The Gateway Family YMCA, you’re supporting

programs and services that help strengthen our local community.”

Serving the community since 1900, The Gateway Family YMCA helps individuals and families build and maintain healthy habits for spirit, mind and body in their everyday lives, and children discover who they are and what they can achieve under the guidance of caring adults who believe in their potential. With a mission of serving all, the Y brings together people from all backgrounds to provide leadership and learning, volunteerism and housing, and a spirit of service working together to improve the local community.

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. All donations to the Annual Campaign are tax-deductible.

To find out how to get involved and support The Gateway Family YMCA’s cause, visit tgfymca.org or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057, Wellness Center Branch 908-349-9622 or WISE Center Branch 908-687-2995.

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LHS NJROTC PUTS BEST FOOT FORWARD

Submitted by Gary Miller

The Linden High School NJROTC performed admirably on February 26, 2019 during its annual inspection by the area commander and active duty Navy personnel.

The inspection was followed by an impressive ceremony in the LHS gym that featured a keynote speech by Commander Jimmie Miller, the NJROTC manager for Area 4, which includes 60 NJROTC units in Northeast states from Delaware to Maine, as well as Italy and Spain.

The most emotional moment of the ceremony came when four senior cadets were recognized for their commitment to join the Marine Corps after graduation. Maurice Faulk, Erik Hernandez, Martin Manipol and Onelvi Martinez were honored alongside family members at center court.

Linden's NJROTC unit is made up of 421 cadets, about a quarter of the school population.

Superintendent Danny A. Robertozzi also spoke, calling the students the "heart and soul of our district."

Linden Mayor Derek Armstead said the cadets are among the most disciplined students in the district.

He also singled out Faulk, who is the unit's command master chief and who performed as part of a rifle trick demonstration during the ceremony. He is also a neighbor of Armstead.

Among the other honored guests in attendance were Assistant Superintendent Denise Cleary, LHS Principal Yelena Horré, Board of Education President Gregory R. Martucci, board members Dawn Beviano, Tracey Anne Birch, and Marianthe Manganello, Linden Police Chief David Hart, Linden Fire Chief Joseph Dooley,

several active duty service personnel, and many of the cadets' parents.

Commander Boyd Decker, senior Naval Science instructor at LHS, said he wanted to recognize all the cadets who made the honor roll for the second marking period, "but there were too many." Instead he told the crowd that 123 cadets made Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, or Principal's Honor Roll, which makes up about 30 percent of the unit. Those cadets will wear stars on their uniforms to signify the achievement.

Decker did individually recognize 23 cadets who earned a mark of "Outstanding" in the inspection by Miller and his team. Each was given a uniform ribbon by Miller.

The NJROTC drill teams performed to an impressed audience. They included the Freshman Unarmed Drill Team, commanded by Cadet Seaman Apprentice Daenna Lawrence; the Armed Drill Team, commanded by Faulk; and the Three-Man Trick Demonstration, featuring Faulk and brothers Mahesh and Rajesh Lopez.

Miller pointed out to the crowd how impressive everyone on the freshman unit performed, and that they are only three years out of sixth grade.

"That was pretty awesome," he said. "They've come so far."

Miller also joked after the trick demonstration: "No basketball courts were hurt during the performance," in which no one dropped his rifle.

Robertozzi also singled out Cadet Lawrence as "a young lady who exudes leadership."

The Linden High School Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps is a voluntary program that focuses on citizen development, character education, leadership and service.



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LHS NJROTC ANNUAL INSPECTION CEREMONY



(above, l-r) Linden High School senior NJROTC cadets who have committed to join the U.S. Marine Corps after graduation: Martin Manipol, Erik Hernandez, Onelvi Martinez and Maurice Faulk with recruiter Staff Sgt. Harry Gitlitz, left, and their parents.



(above) Command Master Chief Maurice Faulk commanding the Linden High School NJROTC Armed Drill Team.



(above) Commander Jimmie Miller, NJROTC Area 4 manager; Commander Boyd Decker, Linden High School senior Naval Science instructor; Superintendent of Schools Danny A. Robertozzi; Assistant Superintendent Denise Cleary; LHS Principal Yelena Horr ; and Linden Mayor Derek Armstead stand for the National Anthem.



(above) Commander Jimmie Miller recognizing all Linden NJROTC cadets who received a grade of outstanding for appearance during their annual inspection.

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DISNEY'S NEWSIES COMING TO CDC THEATRE IN MAY

CDC Theatre in Cranford will finish out its 100th Season in spectacular fashion! Disney's Newsies will come dancing into the theatre, at 78 Winans Ave., in Cranford on May 3rd and run until May 18th. Based on the 1992 motion picture and inspired by a true story, Newsies features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken (Little Shop of Horrors, The Little Mermaid, Aladdin) and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein (Kinky Boots).

Set in turn-of-the century New York City, Newsies is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a band of teenaged "newsies." When titans of publishing raise distribution prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions and fight for what's right! Director John Menter recently talked about the show. "Newsies is a family friendly musical about the 'little guys' taking a

stand for what's right. It's based on a true story and perfect for CDC's 100th Anniversary Season. CDC is a great theater to work at. It's a beautiful space to create in and the creative process is supported by a dedicated production team and crew. The cast includes some of the most talented performers that I have had the pleasure of working with. Singers, actors and dancers that give you 110% all the time. The audiences will be amazed by this talented cast. Beautiful singing voices combined with powerhouse choreography and dancing that will blow you away!"

The large, intergenerational cast will take the stage on May 3-18, 2019, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, May 12. Additional information about the show and how to get tickets can be found by visiting cdctheatre.org. For best prices and selection, tickets can be purchased on line at Brown Paper Tickets.

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Space is limited. Please register by April 8.

Joe Reina, Reina Media
Joe has been in business since 1997 supplying businesses with a full array of marketing and advertising services. From developing business and marketing plans to multimedia production, Reina Media has focused on the needs of the local business owner offering customized, affordable advertising opportunities for every size business.

Michael Pilla, Pilla Creative Marketing
Michael has built his career on achieving business objectives by combining the best of art and technology, creating "High End Results". Helping clients to build a targeted, loyal, online community of fans and followers, customers and clients.

After working for several online agencies, Mr. Pilla founded Pilla Creative Marketing in 2003 creating the premier of online marketing to businesses and organizations — creating branding, websites, social and email marketing for companies in Arts & Entertainment, food and beverage, and Professional Services.

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2019 LINDEN SUMMER SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[Summer Day Camp and Playground Counselors are needed for Summer 2019.]

Applications are being accepted thru April 30, 2019.
(Applicants must have one year of college.)

Applications can be obtained at the following locations:
- 1025 John St. Linden, NJ
- 805 S. Wood Ave. Linden, NJ
- 300 N. Main St. Linden, NJ

Please submit your completed application to:
Nancy Braxton, Recreation Supervisor
at the Community Center Building,
805 S. Wood Ave. 2nd Fl., Linden, NJ 07036

For further questions, please call: (908) 474-8600.

You can also download an application from our website:
<http://www.linden-nj.org>
(Scroll down, Click on Parks, Scroll down to Public Property and Community Service — Click on Seasonal Employment Application)

City of Linden
NEW JERSEY
Caring for Our Community

NEWARK BAIT AND FLYCASTING CLUB ANNUAL YOUTH FISHING DERBY

LIFE in LINDEN • Page 19 • April 2019

The Newark Bait and Flycasting Club Annual Youth Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday April 13, 2019 at Echo Lake Park in Westfield, NJ. The event is free for children under 16, and \$10 for adults who wish to participate. Sign up is early morning. Tagged Fish will be stocked that day so the children can see them get stocked. Prizes are awarded for different species of fish. This is an ongoing event so if a child cannot fish that day they can sign up and send in there tag if they catch a tagged fish up to the deadline that tags will be received. You may donate and sponsor a fish for this event. Download our form online at nbfcc.org or we can mail one to you.

The Newark Bait and Flycasting Club was founded in 1907 and remains the oldest fishing

club 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.

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



(above) Youth Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday April 13, 2019 at Echo Lake in Westfield

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EARTH DAY RAHWAY RIVER CLEAN-UP - SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

Submitted by Joe Seebode

All volunteers are invited to celebrate Earth Day with Boy Scout Troop 330, Cub Scout Pack 30 and members of the Rahway River Watershed Association in a clean-up of the Rahway River on Saturday, April 27th, 2019 (with a rain date of Sunday, April 28th). The clean-up will focus on areas upstream and downstream of the dam at Winfield Park, New Jersey. It is our hope to have enough folks participate that we can have teams work as far upstream as the Garden State Parkway and downstream through Rahway River Park in Clark, Linden and Rahway. Plans are to meet at the parking area adjacent to the waterfall

of the Rahway River by the dam at Winfield Park at 8:45 a.m. This is a great way to celebrate Earth Day and if you haven't participated in an event like this before, you will find it invigorating, and you will feel good about what you have accomplished...it is also fun and educational...especially for scouts and young adults as they always find something interesting.

The clean-up will generally be between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., but any amount of time or effort that folks can volunteer is appreciated. There is always a large volume of floatable debris to pick up. This includes tires and of course floatables (cans, bottles, plastics, etc.). The County of Union generously supplies gloves and garbage bags, and we solicit material donations (donuts, bagels, coffee, bottled water, paper towels, hand-wipes, etc.) for all volunteers.

Last year, over 100 folks participated, including girl scouts, cub scouts, boy scouts,

fishermen, local activists and citizens, and we pulled some amazing things from the river. Sponsors came through with coffee, bagels, danish, donuts, cookies, bottled water, and juice boxes, and we had grilled hot dogs for lunch. We also had other giveaways for the participants.

All participants should wear jeans, long-sleeved shirts, gloves and boots, and waders are welcome for folks who like to get a little wet. Each participant should bring a standard 5-gallon carry bucket with a handle (put your name on the bottom)...this makes for easy carrying of "stuff" for transfer to the large garbage bags. When we complete the event we do a basic inventory of the "big stuff" that we removed....and within approximately 24 hours Union County Parks removes and disposes of all the trash. There is no RSVP required but if you need more information or think you will attend please let us know by e-mail at rivercleanup@comcast.net.



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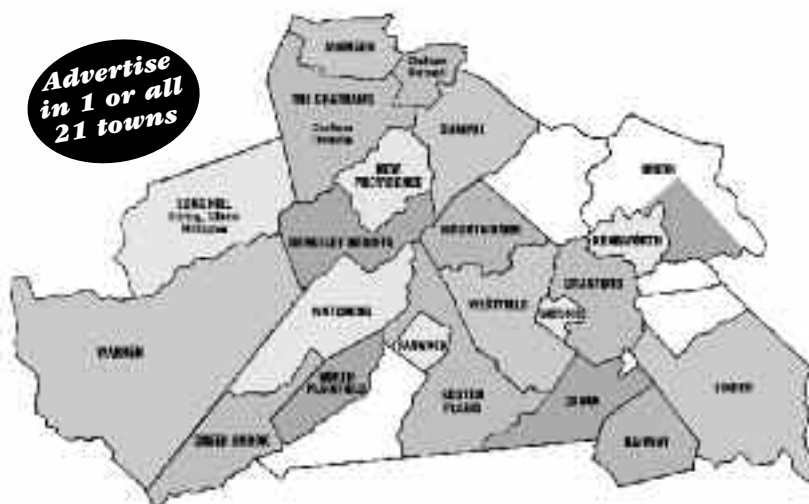
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9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
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Black Box (All Types).....	3L	\$19.99
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Bolla	1.5L	\$12.99
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Gato Negro (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Gazela Vinho Verde	750ml	\$ 4.99
Ghost Pines (Merlot and Red Blend).....	750ml	\$15.99
J. Lohr Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$11.99
Josh Cabernet Sauvignon.....	750ml	\$13.99
Joseph Carr Cabernet Sauvignon	750ml	\$22.99
Kendall Jackson Vintners Chardonnay	750ml	\$12.09
Kim Crawford (Sauvignon Blanc)	750ml	\$13.99
Korbel (All Types except Natural and Organic)	750ml	\$11.97
La Crema Sonoma Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$16.99
Liberty Creek (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 7.99
Louis Jadot Beaujolais	750ml	\$ 9.99



WINE

Louis Jadot Beaujolais Villages.....	750ml	\$ 10.99
Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse	750ml	\$21.99
Luna di Luna (All Types).....	1.5L	\$13.99
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$ 9.39
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	1.5L	\$17.99
Martini & Rossi Asti	750ml	\$11.97
Menage a Trois Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Merry Vale (Cabernet)	750ml	\$49.99
Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio.....	1.5L	\$12.99
Mi Amore Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Moet Imperial Champagne	750ml	\$41.99
Noble Wine 337, 667.....	750ml	\$11.99
Papi (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.98
Real Sangria	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Rex Goliath (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Robert Mondavi Oakville Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon.....	1.5L	\$49.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	750ml	\$ 8.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	1.5L	\$16.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet.....	750ml	\$17.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$12.99
Rombauer Chardonnay	750ml	\$36.09
Ruffino Chianti	750ml	\$ 7.99
Ruffino Chianti	1.5 L	\$13.97
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	\$12.99
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet	750ml	\$76.99
Simi Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$12.99
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	\$11.49
Yago Sangria	3L	\$14.97
Yellow Tail (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.39

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