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FIFTH-GRADERS TAKE THE SPOTLIGHT AT FILM FESTIVAL

Submitted by Gary Miller

It was like 18 movie premieres and the Oscars all rolled into one.

The inaugural School No. 4 Film Festival gave talented fifth-graders the chance to be stars of the silver screen as well as movie directors, while learning lessons about storytelling, technology and teamwork.

The students worked for weeks on creating their projects under the guidance of technology teacher Mitch Gorbunoff, then came together for the film festival on April 4, where family, friends and special guests got to see the fruits of their labor.

"The project was designed to teach kids about utilizing technology to tell stories and to be collaborative," Gorbunoff said. "Putting fifth-graders into the realistic scenario of working with people they didn't expect to work with allowed them to develop a sense of teamwork and compromise, which are essential life and leadership skills."

The young filmmakers worked in small groups to write the storyboard and script for their short film, using classroom technology to brainstorm and develop the idea. They then used district-provided Apple iPads to film the movie they planned, using parts of the school as their settings and green-screen technology for special effects. Finally, they used iMovie to edit their video clips together into a movie.

The technology curriculum was expanded at all of Linden's elementary schools at the start of this school year, and Superintendent Danny A. Robertozzi said the film festival illustrates why it was worth the effort.

"This idea from Mr. Gorbunoff has allowed the students to show their parents and the community in a very creative way all the skills they are learning week after week in technology class," Robertozzi said. "He and his students are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to this tremendous project."

On the big night of the festival, 18 movies were screened in three classrooms, then everyone gathered in the auditorium for an awards ceremony.



(above) Principal Anthony Cataline at the School No. 4 Film Festival on April 4 with fifth-graders Amaily Leandry and Alicea Narvaez, the winners of the Mr. Cataline Achievement Award for their film "Endangered Animals."

"A lot of grit and determination went into this," Gorbunoff told the assembled crowd at the festival. "A lot of recesses and free time were sacrificed. But like my parents, who are in the audience, used to say, you can't be afraid of hard work. And if there's one thing that we can be sure of, it's that the fifth-graders here at School No. 4 are not afraid of hard work."

School No. 4 Principal Anthony Cataline praised Gorbunoff and the students when he was introduced to hand out the Mr. Cataline Achievement Award, the night's top prize.

"This has truly been an amazing event," he said. "Mr. Gorbunoff has done a marvelous job."

This project fit into the larger curriculum by being the capstone of the students' multimedia unit. Students learned how to use all of these tools before they started filming, including extensive teaching in the software and its use.

"It was harder than I thought it would be," Gorbunoff said, "but in the end, these students surprised me with their enthusiasm, commitment and creativity. "I'm so proud of them, and am so glad to work in a school district that values the use of technology and its potential for enhancing student creativity."

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LIFE in LINDEN

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LINDEN EMPLOYEES ALEX LOSPINOSO & ALEXIS ZACK HONORED

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, the umbrella organization for the Linden Chamber of Commerce, hosted its Annual Mayors Dinner on April 17, 2019, at the Marriot Newark Airport Hotel.

Awards were given out to two Linden employees including Alex Lospinoso, named Economic Developer of the Year; and Alexis Zack, named Financial Officer of the Year.

About the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce is the largest business association in the New York/Northern New Jersey Region, comprising 12 regional and local chambers including the Linden Chamber of Commerce. With 1,200 members, the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce has a 95 percent retention rate, the highest in the country. For more information about attending local meetings and becoming a member call 908-352-0900.



(above) Mayor Derek Armstead (center) with Alex Lospinoso, Economic Developer of the Year; and Alexis Zack, Financial Officer of the Year, at the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Mayors Dinner held on Wednesday, April 17th, 2019.



*(above) Linden Chamber of Commerce members and City of Linden officials.
For information about attending a Linden chamber meeting call 908-352-0900.*

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Life in Linden page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/LifeInLinden). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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KIWANIS CLUB OF LINDEN GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Submitted by Lois I. Bass

March 21, 2019 marked the successful conclusion of the Kiwanis Club of Linden's Annual Walk-A-Thon Halloween Parade Project, which was held jointly with all our K-Kids Clubs at the Linden elementary schools on October 29, 2018. Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) was presented with a total check amount for \$1,250; \$750.00 of which was raised by the K-Kids Clubs along with Kiwanis Club of Linden donation. Also, a \$500 donation was given by Infineum (a long-standing Kiwanis Club member). John Samsel, of Samsel & Associates Real Estate Services, had attended this meeting and was so



(above) Kiwanis Club of Linden raised funds for Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation.

impressed by the services of Children's Specialized Hospital, that he had Billy Cardone, Community Engagement Manager Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation, come by his office for an additional \$250 donation.

CSH is the largest pediatric rehabilitation healthcare system in the United States. It is the preeminent provider of rehabilitation for children with special needs, serving children affected by brain injury, spinal cord dysfunction and injury, premature birth, Autism, developmental delays, and life-changing illnesses. Children's Specialized has 13 sites in New Jersey and treats over 35,000 children each year.

Many thanks, also, to Dr. Danny Robertozzi, Superintendent of the Linden Public Schools, for supporting this fun fundraising event, which has become a Linden Public Schools and Kiwanis Club of Linden tradition.

Our Kiwanis Club of Linden was organized on November 7, 1946 and is looking to expand our

membership. As this non-profit organization's population ages, regeneration is vital. Kiwanis is an International Organization, and the mission is to change the world one community, one child at a time. So, let's continue to change Linden's future by continuing to teach children about serving others and community leadership. Our club supports the K-Kid programs in all the Public Elementary Schools throughout Linden.

If interested in joining, or would like to attend a meeting to get more information about the Linden Kiwanis Club, please contact the Membership Chair, June Lazaro, at 908-930-8310. Our next open meeting for guests is Thursday, May 16, 2019, 12:15 p.m. at Primavera Restaurant, and June 6, 2019 at the Flaming Grill, both in Linden.

Special thanks to our community for the support of time and money throughout the years. Our success depends on our community. Thank you for all you do!

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LINDEN INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION HONORS JANET MILLER

Congratulations to Linden resident Janet Miller for being presented with the “Business and Community Contribution” award by the Linden Industrial Association during their 84th annual meeting held on Tuesday, April 18, 2019 at Ill Amici Ristorante in Linden, NJ. Janet works at Cox Printers & Digital Media in Linden and is also president of the Linden Chamber of Commerce. She was commended for her community service and commitment to the Linden community.



(above) Distinguished Service Award was presented to Chief Jeffrey Merrill of Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery Fire Department.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Life In Linden page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/lifeinlinden)

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(above) Janet Miller of Cox Printers & Digital Media sorounded by family, colleagues and friends.

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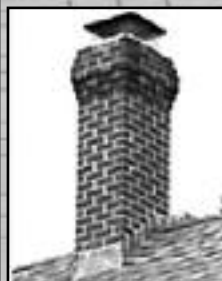
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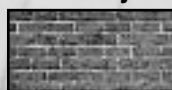
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YOUNG LINDEN SWIMMERS JUMP IN AGAINST TOP COMPETITION

Four Linden students qualified to swim in the prestigious Junior Olympics held at Rutgers University on March 23 and 24, 2019.

Marleigh McDonald, a fifth-grader at School No. 8, qualified to swim in eight of nine events in the 10-and-under age group, including freestyle, butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and individual medley events. From there, she qualified to swim against other top finishers in the Eastern Zone Championships in Rochester, N.Y., competing in the 50-yard freestyle and 50-yard backstroke.

Filip Salek, a seventh-grader at McManus Middle School, qualified for Junior Olympics in 50-, 100-, and 200-yard breaststroke in the 11-12

age group. Lukas Mikulenas, a former Soehl Middle School student who competes with the Linden High School swim team and attends the Union County Magnet High School, qualified for the 50 freestyle, 100 breaststroke, and 200

breaststroke. Jakub Szulimowski, a seventh-grader at McManus, qualified for the 50 breaststroke.

All of the swimmers compete with the Jersey Gators Swim Club in Cranford.



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(above, l-r) Linden students who competed in the Junior Olympics swimming competition at Rutgers University: Filip Salek, Lukas Mikulenas, Jakub Szulimowski and Marleigh McDonald.



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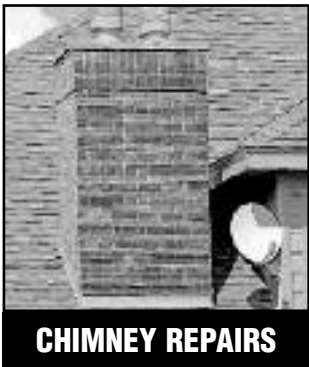
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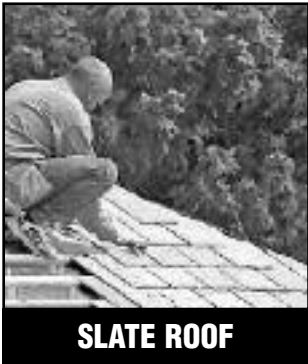
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MIDDLE SCHOOLERS SELECTED FOR CENTRAL JERSEY HONORS ORCHESTRA

Submitted by Gary Miller

Nine musicians from McManus Middle School and Soehl Middle School were chosen to perform on April 13, 2019 at the Central Jersey Music Educators Association honors orchestra day at Lawrence High School.

The program included 200 students in three orchestras from all over Central Jersey. The Linden middle school students performed with the seventh- and eighth-grade honors orchestra. Johnathan Birkhead, orchestra teacher at McManus and Soehl, conducted the fifth- and sixth-grade honors orchestra.

Photos by Linden Public Schools



(above, l-r) McManus students Jaina McKoy, violin; Joshua Vega, violin; orchestra teacher Johnathan Birkhead; Olivia Muniz, cello; Veronica Belzak, violin; and Nneoma Oseagulu, viola.



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(above, l-r) Soehl Middle School students Jessica Uzor, violin; Medjina Sillion, violin; Viktoria Madarova, viola; Kayla Lima, violin; and orchestra teacher Johnathan Birkhead.

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LINDEN AND RAHWAY CUB SCOUTS VISIT HAWK RISE SANCTUARY

Cub Scouts from Rahway Cub Scout Pack 47 joined forces with new Pack 913 from Linden on Sunday, March 24, 2019 to explore the Salt Marsh at Hawk Rise Sanctuary, a 95-acre ecological preserve and wetland complex located at 1811 Lower Rd, Linden, NJ, bordering the Rahway River.

Scouts, kindergarten age to 3rd grade, walked along the gravel path, picking up garbage along the way, and looking for signs of spring and wildlife activity. With a scavenger hunt list to take nothing but pictures, they found some amazing finds, like animal tracks from raccoons, birds, and possibly even a coyote, which aren't

normally seen this far north. The Packs are looking forward to returning when the Sanctuary is in full life. Pack 913 and Pack 47 are Family Scouting units, open to Boys and Girls K-5th.

If you would like to learn more, contact Cubmaster, Gretchen Kellaway pack47rahway@yahoo.com or Beascout.org.



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Y WE CARE: TRICKY TRAY TO SUPPORT YMCA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



(above) Tickets are available for The YMCA Fundraising Event "Y We Care: Tricky Tray Auction Fundraiser," occurring on May 8, 2019.

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The Y We Care: Tricky Tray Auction Fundraiser will be held on May 8, 2019 to support The Gateway Family YMCA Financial Assistance. Doors open at 5 p.m. for the Tricky Tray Auction Fundraiser at Galloping Hill Caterers, 1085 Galloping Hill Road, Union. This fundraiser will directly support The Gateway Family YMCA's Annual Campaign, providing financial assistance to the local community.

Entry Tickets for the Tricky Tray Fundraiser are \$45 and include a Grand Cocktail Hour, Open Bar and one sheet of small basket tickets (\$10 value). 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. Entry tickets must be purchased in advance and are sold on a first come, first serve basis at the YMCA.

Also being held at the fundraising event on May 8 will be a 50/50 Drawing and a Grand Prize including a \$1,000 Gift Card. Quality themed gift baskets include a vacation, sports tickets, television, Keurig, Disney and gift cards. Local vendors have also provided donations in support of The Gateway Family YMCA.

"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 with great prizes," 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," added Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO.

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, visit tgfymca.org. For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA, contact the Elizabeth Branch at 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057 or Wellness Center Branch 908-349-9622.

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TWENTY-FIVE VOLUNTEERS STEP UP FOR UNION COUNTY FOSTER YOUTH

LIFE in LINDEN • Page 15 • May 2019

More than two dozen volunteers from 10 Union County municipalities as well as towns in Bergen, Essex and Monmouth counties have been sworn in by Superior Court Judge Richard Wischusen to advocate for Union County youth removed from home due to abuse, neglect or abandonment and placed in foster homes or residential facilities.

After completion of training with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County and taking their oath, the new CASA volunteers — or advocates — attended three hours of family court hearings to observe other CASA volunteers in action, and then were matched to their assigned foster youth or sibling set.

They are Steve Polychronopoulos of Berkeley Heights; Dana Panavalli of Cliffside Park; Shelley Grobe, Corey Sherlock and Susan Shaw of Cranford; Brittany Gonzalez and Flor Maria Mendez of Elizabeth; Janice Pettiford of Fanwood; Arlene Sumner of Linden; Adejoke Adedokun and Belinda McFarland of Newark; Louise Connelly of Roselle; Coleen Coffey and Margaret Van Heek of Scotch Plains; Laura Nanda of Spring Lake; Jim Moss and Meredith Nolen of Summit; James Ancharski, Karen

Gorman, Su Huskey, Zoe Kimble, Suzanne LaForge and Michele Roosevelt of Westfield; Fernanda Olivo of West Orange and Diane Zinkowicz of Union.

The advocates range from age 23 to 74, and are parents, nonparents and grandparents; high school graduates to PhDs; full-time, part-time and retired professionals in such fields as education, law, medicine, nonprofit and business; and homemakers. Some had experience with foster care or adoption, as well as domestic violence or substance abuse within family or friends. Most, however, had no prior knowledge of the foster system.

CASA volunteers are extra eyes and ears for family law judges. With court-ordered access to foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists and teachers, they incorporate findings into court reports and work to ensure each youth's needs are met and best interests protected. They are a constant during chaos. There are approximately 500 Union County youth in foster care; more than 200 still await a CASA volunteer. Is that you? Reach Courtney at 908-293-8136 or cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org for details on the next training opportunity.



(above) Arlene Sumner of Linden was sworn in to advocate for Union County youth in foster care.



(above) Union County Superior Court Judge Richard Wischusen with the newest advocates for Union County's foster youth. There are approximately 500 Union County youth in foster care; more than 200 still await a CASA volunteer. Is that you? Reach Courtney at 908-293-8136 or cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org for details on the next training opportunity.

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LINDEN AMONG 'BEST COMMUNITIES FOR MUSIC EDUCATION IN AMERICA'

Submitted by Gary Miller

Linden Public Schools have once again hit a high note in music education.

Linden has been named among the Best Communities for Music Education in America for the fifth year in a row. Linden is one of just 623 districts across the country to be chosen for the prestigious honor for 2019.

The NAMM Foundation (National Association of Music Merchants) has recognized the district for its outstanding commitment to music education. Linden is one of just 40 districts in New Jersey and five in Union County selected.

"I am extremely proud of our music department and community for this award," said Matthew Lorenzetti, supervisor of fine and performing arts. "This is a truly a team effort. Thank you to our students, teachers, Board of Education, administrators, and community. Without everyone's contributions and dedication to the arts we wouldn't be in the position to be nationally recognized for five consecutive years."

Now in its 20th year, Best Communities for Music Education highlights outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders who work together to ensure access to music learning for all students as part of the school curriculum.

"This is a tremendous honor and a total team effort," said Superintendent Danny A. Robertozzi. "It is the product of hard work by our talented students, our team of dedicated music teachers, and Mr. Lorenzetti. And they couldn't do it without the endless support of our families and community."

The BCME survey was sent to nearly 14,000 school districts across the country asking detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs.

Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Center for Public Partnerships and Research, an affiliate of the University of Kansas.



(above) School No. 10 students playing recorder at holiday concert.



(above) The Linden High School madrigals.



(above) The School No. 4 chorus.



(above) The Linden High School orchestra.

Photos by Linden Public Schools



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SOPHIA ANGELICA RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Submitted by Susan Rybin

Singer/Songwriter Sophia Angelica of Linden has been selected to receive the prestigious Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) due to her outstanding work and amazing talents to promote Human Rights, not only in the United States, but also abroad. Sophia also performed a set of 30 minutes at the Youth for Human Rights Cherry Blossom Concert on Saturday, April 13, 2019 in Washington D.C. Sophia most recently completed a University Tour for Human Rights and Music in Taiwan, where she not only sang some of her original songs such as "Myself Is Who I Am," but inspired youth throughout the country. In addition, Sophia was selected to represent the United States as a delegate & creative activist for the 6th Asia-Pacific Human Rights Summit in Taiwan, where she also sang in the opening ceremony.

New York born, Linden resident Sophia Angelica is a very unique talent. Growing up she embraced her Argentinian ancestry by learning Spanish in her mother's bilingual acting classes, where Sophia found her passion for the arts and in particular, music.

Sophia began songwriting as well as performing at the early age of 9, and at the age of 13, she appeared in her first television show, "Good Day New York" on Fox.

Sophia combined her vocal talents together with her acting ability as the voice of the "singing rabbit" for Dora the Explorer on Nickelodeon.

She was also cast by the Cleveland Playhouse in the "Care Program Monologues," a project created in order to help youth struggling in volatile school environments.

Most notably, Sophia has performed at many cause-related events at the United Nations and other major venues and is constantly re-booked to perform at annual events, award shows, and festivals. She is an avid advocate and creative activist for human rights and one of her goals is to help others with her motivational original songs.

In 2018, she wrote an original musical, "The Greatest Runaways on Earth," that was presented in the renown theater Symphony Space, New York. Sophia is also currently serving as board of director and creating music for the rising international nonprofit organization, Global Peace Chain. Most recently, she received the HOLA (Hispanic Organization of Latin Actors) Elizabeth Pena Breakthrough Artist Award.

Sophia continues to release singles and is working on an original contemporary album. Visit her website online to learn more: sophiaangelica.com.



(above) Sophia Angelica

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LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020 ANNUAL COLOR RUN



The 3rd Annual Color Run will take place on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at Linden Elementary School #1 720 Wood Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Race starts at 10:00 a.m.

This program aims to go beyond traditional fundraising. This program seeks to engage the entire student body, no matter what level of fitness or capability, in an initiative that promotes a life- long healthy way of living. We're extremely excited about the launch of the Color Run program at our school! We're looking forward to involving our entire student body, faculty, and the community in this fun and healthy program.

Before the event, our students will seek individual pledges from family and friends to meet their personal fundraising goals. In addition, we are requesting local businesses to consider being event sponsors. This is a great opportunity

to make a difference for students in our community as our school keeps 100% of the funds raised through donations, pledges, and sponsors. 90% of these funds will go towards Linden High School Class of 2020 and 10% to the Susan Hudak Foundation.

If your business is interested in sponsoring, please reach out to Sstratis@lindenps.org (908-486-5432) to complete the form and return by Thursday, May 31, 2018. If you have any ideas or requests not included on the form, please don't hesitate to contact me directly to discuss!

Lastly, the final color celebration run will be open to the public. Interested participants can register for the run by completing a paper registration form prior to the event. You can also register or donate online by visiting our event page at runsignup.com/Race/Donate/NJ/Linden/LHSCla ss of 2020 2nd Annual Color Run.

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'MAKE CANCER DISAPPEAR' FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT TWO LINDEN FAMILIES

Linden Public Schools will host a "Make Cancer Disappear" magic and comedy show on Friday, May 3, 2019 to benefit the families of two students battling cancer.

The show at McManus Middle School at 6:30 p.m. will feature comedian John Pizzi and magician Joe Holiday and will benefit the families of School No. 1 third-grader Arion Mamudi and School No. 8 second-grader Isabel Dominguez. Arion is receiving treatments for osteosarcoma, and Issy for leukemia.

Proceeds will also go toward the Valerie Fund, which supplies robots to schools to help kids keep up with their schoolwork while they are having treatments.

Tickets are \$10 and can be obtained from elementary school technology teacher Kim Kefalas at kkefalas@lindenps.org.



(above) Isabel Dominguez, a second-grader at Linden's School No. 8 who is battling leukemia, with teacher Angela Paternostro.

Please join Mayor Derek Amstutz, The Mayor's Youth Commission, and the Linden Department of Public Property & Community Services for

Kids to Parks Day

A Free Family Fun-Filled Day of Outdoor Play and Events!
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NEWARK BAIT AND FLYCASTING CLUB ANNUAL YOUTH FISHING DERBY

The Newark Bait and Flycasting Club Annual Youth Fishing Derby was held on Saturday April 13, 2019 at Echo Lake Park in Westfield, NJ.

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.

POLICE YOUTH ACADEMY - DEADLINE MAY 10

Registration for the Linden Police Department's second annual Youth Academy is now open! The Academy will meet daily from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. beginning on Monday, July 22nd, and concludes with a ceremony for family and friends on Friday, July 26th.

The five-day program offers Linden youth graduating grades 6th through 8th an opportunity to learn about policing procedures through a series of lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on activities presented by Police Officers from Linden and partnering agencies including the Union County Sheriff's Department, the Union County Emergency Response Team, Linden Fire Department, New Jersey Transit, and the New Jersey State Police NorthStar Medevac Helicopter team.

"This program is an investment in our future," said Police Chief David Hart. "Working through challenges together, alongside friends and Officers from their community, offers

participants a unique and rewarding experience that will build lasting relationships for years to come."

The program is offered free of charge, however, space is limited. Applications are available on the department website, linden-nj.org/_Content/pdf/forms/2019-Youth-Academy-Application-Package.pdf or at Police Headquarters, located at 301 N. Wood Ave. Applications must be completed and returned to Police Headquarters by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2019. No late applications will be accepted.

Linden Mayor Derek Armstead said, "The Youth Academy enhances responsible citizenship, provides positive interaction with our police officers and educates young people about the challenges and responsibility of police work."

For more information please contact Detectives Leon Paster or David Nolasco at (908) 474-8520, or via email at lpaster@lpdnj.org or dnolasco@lpdnj.org.



(above) Linden residents Chris Morkis with son Kevin.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Renna Media page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com). Feel free to "Like", "Tag" and "Share"



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678 LIFE-SAVING TRANSPLANTS TOOK PLACE IN 2018

NJ Sharing Network, the non-profit, federally designated organ procurement organization responsible for the recovery of organs and tissue in the state, has released statistics regarding donation in New Jersey during 2018. Last year, a total of 678 life-saving transplants were made possible, 537 from deceased donors and an additional 141 from living donors.

More hearts (79) were transplanted than ever before, representing an 18 percent increase over 2017. Additionally, an unprecedented number of eye donors (826) gave the gift of sight, a nine percent increase from the prior year.

These record-breaking numbers are against the backdrop of significant growth in organ transplantation in New Jersey, which has increased 35 percent over the last six years. In fact, 2018 marks the fourth year of over 500 organs transplanted in the state. Over that same timeframe, heart donation saw an enormous increase of 132 percent.

Transplants saw an upswing nationally, as well, with over 36,500 organ transplants performed in 2018. This sets an annual record for the sixth straight year, according to preliminary data from United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

Vernell Williams of Paterson, NJ, says that he is eternally grateful to a man named Victor Startek of Toms River, NJ, who passed away at age 27 and donated his heart and kidney. Startek had registered as an organ donor when he first got his New Jersey driver's license. His mother, Deborah Martinez, and twin sister, Ashley Startek, said that knowing Victor had already made the decision was an enormous relief for them. Williams, 50, who suffered from congestive heart failure, had waited months to receive a heart transplant and had nearly given up hope.

"The months that I spent in the hospital waiting for a new heart were the most challenging of my life. I'm an optimistic person, but I'd begun to think I was facing the end. That's when Victor literally saved my life."

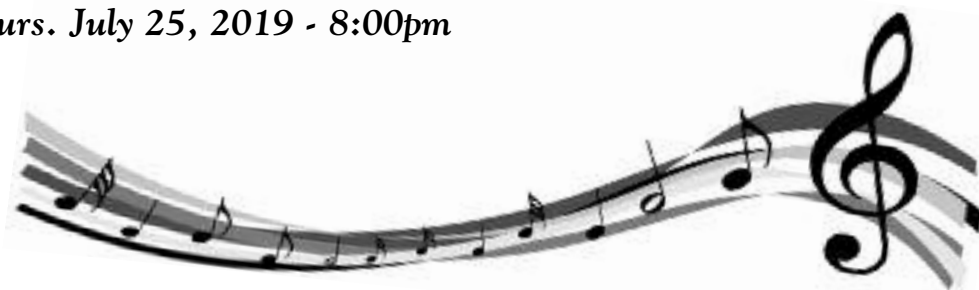
Like Victor, nearly 40 percent of those who gave the gift of life in 2018 previously registered as an organ donor and made their wishes known to family and friends, and this number continues to grow.

"The increased percentage of donors who were previously registered speaks to the incredible job that our entire staff does," said Joe Roth, President and CEO of NJ Sharing Network.

Today, there are nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents awaiting a life-saving transplant. Every day, approximately three people are added to the New Jersey waiting list, and one person dies every three days while waiting for a transplant. One organ donor can save eight lives and one tissue donor can restore health to over 75 people. New Jersey residents can help save lives by registering as organ and tissue donors, having a conversation with family and friends and getting involved at NJSharingNetwork.org.

RAYMOND WOOD BAUER PROMENADE 2019 LINE-UP

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Comedy Night
Thurs. June 6, 2019 - 8:00pm
Joe Zelnik ~ Rat Pack
Tue. June 7, 2019 - 7:30pm
Verdict ~ Reggae
Tue. June 11, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. June 13, 2019 - 8:00pm
Madison Ave ~ Classic Rock
Tue. June 18, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. June 20, 2019 - 8:00pm
American Rapture ~ R&B/Soul
Fri. June 21, 2018 - 7:30pm
Bell Bottom Blues
~ Eric Clapton Tribute
Tue. June 25, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. June 27, 2019 - 8:00pm
Funk Urban Salsa ~ Latin Rhythms
Tue. July 2, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. July 4, 2019 - 8:00pm
100 Proof ~ Country Rock
Tue. July 9, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. July 11, 2019 - 8:00pm
Dara & Frank ~ PsychOdelic Angel
Fri. July 12, 2019 - 7:30pm
Dancing Dream ~ ABBA Tribute
Tue. July 16, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. July 18, 2019 - 8:00pm
Route 80 ~ sounds of the 80's
Tue. July 23, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. July 25, 2019 - 8:00pm | Adler's Band ~ Oktoberfest
Fri. July 26, 2019 - 7:30pm
NY State of Mind ~ Billy Joel Tribute
Tue. July 30, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. Aug 1, 2019 - 8:00pm
National Night Out Against Crime
Tue. Aug. 6, 2019 - (4 pm-7 pm)/t
Soul Cruisers ~ Motown
Tue. Aug. 6, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. Aug 8, 2019 - 8:00pm
Petty mania ~ Tom Petty Tribute
Fri. Aug. 9, 2019 - 7:30pm
Mush Mouth ~ Hottest Cover Band
Tue. Aug. 13, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. Aug 15, 2019 - 8:00pm
Zydeco-A-Go-Go
~ Music of New Orleans/R&B
Fri. Aug. 16, 2019 - 7:30pm
Tru Sol ~ R&B
Tue. Aug. 20, 2019 - 7:30pm
Comedy Night
Thurs. Aug 22, 2019 - 8:00pm
Promised Land ~ Springsteen Tribute
Fri. Aug. 23, 2019 - 7:30pm
Reminisce DooWop/ Oldie's/Motown
Tue. Aug. 27, 2019 - 7:30pm
Epic Soul ~ Soul/R&B
Tue. Sept. 3, 2019 - 7:30pm
Able Ovadia Quartet ~ Jazz
Fri. Sept. 6, 2019 - 7:30pm
Frontier ~ Journey Tribute
Tue. Sept. 10, 2019 - 7:30pm
Karickters ~ Jazz/ R&B
Fri. Sept. 13, 2019 - 7:30pm
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Tue. Sept. 17, 2019 - 7:30pm |
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LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS FRANKLIN HIGH FOR MASTER CLASS IN VIDEO

Submitted by Gary Miller

Here's the scene: A group of students from one school meet up with a group from another school. The students, who have never met, trade ideas and techniques in an area where they share a passion. They then create projects to show how creativity and skill combined with collaboration can turn into something special.

OK. Action!

This isn't a direction from a movie script. This scene played out recently in the TV Digital Media studio at Linden High School's Academy of Science and Technology. About 20 video students from Franklin High School visited on Friday, March 29, 2019, to work alongside 20 LHS students on projects that allowed them to share ideas about shooting and editing video.



(above, l-r) Students from Linden and Franklin high schools recording video for their joint project, Brandon Fitzgerald of Franklin, and Shanique Boss and Amir Williams of Linden.

Photos by Linden Public Schools

"We have been doing this this master class for the past three years, and each time the students get together, it amazes me how well they bond and work well with each other as if they were classmates or friends for years," said LHS TV Digital Media teacher Chris Paskewich.

Students were placed into six groups that included students from each school. They had to work to come up with a two- to three-minute video. The students chose a theme and a title. The only parameters they were given were that the video had to include a computer, wallet and glasses.

"This gives students a real insight as to what it would be like to get a job freelancing in the broadcasting industry," said Michael Pinnix, who teaches Aspects of Video at Franklin High. "Especially when it comes to working with different people you don't actually know. I love how the students were able to communicate with each other and access each other's skills to produce a good project."

After the students were broken up into groups, they had to brainstorm to come up with their vision, then pitch it to Pinnix and Paskewich. After it was approved, they had two hours to produce and edit their video.

Students said they had fun and learned a lot working with students from another school who share the same interest in producing video.

"What I enjoyed most is that we learned from each other," said LHS senior Ariana Eastwood. "If they do something one way and we do something one way, we can use each other's ideas to make it better."

Franklin students echoed that sentiment.

"We are so used to working with our peers

from our own high school," said Kwame Anane, a Franklin senior. "Seeing other talented students from other schools makes me want to work even harder at my own craft."

The collaboration between the two classes started because Pinnix and Paskewich know each other from working together in Franklin from 2004 to 2010. The two worked closely to build the video editing and production program before Paskewich moved on to Linden.

Linden students first visited Franklin during the 2016-17 school year. Franklin returned the visit last year. This school year, the classes got together twice; the first collaboration was in December in Franklin.

"Part 2 in Linden was the icing on the cake, because we made an even better show," said Linden senior Raphael Ramirez. "I met a lot of dedicated students who want to pursue a career in TV production. It was great to learn the styles some of the students at Franklin had that were different and similar to Linden. It built a good relationship."

The aim for the TV Digital Media class at Linden High School is to put students in a real-world situation to prepare them for the 21st century media landscape. Breaking them out of their routine to work with another school was part of reaching that goal.

"This was a great opportunity for the students who are involved because as they get into the real world, they are going to partner up with people they might not know, and the job still has to get done," Paskewich said. "They have to communicate, work and all get along with each other."

"This is a tradition that we plan to continue."

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(above, l-r) Students from Linden and Franklin high schools collaborating on editing and producing a video project during their joint master class in Linden on March 29. Front: Jeff Grant and Fatima Goba of Franklin, and Jasmine Odom of Linden; Back: Victoria Werner of Franklin, and Kristin Martins and Isiah Vargas of Linden.



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The Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is happening on Saturday, May 11, 2019. On this day, you can set out your non-perishable food before your letter carrier's regular pick up time. The top requested non-perishable food items are: cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, canned fruits and vegetables, canned meals (such as soups, chili, and/or pasta), 100 percent juice, peanut butter, macaroni & cheese, canned protein (tuna, chicken, and/or turkey), beans (canned or dry). You can also donate healthy, low-sodium, low-sugar items such as beans, oatmeal, and other whole grains, and canola or olive oil.

Please do not donate frozen food, homemade food, or home-canned items. Please do not donate items that have expired or are in glass containers. In keeping with good food-handling and food-safety procedures, food that is opened, damaged, out of code or does not have the official ingredients will be discarded by the food bank in the sorting process.

The Food Drive is primarily a people food drive, but if you also want to give pet food in addition to your regular donation, food banks may be able to distribute or direct it to pet shelters and organizations in the area that have a need.

Please do not donate any form of individual baby food products, including formula, jarred vegetables and fruits, meals, snacks, infant cereal. Baby food may be donated by the case or pallet, but single item donations present potential contamination risks and special handling

requirements.

The Food Drive is primarily a food drive, but if you also want to give personal care items (such as diapers, laundry detergent, soap, toilet paper, and household cleaning items) in addition to your regular donation, food banks may be able to distribute or put them to good use with organizations that also provide help to those in need. Please note that not all food banks will be able to accept these items.

If you would like to volunteer with food distribution and sorting, or in any other capacity, call your local post office and ask to speak to the local food drive person there. Many food banks have a great need for volunteers on Food Drive Day, as well as all throughout the year.

All donations to the Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive are tax-deductible because all the food collected on Food Drive Day is given directly to non-profit charity food agencies in the

community the food was collected. Though the National Association of Letter Carriers plans the Food Drive's logistics and letter carriers provide the transportation for each donor's generous donation, the National Association of Letter Carriers is not the agency that gets listed on tax forms for claiming deductions. There are more than 10,000 food agencies throughout the country that receive these donations, so if you itemize your taxes and want to provide proper credit for your Food Drive donations, you will need to determine the name of the agency (food pantry or other charity) that received your food, as well as the agency's address and tax I.D. number for proper reporting on your tax-filing forms. The Food Drive Coordinator at your local post office should be able to give you the name of the receiving agency, and that agency will likely have tax information handy.

For more information, visit: nalc.org.

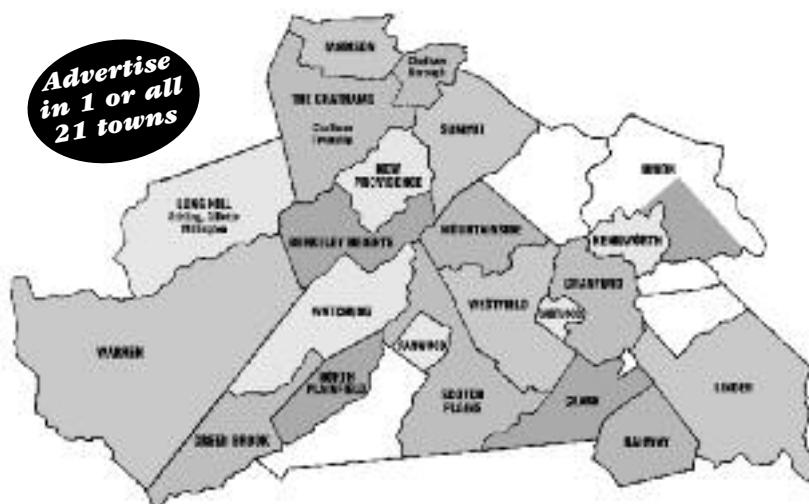
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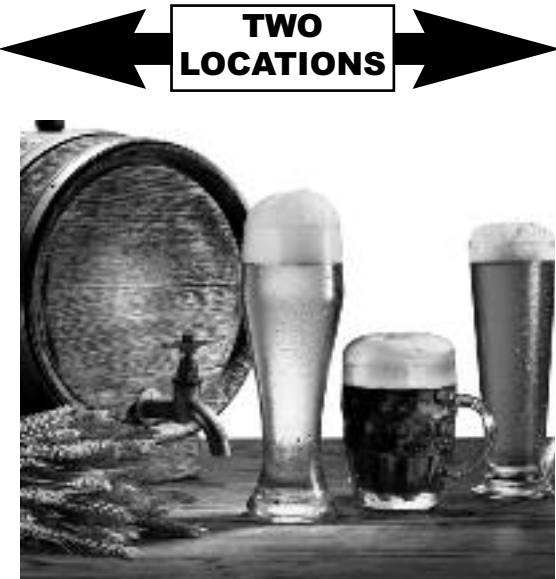
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Krupnik	750ml	\$13.99
Licor 43	750ml	\$22.99
Licor 43	1.75L	\$40.99
Patron XO Café	750ml	\$22.99
Patron XO Café	1.75L	\$29.99
Southern Comfort (80 proof)	750ml	\$19.99
Southern Comfort (80 proof)	1.75L	\$28.99

RUM

Bacardi Light & Gold	750ml	\$12.99
Bacardi Light & Gold	1.75L	\$19.19
Captain Morgan Spice	1.75L	\$25.99
Malibu	750ml	\$17.99
Malibu	1.75L	\$25.09

TEQUILA

Avion Silver	750ml	\$39.99
Casa Noble Silver	750ml	\$34.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	750ml	\$29.99
Deleon Blanco Tequila	1.75L	\$59.99
Jose Cuervo	750ml	\$18.99
Jose Cuervo	1.75L	\$33.99
Patron Silver	750ml	\$42.99
Patron Silver	1.75L	\$85.99

BEER

Becks (12oz) 24pk	24pk	\$23.99
Bud and Bud Lite cans	30pk	\$22.99
Bud and Bud Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$19.99
Coors Lite (24oz) cans	12pk	\$14.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$19.99
Coors Lite/Miller Lite	30pk	\$22.99
Corona/Corona Lite loose bottles	24pk	\$28.99
Dab (16oz) cans	24pk	\$21.99
Heineken/Heineken Lite bottles	24pk	\$28.99
Land Shark	24pk	\$24.99
Lech (500ml)	20pk	\$28.99
Modelo Especial cans	24pk	\$25.99
New Belgium Fat Tire	24pk	\$32.99
Pabst Blue Ribbon cans	30pk	\$18.99
Pilsner Urquell	24pk	\$29.99
Sagres	24pk	\$24.99
Sam Adams Boston Lager	24pk	\$32.99
Stella Artois loose bottles	24pk	\$27.99
Dogfish Head 60 min.	24pk	\$33.99
Yuengling Lager bottles	24pk	\$19.99
Zywiec (11.2oz)	24pk	\$19.99

"Cold or warm Beer = Same Price"
"Visit the store for more In-Store Specials!"



ABC prices prevail other prices, limited to store inventory. Not responsible for typographical errors. Prices valid till May 31, 2019.



**1179 WEST ST. GEORGES AVE.
(RT. 27) LINDEN, NJ 07036
908-925-1770**
email: metroliquors@gmail.com
www.metroliquors.com

Hours: Mon. thru Sat. 9am - 10pm Sun. 12pm - 8pm

**TWO
LOCATIONS**



Witty's
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www.wittyswine.com

Hours: Mon. thru Wed. 9am - 9pm, Thur. - Sat. 9am - 10pm, Sun. 10am - 7pm

Like us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/metrolinden](https://www.facebook.com/metrolinden)
and [Facebook.com/wittyswines](https://www.facebook.com/wittyswines)

WINE

VISIT THE STORE FOR MORE IN-STORE SPECIALS

Alamos Malbec	750ml	\$ 8.99
Andre (All Types).....	750ml	\$ 6.99
Apothic Red	750ml	\$ 9.29
Avalon (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$ 9.99
Barefoot All Types	1.5L	\$11.39
Bartenura Moscato	750ml	\$11.99
Barone Fini (Pinot Grigio).....	750ml	\$11.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	750ml	\$ 4.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	1.5L	\$ 8.69
Black Box (All Types).....	3L	\$19.99
Blackstone (All Types).....	1.5L	\$12.99
Bogle (Chardonnay and Merlot)	750ml	\$ 8.09
Bolla	1.5L	\$12.99
Carlo Rossi (Chablis, Burgundy, Sangria, Blush).....	4L	\$14.99
Carnivor (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$10.99
Casal Garcia Vinho Verde	1L	\$ 5.99
Cavit (All Types)	1.5L	\$14.99
Chateau ste Michelle Columbia Valley Cabernet and Merlot	750ml	\$14.99
Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Chardonnay	750ml	\$ 9.99
Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Riesling	750ml	\$ 8.99
Clos du Bois Chardonnay	1.5 L	\$19.99
Clos du Bois Cabernet, Merlot.....	750m	\$ 9.99
Cockburns Ruby and Tawny Porto	750ml	\$11.99
Concha Y Toro Frontera	1.5L	\$ 8.97
Coppola Diamond Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot	750ml	\$13.99
Coppola Diamond Chardonnay	750ml	\$11.99
Corbett Canyon (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 7.99
Cupcake (All types, except Prosecco and Moscato)	750ml	\$ 8.99
Dom Perignon	750ml	\$152.99
Dreaming Tree (All Types)	750ml	\$11.99
Ecco Domani (Pinot Grigio)	750ml	\$ 9.99
Fish Eye (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 9.95
Flip Flop (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Franzia (Crisp White, Blush, Sangria, Chilable red).....	5L	\$13.99
Freixenet (Brut, Extra, Rose, Sweet)	750ml	\$ 9.99
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

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	\$ 9.99
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	\$12.99
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

**VISIT THE STORE FOR
MORE IN-STORE SPECIALS**

**We specialize in
hard to find items
and custom orders,
just ask!**

10% OFF
Any purchase of
6 bottles of wine

Non sale items only. (Excludes RED & YELLOW TAG items.) Sale items do apply towards purchase requirement.

15% OFF
Any purchase of
12 bottles of wine

Non sale items only. (Excludes RED & YELLOW TAG items.) Sale items do apply towards purchase requirement.

Visit our facebook page for news of next tasting event: [facebook.com/metrolinden](https://www.facebook.com/metrolinden)