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## KENILWORTH CELEBRATES THE HAPPIEST SEASON OF ALL

*Kenilworth welcomed in the holiday season on Sunday, December 8, 2019 with a tree lighting ceremony at Borough Hall.*



*(above) Father Christmas attended the December meeting of the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce held at the Nitschke House.*

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*(above) Kenilworth Girls Scouts led the caroling.*



*(right) Kenilworth Recreation Department served hot chocolate and apple cider along with cookies.*

*Photos from this and other events  
 can be found online at [rennamedia.com](http://rennamedia.com) and on  
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# BUSINESS + LIFE KENILWORTH

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## CHESS CLUB DRAWS MEMBERS FROM FAR AND WIDE

The Kenilworth Chess Club has kicked off its 2020 season with a new slate of officers. Jack McCorkell of Cranford is incoming President. Outgoing president Dave Lazarus of Fanwood will serve as Vice President. Treasurer Geoff McMauliffe of Dunellen and Webmaster John Moldovan of Garwood will continue in their positions. Trustees are Pat Mazzillo of Union and Greg Tomkovich and Joe Renna, both from Cranford.

The club was formed in 1972 amid the chess craze in America, spearheaded by Bobby Fischer's march to the world championship. For 47 years the club was a force to be reckoned with as its member roster included many Master level players, including State Champions.

The club has a reputation for being friendly and accommodating. It welcomes non-members with no obligation or cost. It's a place where beginners can learn in a casual setting without being intimidated. Strong players are generous with their time in analyzing and giving instruction.

The club's website, [kenilworthchessclub.org](http://kenilworthchessclub.org), is well read and features an award-winning blog by Michael Goeller and other instructional features. Players are welcome to just pop into the Kenilworth Chess Club with no formalities every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. at the Kenilworth Community Center, located next to Borough Hall on the Boulevard and the corner of 24th Street.



(above, r-l) Kenilworth Chess Club President Jack McCorkell, Vice President Dave Lazarus, John Moldovan, Treasurer Geoff McMauliffe, Web Master John Moldovan, Trustees Ed Selling, Greg Tomkovich, Pat Mazzillo, and Joe Renna.

**Meeting every Thursday night starting at 8:00 pm**

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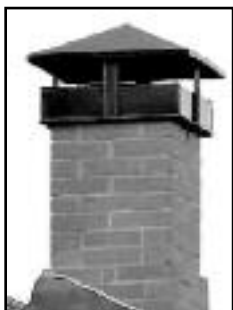




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## ST THERESA PARTICIPATES IN FORENSIC MEET

On Wednesday, November 20, 2019, Saint Theresa School in Kenilworth, NJ was one of six schools, a total of thirty-five students, who attended the Union County Catholic League of Forensics "Reading" Competition held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy in Elizabeth.

Saint Theresa's team, moderated by Mrs. Christine McCarthy, consisted of six students: Stephanie Aguinaldo, Gavin Gatchalian and

Zinnia Magill (eighth graders); Jayson Ferrari, (Alternate) Camila Lee (seventh grader); Jacob Falconer, (Alternates) Keira Duffy and Arielle Lopina (sixth grader) and Gabrielle Aguinaldo (fifth grader).

Stephanie Aguinaldo and Jayson Ferrari both advanced to the final round. Jayson was awarded an Honorable Mention Ribbon and Stephanie Aguinaldo was awarded the third place ribbon.



(above, l-r) Pictured with Mrs. McCarthy are Jayson Ferrari, Gavin Gatchalian, Camila Lee, Gabrielle Aguinaldo, Arielle Lopina, Stephanie Aguinaldo and Zinnia Magil.

Photo by Saint Theresa School

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## ST. T'S JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY HOLD TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM

The National Junior Honor Society at St. Theresa School in Kenilworth held a fundraiser to raise money for the Toys for Tots program. The club consists of 7th and 8th

graders with a B+ average or better. The club is under the leadership of 8th grade teacher Nancy Pakulski and 3rd grade teacher Carolyn Pancurak.

Students raised over \$900.00 to shop at Target on Rt 22 in Union. Toys were dropped off at the Kenilworth Fire Department, which is a drop off site for the cause.



(above) The National Junior Honor Society at St. Theresa School in Kenilworth raise \$900 to shop for Toys for Tots.

## WHAT, WHERE, AND WHEN IN OLD KENILWORTH FIREWORKS AT BOROUGH HALL

On January 2, 1922 fireworks erupted at the old borough hall – then the Woodmen of the World building. Incumbent Mayor Oswald Nitschke, a Democrat, initially lost the 1921 election by one vote, 197-196, against Republican Councilman Dennis O'Brien. A court-ordered recount resulted in a 196-196 tie.

Nitschke, a real scrapper, was resolute that a successor had not been chosen and that he had the right carry over as mayor. The borough attorney advised the councilmen that they could choose the mayor as there was a vacancy since no one had been elected.

When the governing body met on January 2, to take oaths of office, Nitschke presided. The councilmen elected O'Brien as mayor. Nitschke exclaimed that he would only leave his seat as mayor if "thrown out." He soon would get his wish. Pandemonium took over the meeting. Borough clerk Andrew Ogden blurted out, "How do you expect me to serve two masters." O'Brien and council members eventually had Patrolman Alfred Vardalis remove Nitschke. A newspaper

reported that he was dragged from his chair. The audience was in uncontrolled laughter throughout the spectacle.

But Nitschke would have the last laugh. He went back to court. The court overruled the council's choice of O'Brien allowing Nitschke to serve until November at which time an election was held for the remaining year of the two-year term of mayor. Nitschke did not run.

But O'Brien wanted to. However, he lost the 1922 Republican primary to William Hoiles, a former mayor. And what happened to officer Vardalis? He was named chief of police by the council at that meeting after removing Nitschke. Nitschke wasn't done laughing. He laughed twice more, being elected mayor in 1927 and 1931.

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

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(above, left-right) Alfred Vardalis dragged Nitschke from his chair., Mayor Nitschke had last laugh. Photo: Historic Signs, Inc. Photo: Vardalis family



(above) Woodmen of the World building where the fireworks took place.  
Photo: Kenilworth Historical Society.

# HARDING STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ON ELISA CAPRA

Kenilworth Life • Page 7 • January 2020

On December 9, 2019, The Kenilworth Board of Education recognized Harding student Elisa Capra at its Board of Education meeting.

Harding School is so lucky to have Elisa Capra as the Student Council President. She began her journey when she was a fourth grade student. She was elected as the Treasurer on the Executive Board, which is challenging in itself, let alone being elected as a fourth grade student! She showed such dedication and hard work in this position. Elisa kept impeccable treasurer records and was a huge part in the success of student council. In her fifth grade year, Elisa represented her homeroom class and brought her previous experience and knowledge to help

make student council successful again. She helped guide the newcomers, showed up every meeting with a smile, and proved to be irreplaceable. As a sixth grader in her final year of Harding School, Elisa was elected the President. She worked hard and creatively in her campaign, and she delivered a memorable speech to the student body.

Elisa is a role model to all students and she brings her best during each student council meeting. She even has dedicated recess and time at home to work towards student council goals. Elisa will do a wonderful job leading the Student Council this year. We are lucky to work with her all year!



(above, l-r) Assistant Principal, Ronald Bubnowski, Dino Capra, Elisa Capra, Erin Capra and Superintendent, Kyle Arlington

Photo by Kenilworth Public Schools

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## CELEBRATE KWANZAA ON JAN. 12 IN KENILWORTH

The Kenilworth Historical Society will present a colorful, enlightening program celebrating the uplifting, unifying family and cultural traditions of Kwanzaa on Sunday, January 12, 2020. The inspiring, educational and entertaining interactive program, which will present the history, principles and customs of the joyous African-American holiday through song, drumming, crafts and dance, has universal value for all cultures and age groups. It will feature acclaimed Dr. Daisy Nelson Century, a professional actress,

### KFD SANTA EXPRESS DELIVERS 800 GIFTS

The Kenilworth Fire Department and Rescue Squad "Wraps Up" another successful Santa's Express.

This year the KFD and Santa personally Hand delivered over 800 gifts to the children of Kenilworth. Three nights, nine separate delivery routes, nine Santas, 43 elves, and countless behind the scenes volunteers worked tirelessly to make this one of the most successful years ever.

Along the way the KFD also collected over 1,100 unwrapped toys which were distributed to needy Union County families and the USMC Toys for Tots program.

The members of the Kenilworth Fire Department and Rescue Squad would like to thank everyone for their continued support and wish everyone Happy Holidays and a safe healthy New Year.



Photo by KFDs

historical interpreter, author, educator and motivational speaker whose programs have inspired and delighted audiences throughout the United States.

The January 12 celebration will take place at the historic Oswald J. Nitschke House (49 South 21 Street, Kenilworth) at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 12. Advance registration is requested, as seating is limited. A sampling of traditional Kwanzaa foods will be provided. The Nitschke House has an elevator and is fully accessible. For information and reservations, please call 908-709-0434.

Participants in the January 12 program will have the opportunity to learn about and develop an appreciation for African culture through Dr. Century's lively, engaging presentation of the principles, colors, symbols, foods and other significant elements of Kwanzaa, which is based on African year-end harvest festivals. From the time of its founding in 1966 by Dr. Maulana "Ron" Karenga, a professor of black studies, Kwanzaa has been celebrated annually in the United States from December 26 through January 1, with each day honoring one of the holiday's seven principles (unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, sense of purpose, creativity, faith).

The January 12 program at the Nitschke House is being made possible in part by a 2019 HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from the Union County Board of Chosen

Freeholders. The Kenilworth Education Association PRIDE Committee is generously contributing food for the event.

Proceeds will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) "living history" museum and cultural arts center by helping defray operating and programming costs.

Dr. Daisy Nelson is a Philadelphia-based educator, actress, historical interpreter, motivational speaker, author and radio talk show host. She holds B.S., M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees and has taught for more than 20 years in the Philadelphia School System as an award-winning science teacher. Her acting career has included lead roles in several independent movies, and an affinity for history led to her successful profession as a historical interpreter who travels throughout the United States effectively portraying such historical figures as Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Mary Fields, Phyllis Wheatley, Hatshepsut, Madame CJ Walker and Bessie Coleman. As an author, she has penned four books: Belle, Ms. Emmaline's Little Book of Wit and Wisdom, Zach and His Lucky Zebra Socks and Deedle, Deedle Your House is on Fire!

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



(above) Dr. Daisy Nelson Century, widely acclaimed professional actress, historical interpreter, author, educator, motivational speaker and radio talk show host will present a Celebration of Kwanzaa through drumming, song, crafts and dance on Sunday, January 12, 2020, 2 p.m., at the Oswald J. Nitschke House in Kenilworth. All are welcome to attend.

Advance registration is requested (908-709-0434).

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## DAVID BREARLEY HELPS CASA CELEBRATE NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

*Submitted by Gretchen M. Boger-O'Bryan*

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County presented a family fun-themed gift basket to every adoptee and their family at Union County's recent National Adoption Day celebration at the Family Courthouse in Elizabeth, thanks to donations from various community members. The nonprofit organization advocates for Union County youth in foster care.

David Brearley High School's Bears that Care, The Race Matters Alliance, and Peer Leadership Group collected more than 60 board games, 25 card games, 75 boxes of movie candy and 20 popping corn jars containers. In addition, its Peer Advisory Group created 15 superhero-themed props for adoptees and their forever families to use in photos with costumed superheroes helping celebrate Adoption Day.



(above, l-r) Shown with just a sample of their donations are representatives from David Brearley High School's Bears that Care, The Race Matters Alliance, and Peer Leadership Group: (back) Janice Marsili, Race Matters Alliance Advisor; Stevanie Rhim, Race Matters Alliance; Gabriella Lauer, Peer Leadership; Gessica Bonetti, Bears that Care; Derek Graichen and Brianna Gallagher, Peer Advisory; (front) Megan Harrison, Peer Advisory Advisor; Nichole Spampinato, Peer Leadership Advisor; and Jill Minarik, Bears that Care Advisor.

## VFW, PBA, KFD AND PBA SILVER CARD ASSOC. DONATE TURKEYS

On November 22, 2019, 280 Turkeys were delivered to the St. Theresa Food Pantry. This generous donation has become an annual event, primarily sponsored by the Kenilworth VFW 2230, PBA 135, Kenilworth Fire Department, PBA Silver Card Association and the Garlic Rose Bistro.

The membership of all organizations takes great pride in helping those less fortunate around Thanksgiving and the Holiday Season.

Mary Michitsch, of the St. Theresa Food Pantry, praised the effort to make everyone's Thanksgiving a little more special.

"With this generous donation, we are able to present those in need with a complete basket for a full Thanksgiving dinner and much more," Michitsch said.



(above) Robert Schielke, VFW and Silver Card Member, and Travis Dilts, Kenilworth PBA 135 Member, pose with some of the 280 donated turkeys.

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The Winter Reading Club begins on  
Monday, January 6, 2020.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

#### Lap Sit for ages 0 – 24 months

Tuesdays, January 7 – February 18

10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

#### Toddler Time for 2 year olds

Wednesdays, January 8 – February 19

10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

#### PJ Story Time for children ages 3 & up

Thursdays, January 9 – February 20

6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

#### Lego At The Library

for children ages 4 – 12 years old

Fridays, January 10 & 24, February 7 & 21

3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

#### Bingo For Young Children for ages 3 & up

Fridays, January 17 & February 14

3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

#### Bingo For Readers

Friday, January 31, 3:30- 4:00 pm

### SPECIAL EVENTS:

Registration is required for all special events.  
Kenilworth residents may register one week prior to each event. Out of town residents may begin to register two days prior to each event, space permitting. To register for special events, please call or visit the library

#### Bilingual Story Time

Wednesday, January 15, 10:30 - 10:50 am

Stories, songs and interactive rhymes will engage children ages 2 & up.

#### The Good Tymes String Band

Wednesday, January 29, 10:30 - 11:00 am

will be entertaining children ages 2 & up and their families. Foot tapping, knee slapping banjo music & songs for families with children of all ages featuring Raymond Dreitlein, Pete Hauptman and Jay Leipzig.

#### Seussical Jr.

Thursday, February 13, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

For children ages 4 & up. The Cat In The Hat will narrate this engaging tale presented by Paper Mill Playhouse's Children's Theater On Tour Students. This event has been funded by the Ralph Errington Foundation.

#### February is National

#### Children's Dental Health Month

Thursday, February 20, 6:30 - 7:00 pm

An interactive program to raise awareness about the importance of good oral health will be presented for children ages 4 and up, by Dr. Mouli Surti of Pediatric Dentistry of Union.

## KENILWORTH SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB NEWS

Submitted by Paulette Drogon

The Kenilworth Senior Citizen Club elected new officers, effective January 1, 2020. They are: John Zimmerman, Sr., President; Emily Grimaldi, Vice President; John Barton, Secretary; and Lillian Furze, Treasurer.

The club meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Due to the fact the first

Wednesday of January is New Year's Day, the meeting will be held Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Please join us as we start the New Year with a whole new slate of officers who look forward to your participation and input. It is YOUR club.

New members are most welcome. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

## SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB KICKS OFF A NEW YEAR

Submitted by Paulette Drogon

The Kenilworth Senior Citizen Club will hold their first meeting of 2020 on the second Wednesday of the month, January 8, at 1:00 p.m. (not the first Wednesday due to the New Years Day Holiday).

Please join us as we start the New Year with a new slate of officers who look forward to your

participation and input. It is your club.

New members are most welcome. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Come out and welcome the new offers:

President, John Zimmerman Sr.;

Vice President, Emily Grimaldi;

Secretary, John Barton;

Treasurer, Lillian Furze.

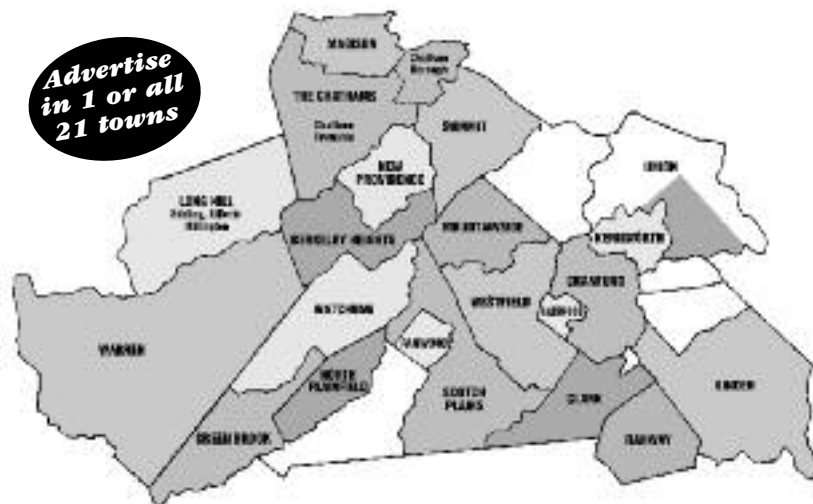
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| 1 Unit (Business card) | 3.25" x 2"               | \$60                     | \$150                     | \$250                     | \$350                     | \$400                      | \$450                      | \$500                      | \$550                      |
| 2 Units                | 6.5" x 2" or 3.25" x 4"  | \$100                    | \$250                     | \$400                     | \$500                     | \$600                      | \$700                      | \$800                      | \$900                      |
| 4 Units                | 3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"  | \$180                    | \$450                     | \$700                     | \$900                     | \$1100                     | \$1300                     | \$1500                     | \$1700                     |
| 6 Units                | 6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4" | \$240                    | \$600                     | \$900                     | \$1200                    | \$1400                     | \$1600                     | \$1800                     | \$2000                     |
| 9 HALF PAGE            | 6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"    | \$320                    | \$800                     | \$1000                    | \$1300                    | \$1600                     | \$1900                     | \$2200                     | \$2400                     |
| 12 Units               | 10" x 8"                 | \$360                    | \$900                     | \$1200                    | \$1500                    | \$1800                     | \$2100                     | \$2400                     | \$2700                     |
| 18 FULL PAGE           | 10" x 14"                | \$400                    | \$1000                    | \$1400                    | \$1800                    | \$2200                     | \$2500                     | \$2800                     | \$3000                     |
| 2 PAGE SPREAD          | 21" x 14"                | \$700                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| BACK PAGE              | 10" x 14"                | \$500                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |
| FRONT PAGE BANNER      | 8.25" x 2"               | \$320                    |                           |                           |                           |                            |                            |                            |                            |
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# ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE 2020

St. Michael's School in Cranford, celebrating over 90 years of academic excellence, will host a series of open house events. Parents and prospective preschool through grade eight students are invited to visit during two sessions: Thursday, Jan. 23, from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 26, from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The school is located at 100 Alden St. in Cranford.

Parents and students will have the opportunity to tour the school and enjoy conversation with Principal Sandy Miragliotta. Parents and current students will be assisting with each tour. Teachers will also be available in their classrooms to answer questions.

Any family that registers during one of the Open House sessions for the 2020-2021 academic year will receive \$50 off first child's registration and \$25 off registration for each additional child.

St. Michael School, established in 1929, is a thriving, faith-based school where children

become independent thinkers and grow into responsible young adults grounded in Catholic values

St. Michael School is a member of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) and accredited by the Middle States Association Commission on Elementary Schools. Primary, elementary and middle school curriculums are based on guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese of Newark to prepare students for high school and beyond.

Controlled class sizes and average 16:1 student-teacher ratio fosters individualized attention and offers students the ability to engage in classroom inquiry, discovery, and learning.

The early childhood education program offers pre-kindergarten 3 & 4 (full and half day) and full-day academically-based kindergarten. On site before and after care is also available.

Extracurricular activities include instructional and competitive sports programs, instructional

music, drama and Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

For more information about St. Michael School, please contact the school at 908-276-9425. For a copy of the St. Michael's School brochure and for more information about the school, visit: [smscranford.com](http://smscranford.com)

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- 1:1 chrome books for grades 4-8
- Before and after care programs are available daily on site
- Member of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA)
- Accredited by the Middle States Association Commission on Elementary Schools

### OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Thurs., 1/23 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Sun., 1/26 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### PLEASE CALL

(908) 276-9425

### TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

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[www.smscranford.com](http://www.smscranford.com)

E-Mail: [saint.michael@verizon.net](mailto:saint.michael@verizon.net)

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