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Submitted by Gary Miller

Third-graders from School No. 10 in Linden are living up to the school slogan "The Little School With the Biggest Heart" by spreading the word about threats to sea turtles and raising money to help the animals.

The group of about a dozen girls decided to take action after they read an article in class about sea turtles and one of the girls saw a video on her own of a sea turtle with a plastic straw stuck in its nose. They came up with the idea of holding a dance to raise money to help the animals.

The dance will be March 20, 2020 at 6 p.m. Admission to the dance is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students. Tickets are on sale at the school.

"It's going to be a great thing for the school in general, but for me it's so important that they know that the great idea that they had is going to become something," said Principal David Walker. "They have a voice and they realize that they have the power to be able to do some real good for others or for animals."

Walker began meeting with the girls every other week starting in October to plan a course of action.

"They came to me and told me that they had read an article in class and had watched video on their own on how sea pollution was affecting turtles' existence," he said. "They got very passionate about it.

"We talked about ideas, and they came upon the idea of having a dance and to donate the proceeds of that dance to an organization committed to saving the turtles."

Walker reached out to the Sea Turtle Conservancy in Gainesville, Fla. "They were very excited to partner with us," he said.

Interim Superintendent Denise Cleary applauded the students for raising their voices.

"It's wonderful to see them take their empathy and turn it into action," she said. "We always want the lessons our students learn in class to make a tangible impact on their lives. But in this case, they are using those lessons to make a very real contribution to the world. As educators, we couldn't ask for more."

During a recent meeting with Walker and teacher Fran Czylek, the students discussed ideas



(above) A group of third-graders from School No. 10 in Linden are hosting a dance on March 20 to raise money to help sea turtles after learning they are threatened by marine pollution. The students are pictured with teacher Fran Czylek and Principal David Walker. Front row: Camille Sheridan, Olivia Ciesla, Kali Diaz, Brielle Suros, and back row, Vithoria DaSilva, Gianna Cedeno, Melanie Velarde, Abigail Avila, Mikaela Diaz, and Maia Alvarez. They are holding pictures of turtles drawn by themselves and other students in art class.

for decorations and activities at the dance and other items they can sell to raise money. Several of the girls had made turtle-themed movies on their school-issued iPad tablets, and they and other students created turtle pictures in teacher Catherine Vincent's art class. The girls are all in the third-grade classes of Lori Demarzo, Karen Lapinski, and Nicole Reider.

Walker said they are making plans for a scientist from the Sea Turtle Conservancy to make a video call with students at School No. 10 to help them learn more about sea turtles and threats they face from pollution, climate change, hunting, and fishing. All the proceeds from the School No. 10 dance will go to the conservancy.

"It's exciting," Walker said. "To be able to see that passion in them, that's why we're here, to empower them to make good decisions and change the world."

To make a donation to support the students' efforts, send a check made out to the "Sea Turtle Conservancy" to School No. 10, 2801 Highland Avenue, Linden NJ 07036. Photos by Linden Public Schools





Life in Linden is published by Renna Media in cooperation with the Linden Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

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Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Linden Chamber of Commerce assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

SAMSEL & ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE SERVICES NAMED SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Clark business owner John Samsel of Samsel reliably, and honestly. & Associates Real Estate Services was presented with the Small Company of the Year award by the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, an umbrella organization for the Linden Chamber of Commerce, during their annual awards dinner held on Monday, February 10, 2020.

John Grew up in Linden and now lives in Rahway with his wife Jennifer and 2 children. He serves on the Board of Trustees for the Gateway Chamber of Commerce as well as many other organizations.

John Samsel opened Samsel & Associates Real Estate Services in November of 2017 with only 2 agents and the goal of providing superior white glove service and contributing to the community, all while growing the company. 26 months later, Samsel & Associates is represented by 49 licensees helping people buy and sell real estate all over New Jersey.

Clients who choose Samsel and Associates agents are navigated through their real estate transactions by experienced, knowledgeable, and well-trained agents who work tirelessly, loyally,

"We know that long term relationships with our clients and the community is the key to a successful company and to a successful life. Our agents are actively involved in several Chambers and service organizations around Union County and beyond." Samsel told Renna Media.

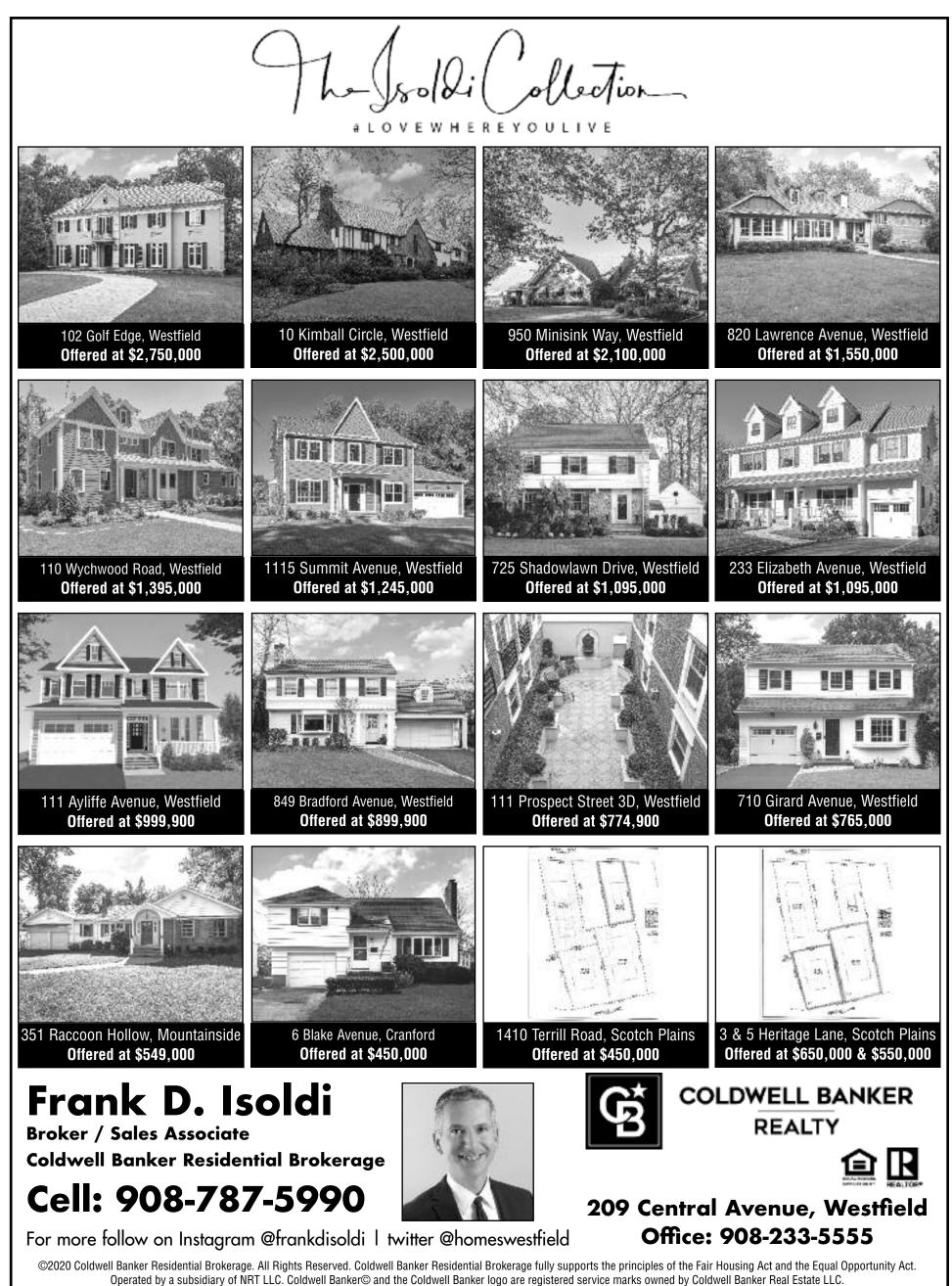
On any given day, Samsel and Associates agents can be spotted sponsoring a little league team or a Rotary fundraiser, helping with a PTA event, collecting shoes for the less fortunate, or volunteering with Kiwanis. In a highly competitive industry, their integrity before profitability mindset produces an unsurpassed level of professionalism and performance to deliver more value for their clients.

Samsel has been featured on three HGTV House Hunters episodes with more in the works. You can find the agents at Samsel & Associates on bill boards all over Union and Middlesex Counties. Samsel hosts a weekly web-show called "Samsel Life" where he features other local businesses, events and attractions throughout New Jersey.



(above) Jean and Wayne Zuhl with Small Business of the Year recipient John Samsel and wife Jennifer. Wayne is Chairperson of the Clark Chamber of Commerce, he accepted the award on behalf of Samsel and Associates Real Estate.





CASA INVITES PUBLIC TO WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON MARCH 11

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County will host its second annual Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11 — the heart of Women's History Month — to highlight two Union County women whose contributions positively impact their community.

Among them is Tina Renna, Cranford resident and owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including Life in Linden.

Renna, who coordinates content for more than 135,000-issues circulated to towns in Union, Somerset and Morris counties, uses her writing, editing and photography, she says, "to tell the stories of ordinary people who do extraordinary things, big or small, that inspire others and their communities. Whether reporting news from town departments, schools and libraries,



(above) Tina Renna, owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including Life in Linden, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon.



(above) Sue Adler, Summit resident and CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11.

giving voice to local organizations raising awareness, or highlighting accomplishments of businesses, residents and all those who share a community — no matter strength or size — I strive to make a positive impact on each town's well-being and economic development."

Also being honored is Summit's Sue Adler, CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham. Currently ranked 10 worldwide out of 175,000 Keller Williams agents, Adler focuses on the community's train line towns and incorporates an in-house, teamtreatment approach for clients.

Ilyse DiChiara, owner of Green Healthy Living and certified integrative nutrition, health and wellness coach, will provide the keynote address. Prior to switching professional course, DiChiara ran her nationwide trial consulting business, Litigation Support Solutions, for more than 20 years. Other participants include Summit Mayor Nora Radest and Westfield Councilwoman Joann Neylan.

Tickets are available now for the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Summit Hotel. Seats are \$65; tables of 10 and sponsorships are available.

To purchase, log on to casaleadershipluncheon.eventbrite.com. For luncheon details, contact Alexis at aslade@casaofunioncounty.org.

CASA of Union County recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned children placed in foster homes or residential facilities. There are more than 500 Union County youth, from birth to age 21, in foster care. With court-ordered access to a foster child and all parties in their life, volunteer advocates report findings to the judge so as to ensure best interests remain a priority, needs are met, and already experienced trauma is not exacerbated.

Contact Courtney at cgreen@casaofunioncounty.org or 908-293-8136 to learn more about CASA of Union County.

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LIBRARY TO PRESENT AWARD WINNING FILMS FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Every March, the world celebrates Women's History Month. As we approach the 75th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe, we begin with three Oscar-winning films dealing with women's roles on both sides of the conflict during World War II. We also present a memorable Academy Award Best Picture winner starring Jessica Tandy in her Oscar-winning performance. We look at several workplace movie comedies placing women center stage. We feature a double feature of gender bending comedies where things don't appear as they should be but we laugh all the way. We also feature Cicely Tyson in an Emmy winning role.

The highlight of the month is a special Saturday afternoon film celebrating the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage and the ratification of the 19th amendment. This movie presentation is co-sponsored by the Union County Chapter of the League of Women Voters. Iron Jawed Angels will be shown at the Linden Public Library on Saturday, March 14th at 2:00 p.m. All are invited to attend this film free-ofcharge in the Columbia Bank Room on the third floor of the library. Light refreshments will be served.

This 2004 television movie tells the story of the women's suffrage movement in the United States, leading up to the passage of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. New Jersey resident, Alice Paul was an important

Every March, the world celebrates Women's leader in the suffragette movement and played an integral part of this story. Nominated for five Emmy awards, this film stars Oscar winners Hilary Swank and Anjelica Huston, who headline a star-studded cast.

March 3 @ 2:00 - Sophie's Choice (R; 150 mins; 1982) March 6 at 1:00 - The Reader

(R; ;124 mins; 2008)

March 10 at 2:00 - The Diary of Anne Frank (PG; 180 mins; 1959)

March 13 at 1:00 - Driving Miss Daisy (PG; 99 mins; 1989)

March 14 at 2:00 - Iron Jawed Angels (TV-14; 123 mins; 2004)

March 17 at 2:00 - Nine to Five (PG; 109 mins; 1980)

March 20 at 1:00 - Working Girl (R; 113 mins; 1988) March 24 at 2:00 - Tootsie

(PG; 116; 1982)

March 24 at 6:00 - Connie and Carla (PG-13; 98 mins; 2004) March 27 at 1:00 - In Her Shoes (PG-13; 132 mins; 2005)

March 31 at 2:00 - The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pitman (PG; 110 mins; 1974)



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(above) Mayor Derek Armstead and Capt. James Sarnicki



(above) Chief David Hart and Capt. James Sarnicki

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION CEREMONY

Submitted by Lt. Christopher Guenther Family and friends gathered in the Municipal Courtroom on Tuesday, February 5 to celebrate a series of promotions within the ranks of the Linden Police Department.

Lt. Joseph Cacioppo was promoted to Captain and will be taking command of the Uniform Services Division. Sgt. Robert Sanchez was promoted to Lieutenant and will continue to serve in an expanded role overseeing evidence, IT, Records, and Central Dispatch in the Support Services Division. Officer James Schulhafer was promoted to Sergeant and will serve as a Patrol Shift Field Supervisor in the Uniform Services Division.

Also recognized was Officer Anthony Favor, who was appointed Detective after many years of work doing background investigations with the Internal Affairs Unit.

"It is very complicated and tough to be a Police Officer, but it is even tougher to be a Police Supervisor," said Mayor Derek Armstead. "I have known each of these Officers for a very long time, and I know they are up to the task."

The promotions come following the retirement of Captain James Sarnicki, who retired January 31 following nearly 43 years of service to the Linden Community.

"Most of us cannot remember a Linden Police Department without Jim Sarnicki," said Police Chief David Hart. "Over his nearly 43 years here Jim impacted the lives of countless people; he will definitely be missed, and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors."



(above) Police Chief David Hart, Sgt. James Schulhafer, Det. Anthony Favor, Capt. Joesph Cacioppo, Lt. Robert Sanchez, and Mayor Derek Armstead. Photos by City of Linden



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FAMILY GAME NIGHT -MARCH 27

A Family Game Night for Linden families will be held on Friday, March 27, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the JTG Center located at 330 Helen Street in Linden, NJ. All Linden residents are welcome to bring their families to this free event. This is a great way to wean youth away from technology and to bond with their families and friends by interacting and playing board games. Pre-registration is required for all families attending.

REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED MONDAY-FRIDAY AT THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES:

JTG Recreation Center,

330 Helen St. (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.); Community Center Building,

605 South Wood Ave. (9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) Linden Multi-Purpose Center,

1025 John St. (9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.) Or you may register online at linden-nj.org and

click on Community Pass. For all future Game Night listings, residents can visit the Linden website at linden-nj.org or tune to Channel 36 for flyers and updated community news. For more information, please call Mrs. Martin-Ortiz at 908-474-8627. The Parks & Recreation office is located on the second floor at 605 South Wood Avenue.

WEEKLY BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS AT THE LIBRARY

The Linden Public Library will hold Blood Pressure Screenings for members of the community at the library every Tuesday between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The screenings will be conducted by members of the Gateway Family YMCA, who sponsor the program. The program continues through May 26.

Participants in this voluntary program will work with a trained Healthy Heart Ambassador and are encouraged to self-measure their blood pressure at least twice per month. They should also attend two personalized consultations per month as well attend monthly nutritional

The Linden Public Library will hold Blood education seminars sponsored by the Gateway essure Screenings for members of the Family YMCA.

Goals for participants include a reduction of blood pressure; better understanding and management of high blood pressure; increased awareness of the triggers that elevate blood pressure; and development of healthier eating habits.

For more information about this free program, please call or email Michael Johnson at the Gateway Family YMCA. His phone number is 908-249-4809 and email is mjohnson@ tgfymca.org.

FREE, WEEKLY CHAIR YOGA FOR SENIORS AT THE LIBRARY

The Linden Public Library, through a generous donation from The Friends of the Linden Public Library, is proud to sponsor a series of weekly programs offering Chair Yoga for Seniors.

These hour long exercise sessions are offered free-of-charge and are held every Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Columbia Bank

The Linden Public Library, through a Room of the library. They will be taught by merous donation from The Friends of the Paulette Rasul, a registered yoga instructor.

Chair yoga is designed to improve balance, strength and flexibility. It is practiced either while seated or with the aid of a chair and is a great form of yoga for beginners, people with physical disabilities or those who find typical yoga classes too challenging.



PIA FOY WINS STATEWIDE ESSAY CONTEST, CONTINUES TO COMPETE NATIONALLY

Foy, a Linden High School student, who represented Post 1397 and District 5, in the VFW's Voice of Democracy Scholarship Essay Contest for the State.

This year's theme was "What Makes America Great". Out of 17 VFW Districts in New Jersey,

The NJ State Veterans of Foreign Wars and Pia placed first. She now goes on to the National Linden Post 1397 would like to congratulate Pia competition in Washington, DC where she will compete for a \$30,000 scholarship against the other state winners.

> While in Washington, DC Pia and the other state winners will enjoy an all expense paid trip for 5 days, they will be honored by the National VFW and its Auxiliary and have a tour of the city.

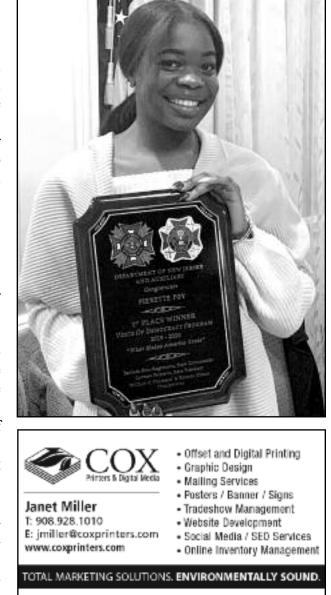
BAYWAY COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS

Advisory Panel (CAP) has elected to offer High School Seniors who are residents of Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island the opportunity to be awarded a CAP scholarship. Several one-year scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each, to students in the four municipalities represented by the CAP.

The winners will be selected by the CAP Scholarship Committee, who will be taking the following areas into consideration when reviewing the applications: The Applications must be Computer-Generated and All Sections Completed; Academics (transcript/SAT/ACT scores); Financial Need; Essay; Science/Math Teacher Recommendation Letter(s). This scholarship is open to candidates who will be

For the year 2020, the Bayway Community pursuing a college, university, career or vocational school education in the Industrial, Process Technology, or Engineering (Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Environmental, Computer) fields. Please see your high school guidance counselor for more information and the application forms.

> The Bayway CAP is a committee of community representatives from Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island including neighbors, educators, retirees, public officials, emergency responders, and environmentalists who attend quarterly meetings that serve as a forum for dialogue between the community and company representatives from Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, Infineum USA L.P., Linden Cogeneration Plant, Veolia North America, Solutia, and Linden VFT LLC.



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STUDENTS PUT MUSCLE INTO AWARENESS OF WATER CRISIS

better place, one gallon at a time.

The social studies teacher at Soehl Middle School in Linden recently challenged his students to carry around a gallon jug of water for a whole



(above) Michael D'Amato's students walking to class on Jan. 9 carrying gallon bottles of water for the "One-Gallon Challenge" at Soehl Middle School in Linden. Students carried around the gallon bottles all day on Jan. 9 in solidarity with girls in developing nations who spend their days fetching water.

Michael D'Amato is out to make the world a school day. He wanted to build empathy and solidarity with girls their age in developing nations who struggle with access to clean water. Many can't go to school because they are forced to spend their days walking miles to lug fivegallon jugs of water back home for their families.

> "I wanted to get my students to understand what it feels like to be one of these girls," said D'Amato, who has been at Soehl for 21 years and this year teaches sixth and eighth grade. "Maybe it sounds weird, but I wanted to make them a little uncomfortable. I've had students say, 'My hand hurts' or 'My back doesn't want to do this anymore.' So if I can have them experience a fraction of what these girls experience, I see that as a start."

> The "One-Gallon Challenge" took place Jan. 9, two months ahead of International Women's Day on March 8, and Women's History Month in March. D'Amato's goal was to raise awareness of the issue so that maybe more students or even other schools would get involved in the challenge in March.

> "I'm amazed at how many students did this, but I see this as Step 1," he said. "I would love for my students to become activists. There are many issues out there. If they see something, I want them to say something. They may feel, 'I'm in eighth grade, I can't vote, what do you expect me to do?' There's social media, where you can quickly take a picture with your friends, and say, 'Here's the One-Gallon Challenge.'"

> Interim Superintendent Denise Cleary stopped by to see D'Amato's lesson in action, as students came in and out of class carrying their gallon jugs.

"A fantastic project like the One-Gallon Challenge is able to capture a student's interest in a unique way, but I saw them learning valuable lessons in the classroom as well," Cleary said. "They discussed global issues and asked insightful questions, and you could see as the light bulb went on. They realized that girls their age have to struggle with something that we all take for granted every day."

A project like the One-Gallon Challenge helps engage students in ways that regular class lectures or readings wouldn't.

"As a teacher for 21 years, the same topics come up every year," D'Amato said. "Poverty, genocide, slavery. And my challenge is to think how can I teach better than I was teaching last year. As teachers we need to create catnip. Students have their cellphones, they have social media. I need to be better than that.

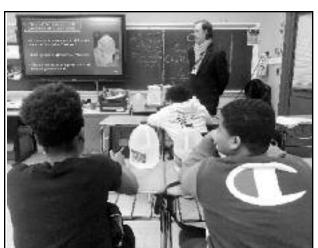
"I think a lot of them are going to remember this for a long time."

Beyond the classroom, he feels the project can cause ripples and have real effects on a global scale.

"I told the students the other day there are 7 billion people on the planet, and more people use cellphones than toilets," D'Amato said. "So what we do here, they can see this. If they see what we're doing, I want especially the girls to know we see you, we see what you're going through.

"The countries with the most terrorism have the lowest female literacy rates. So if you reduce the female illiteracy in these areas, you will reduce terrorism.

"So in a very far-stretching way, I think this does make the world a safer place."



(above) Students in Michael D'Amato's class at Soehl Middle School in Linden on Jan. 9 taking part in a class discussion about a water crisis in developing nations that prevents girls their age from going to school.





Photos by Linden Public Schools

STEAM SATURDAY CLASSES REGISTRATION

announces that registration continues for the remaining STEAM Saturday classes being held at the Linden Multi-Purpose Center, 1025 John St. Must be a Linden resident.

Super Science Make & Take: Students ages 6-12 discover the excitement of science and make a variety of toys designed to illustrate science concepts that make learning fun. The class will be held Saturday, March 7, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The fee is \$20.

Gravitrax: Students ages 6-12 with the use of GraviTrax interactive track system, design and build their own marble runs and experiment with gravity, magnetism, and kinetics to propel their

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Linden Department of Parks and Recreation marble to the finish. The class will be held Saturday, March 14, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The fee is \$20.

> STEAM Day: Students ages 8-14 spend 90 minutes in each area: Augmented Reality, Robots & Programming, Minecraft Builders and Drone Challenge. The class will be held Saturday, March 21, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The fee is \$90.

> To register online for youth classes, visit linden-nj.org and click on Community Pass. Email lindenrec@linden-nj.org for information about classes, or call 908-474-8600. The Parks & Recreation office is located on the second floor at 605 South Wood Avenue.



(above) Students participating during a recent Minecraft held on February 1.



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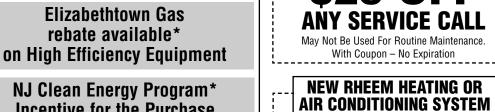


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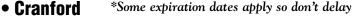
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YMCA IS OFFERING SUMMER CAMP OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

a summer of fun with the theme, "Ready, Set, Summer", and is inviting the community to learn more about summer day camp at an open house this spring. Summer Day Camp and Power Scholars Academy Open House dates are scheduled for March 25 6-8 p.m., April 18 12-3 p.m. and May 20 6-8 p.m. Summer day camp is available at the Rahway Branch 1564 Irving Street, as well as the Elizabeth and Union branches.

The Gateway Family YMCA summer camp programs offer fun and unique experiences for preschool, youth and teens, with an opportunity



www.diamondgymnasticsacademy.com

The Gateway Family YMCA is gearing up for to explore the outdoors, meet lifelong friends, discover new experiences and create lasting memories. Attending an open house is a first step in selecting a summer camp experience that complements a child and their individual interests and personality. Optional specialty camp experiences include sports camps, arts camp, dance camp and swim camp along with the Power Scholars Academy to meet a child's unique skills and interests.

"Attending summer camp is beneficial to every child's personal development. The experience teaches essential leadership and social skills and develop confidence helps youth and independence," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO of The Gateway Family YMCA. "Summer camp fosters peer friendships and adult mentoring relationships that have positive youth development effects, build resiliency and encourage healthy decision making. We provide caring role models in a safe environment where children can develop character and discover their potential."

The Gateway Family YMCA serves the local communities surrounding Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County and offers summer day camp experiences for preschool through grade 11 and specialty camps for varying ages. To ensure that all children have the chance to experience camp, The Gateway Family YMCA offers financial assistance to those in need, as well as a multi-sibling rate for families.

"We encourage parents to give their kids the experience of summer camp and provide financial assistance so that every child can benefit from the unique and beneficial activities," added

Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO. "Through our YMCA Annual Support Campaign, our volunteers work to ensure our Y receives the donations required to provide financial assistance for programs and services throughout our community."

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore the world around them. Unfortunately, for some kids summer means no access to recreational and educational activities to help them learn, grow and thrive during outof-school time. As a result, some kids can experience summer learning loss and gain weight twice as fast than during the school year. A leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of youth, the Y has been a leader in providing summer camp for nearly 130 years. Through summer camp, The Gateway Family YMCA is helping to combat childhood obesity, summer learning loss and food insecurity.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a leading 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to strengthening community by connecting all people to their potential, purpose and each other. With a focus on empowering young people, improving health and well-being, and inspiring action in and across the local community, the Y brings together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, to ensure that all have access to the opportunities, relationships and resources necessary to learn, grow and thrive. The Y doesn't just strengthen bodies - it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information, visit tgfymca.org/daycamp or contact The Gateway Family YMCA Rahway Branch 732-388-0057.



FOUR-LEGGED VISITORS THANK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR GENEROSITY

Submitted by Gary Miller

Representatives of Turtle Back Zoo – both two-legged and four-legged – visited Linden High School zoology classes on January 31 to say thank you for the students' work in raising money for animals harmed by the recent Australian wildfires.

The process started when students in Amanda Montealegre's zoology classes learned about species native to Australia, including platypuses, echidnas, kangaroos, wombats, and koalas. This brought up the topic of the wildfires, which are estimated to have killed more than 1 billion animals. Students were hurt by this news and asked how they could help.

"This was when I knew we had to do something big," Montealegre said.

With just over one week left in the semester, students designed stickers, sold snacks, and asked classmates and family members for donations.

Montealegre, along with fellow science teacher and department chairperson Kelly Gallagher, reached out to Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange to donate through their matching program. The zoo and the Zoological Society of New Jersey pledged to double any donation and send the total to the wildlife hospital and rescue efforts at Wildlife Warriors Australia. In less than a week, the LHS classes raised over \$320, which the zoo will double to nearly \$650.

"I am so proud to see how my students successfully campaigned to help those in need," Montealegre said. "Seeing their enthusiasm and self-driven motivation was magical for me and gave me hope in the future."

Adam Kerins, executive director of Zoological Society of New Jersey and a zookeeper for Turtleback Zoo, and zoology educator Shatiaa Burwell visited along with some wildlife to say thank you to the students for their hard work and generosity. Students got to meet a burrowing owl, a tenrec, an emerald tree fog, and a skink. "My hope is that this class has not only given the students a greater understanding and appreciation of the animals we share the planet with, but also that they will be better prepared to organize and execute fundraisers in the future," Montealegre said. "This planet needs motivated change-makers, and I hope I have helped empower our youth to work together and create a better world."



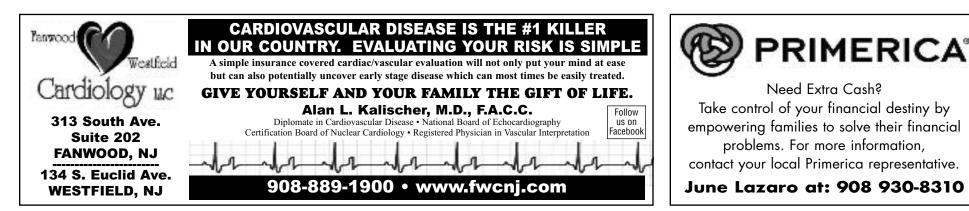
(above) Representatives accepting a donation from Linden High School zoology students to help animals hurt by the Australian wildfires. From left are zoo educator Shatiaa Burwell holding a burrowing owl; LHS zoology teacher Amanda Montealegre; LHS science teacher and science department chairperson Kelly Gallagher; and Adam Kerins, executive director of the Zoological Society and a zookeeper at the Turtleback Zoo. Photos by Linden Public Schools



(above) Shatiaa Burwell, an educator of Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange, showing a skink to zoology students at Linden High School. Zoo representatives visited to thank students for raising money to help animals devastated by wildfires in Australia.



(above) Shatiaa Burwell, an educator of Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange, showing an emerald tree frog to zoology students at Linden High School. Zoo representatives visited to thank students for raising money to help animals devastated by wildfires in Australia.







CRISIS HOTLINE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking for a flexible, rewarding volunteer opportunity? Have you ever been told you are a good listener? This volunteer opportunity may be for you. The nonprofit organization Caring Contact is seeking new volunteers to support its crisis hotline and listening community.

Volunteers receive 54 hours of comprehensive training in active listening, mental health first aid and applied suicide intervention skills training. New volunteers are also supported by seasoned listeners during 24 hours of internship before answering calls independently. Ongoing support and training opportunities are also provided.

The next volunteer training program will begin on March 17, 2020, at Temple Sholom in Scotch Plains, NJ. To learn more and apply, please visit caringcontact.org/volunteer-listenerapplication or call (908) 301.1899.



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LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS HONOR STAFF MEMBERS OF THE YEAR

Linden Public Schools recently celebrated • School No. 6: Elizabeth Radil, school nurse their staff by choosing an Educator of the Year and Service Professional of the Year from each school.

SERVICE PROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR

- School No. 1: Marybeth Strano, paraprofessional
- School No. 2: Rhonda Jenkins, paraprofessional
- School No. 4: Marybeth Kniazuk, speech therapist
- School No. 5: Liliana Lozada, paraprofessional

- School No. 8: Annemarie Gobel, paraprofessional
- School No. 9: Kelly McGovern-Drejaj, speech therapist
- School No. 10: Sherre Carbone, paraprofessional
- McManus Middle School: Victoria Miller. social worker
- Soehl Middle School: Caitlin Sanders, guidance counselor
- Linden High School: Ryan Devaney, social worker

EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

- School No. 1: Shannon Spaziani
- School No. 2: Frances Pszenica
- School No. 4: Janel Bury
- School No. 5: Julie Siegel
- School No. 6: Laura Stewart-Cuttita
- School No. 8: Staci Wegrzynek
- School No. 9: Melody Olsen
- School No. 10: Laura Venezio
- McManus Middle School:Sobeida Penaranda
- Soehl Middle School: Aneta Ferreira
- Linden High School: Nicole Campo



K K KLX Soehl Middle School



School No. 1



School No. 6





School No. 4







School No. 5



School No. 10



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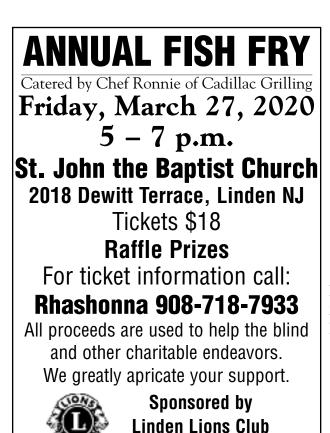




School No. 9

School No. 2

School No. 8



PANCAKE BREAKFAST **AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 102**

Come to a Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary - Unit 102, on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at the American Legion Post 102, located at 112 West Elizabeth Ave., from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Donations: Adults \$7 / Seniors & Children \$6 / Ages 5 & Under Free.

So come out and enjoy a home cooked breakfast, including this month's special Omelets.

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Linden Department of Parks and Recreation announces that registration has begun for their summer outdoor day camps. To register, participants must be a Linden Resident and entering grades kindergarten through sixth grade as of September 2020.

For more information about the day camps, visit linden-nj.org and click Department of Recreation or call 908-474-8600. The Parks & Recreation office is located on the second floor at 605 South Wood Avenue. To register online visit linden-nj.org and click on Community Pass.



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\$320

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LINDEN ROTARY PANCAKE DINNER

The Linden Rotary will be holding a Pancake Dinner on March 11, 2020 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the JTG Recreation Center located at 330 Helen Street, Linden, NJ 07036. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Prices are \$10 for adults/\$7 for seniors/\$5 for kids (ages 3-12). Pancakes, eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, hot chocolate, juice and coffee are all on the menu. Take-out will be available. All proceeds will be utilized towards the 2020 Linden/Clark Dictionary Project where all third graders get

their own dictionary made specifically for students. For more information, email lindenrotary.info@gmail.com.

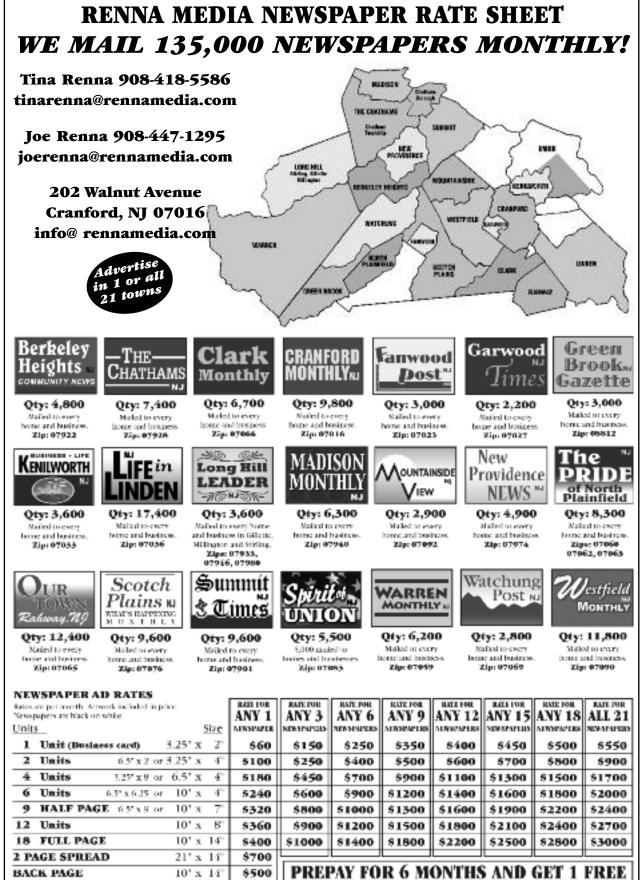
The Linden/Clark Rotary meets every second Tuesday at Phillips 66 offices, 1400 S. Park Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036 at 8 a.m. We are always looking for new members who as a business owner or individual want to form relationships with other like minded individuals who want to support our local communities and be active in those communities.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT THE VFW #1397

hosted by the VFW Auxiliary on Saturday March 28, 2020 at the VFW #1397, located at 20 Pennsylvania Railroad Ave., from 8 a.m. to 12 and enjoy a home cooked breakfast!

Come one, come all to our Pancake Breakfast p.m. Donations: Adults \$7 / Seniors & Children \$6 / Ages 5 & Under Free.

This event is open to the public, so come out



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Gentleman Jack		
Glenmorangie 10 yrs old		
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Grants		•
Grants		•
Jack Daniels		•
Jack Daniels		•
Jack Daniels Fire		•
Jack Daniels Fire		
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Jameson		-
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