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PARKS AND RECREATION RECOGNIZED WITH TWO AWARDS

Submitted by Kathleen Avitt, NJRPA

Linden Department of Parks and Recreation was presented the Excellence in Visual and Cultural Arts Award for "The Crafting Corner Playground Program" and the Agency Showcase Award for Website or Web Feature/Application at the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association (NJRPA) Annual Awards Dinner at Summit Family Aquatic Center in Summit, NJ.

Present to accept the Excellence in Visual and Cultural Arts Award were Ralph Dunhamn (Recreation Director), Angelo Monaco (Day Camp/Playground Coordinator), Valerie Graham (Craft Supervisor), Rooks Crawford (Recreation Leader) and elected officials on Wednesday, May 19, 2021.

Challenged with creating Arts and Crafts programming during a socially distant summer, the staff of the Linden Recreation Department incorporated "The Crafting Corner" into their Virtual Summer Camp program. Designed to appeal to children between the ages of 5 through 18, this program offered 50 different craft lessons that participants could complete in the safety of their own homes.

Marketed through the weekly newsletter, program information and weekly materials pick up forms were sent through the email feature of Community Pass. Families were invited to pick up pre- registered "Craft Kits" through contactless delivery at their local recreation center. Linden Recreation Staff created 50 instructional videos that demonstrated how to successfully complete the established crafts.

Eighty seven families picked up the craft kits required to complete the program which cost approximately \$5,000.00 in supplies and staff hours. Families reached out for extra supplies at the end of the program to continue the crafting of their favorite projects.

The positive feedback from those who participated in Crafting Corner prompted the staff to extend the program into the Fall options for Senior Citizens programming.

Present to receive the Agency Showcase Award for Website or Web Feature/Application were Ralph Dunhamn (Recreation Director), Angelo Monaco (Day Camp/Playground Coordinator), Branly Cadet (Playground Supervisor), and Joshua Weiss.

Faced with the challenge of providing Summer programming bound by Covid 19 restrictions and social distancing protocols, the staff of Linden Recreation responded by creating a Web based Virtual Summer Camp.

Virtual Summer Camp set out to provide a variety of programming opportunities for city residents. Angelo



(above, l-r) Linden Department of Parks and Recreation was receives recognition at the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association (NJRPA) Annual Awards Dinner. Pictured are Branly Cadet, Angelo Monaco, Valerie Graham, and Ralph Dunhamn.

Monaco, Summer Day Camp/Playground Coordinator approved all aspects of the website and edited the embedded Google sheet that contained the weekly schedules and links to all of the instructional YouTube videos that were specific to each activity.

Virtual Camps included live instruction from qualified staff and guest presenters, specialized content and learning resources, after camp challenges to keep campers engaged between sessions, unplugged projects that encouraged children to keep learning away from the computer screen with a variety of dates and times to choose from so that participants could fit a variety of day camp activities into a single week. Programmatic success of the 2020 program has prompted a reboot of the Virtual Summer Camp website for the upcoming 2021 season, which will include new program offerings.

The purpose of the New Jersey Recreation and Park Association's Awards Program is to honor and identify dedicated leaders, employees, and volunteers in the field of Parks and Recreation, and to recognize the State's outstanding Recreation and Park agencies for excellence in programming, publicity, and facility design. The goal of the Awards Program is to focus State attention on the achievement of Park and Recreation agencies, to recognize the continuing efforts of staff and volunteers, and to acknowledge support extended by member agencies.



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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.

17,400 newspapers are printed monthly. and are mailed to every postal patron in Linden.

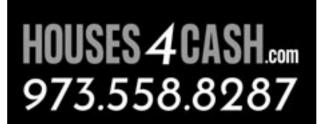
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General Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee of St. Theresa's



sashing dinner and parade were postponed last year due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. With restrictions being lifted, the executive committee moved ahead with the Linden sashing dinner.

the

According to Linden Contingent President Agnieszka Czajkowska, "The permit for the New York parade has not been issued for October as of yet. We are hopeful that our contingent can march down Fifth Ave. this year. If not, our honorees will lead our Linden Contingent in 2022. We are very proud of having a contingent in Linden for 40 years and sharing our culture through activities and events in Linden and the surrounding communities."

This year, Linden Police Chief, David Hart, was named Linden Contingent Marshal and lead the Linden Contingent down Fifth Ave. The Linden Pulaski Committee bestowed Chief Hart with the honor as contingent Marshal to honor his many years of service to the parish of St. Theresa's and the Linden Polish community, assisting with security detail for Cardinal Dziwisz on his many visits to Linden.

Chief Hart also is very active in community policing, serving as Deputy Coordinator for the Linden Office of Emergency Management for 13 years, and earning the nickname of "Doctor Dave" for his many years of service as a volunteer emergency medical technician for the former Linden Volunteer Ambulance Squad and as a paramedic for NJ State Mobile Intensive

The Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee of St. Theresa's, Linden, held their sashing dinner on Saturday, June 12. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of Linden

Contingent. The

General Care Unit at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in Rahway.Chief Hart also serves as a Eucharistic Minister at St. Agnes in Clark and he and his wife, Tina, conduct the Marriage Prep Team.

The 2020/2021 Linden Miss Polonia is Sophie Kotulski. Sophie Kotulski is seventeen years old and is presently a junior at the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools Academy for Performing Arts, majoring in dance. Sophie speaks, reads and writes in Polish, obtaining the Golden Global Seal of Biliteracy from the Polish Supplementary School. She also volunteers as a catechist at St. Theresa's CCD Program and is presently the Troop Leader of the Polish Cub Scouts in Clark, New Jersey. In 2014, Sophie was the Linden Contingent Junior Miss Polonia.

Junior Miss Polonia for 2020/2021 is Marcelina Domaradzka. Marcelina is twelve years old and attends Soehl Middle School and the Karol Wojtyla Polish Supplementary School in Linden. Marcelina loves to sing and perform. At the sashing dinner, Marcelina opened the program with the singing of both the American and Polish National Anthems. Marcelina is also the recipient of the Meritorious Student Award which she received from the Polish Consulate in New York for her academic performance. Marcelina represents the Polish School in numerous competitions, festivals and events.

This year marked the first time the Linden Contingent had the honor of presenting a Little Miss Polonia. Eight year old Milena Glab of Clark was bestowed the honor at the banquet. Milena attends the Hehnly School in Clark and the Polish Supplementary School, Karol Wojtyla, at St. Theresa's in Linden. Milena is very proud of her family and loves to go to Poland every summer, visiting her grandparents and learning more about her Polish Heritage.

For more information on the Linden Contingent, please visit Facebook, General Pulaski Memorial Parade Committee of St. Theresa, Linden, NJ.



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





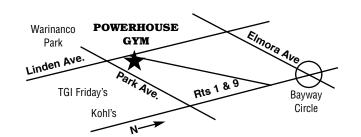
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LINDEN PD CARRIES SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH

took part in this year's Special Olympics Torch statewide, daylong marathon along 26 separate thru their perspective towns. Follow Linden Run held on June 11, 2021 by carrying the routes, involving 3,000 New Jersey law Police Department on Facebook.

Members of the Linden Police Department "Flame of Hope" through Linden. It is a enforcement officers each carrying the torch



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HOOKED ON FISHING

Linden Department of Parks and Recreation is offering a Hooked-on Fishing program this summer for Linden children ages 5 to 18. This free program teaches children basic fishing skills, including how to string and bait a pole, how to cast a line and about local fishing regulations. All classes are from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and are held at Wilson Park (Summit Terrace) and meet on Saturdays. The dates are August 14 and August 28. Pre-registration is required and must be done at least one week before the start of each

class. Must register for each session separately. Children ages 5 to 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

To view full program description and register online for the classes, visit linden-nj.org and click on Community Pass. First time registrants are required to call during business hours to have an account set up. For more information, email lindenrec@linden-nj.org, or call 908-474-8600. The Parks & Recreation office is located 330 Helen Street.

LINDEN POLICE PARTNER WITH 7-ELEVEN FOR "OPERATION CHILL"

This summer, the Linden Police Department is dispensing well-deserved Slurpee justice to good kids throughout the city. The Department has once again partnered with 7-Eleven to distribute free Slurpee drink coupons to children and youth through its popular "Operation Chill" community-service program.

Officers on patrol will reward kids for good deeds, constructive activities and acts of kindness. "Offenses" might include anything from following rules like wearing a bicycle helmet to helping another person or reporting a crime. Although the reasons for being "ticketed" vary, the end result is the same: a free Slurpee drink and a smile for every kid.

"Community oriented programs like this

allow Police Officers to incentivize positive behavior and connect with young people in a meaningful way," said Police Chief David Hart. "Operation Chill has been rewarding deserving kids across the country for the past 26 years, and we are grateful to have such a committed partner in 7-Eleven."

Coupons can be redeemed for a small Slurpee drink at participating 7-Eleven stores. "Operation Chill" started in Philadelphia in 1995 and has expanded to cities across the country. Since its inception, more than 19 million Operation Chill coupons have been distributed to hundreds of law enforcement agencies across the country in areas where 7-Eleven operates stores.





• Patios • Curbs

NEW DIRECTOR OF GRANTS WORKS TO SUPPORT LINDEN STUDENTS

Linden Public Schools

Isabella Scocozza has been the cheerful public face of Soehl Middle School in Linden for years, supporting students and their families as principal for two years and as vice principal for 14 years before that.

But behind the scenes, she had another role that was just as vital. Scocozza has been the driving force behind the 21st Century Community Learning Center after-school program at Soehl, having successfully applied for federal funds to keep the program running for 16 years. As director of the program, she has brought in over \$7 million in grant money that made tutoring, enrichment, and recreation programs possible for Soehl students. Even in years when federal generosity waned, Scocozza was able to successfully compete to bring funds to Soehl.

In the 2021-22 school year, Scocozza will be using her skills as a grant writer and evaluator as she fills the district's new position of director of grants. Though she is sad to step aside as principal of Soehl, she knows she will be able to help students throughout Linden Public Schools in her new position.

"I am very excited for this new opportunity," Scocozza said. "This new role will enable me to work with all of the schools within the district and assist in providing the necessary resources and funding to support our Linden students."

Superintendent Dr. Marnie Hazelton saw a need for a director of grants to make sure the district is maximizing the amount of funding it brings in to help all students get the support they need and the education they deserve.

"Ms. Scocozza is the perfect person to head up this effort," Dr. Hazelton said. "I have seen what a magnificent job she has done in sustaining the 21st Century program even during these difficult times. I am excited to see her bring that energy and acumen to this new role to help all of Linden's students."

Scocozza will oversee all of the competitive grants within the district and also the federal funding that the district receives, such as Title I and CARES ESSER COVID-19 relief funding. Any additional grants that will be written will be based on supporting the district's new Five-Year Strategic Plan, including such areas as social emotional learning and college and career readiness.

"I will collaborate with central administration, curriculum supervisors, building principals, and stakeholders in order to apply for funding that will directly meet the needs of our staff, students, families, and district," Scocozza said.

Scocozza, a 1994 graduate of Linden High School, started with Linden Public Schools in 1999 as a sixth-grade language arts and social studies teacher, and has been at Soehl since Day One. She will be replaced as principal by Gwendolyn Long, who had been vice principal since 2016.

"It was a difficult decision to leave Joseph E. Soehl Middle School, and I will greatly miss the students and staff," she said. "I started my career the day after my college graduation in 1999 and have spent the last 22 years at Soehl. I have been so fortunate to be part of the Soehl family and always kept the best interest of our students in every administrative decision. I am so grateful to have served as the principal at Soehl Middle School these last two years and proud of the achievements that were accomplished while we were in the pandemic."



(above) Isabella Scocozza Photo by Linden Public Schools

In addition to the grant writing and evaluations she has done for Linden Public Schools, Scocozza also owns Schoolhouse Consulting Group LLC, which assists agencies in gaining funding for countless resources, such as afterschool programming, family resources, creation of a community center, performing arts instruction to students, and more. She has secured over \$5 million for agencies such as Team Walker in Jersey City, Roselle Public Schools, and the Pullum Community Arts Center in South Central Los Angeles.

"I have seen firsthand the impact that a particular grant can provide to a school, community, students and families," Scocozza said. "This gives me hope that we can provide important resources to all of our students and schools with a number of different grant and funding opportunities throughout each year."

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SPRING SOCCER LEAGUE AWARDS

COMMUNITY NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 3RD

The Linden Police Department will host our annual Community Night Out on Tuesday, August 3rd from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on N. Wood Avenue in front of City Hall. This is a public event, so everyone is invited to join us for food, giveaways, and entertainment, all free of charge.

Community Night Out is a communitybuilding campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships and camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. The goal of this event, and other community-oriented events like it, is to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. It is also a great opportunity for police and neighbors to come together and get to know each other under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in similar events across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas and select areas celebrate on the first Tuesday in October). Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more. On Saturday, June 26, 2021, Mayor Derek Armstead presented the Department of Parks and Recreation first place and runner up medals for their spring soccer league. Pictured are the Minor, Junior and Junior Plus Divisions teams. For more information on recreation programs, email lindenrec@linden-nj.org or call the Parks and Recreation Department at 908-474-8600 or visit linden-nj.gov. The Parks & Recreation office is located at 330 Helen Street.



(above) Minor Division



(above) Junior Plus Division







(above) Junior Division

Photos by City of Linden

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BAYWAY COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL AWARDS 11 SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Mary Phillips

The Bayway Community Advisory Panel • Dulina Gunasekera, Susan E. Wagner (CAP), an organization of local community Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, Infineum USA L.P., Linden Cogeneration Plant, Veolia North • Emma Padula, Curtis High School, America, Solutia, Linden VFT LLC, PSEG, and NuStar Energy L.P., recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships to 11 local students in the municipalities of Linden, Elizabeth, Rahway, and Staten Island.

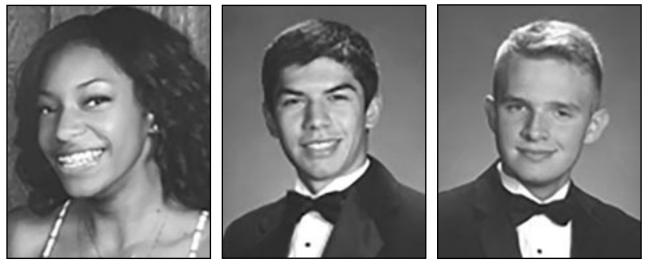
seniors who will be pursuing Process Technology or Engineering degrees in various disciplines (Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, Mechanical) this fall at college:

- Syrai Anderson, Linden High School, Linden
- Jay Santamaria, Linden High School, Linden Alexander Stapkowitz,
- Linden High School, Linden
- Scott Nwosu, Rahway High School, Rahway • Janiyah Fullwood, Thomas A. Edison Career & Technical Academy, Elizabeth
- Emely Pascaretta, Thomas A. Edison Career
- & Technical Academy, Elizabeth

- Ivan Lin, Frank J. Cicarell Academy, Elizabeth
- High School, Staten Island, NY
- members and industry representatives including Lindsay LaPointe, Saint Joseph Hill Academy, Staten Island, NY
 - Staten Island, NY
 - Kelly Yu, Staten Island Technical High School, Staten Island, NY

The Bayway Community Advisory Panel (CAP) is a committee of community Congratulations to the following high school 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, in order to build trust by sharing information on safety, health, the environment, security and emergency preparedness/response. The scholarship program is one of many joint community/company activities benefiting the local communities.

Congratulations and best wishes to all the 2021 scholarship winners!



(above, l-r) Syrai Anderson, Jay Santamaria, Alexander Stapkowitz



RECORD NUMBER GRADUATE FROM POLICE YOUTH ACADEMY

Thirty-eight Cadets were celebrated by family, friends, and City Officials as they graduated from the Linden Police Youth Academy on Friday, July 16, 2021.

The Academy is a free, annual program offered to Linden residents entering sixth, seventh, or eighth grade. The program includes presentations and hands-on demonstrations from Police Department personnel and agency partners to familiarize Cadets with Police operations, criminal investigations, first aid, and other Police related duties. This was the third year the Department has hosted the program; it was canceled in 2020 due to Covid restrictions.

The program was made possible by a \$5,000 donation from the Linden Branch of Columbia Bank.

"Our Youth Academy is one of the most anticipated community events of the year," said Police Chief David Hart. "Columbia Bank has supported this program from its inception; their generous donation, and the support of our community partners, allowed us to make this experience available to more kids while keeping it free of change."

We would like to thank all of the Police Officers, Detectives, and Traffic Investigators who made themselves available to help with this

program throughout the week. We would also like to thank our partners who did so much to make this experience special for our Cadets:

Columbia Bank of Linden, Villani Bus Company, Linden Airport, Linden PBA Local # 42, Linden Police Superior Officers Association, Linden Recreation Department, The US Marine Corps Recruiting Center Elizabeth, NJ Transit Police Department, Union County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit, Norfolk Southern Railroad Police, Linden Fire Department, Union County Police SWAT, US Customs & Border Protection, Union County Homicide Task Force, and the Union County Bomb Squad.







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SEA SCOUT FROM SHIP 228 IN LINDEN EARNS COUNCIL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Sebastián Heredia has been awarded the 2021 Patriots' Path Sea Scout Leadership Award. Sebastián is a Sea Scout from Ship 228 in Linden and he is an Eagle Scout from Troop 67 of St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church in Summit.

Sebastián discovered Sea Scouting in 2017 and has been dual enrolled in Ship 228 and Troop 67 ever since. In 2019, Sebastián was nominated Sea Scout of the Year and he was the only Sea Scout from Patriots' Path Council to attend the World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia as a member of the National Sea Scout Ship. At the World Scout Jamboree, 40,00 Scouts and leaders participated from all over the world.

Sebastián earned his Eagle rank in 2019 and later earned the Silver Palm award. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. Sebastián graduated from Summit High School in 2020 and went on to become an EMT. He is a member of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad.

Currently, Sebastián serves as the Patriots' Path Council Boatswain. In 2021, he carried out a successful regional, virtual training program and was selected for this Area Leadership Award. He was also selected to attend SEAL this summer: the Sea Scout Advanced Leadership Training in San Francisco, California. SEAL Training is the highest leadership training for Sea Scouts. He is working to earn the rank of Quartermaster which is Sea Scouting's highest honor.

Sebastián is accepted to SUNY Maritime College and will enter the Regiment of Cadets in August. His goal is to obtain a United States Coast Guard deck license and a degree in



(above) Sebastián Heredia has been awarded the 2021 Patriots' Path Sea Scout Leadership Award.

Maritime Transportation. His future plans hope to include military service. He is grateful for all of the opportunities that have been granted to him through Scouting.

Sea Scouting is open to both male and female youth ages 14-21 who have graduated the 8th grade. There is a Maritime Explorer Club for younger youth in 6th to 8th grade. Adult volunteers with maritime experience or captain's licenses are needed too. If you are interested in learning more about Sea Scouting and Ship 228 in Linden please visit ship228.com.



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SCHOLAR ATHLETES HONORED FOR COMPETITION AND CLASSWORK

Linden Public Schools

Three Linden High School seniors are being honored for their outstanding achievements in the classroom and on the field of play.

Mackenzie Barrett, a captain and standout defender on their girls soccer team, has been chosen as a scholar athlete of the year by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Landy Garcia, a member of the swimming

team, and Annika Labrador, a captain on the girls soccer team and member of the girls volleyball team, were chosen as scholar athletes by the Union County Conference. Garcia and Labrador also hold the top two ranks in the LHS Navy Junior ROTC program, as commanding officer and executive officer, respectively.

Mackenzie Barrett has scored 14 goals and 3 assists in her career on the girls soccer team. She







(above, left) Mackenzie Barrett was a standout defender who scored six goals in the fall season for the Linden High School girls soccer team. She is going on to play soccer for Fairleigh Dickinson University.

(above, center) Annika Labrador was a captain of the Linden High School girl soccer team and member of the girls volleyball team, as well as executive officer of the NJROTC unit. She will attend the University of Delaware.

(above, right) Landy Garcia was a member of the Linden High School swimming team, as well as commanding officer of the NJROTC unit. He will attend the University of Delaware.

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(above) Linden High School seniors Annika Labrador, Landy Garcia, and Mackenzie Barrett have been honored as Scholar Athletes of the Year.

Photos by Linden Public Schools

scored 6 goals this year despite playing as a defender.

Barrett has signed to play Division 1 soccer for Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, where she will major in nursing.

Barrett, who is an International Baccalaureate student and says IB English is her favorite class, was honored and shocked to learn of her scholar athlete award.

Barrett credits time management skills in helping her balance class and sports, but says that didn't happen overnight.

Landy Garcia was surprised to learn of his scholar athlete award. After all, he was on the swimming team for just two years and he had friends involved with sports for four year at LHS.

But in that time, he has made a great impact on his team and throughout LHS.

Garcia will attend the University of Delaware and major in medical diagnostics. He said his favorite class is Sports, Exercise, and Health Science in the International Baccalaureate program, because it relates to the field he wants to pursue. He also takes IB English and Spanish.

Garcia said he has worked hard to balance schoolwork, sports, and NJROTC.

One aspect of Annika Labrador's personality that stands out – whether as a captain on the soccer team, a newcomer to the volleyball team, or an officer in NJROTC – is her positivity.

It was that attitude that allowed her to excel at volleyball in her first year on the team.

Labrador, who's favorite classes are history, physics, and calculus and who also takes IB English, Spanish, and 20th Century Topics, will be attending the University of Delaware and majoring in mechanical engineering.

Labrador said it was an emotional moment when she learned of her scholar athlete award during a Zoom call at her home.

On top of their regular schoolwork and their athletics commitments, Garcia and Labrador were responsible for overseeing 450 cadets as the top two officers in the student-run NJROTC program.

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Tue. August 17, 2021 Van Martin & Big Band Big Band 7:30pm

Fri. August 20, 2021 Karickter Band Jazz/R & B 7:30pm Tue. August 24, 2021

The Johnny Maestro Tribute Band Doo Wop 7:30pm

Tue. August 31, 2021 Nashville Girls Night Out Country 7:30pm Fri. September 3, 2021 Jersey Shades 50s & up 7:30pm Tue. September 7, 2021 Royal Scam Steely Dan 7:30pm Tue. September 14, 2021

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LINDEN NATIVE SERVES AT U.S. NAVY'S PRESTIGIOUS SENIOR ENLISTED ACADEMY

By Alvin Plexico, Navy Office of Community Outreach

Master Chief Petty Officer Lourdie Powell, a native of Linden, New Jersey, joined the Navy to travel and see the world.

Now, 23 years later, Powell is part of the highly-respected Senior Enlisted Academy (SEA), a leadership development program for the United States Navy's active and reserve senior chief and master chief petty officers. The SEA is the Navy's only professional military education institute for its senior enlisted force.

Powell credits success in the Navy to many of the lessons learned in Linden.

"I migrated to the U.S. from Haiti when I was 14," said Powell. "When I moved to Linden, I met people from around the world for the first time. So, growing up in Linden I learned the importance of learning from anyone, regardless of their background. That was my first American experience."

With opportunities such as the SEA's course available, Powell and other sailors continue to learn and take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

"Serving in the Navy is an opportunity to give back to a country that's given so much to me and my family," added Powell.

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(above) Master Chief Petty Officer Lourdie Powell, a native of Linden, New Jersey.



RAHWAY ARTIST TO EXHIBIT AFRICAN TEXTILES AT BARRON ARTS CENTER

Lisa Shepard Stewart, a Rahway resident and owner of Cultured Expressions Sewing Studio, will be featured at the Barron Arts Center in Woodbridge, September 10-26, 2021, as a part of the center's 2021 series, "Textiles: Reimagining New Jersev."

"African Accents: Modern Designs from traditional Textiles" highlights authentic African fabrics, along with quilts, handbags, home accents and crafts made from them. Shepard Stewart works primarily with bogolan (mudcloth) from Mali, Korhogo from the Ivory Coast, kuba

cloth from Central Africa, Ghanaian batik, and African cotton prints. Recycled glass beads and hand-cast brass accents from Ghana often provide the finishing touches pieces.

Her obsession with African textiles began in 1986 during a trip to Senegal, West Africa. Through her publications, her sewing studio in downtown Rahway, virtual events and more, Lisa encourages other DIY enthusiasts to express themselves creatively with the culturally relevant fabrics, embellishments and techniques.

She wants viewers to come away from the

exhibit with a new (or heightened) appreciation for the cultures behind these traditional textiles. And, just maybe, viewers will also leave with a desire to create their own beautiful pieces with these unique fabrics.

The Barron Arts Center is located at 582 Rahway Avenue in Woodbridge. Gallery hours are Monday thru Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 2 - 4 p.m. Phone 732-634-0413.





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Solo Exhibit: "African Accents"

September 10-26, 2021 BARRON ARTS CENTER

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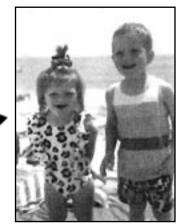
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