

#### Published by Renna Media

Issue 5 • July 2022



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## **SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO LOCAL STUDENTS**

The Bayway Community Advisory Panel (CAP), an organization of local community members and industry representatives including Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery, Infineum USA L.P., Linden Cogeneration Plant, Veolia North America, and Linden VFT LLC, recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships to 7 local students in the municipalities of Linden, Elizabeth, and Staten Island.

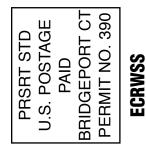
The Bayway Community Advisory Panel (CAP) is a committee of community representatives from Linden, Rahway, Elizabeth, and Staten Island including neighbors, educators, retirees, public officials, emergency responders, and environmentalists who attend quarterly meetings that serve as a forum for dialogue between the community and company representatives, 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 benefitting the local communities.

Congratulations to the following high school seniors who will be pursuing Process Technology or Engineering degrees in various disciplines (Chemical, Computer, Electrical, Mechanical) this fall at college:

Emily Hernandez, Brandon Mayancela, Lukas Mikulenas, Jerry Martinez, Diego Reyes, Joseph Masica, Jesus Rodriguez



(above) Emily Hernandez, Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy, Elizabeth, NJ, Course of Study: Process Technology, Company Sponsor: Veolia North America





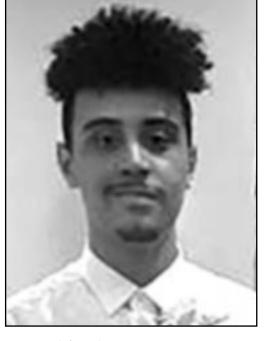
Courtesy photos

(above) Diego Reves, Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy, Elizabeth, NJ, Course of Study: Process Technology Company Sponsor: Infineum USA L.P.

\$60 per thousand. (as low as \$30 per thousand depending on quantity.)



(above) Brandon Mayancela, Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy, Elizabeth, NJ, Course of Study: Process Technology, Company Sponsor: Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery



(above) Jerry Martinez, Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy, Elizabeth, NJ, *Course of Study:* Chemical Engineering, Company Sponsor: Infineum USA L.P.

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Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



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## **FUN-DRAISER FOR FOSTER YOUTH**

Submitted by Isabela Bello-Zap

May began with good news for foster youth involved in the Union County child welfare system: they have the support of their peers. Four Girl Scouts from Cranford and Elizabeth partnered with local businesses to create a fundraising event in which all proceeds were directed to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County. Girl Scouts Natalie Kastin of troop 40222, Maddie Litterio of troop 40013, Olivia Torsone of troop 40013, and Elizabeth McMullen of troop 40013 hosted a Sunday Funday event on May 1st, 2022 as part of their Silver Award Project to make a difference for youth aging out of the child welfare system in their community.

CASA of UC is all about making a difference in a child's story. For the older youth involved in the child welfare system, aging out can be extremely challenging as they face transitions in many areas of their lives, whether that be in their education, housing, employment, or others. Any support provided to them by friends, CASA volunteers, or their community is welcome in order to facilitate their successful transition from involvement in the child welfare system to independent living and learning. These four Girl Scouts are great examples of how taking action can directly impact one's life positively and change the course of their journey. Their Sunday

Funday event, full of games, face-painting and fun activities, raised \$900 worth of gift cards that will be given to youth aging out of the system.

Looking back, all the Girl Scouts had different reasons for choosing to support CASA of Union County. Kastin notes, "I wanted to support CASA to help with some of the great things they do." Chiming in, Litterio states "I wanted to support CASA, specifically teens in foster care, so they know there are other teens and peers in Union County that are there to help them." Similarly, Torsone notes "We selected this project to help teens just like us, so they know they are not alone." McMullen states, "As a Girl Scout we should reach out to those in need, especially kids. It's important to support organizations like CASA to keep them viable."

We have their example to follow in lending a helping hand to improve the lives of those in our communities. CASA of Union County's role as the only nonprofit serving as extra eyes and ears for the court inside resource homes, serves to empower and support the 1,468 youth involved in the local child welfare system due to abuse, neglect, or abandonment. To learn more about CASA of Union County, secure a seat in an upcoming training class, and for other ways to Change Child's Story, а contact info@casaofunioncounty.org.



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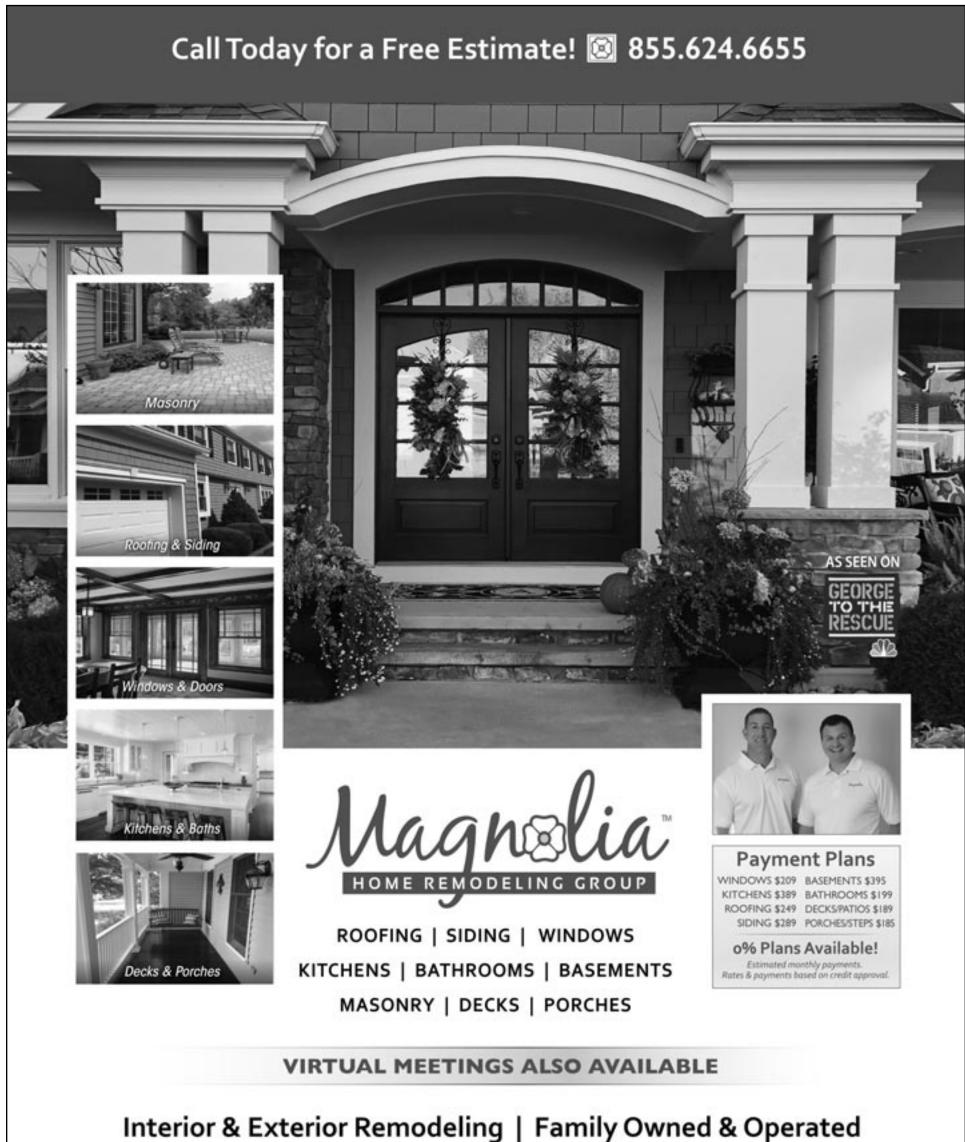


Call or email Joe Renna: joerenna@rennamedia.com 908-447-1295 For more info about lessons.



(above) Girl Scouts Natalie Kastin, Maddie Litterio, Olivia Torsone, and Elizabeth McMullen Courtesy photo



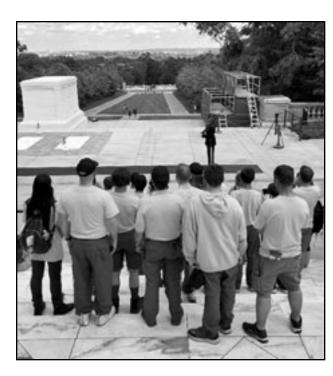


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(above) Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, outside of Washington, DC, on Memorial Day Weekend.



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## SCOUTS HIKE THROUGH WASHINGTON, DC

Boy Scout Troop 23, sponsored by St. Genevieve's Roman Catholic Church in Elizabeth, spent the Memorial Day weekend in Washington, DC. Thirteen Scouts and nine adult leaders and parents camped in tents in Greenbelt Park in Greenbelt, MD and made daily excursions into our nation's capital.

Friday evening, the Scouts toured all of the major memorials after dark, when the lighting makes them look more spectacular and crowds are non-existent. The walking tour included the FDR, Korean War, Lincoln, Vietnam War and Military Nurses Memorials. At the base of the Abraham Lincoln statue, Troop 23 presented Scoutmaster Dan Bernier with a plaque recognizing his 40th Anniversary as Scoutmaster.

On Saturday, Troop 23 started at the Washington Monument and then visited several important sites between the White House and the U.S. Capitol. Notable stops included the World War II Memorial, the Boy Scout Memorial, the US Navy Memorial and the National Archives, where the Scouts saw the original copies of the

Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

Sunday's itinerary started at the Chapel in the Washington Navy Yard, where Scouts participated in Catholic Mass. Then the Scouts headed to Arlington National Cemetery, where they watched the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and visited the grave of President John F. Kennedy. A tram ride provided a narrated tour of notable sites within Arlington, with the narrator pointing out the graves of dozens of notable people.

Before heading home on Monday, Troop 23 spent time in the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History. Throughout the weekend, the Scouts visited many sites looking for clues and information to help them earn the Baden Powell Historic Trail medal.

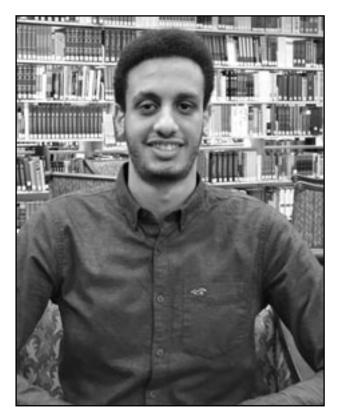
Boy Scout Troop 23 has served the youth of St. Genevieve's parish and the surrounding area for 60 years. For more details, please contact Dan Bernier, Scoutmaster, at (908) 451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com.



(above) Boy Scout Troop 23 visited Washington, DC on Memorial Day Weekend. They stopped for a photo at the Washington Monument.

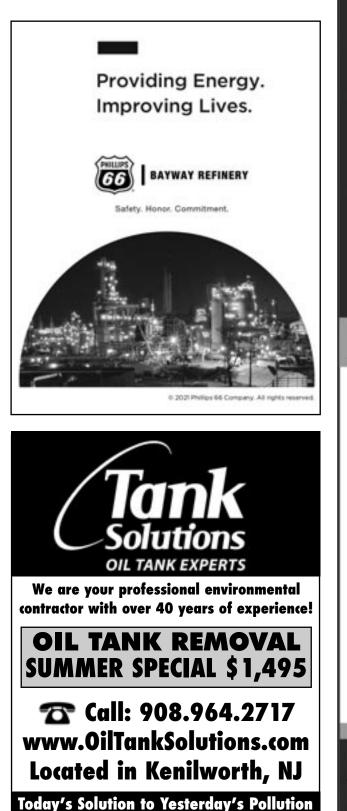
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(above) Mark Farag, of Elizabeth selected as Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship recipient.

Courtesy photo



# **MARK FARAG SELECTED FOR SCHOLARSHIP**

Union County College student Mark Farag, of Elizabeth, has been selected as one of 100 recipients of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. This prestigious award will provide Farag with up to \$55,000 a year to complete his bachelor's degree.

Farag is majoring in Engineering and has a 3.92 GPA. During part of his time at Union College, Farag has served as the president of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, is an American Honors student, and tutors students in the College's Academic Learning Center, all while working full-time to support himself.

Farag currently serves as an ambassador for NASA's Lucy mission. He has participated in two programs for NASA's L'Space Academy, where he chose and designed components for spacecrafts to study Venus. He hopes to pursue this as a career, starting with an associate's degree from Union and then a bachelor's in Aerospace

Union County College student Mark Farag, of or Mechanical Engineering. With this degree, he izabeth, has been selected as one of 100 plans to become a project manager aerospace engineer.

New Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholars will receive comprehensive educational advising to guide them through the process of transitioning to a four-year college and preparing for their careers. Along with financial support, scholars will additionally receive opportunities for internships, study abroad, and graduate school funding, as well as connection to a thriving network of over nearly 3,000 Cooke Scholars and alumni.

This year, more than 1,200 students from 332 community colleges applied to receive the Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Four semifinalists were selected from Union College.

For more information about Union, please visit ucc.edu and for more information on the Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship,

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OTHER OFFICES INCLUDE UNION CITY, JERSEY CITY, EDISON, NEW BRUNSWICK, NEWARK, AND ORANGE



## YOU'RE INVITED! TO YMCA OPEN HOUSE - JULY 28-31

The Gateway Family YMCA is celebrating a Find Your Summer Open House event July 28-31, available free to the local community. Everyone is invited to visit and Find Your Summer, Find Your Passion, Find Your Y at The Gateway Family YMCA. Individual events hosted at Y branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union include family swimming and basketball, water exercise programs, and group exercise programs like yoga or Zumba. Event details are available at tgfymca.org/events

"To be our best selves, we need to take care of our whole selves. At the Y, our supportive community will inspire you to find your inner strength so you can expand your health in spirit, mind and body," stated Krystal A. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "The past two years have been hard on our community, and especially our families. We are happy to be opening our doors and providing some family fun and stress relief in the form of healthy activities, events and information."

The Gateway Family YMCA has served the local community since 1900, and provides programs and services with the goal of building community, developing youth and creating a safe experience. With a unique focus that encompasses programs and services for all ages, the Y is poised to assist families in a very intentional way, as a partner in their holistic wellness. In addition to the Open House, new members who join with a Family Membership at The Gateway Family YMCA online at tgfymca.org/join-the-Y will pay \$0 Joiner Fee with the code FAM July 28-31.

"At the Y, you'll find more than just a place to work out. With opportunities to connect with new people, develop new skills and explore new interests, you might just discover a new passion, too," stated Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/Chief Operating Officer. "We understand flexibility is important in today's world and have added virtual options for 24-hour access for our members, as well as tools and resources like YMCA360 and Nationwide Membership."

This June, The Gateway Family YMCA



launched a Community Membership initiative, an opportunity for everyone to participate in designated Y programs, special events and communications through a complimentary membership designed to provide access to all, while remaining connected to each other and the community. More information is available at www.tgfymca.org/community-membership

In addition to traditional Y programs like Youth Sports and Swimming Lessons, The Gateway Family YMCA also offers Child Care, Before and After School Care, Summer Day Camp, Virtual WISE Adult Services, Chronic Disease Management programs, Residential Housing and Social Services.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a 501(c)(3)

non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening community through Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility. The Gateway Family YMCA impacts the community by providing quality services for all. The Y doesn't just strengthen bodies – it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA, visit tgfymca.org or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-9622,

Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057 or the Wellness Center and WISE Center Branch at 908-349-9622.

## RC GRADUATING CLASS HAS 6 SETS OF TWINS INCLUDING 2 SETS FROM ELIZABETH



(above, l-r) Aiden and Gabe Moskal Linder.



(above, l-r) Lenzay and Naisha Yuschak.



(above) The 2022 graduation class of Roselle Catholic in Roselle, NJ, had the unique occurrence of having six sets of twins, two each from Elizabeth, Roselle, and Union. Listed in pairs, standing and seated, left top right: Efrem and Efrem Terry of Roselle; Gabe and Aiden Moskal Linder of Elizabeth; Gamael and Samuel Joseph or Roselle, RC Mascots, John and Allison Owens of Union; Jason and Olivia DiMenmo of Union; and Lenzay and Naisha Yuschak of Elizabeth.

## **ELMORA BRANCH LIBRARY JULY 2022 PROGRAMS**

740 W Grand St, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: (908) 353-4820 • www.elizpl.org/ Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:45 p.m. • Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. • Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. • Sunday: Closed The library will be closed Saturday, July 2nd & Monday, July 4th in celebration of Independence Day\*

Registration for all our programs will now be on our website! Spades Club

Friday, July 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 4:00 - 5:30 PM Adult Program. Starting July 1st join our adult Spades Club! Bring a friend to partner up with! Beginners are welcome.

#### Scavenger Hunt

Tuesday, July 5, 12, 19, & 26 Children's Program. Every Tuesday at all of our locations join us in our ocean-themed scavenger hunts! Completed scavenger hunts will win a small prize. This will be at all locations

#### **Elmora Garden**

Tuesday, July 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 11 AM Community Service Opportunity Teen Program. Help the library by maintaining and watering the garden and doing decorative projects to enhance our peace garden.

**Teen Advisory Board** Tuesday, July 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 3:30 PM Community Service Opportunity. Teen Program Help the teens' department create fun programs for your peers to enjoy. Brainstorm ideas on what you would like the department to host for

teens or others. Teens will take on project roles; this experience will look good on resumes.

#### **English Conversation Group**

Tuesday, July 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 4:30 On Zoom. Adult Program Join by emailing aherrera@elizpl.org **Toddler Storytime** 

Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20, & 27 at 2:00 PM

#### CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Come have fun listening to stories and songs! This event will be held at the Elmora Branch. Registration is required.

#### **Book Club**

Wednesday, July 6, 13, 20, 27 at 3:30 PM Teen Program. Enjoy snacks while reading and discussing our summer pick for this year!

#### Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, July 6 at 5:00 PM Children's Program. Kids will share their love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading, and motivate kids to read.

#### Stitch & Chat

Thursday, July 7 at 10:00 AM Adult Program. Come stitch your clothing back up at Elmora! Just bring the article of clothing you want to mend! Assistance will be available.

#### **English Conversation Group**

Thursday, July 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 12:30pm Adult Program. In-person program. Join by emailing aherrera@elizpl.org Matinee Movie: Stillwater Thursday, July 7 at 1:00 PM

#### **Anime Club**

Thursday, July 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 4:00 PM

Teen Program Come chill and watch anime at Elmora! We will be screening two episodes of "Dragon Quest: The Adventures of Dai" each week

Zine Making

#### Friday, July 8 at 3:30 PM

Teen Program. Everyone is an author. Create a zine that talks about a story, special event, favorite hobby, poetry, or anything you want. The possibilities are endless. Visit the Elmora Branch and see what kind of zine you'll make.

#### Art Lessons

Saturday, July 9 & 23 at 2:30 PM Children's Program Teen Program Adult Program. Learn to blend colors, sketch, and many more art skills with Ms. Palak from palak studio ink! An excellent experience for

children, teens, and adults! All levels of art skills are welcome! **Morning Movies** 

Monday, July 11, 18, & 23 at 10:00 AM Children's Program. Join us at Elmora Branch for a relaxing movie with the family. No registration required.

#### **Crochet with Sol**

Monday, July 11 & 18, Tuesday, July 12 & 19 at 11:00 AM

Adult Program. Learn the tips and tricks with Ms. Sol! She will teach you everything you need to know to get started, from fundamental stitches to the importance of

#### understanding gauge.

**Maker Monday's: Pearler Parlor** 

#### Monday, July 11 at 3:30 PM

Teen Program. Visit the Elmora Branch and explore the creative world of pearler beads. Make images of your favorite characters or

#### whatever you want! Zumba: Morning Exercise

Tuesday, July 12 at 8:30 AM Adult Program. Let's come and feel the energy!

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#### **Craft-Tea & Chat**

Tuesday, July 12 at 3:30 PM Adult Program. Join us for our monthly Craft-Tea! Bring the craft you are working on to the library and socialize. We will have colored pencils, paper, and other crafting supplies available.

#### **Adult Bingo**

Wednesday, July 13 at 10:00 AM Adult Program. Join us for a fun game of BINGO at the library! The winner will receive a FREE book! No registration required

#### **India Doll Clothing**

Wednesday, July 13 at 5:00 PM Adult Program. Learn to make cute doll clothing with India! She will show you the tips and tricks to improve your skills!

#### **Lionheart Puppet Co.**

Thursday, July 14 at 2:00 PM Children's Program. Lionheart Puppets bring to life classic fairytales! Come join the Elizabeth Public Library and Lionheart Puppet for the retelling of the "Reluctant Dragon" and find out what happens when Harold, young village boy, discovers a dragon in the mountains?

## Sea Shell Art

Friday, July 15 at 1:00 PM Children's Program. Create sea shell masterpieces with us! Limited Space. Registration is required. **Bubbles aRe Us** 

Saturday, July 16 at 1:00 PM Children's Program. Located on 640 3rd Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ Join Ms. Martha for songs, stories, crafts, and oh so much fun! This storytime will feature stories in English and

#### Spanish for the whole family. Maker Monday's: Bath Bomb

Monday, July 18 at 3:30 PM Teen Program. Visit the Elmora Branch and enjoy the pleasure of forming, picking an essential oil fragrance, and choosing a color for your natural bath bombs. Bath Bombs will be ready for pick up on Wednesday, July 20

Stitch & Chat

Wednesday, July 20 at 5:30 PM Adult Program. Come stitch your clothing back up at Elmora! Just bring the article of clothing you want to mend! Assistance will be available.

Matinee Movie: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl

> Thursday, July 21 at 1:00 PM. **Just Dance**

Friday, July 22 at 3:30 PM Teen Program. Let's play "Just Dance" on the Nintendo Switch at the Elmora Branch.

#### **Literary Cafe Book Club**

Wednesday, July 27 at 6:00 PM Adult Program. Please register: https://tinyurl.com/2p9yyu3n or email

#### aherrera@elizpl.org **Coloring For Adults**

Tuesday, June 28 at 11:00 AM Adult Program. Drop in for some relaxing coloring fun! Come discover the calming effects as well as meeting some good company!

#### Move & Grove With Miss Jolie

Thursday, July 28 at 2:00 PM Children's Program. Join Miss Jolie for music, movement, and fun!

#### Macrame Making

Saturday, July 30 at 10:00 AM Adult Program. Come make your own Macrame bracelet at Elmora! No registration required!

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## SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH PASSES THROUGH ELIZABETH

Follow Elizabeth Police Department on Facebook

Department Enforcement Torch Run to benefit the NJ thousands of law enforcement officers who across the state of NJ.

On June 10, members of the Elizabeth Police Special Olympics which were held at The exchanged their uniforms for running gear and participated in the Law College of New Jersey. They were part of helped carry the ceremonial "Flame of Hope"



## **UNICO PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIP**

The Elizabeth Chapter of UNICO awarded a Salina were in attendance as well as his scholarship to Matthew Scalise of Kenilworth, NJ. Matthew graduated from Union County Vocational Technical High School and will be attending University of Southern Carolina to study Exercise physiology. The award was presented at the UNICO monthly meeting on June 7, 2022 at Costa's Restaurant in Roselle Park. His proud parents with parents Greg and

maternal grandfather Livio Mancino, a UNICO member and also a resident of Kenilworth.

Scalise earned his scholarship after a review of his academic accomplishments as well as his community extra curricular activity. Letters of recommendation and an essay were include in the application.

Scalise was born and raised in Kenilworth and



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attended Harding Elementary School. He has two brothers, eight grader Gregory and Christopher, a Junior at Rutgers University.

UNICO's motto is "Service Above Self". UNICO means "unique" or "only one of its kind" in Italian. The UNICO mission is to promote the image of Italian Americans along with Italian heritage and culture by supporting charitable, scientific, cultural, educational, and literary projects.

Anyone interested in Joining UNICO can send an email to President Nino Quaglia, ninoefdshop@gmail.com.



(above, l-r) Elizabeth UNICO Preseident Nino Quaglia presents scholarship to Matthew Scalise of Kenilworth, with scholarship committeperson Deacon Joe Caporaso from St. Genevieve Church.





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