Published by Renna Media

Issue 137 • February 2023

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# **CUB SCOUT PACK 145 GOES SCOUTING FOR FOOD**



(above) Cub Scout Pack 145 successfully participated in the annual Scouting for Food program.

Courtesy photo

Clark Cub Scout Pack 145 collected food to help its community through the annual Scouting for Food program.

Scout troops and packs from throughout the United States participate in gathering food for the holiday season to support neighbors in need by helping to stock local soup pantries and food banks. Scouts reached out to family, friends, and neighbors to gather canned foods, pastas, powdered milk, peanut butter, cereal, dried fruit, fruit juice, and more.

The substantial amount of nonperishable items collected by Pack 145 over several weeks was donated to the food pantry at Osceola Presbyterian Church in Clark, which they have supported during many holiday seasons in recent years through this impactful initiative.

Pack 145 extends its heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all families, friends, neighbors, and community members who contributed to the successful food drive.

# **SCOUTS SUPPORT TOYS FOR TOTS FOR 16TH YEAR**

Clark Cub Scout Pack 145 ensured many children had a special holiday season by collecting toys in support of the US Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Program. The primary goal of Marine Toys for Tots, which is through the gift of a new toy, to help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children.

Donors had the opportunity to drop off toys at the Clark Police Department, Clark Recreation Center, and Investors Bank of Clark. The scouts of Pack 145 also collected toy donations at the annual Clark Township Tree and Menorah Lighting to support Toys for Tots and to raise awareness for the pack's annual toy drive.

Pack 145 is strongly committed to serving its community throughout in activities that instill leadership, character, and moral and ethical values such as making sandwiches for the homeless and cleaning public spaces.

For more information about Toys for Tots, please visit toysfortots.org.

# OSTAL PATRON LARK. NJ 07066



# Clark Monthly

#### Renna Media LLC, Publishers 202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

Clark Monthly is published by Renna Media. 6,700 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Clark, NJ. Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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## **KATIE LEDDEN RECORDS 1000TH CAREER POINT**

resident and a senior at Rutgers Preparatory School in Somerset, scored her 1,000th career High School point in a 86-55 victory over Hillsborough. Ledden came into the game needing 21 points to join the elite 1,000 point club and recorded 25 points, 10 rebounds, 4 assists and 3 blocks in the game to help her team to victory. Ledden's name will now be

On January 3, 2022, Katie Ledden, a Clark affixed to the girl's prestigious 1,000 point banner hanging in Rutgers Prep gym. In the history of Rutgers Prep girls basketball, only 12 girls' basketball players have achieved this milestone. Ledden hopes to end her High School basketball career by helping her team to win another state title, before she begins her collegiate career at the University of Rhode Island.



Courtesy photo

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In my many years as a top producing realtor, I have been involved in a tremendous amount of Clark transactions. I live and work here and know everything this outstanding town and school system has to offer. Using an agent with a proven track record is very important. I put an enormous effort into marketing, advertising and customer satisfaction. Since 1/1/20 to present, I have had 176 transactions, 116 in Clark, and have many homes that are currently under contract. I also made the highest level of Platinum for 2021 Circle of Excellence Award which ranks overall in the top 1% of Realtors in New Jersey. I also made Top Agent Magazine!

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Happy Valentine Month!

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# **LORI'S CLARK TRANSACTIONS FROM 1/1/20 TO PRESENT**

### 15 Westfield Ave. 40 Ivy St.

15 Tudor Dr.

10 Washington St., Unit 03 47 Briarwood Path

SOLD

39 King St.

56 Lexington Blvd.

13 Blake Dr. 213 East Lane

1168 Lake Ave., Unit 4

45 Wendell Pl. 501 Oak Ridge Rd. 309 Oak Ridge Rd. 29 Conger Way 13 Florence Dr. 303 West Ln.

1 Rose Ter. 187 Liberty St.

11 Harding Ave. 40 John St. 77 John St.

17 Hillside Ave. 11 Avon Rd.

81 New York Ave.

42 Kenneth Pl. 1 Kathryn St.

29 Hillside Ave. 9 Shetland Dr.

12 Yorktown Dr. 84 Wheatsheaf Rd.

12 Ascot Way 301 West Lane

1119 Maurice Ave. 1 Longfellow Lane

8 Wendell Place 13 Blake Dr.

42 School St. 29 Harvey Ct. 18 Yorktown Dr.

45 Starlite Dr. 1538 Franklin St.

40 Conger Way

72 Dorset Dr. 5 Schmidt Lane 269 Willow Way 18 Ginesi Dr. 7 Blake Dr. 43 Willow way 95 Briarheath Ln. 18 Terhune Rd. 1 Jarvais Ter. 39 Frances Dr. 28 Gibson Blvd.

15 Ayers Lane

41 Largo Lane 5 Tudor Dr. 111 Westfield Ave. 14 Washington St. 118 Jupitor St. 61 Sycamore Rd. 15 Briarheath Ln. 43 Kathryn St. 54 Harding Ave.

1 Plymouth Rd. 306 Parkway Dr. 75 Union County Pkwy 49 Briarwood Path 549 Valley Rd. 161 Meadow Rd. 16 Nassau St. 160 Meadow Rd. 415 Valley Rd. 49 Joseph St. 23 Avers lane 110 Sweet Briar Dr. 30 Stanton St. 76 Harding Ave. 53 Stemmer Dr. 291 Willow Way 330 West Lane 139 Jupitor St. 458 Oak Ridge Rd.

307 West lane

93 Jupitor St.

**TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSACTIONS = 176, 116 ARE IN CLARK** 

# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESSES

City of Rahway

Have you ever thought about opening a business? Are you looking for a new market and new customers? This is your sign to get started and choose Rahway! Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council encourage new and existing businesses to apply for the Rahway Special Improvement District's Business Improvement Grant Program. Those that qualify will be eligible to receive a \$2,000 grant to update equipment, trade fixtures and business technology, create a new sign, or freshen up their look and marketing. The City of Rahway believes it is important to foster a diverse business community, therefore any business that is registered as a Minority, Women, Veteran or LGBTQ Business Enterprise will be eligible to receive an additional \$1,000 grant.

New businesses or businesses looking to relocate to Rahway should contact economicdevelopment@cityofrahway.com for details and information on how to bring your business to the City of Rahway. Applications open in March 2023.

Visit rahwayishappening.com for more information and to apply!

## PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

The State of New Jersey has extended the deadline for filing your ANCHOR benefit application to February 28, 2023. The Affordable New Jersey Communities for Homeowners and Renters (ANCHOR) program will provide up to \$1,500 to homeowners with 2019 gross incomes up to \$150,000, and up to \$1,000 for those with gross incomes of between \$150,000 and \$250,000 in that year. ANCHOR is also an important program for the tenants, who can receive \$450 if their gross income was \$150,000 or less in 2019.

To apply, visit the Division of Taxation's website: nj.gov/treasury/taxation/anchor The state has also established an ANCHOR hotline at 1-888-238–1233.

CITY OF RAHWAY | MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE

# RAHWAY SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM 2023

Applications Open from March 1 – April 30, 2023









### Grant Opportunities for new and existing qualified businesses that meet the following criteria:

- Businesses must be registered with the State of NJ (NJBRC)
- Approved use in the City of Rahway
- More than 50% of business occurs within a brick and mortar location in the City of Rahway
- No chains or franchises

A business must remain in operation for one year after issuance of Grant to qualify for 50% forgiveness, and two years for 100% forgiveness.

BUSINESSES THAT QUALIFY WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF GRANTS.

A \$2,000 GRANT IS AVAILABLE IN EACH OF THESE THREE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Fit Out Interior Non-permanent Interior Improvements
- Signage Exterior Zoning Approved Signs or Awnings
- Brand Marketing and Design Services Consultation and Design Opportunities for Logo, Marketing, Social Media, Collateral, Website

Receive an additional \$1,000 grant for MBE/WBE Certification\*!

\*Must be registered as Minority, Women, Veteran, LGBTQ-Owned Business Enterprises

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# A Clark History

Daunno Realty is a company founded upon a deep historical connection to Clark. Our principals were born and raised in town, are Arthur L. Johnson graduates, Clark property owners, and local residents. Given our lifelong ties to the community, we were proud to locate our company headquarters at 206

Westfield Avenue, right next to Dunkin Donuts.

# ADS BEING SOLD FOR ALJ YEARBOOK



busy working on this year's yearbook. Students create the yearbook with Mrs. Lisa Rosso throughout the year. Her classes explore journalistic writing, photojournalism, graphic design and budget management among many other topics related to the production of a

Arthur L. Johnson High School students are yearbook. The cost of this year's yearbook is \$130. Recognition ads can be purchased by parents starting at \$75. Buddy ads can be purchased by students starting at \$75. Yearbooks and ads can be purchased online:

jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1057695/ Arthur-L-Johnson-High-School.





(above) Mrs. Lisa Rosso's Yearbook Classes are busy working on this year's yearbook.

Photo by Clark Public School District

# **SANTA'S HELPERS**

Over the last four years, a small group of Santa's elves has helped fill Christmas stockings for Family Promise of Union County. The organization serves low income families and families experiencing homelessness.

Students and staff at the Academy for Performing Arts at the Magnet School in Scotch Plains participated this year also. Kaitlyn Landaverde, a Junior from Clark, organized the drive at the high school.

Patricia Novy of Clark, who started the project four years ago, shared the fact that the group filled 36 stockings the first year, 67 stockings last year and 91 Christmas Stockings for children ages 4 to 12 this year.

"The need is greater than ever," Novy said. "In speaking with Family Promise, the children often receive donated gifts, but stockings are not considered. Our little group of friends, family and former colleagues help fill that void."

We are inspired each year by this quote from a nine-year-old boy, "When you give something; someone else gets."



(above) Patricia Novy with Christmas stockings waiting for delivery to Family Promise of Union County.

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# **KINDERGARTEN** REGISTRATION

Registration for the Clark Public School District Full-Day Kindergarten Program is taking place now. Please go to the District website under the "News and Announcements" section towards the bottom left of the page. There you will find a posting entitled "Kindergarten Registration 2023" with a letter from Superintendent Edward Grande that informs incoming kindergarteners' parents/guardians of the registration process. The needed paperwork can also be found there.

Children who will be five years old on or before October 1, 2022 are eligible to enroll.

Please call the school offices if you have any questions:

Frank K. Hehnly School, 732-381-8100 Valley Road School 732-388-7900.

# C.A.R. PROVIDES **YOUNG PEOPLE WITH LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

Training tomorrow's leaders to serve our country and preserve our nation's history is the mission of the Children of the American Revolution (C.A.R.). Members honor those who came before and paved the way for what we have today.

The nation's oldest and largest patriotic youth organization, C.A.R. offers membership to girls and boys from birth to age 22 who can prove lineal descent from a man or woman who supported the cause of American independence.

Local C.A.R. groups, known as societies, are sponsored by chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) or Sons of the American Revolution. Here in central New Jersey, Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR in Green Brook sponsors the Pis-Cat-A-Qua Society C.A.R. Members may participate in state and national activities that focus on patriotism, service, and education about our American heritage.

Harriett Lothrop, a 19th century children's author from Concord, Mass., presented the idea for a children's organization to the DAR in 1895. Organized "for the training of young people in true patriotism and love of country," C.A.R. has promoted this vision to hundreds of thousands of members over the years. These boys and girls are the leaders of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

New members are welcome. Contact Elizabeth Snyder-Continental Chapter DAR ESCchapterDAR@gmail.com, or learn more online at NSCAR.org.



# **VALLEY ROAD STUDENTS HONORED FOR** "TREE" MENDOUS CHARACTER

Clark Public School District

As the first marking period has come to a close, staff at Valley Road School (VRS) were invited to nominate candidates that went above and beyond in the area of character for their "Tree"mendous Character Award.

Mrs. Sarah Badillo, a school counselor who organizes this event, stated, "This award is part of our PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support) program where we try to encourage students to be their best selves and promote a positive school climate."

members at VRS joined the students who were recognized for "Tree"mendous Character. "What I love about this award is that these kids

are not doing anything above and beyond what they would normally do...they are just being themselves and to me that is what makes this award and each of them special," Mrs. Badillo added.

Students were read the reason to why they were nominated for this award and every winner will have their picture displayed under a "tree" in the showcase at VRS for the whole marking period to recognize their "tree" mendous character.

The students recognized were Alisha Saeed, Parents, grandparents, siblings, and staff Isabella Salkins, Lorenzo Dobbins, Oliver Neree, Johnny Hoff, Max Stebbins, Jacob Aguiar, and Anthony Pelissier.

Photo by Clark Public School District



(above) Students at Valley Road School pictured with their "Tree" mendous Character Awards.

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## SHAKESPEARE'S COMEDY TWELFTH NIGHT COMING TO CDC THEATRE

music be the food of love, play on." and "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon 'em." are just a few of the familiar lines from William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.

A talented cast is preparing to present one of the Bard's finest comedies at CDC Theatre in Cranford for seven shows running from February 10th to the 25th and is being directed by Susan Speidel. Ms., Speidel currently serves on the faculty of the Kean University Theatre

Cranford's CDC THEATRE PRESENTS William Shakespeare's



FEB 10 - 25, 2023 Visit cdctheatre.org for details and tickets





"Better a witty fool, than a foolish wit.", "If Conservatory and is a lecturer for the Osher unrequited love – not to mention cross-Lifelong Learning Institute at Rutgers University. Holding a range of academic degrees, she has studied acting and directing at HB Studios in New York City and at the Globe Theater in London. She served for 20 years as Director of Education for the Tony-Award winning Paper Mill Playhouse and has directed more than 50 plays and musicals.

"A woman, disguised as a man, falls in love with her boss, only to be pursued by the woman her boss is determined to marry. Confused?", asked Ms. Speidel recently, "You're not alone, but Twelfth Night, Shakespeare's witty look at gender confusion, invites us to put convention aside, stretch the boundaries of "acceptable" attraction, and that, in the end, love is love is love is love. The play is filled with relatable characters contending with mistaken identities, unrelenting desire, hilarious pranks, and

dressing, duels, and deception - all offered up with a generous dash of merriment!"

Twelfth Night combines love, confusion, mistaken identities and joyful discovery all while telling a story of fickle fortune, mourning, love and reunion. Set in the freewheeling, mirror-ball world of the 1970s, the celebratory nature of Shakespeare's play is heightened with a series of Top-Ten hits that enhance the production and move the action forward with a disco beat. Shipwrecked twins, gender-bending romance and a bumper crop of fools, from the wise to the ridiculous, guarantee a full-blown evening's entertainment.

CDC Theatre is celebrating its 104th season in Cranford, NJ at 78 Winans Ave. For best ticket selection and prices, visit cdctheatre.org for additional information.





# Sayaka Ganz Reclaimed Creation

Produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C., David J. Wagner, Ph.D., Curator/Tour Director



The Galleries at Kean University present Sayaka Ganz RECLAIMED CREATIONS, an amazing art exhibition featuring sculptures of animals in motion, utilizing reclaimed plastic objects, rich in color and energy.

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Northeast Spine & Wellness Center uses diagnostic fluoroscopy to make sure the area that needs treated is the exact area where the injection goes. This is the most advanced method of delivering this pain relieving treatment with 95% accuracy to give you the results you're looking for. The use of Fluoroscopy guided injections sets Northeast Spine & Wellness Center apart. The end result is you living pain free from your chronic knee pain. You can avoid the lengthy and painful road of knee replacement surgery. You can avoid the endless trial and error assortment of potentially addictive prescription medications. This treatment, using fluoroscopy guided injections has seen a success rate of above 85% in those suffering from knee pain related to osteoarthritis, and that includes people with bone on bone involvement. You've suffered from chronic knee pain long enough. Call Northeast Spine & Wellness Center now for a RISK FREE consultation.



#### If Knee Surgery Sounds Scary, It Should

Have you have been told you are facing knee replacement surgery? Have you been told about all the downsides you could be facing? First and foremost, there are NO guarantees that knee replacement surgery will be the answer to your pain, but let's look further:

- Surgery is costly, regardless of the percentage of services covered by insurance.
   Surgery requires lost time from work and typically requires a regimen of rehabilitation and medications.
- With surgery, there is always a risk for unwelcomed complications. And you could be back to where you started, or worse.
- Medications will be required for relief from surgery and you have been down that road before. Addictions to these pain medications can cause potential side effects, something you do not want to experience.
- · Rehabilitation can take years.

#### Consider This Alternative To Surgery

Northeast Spine & Wellness Center offers you a real opportunity and a painless way to say goodbye to your knee pain without any surgery. Here are just a few of the important benefits you should consider?

- · Diagnostic fluoroscopy accurately targets the pain, unlike blind injections
- · Guided fluoroscopic injections are virtually pain free, unlike blind injections.
- No lost time from work or family.
- No expensive or time consuming rehabilitation.
- · No potentially addictive prescription medications
- Recovery time is almost instant, not months or years.

#### **How Does This New Treatment Work?**

Relief begins almost as fast as it takes to pronounce the treatment. It's called Viscosupplementation Therapy. To begin with, it starts with **Northeast** 

Spine & Wellness Center investing in the use of diagnostic fluoroscopy This enables them to target the exact location of your knee pain with pinpoint accuracy. What follows is a simple injection that causes little to no pain, especially when compared to what you may be living with daily. That explains what you will see on the surface of this revolutionary treatment. What's taking place below the surface is how and where the natural healing process takes place. The injection of a Hyaluronic acid called Hyalgan. This gel-like substance was approved by the FDA in 1996. Hyalgan is a natural substance that mimics the synovial fluid that is already produced by your body in your joints. Osteoarthritis sufferers in particular see a reduction in this much needed synovial fluid in their knee joints. Without that cushioning layer of protection. the cartilage in your knee can begin to wear away leading to the rubbing of bone on bone. Through Viscosupplementation Therapy, this natural substance immediately goes to work reducing the swelling and inflammation in the joint and adding a coating layer of protection. Think about Dorothy taking the oil can to The Tin Man. You'll begin to feel that same kind of relief and quite possibly feel like you're ready for a dance down the yellow brick road to recovery yourself. And with a success rate of over 85% in alleviating pain associated with osteoarthritis, it's easy to see why this treatment is so readily covered by Medicare and by most major insurance providers. Diagnostic fluoroscopy to target the pain, Viscosupplementation Therapy to relieve the pain. Simple, fast and no surgery!

#### Do you Suffer from any of these Symptoms?

There are a number of reasons why you developed Osteoarthritis pain. It can develop with age or because of heredity. It could be from repetitive stress from a job or some glory days in athletics. Of course your concern is with the symptoms you face daily and how to make them end, hopefully without surgery or the use of potentially addictive medications. Northeast Spine & Wellness Center understands the symptoms you have been

living with and can help. If you have any of the symptoms below, please call us today. Relief is a phone call away.

- Pain Whether it's a sharp aching or maybe a burning sensation, the pain can range from irritating to debilitating.
- Swelling This can cause tenderness and soreness to the entire knee area, making walking or going up and down stairs painful, getting in and out of bed or bathtubs difficult and dangerous just name a few activities affected by swelling.
- Stiffness Getting up out of bed or after sitting for a period of time gets more and more difficult. This loss of mobility can be more than a hindrance. It can be dangerous if you need to move quickly.
- Loss of muscle strength This can lead to balance issues and the strong possibility of falling.
- Joint deformity Not just unsightly, but painful as well.
- Creaking Joints Can be painful and a sign of more discomfort to come.
- Sleepless nights Losing sleep over your suffering is not just irritating, but potentially dangerous because of so many other health concerns that can be affected by loss of sound sleep.

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copy we use at Northeast Spine & Wellness Center these patients experienced a blind injection technique, which can be as inaccurate as playing pin the tail on the donkey

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Scot Paris MD, FACS

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- Perry O.

"After only four vivits, i have absolutely no pain! The staff is "soy-notch."

- Quenton L.

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# ANNUAL FUND DRIVE UNDERWAY

The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad

The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad (CVES) is facing a financial crisis. The increased expenses incurred during the pandemic along with the normal operating expenses are still impacting the finances. The ambulances need to be properly maintained and many of the necessary items need to be replaced as they expire. Additionally, we need to hire employees to keep Clark protected when our volunteers are not available.

The Squad's Annual Holiday Fund Drive was recently sent to all Clark residents. While making your holiday shopping list, consider donating to CVES. Donations can also be made by sending a check to The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad at 875 Raritan Road, Clark, New Jersey 07066.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, either as an EMT or a driver, please email salacchi@hotmail.com Training is provided by the squad.



(above) The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad (CVES) was on hand during Clark's Annual Tree Lighting on November 26. The squad attends these ceremonies not only to show support for our township but to provide prompt emergency medical services if needed. To do this, the Squad requires time from people willing to volunteer as well as donations.



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# CLARK MONTHLY · Page 12 · February 2023 ALJ EARNS ACCREDITED SCHOOL RECOGNITION

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Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark has received accreditation by the Middle States Association of Commissioners on Elementary and Secondary Schools. According to the Middle States Association, "Accreditation is a selfevaluation process that schools and school systems voluntarily use to demonstrate they are meeting a defined set of research-based performance standards. The standards examine schools in a holistic way, supplementing studenttesting data to provide a more complete measure of a school's performance and chart a strategic and realistic course for continuous school improvement."

Clark Public School District

The Middle States reaccreditation process at ALJ began with an intensive self-study. The Middle States team then visited ALJ last Spring

for three days. During that visit, the team met with a variety of stakeholders including staff, parents, and students.

To determine whether a school should be reaccredited, the Middle States Team looks at school performance in 12 areas which make up the Standards for Accreditation: mission, governance and leadership, school improvement planning, finances, facilities, school organization and staff, health and safety, educational program, assessment and evidence of student learning, student services, student life and activities, and information resources.

Superintendent Edward Grande stated, "Mrs. Alessandra Bonacchi, Mrs. Mary Dattilo, and Mrs. Mary Pisciotta, as Internal Coordinators, are to be commended for leading us through the process in such an effective way."



(above) Supervisor of Educational Initiatives Christine Broski, ALJ Assistant Principal Katrina Poskay, Middle States Internal Coordinator and ALJ Teacher Mary Dattilo, Middle States Internal Coordinator and ALJ Teacher Alessandra Bonacchi, Middle States Internal Coordinator and ALJ Teacher Mary Pisciotta, ALJ Principal Tara Oliveira, and Superintendent Edward Grande.

Photo by Clark Public School District



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# **KIWANIS CLUB GIVES TO TEENS IN NEED**

members of the Kiwanis Club of Clark filled stockings with toiletries and goodies for teens at Visions and Pathways at a recent meeting. With additional donations from the Arthur L. Johnson

As part of their annual Christmas giving plan, adviser Meghan Bradley, the Kiwanis parent organization filled forty stockings with three boxes of overflow items for the Visions and Pathway's pantry, the charity that assists children who have aged out of foster care, runaways, and High School Key Club under the direction of LGBTQ teens who are in need of shelter.



(above, l-r) Kiwanis members Richard Burdett, Brian Dwelle, Mandi Walls, Cara Hund, Bruce Jones, and Susan Dougherty are pictured. Courtesy photo

# **KIWANIS DECORATES** TREE IN TOWN HALL

On November 26, members of the Kiwanis Club of Clark decorated a donated tree with Kiwanis logos of their clubs for youth in town at the Municipal Building/Clark Town Hall. Kiwanis, the parent organization, sponsors the Arthur L. Johnson High School Key Club, the Kumpf Builders Club, and the K-Kids Clubs at Valley Road and Hehnly Schools. Past president Ron Pask made the ornaments.

The purpose of the local chapter of this worldwide, not-for-profit organization is to teach children and young people the joy of volunteering and the values of good citizenship. For more information about the club that meets virtually every two weeks, please contact crusadersue@hotmail.com.



(above, l-r) Susan Dougherty, Rose Melillo, Ron Pask, and Sheree Pask
Courtesy photo

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# **IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH TO HOST "ALPHA" SESSIONS**

Is There More to Life Than This? In a world and explore new ideas." of isolation, anonymity, and keyboard-warriors, Alpha offers content and guidance for churches, ministries, and individuals to create a space for honest and open conversations about life's biggest questions. Everyone is welcome and no questions are off limits.

Alpha is a place to connect with other people who are open to exploring life, faith, and meaning. Alpha fosters honest, open, and judgment-free conversations for anyone to explore the Christian faith. Each session includes a time to connect with others (often over a free meal), watch a short video on an element of the Christian faith, and then a chance for each person to share thoughts and questions with the group.

"I was invited to participate in the Alpha pilot. From the initial meeting, I knew this was something that I wanted to be a part of," explains Nancy Schreck. "After completing the pilot, I joined the Alpha team to help plan for the future of Alpha at IHM. It's a wonderful opportunity for people at any level of faith to meet new people

Sessions are free to attend and are scheduled on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be live and in-person on Monday, February 13, 2022 beginning at 7 p.m. in the Nazareth Center of Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) Church: 1571 S. Martine Ave. Scotch Plains. Good food and conversation will be offered to all in attendance. Most meetings after that will be hosted on Zoom. Links and directions will be provided to those who register. Participation is capped at 30 people.

"When I offered tech support for the pilot program at IHM, I had no idea what I was in for.

I'm not very religious. But Alpha was an unexpected surprise!" offers Gabe Lamberty. "The program is interesting and entertaining. And it's nice to meet new folks from the community. Overall unforgettable an experience."

"I'm looking forward to the Alpha experience," says Lou Zappo. "It sounds like a lot of fun, and who knows, I might learn something about myself."

Registration is required, please go to our website at ihmparish.net/alpha or call 908-889-2100. If you have questions about Alpha, please email office@ihmparish.net.

## **LINDEN SEEKS RECREATION PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

The City of Linden Department of Parks and Recreation is requesting proposals from the community of Linden and the surrounding areas to provide classroom-based services and programming to our community at one or more of our community centers.

The City of Linden Department of Parks and Recreation continues to provide various seasonal and non-seasonal sports and non-sportrelated programs. We are interested in non-traditional. traditional, diverse programming activities to offer to our toddlers, youth, teens, adults and seniors population.

The City of Linden Department of Parks and Recreation does not always have the wherewithal or staffing to present the widened interest of the community as it pertains to many activities. Currently, there are many independent professionals and entities (Independent Service or Sports Group) that provide these desired services. The City of Linden Department of Parks and Recreation seeks to work with individuals organizations on a standard agreed term outlined in a complete proposal, inclusive of program objective, goals, outline, cost, and space required.

The John T Gregorio Center and the Linden Multi-Purpose Center have available and full access to the gymnasium, classrooms, arts and crafts room, ceramic shop, wood shop, commercial kitchens, dance studio, and more.

Some examples of service or sport would be but are not limited to Dance Classes (Tap, Step, Latin, Hip Hop), Financial Literacy, Gaming, Cooking, Wood Crafts, Art & Crafts, Ceramic Making, Chess, Computer Basics, Tai Chi, Gymnastics, Workout Training, Martial Arts, and the likes.

The independent service or sports group can be a for-profit or a nonprofit organization or an individual made up of experienced professionals within their area of services offered. The City will seek their services when it is identified they can offer a service we do not currently offer and their fees are not cost-prohibitive for our residents to participate. The anticipated success and program model of the organization can be duplicated to assist and serve the community on more than one occasion.

Please email all proposals lindenrec@linden-nj.gov. In the subject line please state your activity followed by the word "Proposal". We are looking to curate an updated menu of offerings to the residents of Linden.

All vendors will be required to provide a Certificate of Insurance indemnifying The City of Linden as an additional insured.



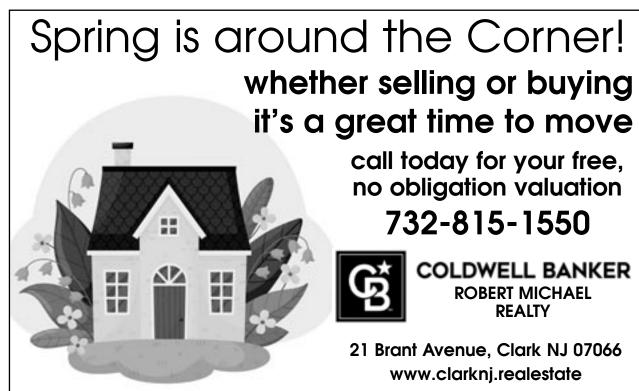


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# **QUILTING CLUB MEETS AT THE LIBRARY**

The Quilting Club meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at the Roselle Park Memorial Library from 1-3 p.m.

No registration or membership is required.

Participants are from Roselle Park and surrounding towns. Newcomers are always welcomed. You don't need any crafting experience to enjoy the company of other crafters and creative exploration.

Feel free to bring a project to work on, and / or a finished item to show others.





(above, l-r) Anita DeSimone of Colonia



Kris Adams of Fanwood



(above) Dianna Roede of Roselle Park



(above) Diane Fleming of Westfield & Nancy Bassman of Scotch Plains



(above) Donna Hutchens of Kenilworth & Claudine DeSiome of Colonia



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# **ANDREW F. BEACH**

December 29, 1959 - December 29, 2022



Andrew Fisher
Beach of Clark,
New Jersey, died on
his 63rd birthday,
December 29th,
2022, after a
difficult and
courageous battle
with cancer.

Relatives and friends attended a Memorial Gathering at Walter Johnson Funeral Home on Wednesday, January 4. A Memorial Mass

was offered at the Church of St. Joseph the Carpenter, Roselle. To offer condolences please visit walterjohnsonfh.com.

He was the beloved husband of Mary and loving father to Andrew and April. He was the son of Edward and Delores Beach, growing up in Union, New Jersey, before moving to Clark. He was preceded in death by his older brother Edward ("Butch"). He is survived by his sister Dr. Diane Beach Rice (Peter) of Florida and his "brothers" Frank (Cari, deceased) and Jim (Doreen) Cerasa. He is also survived by nephews Greg Beach (Cheryl), Tyler and Kyle Cerasa; nieces Jordan and Alexandra Rice and Jessica Beach; and grandson Andrew.

Andy enjoyed a long career at Infineum, retiring in 2022 for medical reasons. He was also a member of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department for 23 years. He was recognized as Fireman of the Year three times consecutively, in 1991, 1992, and 1993. In 2001, he volunteered his time in the cleanup of the aftermath of 9/11. He served twice as Fire Chief, first from 2002 to 2003 and again from 2010 to 2011. In 2007, he received the prestigious Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation Valor Award, for his act of bravery in saving a woman from a burning dwelling.

Andy was a devoted family man. He and Mary were best friends, recently celebrating their 25 years of marriage. They created beautiful memories together, and enjoyed time spent with family and friends. He was a wonderful father, who provided unconditional love, wisdom and guidance to his children. He was proud of them and cherished memories of the times they shared.

Andy will be remembered best, by all who knew him well, as a kind and compassionate man, always willing to lend a helping hand. He faced each day with courage and strength, never complaining, even as he faced a terrible disease. His humor and grace under fire are to be greatly admired and will be missed by those who loved him. Andy believed that life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass but rather learning to dance in the rain.

Mary would like to thank all of the family and friends who provided invaluable strength and support throughout his illness. Andy definitely felt your love.

# **GARDEN HONORS BELOVED LONG-TERM PATIENT**

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Rahway now has a garden honoring Everett Duchin of Colonia, a beloved hospital patient.

"When we first discussed it, it was going to be a bench and tree," joked Everett's brother Eric of South Plainfield. Everett's immediate family, together with friends and extended family, started a GoFundMe page to raise money. The Everett Howard Duchin Memorial Garden now includes several ornamental trees, flowering plants, and benches circling the hospital's familiar gazebo.

"We thank the Duchin Family and their many friends for providing a beautiful place for family, friends and staff," said Hospital President Kirk Tice

Everett Duchin was 41 when he passed away at home in 2021. An infection during infancy had left him severely brain damaged requiring 24/7 care. As an adult, he sometimes needed a ventilator to help him breathe.

His family was devoted to his care. He was often hospitalized for weeks and months at a time.

"My mom spent many a night in a chair by his bedside at the hospital," Eric recalled. "He was hospitalized so often, we said he should have a wing."

Everett, called Evi, was beloved by hospital staff, who would comb his hair, play with him or just come in to visit, recalled Everett's mother, Arleen Duchin. "He had a great smile," recalled Nurse Theresa Dobbin. "And he really loved Teddy Ruxpin," an animatronic toy bear that talked.

In a touching ceremony in front of the hospital's signature gazebo, Arleen Duchin thanked the hospital staff, hospital administration and Hospital President Kirk Tice, her family and all the family's many friends for contributing to the garden.

"This gift from the Duchin family created a beautiful space for people to take a moment in their day," said Vice President of Development Heather Hays.



(above) The Duchin family pose with some of the many staff members who took care of their son Everett. RWJ Rahway Nurse Melanie Mercado, Everett's parents Mel and Arleen Duchin, RWJ Rahway Nurse Theresa Dobbin. Back row, Everett's brothers Eric, Jared and Elliot.

Photo by J Martin Production

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# **2022 FALL ATHLETIC AWARDS**

Clark Public Schools

The Arthur L. Johnson Athletic Department recently held their 2022 Fall Athletic Awards. All the Fall Athletic Teams and their seasons were highlighted by their coaches while all athletes received letters and awards. Over 197 varsity athletic letters were awarded throughout the evening, as participation in athletics at Arthur L. Johnson High School continues to prosper.

The program culminated with the Student Athlete Award, which was presented by the Athletic Director of Arthur L. Johnson High School, Mr. Gus Kalikas. The Student Athlete Award is given out each athletic season to a student athlete that is not only a champion on the field but in the classroom as well. The 2022 Fall Student Athlete award recipient was Grace Warnick, with a 4.62 G.P.A.

In addition, the Crusader G.P.A. Challenge was awarded to the team that finished with the highest overall G.P.A. amongst athletic teams for the fall season. The recipients were presented with certificates and will have their team memorialized on a plaque to celebrate their actions both in the classrooms and on the fields. The winner of the 2022 Fall Seasonal G.P.A. Challenge was the Field Hockey Team with a G.P.A. of 4.14. Members of the Field Hockey Team include Peyton Collings, Tatum Dobbins, Angela Aromando, Julia Skultety, Maria Dante, Jenna Grandal, Julia Ranski, Jenna Reider, Georgia Sebok, Grace Warnick, Zoey Brown, Ava Wood, Veronica Parzych, Leah Scepkowski, Lacey Vill, and Lily Ficarra.

The Best Teammate Award will be given out seasonally to one member from each athletic team that best fits the characteristics of a good teammate. The individuals that receive these awards exhibit upbeat attitudes and outstanding character. They helped influence the team's culture in a positive manner, while always supporting teammates and promoting team unity. The Best Teammate Award Winners were: Cross Country – Andrew Trescott, Field Hockey – Zoey Brown, Football - Matthew Froden, Boys'

Soccer - Antonio Rafoa, Girls' Soccer - Bella Decker, Girls' Tennis - Alison Burkhard, Volleyball - Rebecca Fogle, and Cheerleading -Rylie Weber.

The evening culminated with announcement of the Team Most Valuable Players. The MVPs were: Cross Country – Kyle Gunsiorowski, Field Hockey - Grace Warnick, Football - Steven McCaffery, Boys' Soccer -Carson Pires, Girls' Soccer - Alexandra Zotos, Girls' Tennis - Nicole Lenkiewicz, Volleyball -Sophia DiProfio, and Cheerleading - Angelina Jacobs.

Athletic Director Gus Kalikas had this to say about the event: "Once again, our Fall Athletic Awards Program was a success as it allows the District, Administration, and Coaches the opportunity to acknowledge a wonderful Fall Sports Season as well as recognize both student athletes and their parents alike for all that they have accomplished this past fall athletic season."



(above) 2022 Fall G.P.A. Winners

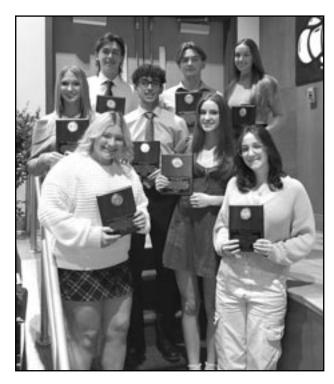




(above) Grace Warnick, 2022 Fall Student Athlete Award Winner.



(above) 2022 Fall MVPs.



(above) 2022 Fall Best Teammate Award winners.

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# **CLARK PUBLIC LIBRARY FEBRUARY EVENTS**

303 Westfield Ave, Clark, NJ 07066 • Tel: 732-388-5999 x2 • Email: reference@clarklibrary.org • www2.youseemore.com/clarkpl/Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9:30 am - 9:00 pm • Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 9:30 am - 5:00 pm • Sunday: Closed

#### **Librarian By Appointment**

Feb 2nd and 16th 3-4pm

The Adult Services Librarians are available by appointment to provide in-depth help with any library-related questions you may have!

# From Africa to Zydeco: A Music Celebration for Black History Month

Thursday, February 2 at 7 pm sional musicians from Soundstage41

Professional musicians from Soundstage4Kids will perform an interactive show of roots music from Africa to Louisiana!

#### **Stories & More**

Friday, February 3, 10, 17, & 24 at 10:00 am

Stories, movement, and songs followed by a craft for active listeners ages 3 -5 years old.

Registration is required

#### **Tales for Tots**

Monday, February 6, 13, and 27 at 10:00 am

Stories and songs for active listeners. Geared toward ages 2-3 with a caregiver. Older children are welcome! 30 minutes of open play follows.

Registration is required

#### **Union County Aging Services Kiosk**

Monday, February 6 from 10 am-12 pm Do you have questions about services available in Union County for seniors or their caregivers?

#### **Baby Bookworms**

Tuesdays, February 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 10:00 am

Babies and toddlers are invited to listen to some books and learn some songs, rhymes, lap bounces, and fingerplays.

# After School Board Games and Teen Gaming Club

Tuesday, February 7 & 21 at 2:30 pm-5:00 pm

Relax and hang out while playing games.

#### Krafty Kids Hearts & Lollipops

Wednesday, February 8 & 22 at 3:30 pm Join us as we make some fun and creative artwork. Registration is required, for ages 5-12.

#### **Tinker Tots**

Thursday, February 9 at 10:00 am Come join us for a morning of fun STEAM. For children ages 1 through Pre-K. Please register. Clark residents will have priority registration.

#### **Little Scientist Magformers**

Thursday, February 9 at 4 pm
Learn how to build and create with our Science
Experiments! For ages 6-12.

#### [Hybrid] Free Family BINGO Night

Thursday, February 9 at 6:30 pm. Join us on Zoom or In-Person for Family Game Night! This month we will be playing BINGO!

#### **LEGO®** Club

Friday, February 10 from 3:15 pm-4:15 pm Join us for the LEGO® Club. For children in grades K - 5

#### **Dungeons & Dragons:**

#### **The Green Cask Society Adventuring Guild**

Saturday, February 11 from 1-4:30 pm Join us for our adventure into the world of D&D 5e. All Ages, No experience required, No materials required, All players are welcome!

#### **Brown Bag Lunch Packing Event**

Monday, February 13 from 3:30-4:45 pm We will be packing sustainable lunches for Bridges Outreach, a local service organization that helps end homelessness. Open to all ages.

# [Adult and Teen Craft] Valentine Felt Succulents

Monday, February 13 at 7:00 pm Create a Valentine-themed felt succulent plant. Open to teens and adults. Clark residents will have priority registration

#### **Drop-In Valentine's Day Craft For Kid's**

Tuesday, February 14 at 3:00-4:30 pm Make a craft for Valentine's Day. Geared toward pre-school-elementary school.

#### **Teen Valentine Cookie Decorating**

Tuesday, February 14 at 3:00-4:00 pm Decorate some cookies for Valentine's Day with frosting, sprinkles, and more! Open to Grades 6-12

#### **Barks & Books**

Tuesday, February 14 & 28 at 4-5 pm
If you have a young, reluctant, or struggling reader, we want you to meet our therapy dogs!
Children will each get approximately 15 minutes of reading time with Bubble, Magnolia, or Sophie.

#### **Kid's Gaming Club**

Wednesday, February 15, 3:15 pm. Stop in for a fun afternoon of gaming. Play some Open to Grades 1-5. Board games and other types of games will be out as well

#### **Trivia Nights: Marvel Movies**

Thursday, February 16, from 7-8:00 pm On Thursday night we will be hosting a trivia contest on everything from history to the biggest hits on Netflix. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive both a prize. This week's Trivia Night will be on The MCU!

# Unique Creatures Take Your Child To The Library Day

Sunday, February 19 from 2:00-3:00 pm

We will get to meet six different unique creatures followed by ice cream for the children from the Friends of the Library! This is a family event, but please register so that we know how many to expect.

#### **Nighty Night Storytime**

Thursday, February 23 at 6:30 pm

Come in your PJs for our evening family storytime! Stories, and songs for children of all ages. Great for working parents and busy families. Bring your favorite stuffed animal with you for extra comfort as you snuggle down before bedtime!

#### **Little Bits Storytime**

Sunday, February 26 at 2 pm

Join us on the weekend for a special afternoon storytime! Interactive stories, songs, and fun for children of all ages! Registration is required.

#### **Maker Monday Kinetic Sand**

Monday, February 27 at 3:30 pm
Join us as we use hands-on STEAM learning to create an object with the materials given.
Registration is required. For ages 9-12

#### **Read Across America Day Kid's Trivia**

Thursday, March 2 at 3:30 pm

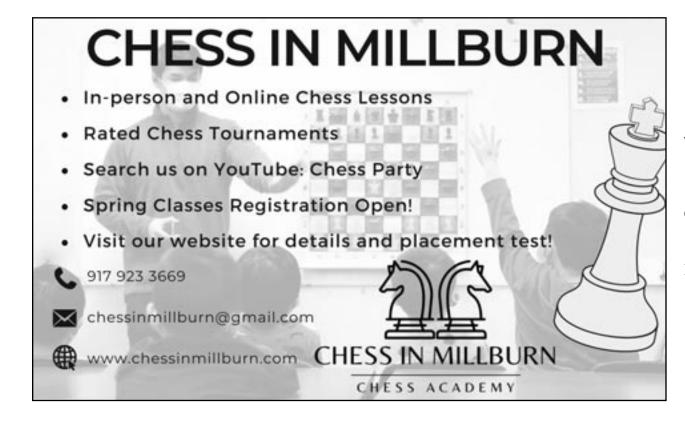
Today is Read Across America Day! Join us to celebrate by playing a trivia game on Kahoot! Play in person or on Zoom! This event is free and prizes will be awarded! \*Winners must be willing to pick up the prize in person. Prizes not picked up within 30 days will be forfeited.

#### Virtual Read Across America BINGO

Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 pm
Celebrate Read Across America and Dr. Seuss's
Birthday with some BINGO! We will play at
least 3 rounds, 2 traditional and 1 themed.
Please register to get the Zoom link and link for
BINGO cards. Please note whether you'll be

# attending in person or on zoom. **Take & Makes for Preschoolers - Adults**

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Buchanan's 12yrs old	1.75L	\$57.99	Belvedere Vodka		
Bushmill's Irish	1.75L	\$46.99	Belvedere Vodka		
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Chivas Regal	1.75L	\$58.99	Ciroc (all types)		
Chivas Regal 18 yrs old	750 ml	\$72.99	Finlandia		
Crown Royal			Finlandia		
Crown Royal	1.75L	\$50.99	Grey Goose		•
Dewars 12 yrs old	750ml	\$25.99	Grey Goose		•
Dewars 12 yrs old	1.75L	\$45.99	Ketel One		
Dewars White Label			Ketel One		
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Gentleman Jack			Pinnacle (80 proof)		
Glenmorangie 10 yrs old		•	Skyy		
Glenlivet 12 yrs old			Sobieski		
Glenlivet 12 yrs old			Sobieski		
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Jack Daniels		•	Three Olives (all types)		
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Johhnie Walker Blue			Captain Morgan Spice		
Johnnie Walker Blue		•	Malibu		
Johnnie Walker Black			Malibu		
Johnnie Walker Black					•
Johnnie Walker Double Black				UILA	
Johnnie Walker Red			Deleon Blanco Tequila		
Johnnie Walker Red		•	Deleon Blanco Tequila		•
Macallan 12yrs old (double cask)			Patron Silver		
Makers Mark(double cask)			Patron Silver		
Makers Mark			Cantera Negra Coffee Tequila .	750ml	\$26.99
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Tanqueray	1.75L	\$38.99	Coors Lite/Miller Lite loose bot		
			Coors Lite/Miller Lite		
COGNAC 8	BRAND	Y	Corona/Corona Lite loose bottle		
Courvoisier V.S.			<b>Dab</b> (16oz) cans		
Courvoisier V.S.			Founders All Day IPA		
Remy Martin V.S.O.P.		•	Heineken/Heineken Lite bottle		
Remy Martin V.S.O.P			Land Shark		
Henry Martin v.S.U.F	1./JL	φฮ <i>เ</i> .ฮฮ	Lech (500ml)		
CODD	MALE		Modelo Especial cans		
CORD		<b>.</b>	Pabst Blue Ribbon cans		
Bailey's Irish Cream			Pilsner Urquell		
	1 751	ቀሳሳ ሰሰ	Com Adomo Doston Lones	24.1	***
			Sam Adams Boston Lager		
Duggan's Irish Cream Kahlua Krupnik	1.75L	\$42.99	Stella Artois loose bottles Super Bock	24pk	\$32.99

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Ruffino Chianti	1.5L	\$13.97
Ruffino Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$14.99
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Simi Chardonnay	750ml	\$13.09
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