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EHS 1983 BASEBALL TEAM HONORED ON 40TH YEAR

Submitted by Scott Dembeck

On Saturday April 15th, 2023 the Elizabeth High School Baseball Team, with the help of head coach Matt Belford, honored the 1983 EHS State Championship team prior to their game against Kearny at Willians Field in Elizabeth. It was the 40 year anniversary of the only EHS Baseball Team to end the season #1 in the State of New Jersey ranked #1 by the Newark Star-Ledger. There were 17 players and 3 coaches and all were in attendance for the event. The players got together for dinner at Velenca in Elizabeth Friday night and reminisced prior to the Saturday event. Here is the list of our accomplishments in 1983:

- Record 22-3
- Watchung Conference American Division Champions
- Union County Champions (1st County Title since 1955)
- Group IV Section II State Champions
- Group IV State Champions
- Star Ledger# 1 Ranked Team in the State of NJ
- The Coaching Staff:
 - Head Coach Ray Korn (the 1983 Star Ledger and Daily News Coach of the Year)
 - Assistant Coach Ray Matlosz,
 - Assistant Coach Carlos Ferreiro.



(left) The 1983 EHS baseball team recreated their team picture taken over 40 years ago.



(above, Front Row Kneeling, l-r) Walter Gay, Carlos Duran, Mark Biegert, Stanley Alston, Rich Meola, Marcus Butler, Billy Shaughnessy, John Scott. (Back Row Standing, l-r) Ray Korn, Carlos Ferreiro, Mike Comieci, Joe Delsol, Scott Dembeck, Kerry Rodriguez, Ray Hankins, Angel Hajje, Robert Bradley, Dan Jimenez, Gil Benitez, Ray Matlosz.

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SHINING STARS TO PERFORM ON MAY 13TH

The Shining Stars, now in their 11th year, will take the main stage at the Union County Performing Arts Center for their “World Tour” on Saturday May 13th for a 7 p.m. show.

The talented cast of special needs performers will highlight the hits from groups and artists from all around the globe, including The Beatles and One Direction (England), Bruce Springsteen (USA), Abba (Sweden), Irish dancing, and so much more. The show will feature 30 special needs individuals and their “buddies” from local high schools, who serve as mentors during rehearsals.

“Our cast has been working hard for their 2023 debut,” noted Shining Stars Network Cofounder and Show Director Sally Curci. “The acts are going to be amazing and we invite everyone to join us for another exciting and fun night.”

Tickets are now on sale at UCPAC.org.

Also, on Saturday, August 5th, history will be made when the Shining Stars make their Paper Mill Playhouse main stage debut. Tickets for “The Greatest Show” — which will feature songs from Broadway and movies — are on sale now at PaperMill.org.

The Camp Shine Summer Workshop will take place from August 14th-25th (go to ShiningStarsNetwork.org to register) and they will cap off the year with their annual “Christmas



Spectacular” in December.

“Shining Stars is all about being inclusive and giving our performers a chance to shine on stage while creating lasting memories,” said Sally Curci. “These opportunities build all-important self-esteem and self-confidence. Along the way our cast members and their high school buddies create bonds and friendships that they’ll always remember.”

For more information on the organization or upcoming events, please visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org.



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SOS ~ SAVE OUR SEAL! A MESSAGE FROM THE U.C. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

War is hell. Unfortunately, that powerful expression is just as accurate today in Ukraine, for example, as it was in Elizabethtown in 1780. In both cases, civilians suffered, and are suffering, along with soldiers.

Heroic sculptures and statues of beribboned generals on horseback are noble and inspiring, to be sure. On the other hand, however, there is the World War II Katyn Memorial in Jersey City, showing the horror of war as it depicts the brutal massacre Russians committed on Polish soldiers graphically showing a bound and gagged Polish soldier impaled through his back by a bayoneted rifle. At its base, a Polish woman cradles a starving child, representing the Polish citizens who were deported to Siberia. Are we to take down such monuments because the horror they depict offends us, or should they remain, conveying their timeless message to us: "Never forget, and Never again!"

Yes, war is hell. And it was so in 1780 as local patriots fought for independence against the often cruel and brutal British and Hessian troops.

One of the most infamous events of that struggle was the horrible murder of Mrs. Hannah Caldwell, the wife of the famous Rev. James Caldwell ("the fighting Parson"), on June 7, 1780 in Connecticut Farms, now Union. It seems that ongoing discussions concerning the changing of the County Seal depicting Mrs. Caldwell's murder by a British soldier apparently have finally come to light recently.

This tragic event has been depicted on our County Seal for over 100 years. In 1923, the Union County Historical Society proposed and supported the official adoption of the Seal, which had previously been used unofficially for decades. It was formally ratified by the Board of Freeholders at that time. The Society has been proud of its role in the adoption of the Seal a hundred years ago, and strongly opposes current efforts to change it.

Some now object to the Seal's depiction of a violent and senseless act against a woman and mother of nine young children. But it really happened! Are we to ignore it? Those were dangerous times in this area and few were spared from the death, destruction, and suffering that occurred.

Indeed, Hannah Caldwell's death became a rallying cry to the despondent, tired, and outnumbered American troops who were inspired to fight on at the Battle of Springfield, the turning point of the Revolution in the North, just two weeks after her death.

Whether she was inside the house or outside when she was murdered is immaterial to the Seal's message. Showing her outside the house simply makes the event more visible. Similar artistic license is often employed in depicting important events in history. For example, the iconic and dramatic 1851 Emanuel Leutz painting of Washington's 1776 Christmas night crossing of the Delaware near Trenton is inaccurate in every way except one: its heroic portrayal of a courageous and brilliant military operation, which led to an important turning point

in the war.

History is not always convenient; it has more than its share of suffering and evil, as the Union County Seal demonstrates. And isn't that in fact the meaning and message of the Seal, that democracy and freedom often demand sacrifice. It is a reminder of the terrible price paid by the brave men and women during those difficult times. Any redesign of our iconic and unique Seal would dishonor and diminish the memory of Hannah Caldwell and so many others who sacrificed all in the long and difficult struggle for independence.

Indeed, after the war, Washington acknowledged that no place had suffered greater deprivation and destruction than Elizabethtown and its environs. Our Seal reminds us of that. Let it be.

Charles Shallcross, Vice-President, U.C.H.S.



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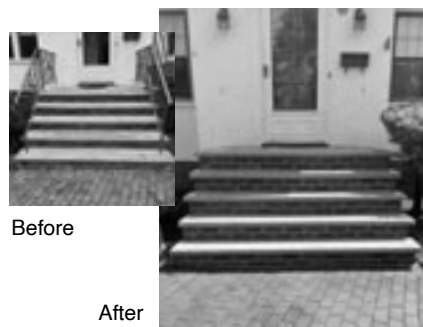
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PIKTORS METAMORPHOSIS AT THE SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents the Piktors Metamorphosis, Saturday, May 20, 2023. The doors open at 7:15 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 and includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. The venue is located in the basement of Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities.

Piktors Metamorphosis takes you on a journey back to the incendiary sounds of the Jazz/Rock fusion era injecting their improvisational craft. The Jazz/Rock/Fusion heyday of experimental creativity has inspired it's fans and other great musicians alike to push music further to its limits. This exciting music is challenging to execute, understandably a reason why many have not approached it. That is until now. Whether it's exciting tributes or their ambitious original pieces this ensemble delivers with passion and warmth.

Piktors overall sound departs from just another stage show to a level of cerebral and tonal excitement that comes with Fusion rock/jazz. They are masters at what they do, and they continue the traditions of modern fusion started by the likes of Mile Davis, Weather Report and Pat Methany, just to name a few.

As always, the Salem Roadhouse Café is live, intimate, up front, and personal. All ages are welcome.

ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

It's not "church music." It's music music. Folks who've come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed. What's the common thread? They're all great musicians playing the kind of music people like to hear. There's no message, just music.

The Roadhouse started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth. Hey — that's why we're located where we are, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That's its social mission.

But the many musicians who've played the Salem Roadhouse Café see it as a solid performance venue. They love it because of its special intimacy and great audiences. They say people here "really listen." Ask any of the musicians you meet here — they love to play the Roadhouse, and they want to come back often.

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.

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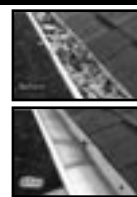
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ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER BREAKS GROUND ON NEW FACILITIES

More than 100 supporters, partners and community leaders gathered at St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth on April 5 to celebrate the start of construction on the agency's new facilities, which will make it possible for the organization to expand and improve services to residents in need in Elizabeth and to achieve its vision of dignity for all. St. Joseph's is one of the largest social service agencies in Elizabeth and Union County, providing residents with food, clothing, household items, prescription assistance, health screenings, mental health counseling, job training and case management.

There are four components to the new facilities plan. The first is to build a food pantry. This new building will give St. Joseph's a dedicated space, a larger space, and a more functional space to operate its food pantry. Perhaps most importantly, the new building will allow the organization to offer a better food pantry model – an individual choice food pantry. With this model, clients will come at an appointed time and will be able to choose their food. The second project is to construct a clothing and household goods distribution center. Clothing and home goods will be displayed in different sections much like one would find in a retail store. The third project is to renovate the former parish hall and church building on campus to expand and enhance the many support services offered by the agency. The fourth project is to reconfigure and repave the parking lot.

Bernadette Murphy, Executive Director, remarked that the overarching goal of the plan is to “serve our sisters and brothers in need with dignity.” At the Groundbreaking Event, she introduced the agency's new logo and tagline, “Connecting Communities – Nourishing Each Other.” To fulfill its mission, the agency relies on 6,000 volunteers who come from schools, community groups, businesses, churches and other houses of worship in five counties in New Jersey. “In addition to serving the hungry, St. Joseph's is also a place that feeds the hunger to serve,” stated Murphy. The volunteer program welcomes people of all ages, faiths, abilities and economic circumstances to provide hope and hospitality to their neighbors.

Karen Maher, Board President, thanked the audience for their contributions to the \$1,400,000 capital campaign, which will fund the facilities plan. The agency received support from foundations, businesses, community groups and individuals in Union County and surrounding

communities. Lead donors included The Westfield Foundation, The Harold B. and Dorothy A. Snyder Foundation, The Mushett Family Foundation, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation, Robert and Marion Schamann Brozowski Foundation, Columbia Bank, The Hyde and Watson Foundation, E. J. Grassmann Trust, The Tepper Foundation, Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery and several individual donors.

Harold “Kess” Kessler, Past Board President and the leader of the capital improvement plan,

noted that “construction work will be completed in four phases over the next two years. In the first phase, the new food pantry and clothing distribution center will be built and outfitted and the driveway will be reconfigured and repaved.” Kessler stated that the construction work has been planned to ensure that services to the community will not be interrupted. “We are excited to begin a new chapter in St. Joseph's service to the community” noted Murphy.

To learn more about St. Joseph's please visit sjeliz.org.



(above r-l) Debbie Durand and Teresa LaStella, organizers for the groundbreaking event, greet guests at the Welcome Table.

Courtesy photos



(above, l-r) Sister Jacinta Fernandes, Founder and former Executive Director of St. Joseph's for 32 years, places soil in a planter in which a tree will be grown along with Julissa Campos, Vice President of the Board of Trustees.

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Submitted by Jose Rojas, Elmora Youth League



(above) NJ State Police

Courtesy photos

Elmora Youth League's (EYL) 50th Season is underway. On Saturday April 1st, it seemed like the entire city was watching the weather radar and hoping for a few hours of support from Mother Nature. Well it seems like mother nature was a fan of the league because the parade and celebrations went off without a hitch.

The parade was led by the NJ State police mounted horse division. Followed by the bags and pipes division of the State police. The streets were lined with past and current players, coaches,

and board members. This day was made possible because of the outpouring of support from our local, county, and state officials.

This year's league size is approximately 600 players and that covers everyone from T-Ball all the way up to HS Softball and Teener Baseball. The league is stronger now than ever before and that is due to its volunteers and current board members. EYL continues to blaze a trail in the way it does outreach to support local community efforts with current and former players.



(above) T-Ball Division



(above) Past & Present Volunteers

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- 1 1/2-3 Goose Egg.....\$125
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THE SCOUTS ARE HAVING FUN! COME JOIN US!

If your child is anywhere between 5 and 18 years old, please think about getting them in on the fun of Scouting. Cub Scouting provides activities and training for boys and girls in Kindergarten through fifth grade. Boy Scouting is for boys who are at least 11 years old or graduated from the fifth grade.

The Scouting program instills character, good citizenship and physical fitness in boys and young men through outdoor activities such as campouts and hikes, involvement in community activities, and just plain FUN! In recent months, the Boy Scouts held their Winter Fun Weekend in northwest New Jersey, with camping in a cabin and a hike to Indian Cliffs. They also did outdoor activities in the Deserted Village of Feltville and camped in a wooded oasis in the middle of Staten Island. The Cub Scouts made race cars out of blocks of wood and raced them on a 30-foot long track in the exciting Pinewood Derby.

Cub Scout Pack 23 and Boy Scout Troop 23 have served the youth of St. Genevieve's parish and the surrounding area for over 60 years. These units have earned hundreds of awards on the local and national level, have produced 80 Eagle Scouts, and have leaders who are well-known and widely respected by other Scout leaders across the country.

New members are welcome at any time, all year round, but now is an especially good time. The Cub Scouts will be camping in the Watchung Reservation in June. The Boy Scouts will spend the 4-day Memorial Day weekend exploring historic sites in Boston, and then have their week-long summer camp in the Copperas Mountains of Morris County in July.

For information about joining, come to the St. Genevieve's Church hall, 200 Monmouth Road, Elizabeth, any Wednesday night from 7:00 to 8:45 p.m., or contact Dan Bernier, Scoutmaster, at (908) 451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com.

Courtesy photos

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New Jersey Heart Ball

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njheartball.heart.org



(above) St. Genevieve's Boy Scout Troop 23 held its annual week-long summer camp in July of 2022 at Winnebago Scout Reservation. They are excitedly preparing for July, 2023.

SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS DAY!

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YMCA OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, May 31, 2023

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Sudoku Time Attack

Monday, May 1, 8, 15, & 22 (All Day)

Are you up for a challenge? Every Monday, there will be a new sudoku puzzle to solve. Don't know how to play? The instructions will be posted next to the puzzle.

Zumba Gold

Monday, May 1, 8, & 15

Thursday, May 4, 11, 18, & 25 at 8:30am
CALL 908-353-4820 to reserve a spot but walk-ins are welcome!

Mahjong

Monday, May 1, 8, 15, & 22
from 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Everyone who loves Mahjong is welcome to come & play at the library. Bring friends or come alone & find new partners. Remember to bring your own Mahjong tiles, and we'll provide the space for open play. A minimum of 4 players are required to play the game.

Ages: 18 & up

Chess Club for Kids

Monday, May 1, 8, 15, & 22 at 4:00pm

Join our Hybrid Chess Club for Kids every Monday at 4pm. Beginners are welcome!

Adult Scrabble

Tuesday, May 2 and Thursday, May 11
at 1:00pm

Word lovers! Exercise your B-R-A-I-N (7 points) by playing scrabble with other like-minded adults.

Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, May 3 at 5:30pm

Kids will share the love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading, and motivate kids to read. Ages: 5-8

Toddlers World

Friday, 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 11:00am

An hour of fun songs to sing, music, and playtime.

Special Adult Mother's Day Craft

Saturday, May 6 at 11:00am

Join Elmora Branch Library for a special Mother's Day craft for adults!

Stitch & Chat

Tuesday, May 9 at 10:00am

Come stitch your clothing back up at Elmora! Just bring the article of clothing you want to mend! Assistance will be available.

Drawing for Kids

Tuesday, May 9 at 3:00pm

Join Ms. Martha for a cute storytime and learn to draw different animals!

Stitch & Chat

Wednesday, May 10 at 5:00pm

Come stitch your clothing back up at Elmora! Just bring the article of clothing you want to mend! Assistance will be available.

Coloring for Kids

Friday, May 12 at 3:30pm

Relax & color at the Elmora Branch for an hour!

Sign Language Storytime

Saturday, May 13 at 11:00am

A family storytime where everyone can learn sign language together. Stay for a quick activity to socialize after the program!

Art Workshop

Saturday, May 13 at 2:30pm

Learn to blend colors, sketch, and many more art skills! An excellent experience for children, teens, and adults! All levels are welcome!

ESL for Kids

Wednesday, May 17 at 5:30pm

Relax & color at the Elmora Branch for an hour!

Adult Spanish Book Club

Thursday, May 18 at 2:00pm

Join Martha for a monthly book discussion for adults in Spanish!

Bubbles aRe Us

Saturday, May 20 at 1:00pm

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.

All Age Lego

Saturday, May 20 at 3:00pm

It's Lego Hour at Elmora. Come build an enormous tower or make a race car; the imagination is limitless!

Coloring for Adults

Tuesday, May 23 at 11:00am

Drop in for some relaxing coloring fun! Come discover the calming effects as well as meeting some good company!

Crochet with Sol

Monday, May 22 and Tuesday, May 23 & 30
at 12:00pm

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

Junior's Book Club

Wednesday, May 31 at 4:00pm

Tweens will share the love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading and motivate kids to read. Grade: 4-6

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6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
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ELIZABETH CELEBRATED AS BIRTHPLACE OF THE US SUBMARINE FORCE

Julianne Dods, Trustee, USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) Commissioning Committee

The New Jersey Commissioning Committee is partnering with the City of Elizabeth, and other organizations, in recognizing the role that Elizabeth, NJ has played in the development of the US submarine force and to more formally recognize Elizabeth, NJ as the Birthplace of the United States Submarine Force. Several members of the USS New Jersey (SSN 796) crew visited Elizabeth on April 2-5, 2023 to focus exclusively on this. Also, a series of assemblies with middle and high school students are planned, one of which will have a ceremony highlighting the history and partnership with the City of Elizabeth.

The USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) is the newest Virginia-class submarine currently under construction and scheduled to be commissioned in early 2024. This remarkable vessel will carry on the legacy of two previous ships to bear the name NEW JERSEY, both which served our country with distinction in times of war and peace.

USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) Commissioning Committee - The New Jersey Commissioning Committee was formed to provide a wide range of events and awards leading up to the commissioning itself. These are to honor and welcome the crew, their families, and the to-be commissioned vessel to the fleet. The intent is also to introduce the crew and their families to the citizens of the great state of New Jersey and raise awareness to the continuation of the proud heritage of the name "USS NEW JERSEY."

The birthday of the United States Submarine Force is April 11. Numerous military units and veterans' organizations celebrate this special day every year with ballroom dinners, ceremonies, proclamations of remembrance, and more. Conspicuously absent from these Submarine Birthday celebrations is any mention or recognition of the Submarine's Birthplace: Elizabeth, New Jersey.

With the approaching commissioning of the

USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796), the first submarine named after our great state, it is the desire of the USS New Jersey Commissioning Committee to hold a birthplace celebration on the 123rd Submarine Birthday - to finally recognize what should be a great source of pride for the city of Elizabeth and the State of New Jersey.

HISTORY:

Electric Boat Company was founded in 1899 in Elizabeth, NJ with the hopes of inventing the first submarine. There were other competing companies in NJ and outside the state racing for this honor. Electric Boat, now a subsidiary of General Dynamics Corporation, is still one of the premier builders of submarines.

The first submarine in the US Navy was the USS HOLLAND (SS-1). It was invented, designed, built, and launched in Elizabeth, NJ, on 11 April 1900.

The USS NEW JERSEY (SSN-796) is currently under construction in Newport News, VA. It is scheduled to be commissioned in New Jersey in early 2024.

The Navy's "namesake" program seeks to establish a relationship between operating submarines and their namesakes (the State of New Jersey). The commissioning committee will plan a series of crew visits designed to meet the goals of this program.



(above) Mayor Chris Bollwage accepts a letter of acknowledgement from CDR Steven A. Halle, Captain of the USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796), celebrating Elizabeth, NJ as the Birthplace of the United States Submarine Force. Photo includes STSCM Hamilton Felt, Mayor Christian Bollwage, CDR Steven A. Halle, and Stephen Hutton, President and Chairman of the USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) Commissioning Committee. The USS NEW JERSEY (SSN 796) is the next Virginia Class submarine to be commissioned to the Navy fleet.

Courtesy photos

LAUNCH OF THE LINDEN CHAMBER DIVISION

The Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce held a business after hours social networking meeting to officially launch the Linden Chamber Division. The well attended event was held at Ill Amici Ristorante in Linden, NJ on April 5, 2023. For more information on joining the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce and its benefits, please contact Jennifer M. Costa at (908) 355- 7600 or via email at jcosta@goelizabethnj.com. For more details, please visit elizabethchamber.com/linden.



(above) Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce's President/CEO Jennifer M. Costa, Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage, Linden Mayor Derek Armstead, and Linden Chamber Division Chair Janet Miller.

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