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ANGEL TREE PROVIDES GIFTS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Florham Park Rotary

In a 25+ year annual tradition, the Angel Tree is once again standing in the Florham Park Post Office at 187 Columbia Turnpike starting through mid December.

Sponsored by the Florham Park Rotary in coordination with the NJ state Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Rotary members decorated the tree with tags. Each tag is the wish of a local child, most of whom are from Florham Park, East Hanover and other Morris County towns. Per Rotarian Rex Lyon, in many cases these may be the only gifts they receive for the holidays.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to donate new holiday gifts under the Angel Tree by reading the ornaments, selecting a wish they can grant, and returning the wrapped gift by December 20th.

Rotary International is a nonpolitical and nonsectarian organization open to all people, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, or political preference. There are 40,000+ clubs in 200 countries worldwide dedicated to humanitarian services, high ethical standards, and goodwill and peace around the world. It is a global network of 1.4 million people who volunteer their skills and resources to solve issues and address community needs.

Florham Park has one such club that strives to make a positive impact. To learn more and even consider joining, guests are welcome to attend a weekly Rotary breakfast meeting at the Florham Park Diner at 182 Ridgedale Ave. Meetings are 7:47 to 8:50 a.m. every Friday. For additional information about the Florham Park Rotary visit the website at FlorhamParkRotary.org,



(above) Rotary members at last year's Angel Tree.

Courtesy photo

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KARDINALS BLACK MAKE HISTORY

Submitted by Shannon Core

U9 MCYSA Flight 1 soccer champions were crowned when Florham Park U9 Cardinals Black achieved an unprecedented undefeated 2024 season with an astonishing record of 8-0 and played 400 minutes without allowing a single goal.

The team clinched Flight 1 on Sunday, October 28th solidifying their place as the top team in Morris County Youth Soccer Association U9 Girls division and claimed the status of “undefeated” at their match against Madison on Sunday, November 11.

Under the guidance of Coaches Gambino, Kelly, Mink and Richards, and Red Bulls Trainers Jorge Cano and Joshua Fernandes, these girls showcased a blend of skill, strategy,

and relentless determination throughout the season. In a stunning display of athleticism and teamwork, Cardinals Black managed to shut out every opponent, making them the first team in FPYSA league history to achieve a perfect season without allowing a single goal at the Flight 1 level.

For the FP Cardinals, the season has not just been about winning; it’s been about development, unity and community pride.

When the final whistle blew, the sidelines erupted in joy as the FP Cardinals celebrated their well-deserved victory. “The girls compete level along with their ability to want to share the ball has been so much fun to watch this season,” said Kelly in a post-match conversation as he ran to his car to get the Flight Trophy.



Courtesy photo



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FIRST PEOPLE – THE NEW JERSEY CONNECTION

Historical Society of Florham Park

In recognition of November being “National Native American Heritage Month” the Historical Society of Florham Park hosted a program entitled First People – The New Jersey Connection. Presented by Walter Choroszewski, it was held at the Florham Park Library on November 12.

Walter Choroszewski has been a leading advocate of New Jersey pride since 1980 when he was commissioned to photograph the state for a book project. He has since published eighteen photographic books. Choroszewski's photographs were the inspiration for creating the iconic state tourism campaign: "New Jersey & You: Perfect Together!"

“During the one-hour presentation, Walter C quickly took a us through over 10,000 years of history – from the periods of the Paleolithic, Archaic, Early Woodland, Middle Woodland, Late Woodland, Mississippian, to Historic,” commented Dave Setzer, Historical Society of Florham Park president.

Walter Choroszewski (Walter C” as he suggested he be called) shared the story of the first people of New Jersey who arrived thousands of years before the Colonial Era as revealed from artifacts discovered at NJ archeological sites, as well as from the written record after first contact with European colonists of the 17th and 18th centuries.

During the presentation, attendees learned that the Algonquin people shared a common language and lived during the recent Woodland up to Historic periods. His lecture concentrated on the Ice Age migrations of the First People and ended with the Lenape and their eventual departure during the Colonial period. He concluded with some current genetic studies that reveal a complex admixture of the first people of the Americas.

When Walter C projected a screen revealing there were three Lenape dialects in New Jersey – Munsee, Unami, and Unalachtigo, the audience members humorously observed that the areas covered were similar to 201, 908 and 609 telephone area codes.

Architectural discoveries at the Abbott Farm in Mercer County and its importance in providing extensive knowledge of native culture circa 1,000 BCE to 1,000 A.D. were discussed. Artifacts dating from as early as the Early Archaic period

were recovered, but the bulk of the cultural materials found were of Middle Woodland and Late Woodland age. Evidence of American Indian occupations at the Abbott Farm spans the time from roughly 13,000 years ago into the 18th century, well after Europeans had explored and established colonies in the area.

Peter Nicolas of the Historical Society commented that based upon this excellent presentation and the positive comments heard the Historical Society will seek a return of Walter C in 2025. Members of the Historical Society of Florham Park will be asked which of Walter's many programs they would like to hear then.

Members and guests of the well-attended presentation also were treated to refreshments provided by Delaney at the Green of Florham Park.

To learn more about The Historical Society of Florham Park contact Peter Nicolas at pnicolas@optimum.net or call at 973-520-8654.



(above) First People – The New Jersey Connection, presented by Walter Choroszewski was well-attended.

Courtesy photo

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 Central Presbyterian Church
 70 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey

Full details at pipesofchristmas.com

The concert is hosted by the Learned Kindred of Currie, a non-profit cultural and educational organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Celtic heritage and the arts.

The beloved Pipes of Christmas fundraising concert is delighted to be entering their second quarter century with a brand-new production.

The popular holiday event will be returning to the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in NYC on Decemebr 14, and Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, NJ on Decemebr 15.

The Pipes of Christmas brings together musicians, soloists, and performers from across America and the UK to share the magic of the holiday season through the timeless sounds of Celtic music. The show features traditional favorites and newly commissioned works performed on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, organ, brass, and more, as well as readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales.

Featured performers include guitarist and music director Steve Gibb from Inverness, Scotland, actor James Robinson of "A Merry Scottish Christmas," "Braveheart," and "Outlander," fiddler Caitlin Warbelow from Broadway's "Come from Away," and US Harp Champion harpist Rachel Clemente.

Audiences will thrill to the Commonwealth Pipes and Drums under the leadership of Pipe Major Adam Holdaway and the B-Line Brass Quintet led by CJ Waldrop.

In both locations, the company will include the Solid Brass ensemble and the St. Columcille United Pipe Band led by Pipe Major Cameron MacDougall.

Also making her Pipes of Christmas debut will be Madelyn Monaghan, an Irish American traditional (sean-nós) singer based in New York City. In September of this year, Madelyn was a leading performer at the Celtic World Forum in Dublin alongside the likes of Máiréad Nesbitt and Clannad's Moya Brennan and appeared in the Celtic Music Festival in Rockport, MA. Her voice can be heard via TikTok, museums, film scores, and commercials, and her album éist is available on all streaming platforms.

Proceeds Support Scholarships and Cultural Heritage Initiatives

The Pipes of Christmas is hosted by the Learned Kindred of Currie, a non-profit cultural

and educational organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Scottish and Highland heritage and the arts. As its primary fundraiser, the concert enables the Kindred's continued efforts to support the global Scottish community through initiatives such as:

- Producing Tartan Day on Ellis Island, perhaps the largest Tartan Day event in the world, which received 80,000 visitors in 2024 alone
- Providing scholarships to deserving students in the US, Canada, and Scotland
- Sponsoring competitions and festivals across the globe
- Commissioning of new musical and cultural works
- A global monuments initiative, which helps erect and preserve new and existing locations such as the Scottish Writers Museum and Bale nam Bàrd (the bard's home) on the Island of South Uist
- Developing a cultural heritage center in Scotland (currently in preliminary stages)

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Tickets are now available via Eventbrite. Reserved VIP and general admission seating is available. Access to the global web stream of concert highlights can also be booked in advance. Tickets for Summit are \$60 general admission and \$150 VIP - reserved tickets.

ABOUT "THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS"

Since its debut, The Pipes of Christmas has played to standing-room-only audiences. Now a cherished holiday event, the concert gives audiences a stirring and reverent celebration of the Christmas season and the Celtic spirit. Audience-goers return year after year to experience the program, many reporting that the Pipes of Christmas has become part of their family's annual Christmas tradition.

The concert has been lavished with critical acclaim. In his review for Classical New Jersey Magazine, Paul Somers wrote, "The whole evening was constructed to introduce gem after gem and still have a finale which raised the roof. In short, it was like a well-constructed fireworks show on the Glorious Fourth."

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MASKED READER INITIATIVE

Florham Park Public Schools

Principal Jeremy Serfozo and the Briarwood School staff conducted the “Masked Reader” initiative this year for the 1st time where several staff members dressed in costumes and read video recorded stories that were shown to the students in class during morning circle time. The K-2 students then voted on who they thought the specific Masked Reader was and it culminated in an assembly revealing the vote total and revealing the masked readers.

“Mr. Serfozo and the staff did a wonderful job planning this initiative to increase school spirit and excitement about reading. The students and staff were excited, creating a lasting memory and experience for all. Much credit needs to go to Mr. Serfozo and the staff for bringing this excitement to the school” - Dr. Caponegro, Superintendent.



(above) Ms. Adochio (Briarwood Kindergarten teacher) as one of the several “Masked Reader” during the November 1st assembly.



(above) Mr. Serfozo (Briarwood School Principals).

Photos by Florham Park Public Schools

SANTA AT TWIN MAPLES - DEC 7-8

The entire family is invited to one of the areas loveliest historic homes, Twin Maples in Summit, on Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8 to join Santa for food and fun. The weekend event is hosted by the Fortnightly Club of Summit and sponsored by the Peapack Gladstone Bank.

Festivities begin each morning at 9:30 a.m. with a delicious Holiday ‘Breakfast with Santa’ served in the beautifully decorated ballroom with catering by ‘What a Dish.’ Breakfast includes live music, family photos and stories with Santa.

For those who can’t make it for breakfast, ‘Stories with Santa’ is available at reserved intervals between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on both days. This portion of the event gives families the opportunity to join Santa for photos, cocoa and homemade cookies, stories and sing-alongs. There even might be some gingerbread!

Tickets to Santa at Twin Maples can be purchased at <https://www.fortnightlyclub.org>.

Pricing for Breakfast with Santa is \$45 for adults and \$20 for children. Please bring booster seats for children. Highchairs are not available.

Reserved tickets for Stories with Santa are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children.

The weekend event benefits the preservation of Twin Maples, a property on the New Jersey and National Historic Registers. The house was designed by New York architect Alfred F. Norris in the Colonial Revival style, referencing the White House. The Fortnightly Club purchased the property in 1949. Today, Twin Maples serves as a clubhouse and hosts many community events and fundraisers.

The Fortnightly Club of Summit, a non-profit organization founded in 1893, offers women camaraderie and a full calendar of interesting events and volunteer opportunities. The Club supports the preservation of Twin Maples, education, the arts and humanitarian efforts. For over twenty-years the Club has awarded annual scholarships to deserving young, local women.

Fortnightly Club members are from Summit and many neighboring towns. To join or for more information, visit the Club’s website at <https://www.fortnightlyclub.org>.



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DICTIONARIES FOR BROOKLAKE STUDENTS

Florham Park Rotary

Brooklake Elementary Third Graders were assigned two "Words of the Day" when the Florham Park Rotary volunteers visited and donated a dictionary to each of the 100 students. Considering the borough's 125 Anniversary year, "Anniversary" and "Volunteer" were the words students searched for in their new dictionaries.

This annual gifting and distribution of dictionaries to each of the Third Grade students was established locally by Rotarian Bob Feid, a past-president, and the popular program continues under current president Damion Bernard continues this popular program. At the start of the 20-minute class, students are encouraged to write their names in their dictionaries and are assigned to find the words of the day.

Students learned to search alphabetically, and raising their hands to volunteer, students read the definition. Then students were asked to use the word in a sentence.

To reinforce the learning, Rotarian Kristen Jankowski suggests that parents and grandparents of Brooklake Elementary School students, upon reading this article, ask their student to find the words "anniversary" and "volunteer" again and read those definitions. Be sure to note that "volunteer" is both a noun and a verb!

This dictionary is more than just definitions of words as the Table of Contents was also reviewed and students found the Constitution, Sign Language, a list of the United States Presidents and their bios, the States, the latest list of planets (no Pluto!). Since the dictionaries belong to the students now, each was encouraged to explore in their own time.

One student pointed out that the longest

English word was listed in their dictionary. It was 1,909 letters! One joked that it was even longer than "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."

The Rotarians stressed the importance of having a dictionary and referring to it to help build vocabulary and of improving and in leading successful lives.

"As you continue your education at different levels of schooling, building a good vocabulary will be the foundation of leading successful lives," advised Peter Nicolas, Rotary Sergeant-at-Arms. "Your teachers, in the Third Grade now will work with you" continued Rotarian George Gregor. The 3rd Grade Teacher Team:

Mrs Jill Acluri, Mrs Colleen O'Brien, Mrs Kathleen Pasculli, Mrs Kathleen Cogan, Ms Amy Volker, Ms Stacy Marchesano, and Ms Wendy Rufolo

Exclaimed Principal Robert Foster, "We are

very grateful for the Florham Park Rotary Club's generous donation of dictionaries and time to Brooklake's 3rd grade class. The Rotarians provided a meaningful lesson to our 3rd graders, teaching students how to properly use their dictionaries."

This annual event at Brooklake School demonstrates the value of community support and educational enrichment. The Rotary Club's contribution not only provided our students with an academic lesson but also strengthens a strong community bond between our students and the greater Florham Park community. We are grateful for their partnership in shaping the academic futures of our students."

To learn more about the Florham Park Rotary, visit florhamparkrotary.org, or perhaps attend a breakfast meeting at the Florham Park Diner, held every Friday, from 7:47am-8:47am



(above) Students with Rotarians George and Judy Gregor, Peter Nicolas, Damion Bernard, and Brooklake School Principal Robert Foster

Courtesy photo

PEER LEADERS PROGRAM

Florham Park Public Schools

The Brooklake School Peer leaders conducted their annual fall training on November 15, 2024, hosted at Fairleigh Dickinson University, where students learned the skills necessary to succeed as Gr.5 Peer Leaders.

"The Brooklake School is one of the few elementary schools that operate a Gr.5 Peer Leaders program to serve as peer models for the grade 3-5

students. The program's success is a credit to the students, teachers, staff and school community. The work and effort put forth by Ms. Ford, Brooklake's Guidance Counselor, the 5th grade team, and Mr. Foster, the principal, will provide the Peer Leaders and those students they interact with, strategies and resources to assist in school and in life."

- Dr. Caponegro, Superintendent.



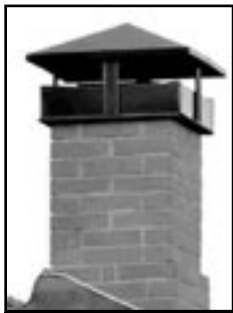
(above) Peer Leaders group at FDU



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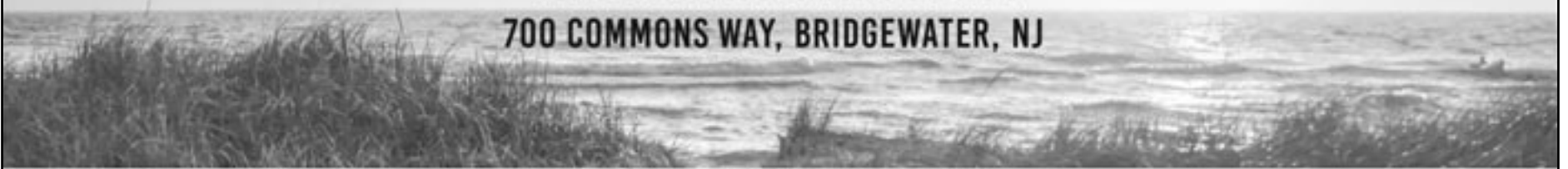
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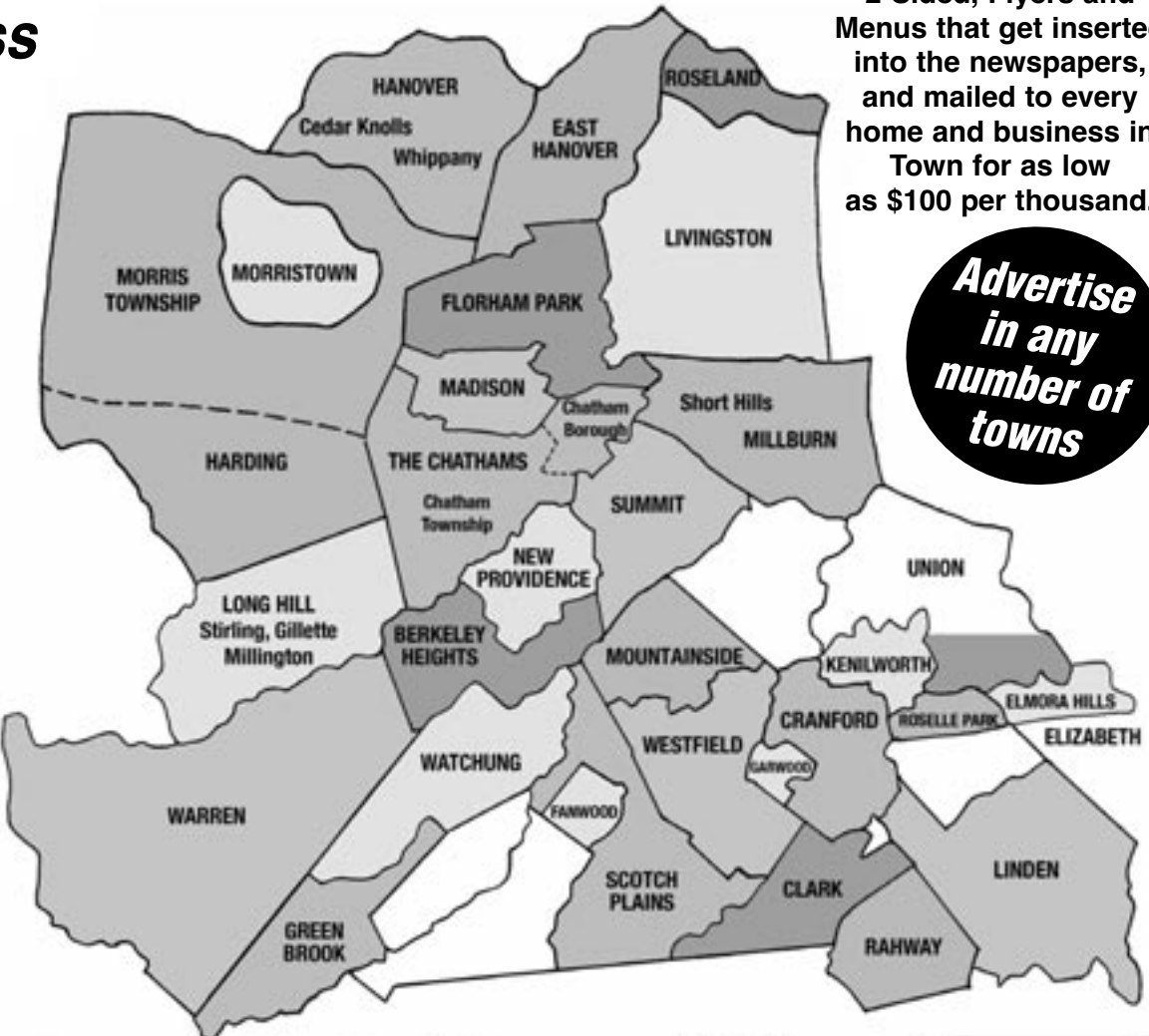
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NEWSPAPER AD RATES		1	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
Units (wide x High)	Size	TOWN	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS	TOWNS
1 Unit (Business card)	3.25"x2"0	100	260	360	460	560	600	660	700	800	900	1000
2 Units	6.5"x2" or 3.25"x4"	150	360	560	600	700	800	900	1000	1100	1200	1300
4 Units	3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units	6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE	6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
18 FULL PAGE	10"x14"	500	1200	1800	2200	2500	2800	3000	3300	3600	3900	4300
2-PAGE SPREAD	(2) 10"x14"	800										
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FRONT PAGE BANNER	8.25"x2"	360										
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High West Bourbon	1.75L	\$44.99
Jack	1.75L	\$48.99
Jim Beam	1.75L	\$32.99
Johnnie Walker Red	1.75L	\$32.99
Johnnie Walker Black	1.75L	\$59.99
Johnnie Walker Blue	750 ml	\$189.99
Makers Mark	1.75L	\$54.99
Woodford Reserve	1.75L	\$64.99

VODKA

Grey Goose	1.75L	\$39.99
Kettle one	1.75L	\$39.99
Simrnoff	1.75L	\$19.99
Svedka	1.75L	\$20.99
Tito	1.75L	\$31.99

GIN

Beefeater	1.75L	\$37.99
Bombay Sapphire	1.75L	\$39.99
Tenqueray	1.75L	\$41.99

TEQUILA

Casamigo Blanco	1.75L	\$89.99
Casamigo Blanco	750 ml	\$46.99
Don Julio Repo	1.75L	109.99
Don Julio Repo	750 ml	\$54.99
Hornitos Plata	1.75L	\$44.99
Patron Blanco	1.75L	\$79.99
Patron Blanco	750 ml	\$44.99

COGNAC & BRANDY

Henny vs	1.75L	\$69.99
Henny vs	750 ml	\$39.99

RUM

Captain Morgan	1.75L	\$28.99
Bacardi Sliver/Gold	1.75L	\$20.99

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Baileys	1.75L	\$48.99
Kahlua	1.75L	\$45.99

WINE

Barefoot all Varietal	1.5L	\$12.99
Bota Box All Varietal	3 L	\$21.99
Bread & Butter All	750 ml	\$12.99
Cavit Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$15.99
Imagery All	750 ml	\$13.99
Josh Reserve	750 ml	\$17.99
Kendall Jackson VR Chard	750 ml	\$13.99
Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc	750 ml	\$15.99
Kirs Pinot Grigio	750 ml	\$12.99
LaMarca	750 ml	\$15.99
Meiomi Pinot Noir	750 ml	\$19.99
Mionetto	750 ml	\$14.99
Moet Brut Impirial	750 ml	\$48.99
Moet Ice	750 ml	\$69.99
Santa Margarita Pinot Grigio	750 ml	\$22.99
Sutter Homes All Varietal	1.5L	\$10.99
Tribute All Varietal	750 ml	\$12.99
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