

# BUSINESS + LIFE KENILWORTH

KENILWORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Issue #49

February 2012

The Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce is an affiliate of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

**NEXT CHAMBER MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 8TH**  
8:30 AM  
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## CARMELA COLOSIMO IS NEWEST HALL OF FAME MEMBER



*Carmela Colosimo*

David Brearley High School was pleased to welcome Carmela Colosimo as the newest member of its Hall of Fame. The DBHS Hall of Fame was created to honor graduates of the school who have made a tremendous impact in the lives of others. Ms. Colosimo received the award this January after a recent Brearley home wrestling match and was honored by the recognition. "I am humbled to

have been given this award," she said. "It means so much to me."

Ms. Colosimo's journey to this moment in her life is an interesting one.

After graduating from Brearley in 1974, she continued her

studies at Seton Hall University. After graduating from Seton Hall with a Bachelor's Degree, she became a seventh-grade teacher at St. Theresa's in Kenilworth.

As the years moved on, Ms. Colosimo took on the role of becoming a parent, while still working her way through the education system, and being a councilwoman for the borough of Kenilworth. While she maintained these many responsibilities, she decided to attend Kean University, where she eventually earned two Masters Degrees in Education. This enabled her to obtain a position as an Assistant Principal at the Orange Avenue Middle School in Cranford, where she still works today, positively affecting the lives of children.

A close inspection of the Crystal Award, which was given to Ms. Colosimo, reads, "This honor is not a compliment for the past, it reflects upon the future ...." Ms. Colosimo's life of selfless giving to others, which will certainly continue, is a fitting tribute to that statement.



*(above) Carmela Colosimo with family members at induction ceremony.*

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Over three thousand newspapers are printed monthly and distributed free to every postal patron in Kenilworth.

Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent to:



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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH

All meetings are held in Borough Hall, 567 Boulevard.

#### FEBRUARY 7 & 21, 2012

Work Sessions to start at 7:30 p.m. in the right hand Meeting Room, Second Floor.

#### FEBRUARY 8 & 22, 2012

Regular Meeting to start at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

Please call the clerk for schedule  
908-276-9090

### KENILWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION

All meetings begin at 7:30 pm and are held in the Board Conference Room at David Brearley Middle/High School at 401 Monroe Avenue.

#### FEBRUARY 13, 2012

Regular Meeting



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# DAVID BREARLEY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: JANUARY 2012

Submitted by: Mr. David Novak

The David Brearley High School Student of the Month for January is a very responsible and talented senior. Brianna Dustin, a member of the National Honor Society, consistently earns honor roll status and has compiled numerous academic honors in English, History, and Spanish. As a junior, Brianna was nominated for Prom Princess and she continued to be recognized for her achievements when she was nominated for Homecoming Queen this year. A member of the varsity soccer and basketball teams, Brianna was named a captain of both. Congratulations, Brianna!

The David Brearley Middle School student of the month is Whitney Balwierzak. This seventh grade student has an incredible work ethic. Her teachers say that Whitney leads quietly, is always on task, and goes above and beyond an assignment's requirements. She has a positive attitude towards learning and is a delight to have in class. Whitney separates herself from others in that she sets high standards for herself, and does not allow herself to get distracted. She is



(above) Whitney Balwierzak and Brianna Dustin.

also always willing to assist her classmates. She is an outstanding student with outstanding character! We congratulate Whitney Balwierzak on her nomination to the January 2012 David Brearley Middle School Student of the Month!

## GATEWAY CHAMBER

Members of Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, are welcomed in all Gateway events. For information call the Chamber at 908-352-0900 or visit our website at [www.gatewaychamber.com](http://www.gatewaychamber.com)

- 8:30 AM FEBRUARY 10**  
**LOCAL & COUNTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**  
Union Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union
- 8:00 AM FEBRUARY 15**  
**EMPLOYER LEGISLATIVE COMM. MEETING**  
Kenilworth Inn, Boulevard & South 31st St., Kenilworth
- 6:00 PM FEBRUARY 21**  
**IRISH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION NETWORKING**  
Molly Maguire's, 1085 Central Avenue, Clark
- 8:30 AM FEBRUARY 22**  
**CLARK CHAMBER MEETING**  
Hosted by Shop Rite of Clark, 76 Central Avenue, Clark
- 8:00 AM FEBRUARY 24**  
**SOMERSET HILLS BUSINESS NETWORKING**  
Olde Mill Inn, 225 Route 202, Basking Ridge
- 8:30 AM FEBRUARY 28**  
**LINDEN CHAMBER MEETING**  
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## KPD ANNOUNCES CHANGES FOR FINGERPRINTING

Non-criminal fingerprinting is performed by the Detective Bureau for Borough residents only. There is a \$25.00 fee for fingerprints. The applicants must furnish the appropriate fingerprint cards. The majority of fingerprinting for State application purposes is now done through MorphoTrak, including firearms applications, liquor licenses, school or Borough employment, etc. Please see your employer for details.

Fingerprinting will now be done by appointment only on Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Detective Bureau. Remember to bring your fingerprint cards, a legal form of identification and the appropriate fee for the service. The only form of acceptable payment is a money order or certified bank check made payable to the Borough of Kenilworth.

Please call the Police Department at 908 276 1700 and ask for a detective to make an appointment.

## KENILWORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES INSTANT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Kenilworth Police Department has joined with NIXLE to provide an instant notification system for the residents of Kenilworth. The Department will use this new communication service to send important, valuable community information directly to residents using the latest technology. The Nixle Community Information Service allows the Police Department to create and publish messages to be delivered to subscribed residents instantly via cellular phone text message (SMS) and/or email. Notifications can also be accessed online at Nixle's web site at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)

Messages may include traffic updates and road closures, Amber Alerts, and emergency storm and flood notifications, as well as other relevant safety and community event information.

According to Police Chief Kenneth Grady, "The department is continually adapting to the changing technology around us. We will be able to get information out to our residents quickly and efficiently, making our community safer. All

information will come directly from the Kenilworth Police Department."

The service is free for government use. The messages are targeted specifically to residents who are registered within and immediately near a specific community, giving the opportunity to receive trustworthy information relevant only to their neighborhood. Residents may decide from which local agencies they want to receive information and may choose the method of delivery, whether by email, text message or via the internet.

There is no spam and no hidden cost, although standard text messaging rates will apply. Nixle builds on the foundations of other public-to-public communications services, such as Twitter, Facebook and Myspace, but adds a key component: security. When citizens receive information from the Kenilworth Police Department via Nixle, they know it can be trusted.

To register for the service, residents should go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and click Sign up now.

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Late appointments are available by request.

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- Davis Vision
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## KENILWORTH FIREFIGHTERS EXTRICATE TRAPPED MOTORIST

On Friday the 13th, a Cranford resident was traveling westbound on the Kenilworth Boulevard just passed Dorset Drive when a large tree snapped and fell on the roof of his SUV. The roof was crushed to the point where the Kenilworth Fire Department had to extricate the driver from his vehicle. He was taken to University Hospital in Newark with injuries. He was released from the hospital a few days later.



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## ST. THERESA STUDENTS STUDY LIFE IN THE RAIN FOREST, ARTIC, DESERT, AND THE OCEAN

Ms. Pancurak and her third grade class from St. Theresa School in Kenilworth recently studied animals and their habitats. Students researched different animals and learned about their living environments. They created dioramas on animals from the Rain Forest, Artic, Desert, and The Ocean.



(above, l-r) Ocean: (back) Adam Grova, Joshua Perez, Fiona Morales. (front) Eric Gonzalez, Sabrina Jones.



(above, l-r) Artic: (back) Mia Lissade, Gabriella Ronquillo, Klarisse Rivera. (front) Isabella Nunez, Shawna Stevens.



(above, l-r) Rain Forest: (back) Samantha Morales, Kiara Renteria, Christopher Mattos. (front) Marcus Carpenter, Christopher Hnatowski.



(above, l-r) Desert: (back) Michael Huss, Abigail Donovan, Isabella Nunez, Steven Traczik. (front) Matthew Payne.

# WHAT TEACHERS ARE DOING ON THOSE DAYS OFF

Dr. Scott Taylor, Assistant Superintendent, Kenilworth Public Schools

The school district has made a concerted effort to elevate the quality of teaching in all content areas and in all grades. What's more, the school's Local Professional Development Committee and administration team has worked hard to install consistent and universal instructional practices across the board so that every child in Kenilworth is treated to the same rigorous and effectively implemented program.

To these ends, Harding and Brearley Middle-High School teachers have been maximizing the time accorded to them when Kenilworth's children have half or full-days off from school to learn and practice the most current research-proven strategies to our avail. Last January, I published an article in Kenilworth Life about the district's professional learning community program. Kenilworth's cutting-edge approach to teaching educators about best practices has been recognized throughout the state as a model way to keep teachers in the learning mind-set while they study the strategies that work (not the practices that are only theorized to work).

Teachers have been working in small groups to study specific instructional practices during each of the six half-days provided. This year, 22 teams of teachers have read about, practiced, and piloted programs related to such topics as: arts and music integration using a recognized approach called Brain Gym, the identity of the middle school as a specialized learning environment for the "tween" child, a social-emotional skill building plan called Responsive Classroom that would be included in every elementary child's classroom routine for 20

minutes daily, and the link between nutrition and student achievement.

Beyond their monthly studies, teachers are provided a full-day in February so they can participate in workshops that directly support the district's Initiative Plan (I strongly encourage readers to download the Initiative Plan from the district's website by going to [www.kenilworthschools.com](http://www.kenilworthschools.com) and clicking "Departments," and then "Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development"). This year's full-day worth of professional development experiences engaged teachers in workshops with such titles as: "NJASK Test Preparation Without Tears," "Drowning in Information, Starved for Knowledge: Evaluating Internet Resources," and "More Writing... Less Grading: Introduction to the Collins Writing Program."

Rest assured those days, when our district's children are home from school, are spent very wisely. Our teachers are spending every minute of this time learning and applying the instructional tools we've identified promote student academic, social, and emotional achievement. Studies of high performing educational systems in other countries such as Finland (see the December 12, 2011 New York Times article titled "From Finland, an Intriguing School- Reform Model") point out that teachers who spend at least 10% of their weekly time on professional development are more successful in the classroom. The Kenilworth School District is mindful of these effective models and vigilantly monitors the type of support its teachers need each year.

## SNOW ORDINANCE

On December 14, 2011, the Borough Council adopted a new ordinance restricting parking on Borough streets during and after a snow event. Effective on January 1, 2012, during a snow fall and for 24 hours thereafter, there is no parking permitted on the odd-numbered side of the streets in the Borough or in municipal parking lots to permit the Borough to clear them.

Cars parked in drive ways must be no less than one foot from the edge of the street pavement. Cars parked on the street must be no less than 4 inches from the curb or street edge. No one may attempt to reserve a parking space by placing any type of material in the street. No one may throw snow into the street and vehicles may not be parked in any manner which would restrict or prohibit removal of snow and ice by the Borough.

The ordinance was adopted as a result of the blizzard of 2010 when streets were virtually impassable for days after the storm. The police, fire department and DPW reported that with cars parked on both sides of the street it was impossible to get plows and emergency vehicles through. All of those departments asked Council to adopt an ordinance which would alleviate these problems.

Borough residents must take note of the new ordinance and abide by the parking restrictions. If possible, vehicles should be parked off the street to allow those without off-street parking the opportunity to park their vehicles.

The fines for failing to abide by the ordinance range from \$150.00 to \$1,000.00. For more information about the ordinance, please request a copy from the Borough Clerk.



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## BOOK GROUP TO DISCUSS THE GOOD DAUGHTERS BY JOYCE MAYNARD

The book group of the Kenilworth Public Library will meet at 7:15 PM on Tuesday, March 6, to discuss *The Good Daughters*, by Joyce Maynard. This novel follows the lives of “birthday sisters” Ruth and Dana, one an artist and the other a scientist, born on the same day in the same hospital as they grow up during the 1950s and continue on to the present day. According to the liner notes, *The Good Daughters* is a story about “the ties of home and family, the devastating force of love, the healing power of forgiveness, and the desire to know who we are.”

Participation in the book discussion group is free and open to all members of the general public, including people who reside in communities other than Kenilworth. No previous experience with a book group is required and new members are always welcome. Because space is limited, however, preregistration is requested. Copies of *The Good Daughters* will be available for check out at the circulation desk.




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# KENILWORTH FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Located at 548 Boulevard. Library website is [www.kenilworthlibrary.org](http://www.kenilworthlibrary.org).

Registration for programs may be done in person at the library or by calling 908 276-2451.

The library's regular schedule of operation: Mon, Tues and Thurs: 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Wed: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Fri: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Sat: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

The Kenilworth Public Library is handicapped accessible.

## RESIDENT JACKIE FIDURSKI IS AN ASSET TO THE COMMUNITY

Submitted by Dale Spindel, Library Director, Kenilworth Public Library

As many of you already know, 2011 marked the 75th anniversary of the opening of the Kenilworth Public Library at its current address, 548 Boulevard. As a way to support both special celebrations and ongoing activities, the library put out a call to the community for “75 for 75”; we were looking for 75 individuals, families, businesses or organizations to make a donation of \$75 to the library. Not long after the first press release appeared in the papers, I was approached by Kenilworth resident Jackie Fidurski who handed me a check for \$750, saying that she wanted to get us off to a good start. She also said that I should call her at the end of the year and let her know if we fell short of our goal so that she could make up the difference.

Although the library did receive many generous donations, we were also aware that 2011 was probably not the ideal time to be undertaking even a modest fund raising campaign, what with difficult economic times as well as the added insults 2011 brought to Kenilworth in the form of Tropical Storm Irene

and the freak October snow storm. While very grateful for those donations we did receive, we also fully understood the many reasons why others were not able to participate.

As I imagine it was for everyone else, it was with a huge sigh of relief that we at the library finally said goodbye to 2011.

So you can also imagine my surprise when, not quite two weeks into the new year, I received another phone call from Jackie Fidurski, this time wanting to know if the library had reached its fund raising goal; she was more than a little miffed that I had not already called to let her know that we had come up short. A few minutes after that, Jackie appeared at my office door with another check, this time in the amount of \$2,025. For those of you not interested in doing the math, I will tell you that Jackie's total contribution came to \$2,775 or 34 times 75.

When I asked Jackie what we could do to thank her, she asked me to write a letter to the editor, so here it is, along with a huge THANK YOU, JACKIE! Kenilworth is very lucky to have you.

## VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 & UP ON SATURDAY,

Feb. 11th. Kenilworth residents may begin to register for this craft on Saturday, Feb. 4th.

Out of town residents may begin to register on Thursday Feb. 9th.

(below) A winter craft was recently presented at the Kenilworth Public Library.

Children created penguins and other winter decorations.



(above, l-r) Willow Kovac, age 7 and Christine Federico, age 7 both of Kenilworth decorate their penguins.



(above) Caleb Padula, age 4 of Kenilworth decorates his penguin.



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION FEATURES "SONGS FROM THE FIELDS"

*The History and Significance of U.S. Slave Songs/Spirituals. Guest speaker: James (Jim) E. Thomas of the U.S. Slave Song Project Inc.*

The history and significance of U.S. slave songs, also known as spirituals, will be the focus of the Kenilworth Historical Society's Black History Month Celebration on the afternoon of Sunday, Feb. 19. The general public is invited to attend the event, which will take place at the Kenilworth Seniors' Center, 526 Boulevard, Kenilworth, N.J. Light refreshments will be served starting at 1:30 p.m., and the program will begin at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free. In case of snow, the celebration will be held on Feb. 26.

The featured presentation, "Songs from the Fields," is appropriate for all age groups. It will be given by James (Jim) E. Thomas, founder and president of the U.S. Slave Song Project Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public about authentic U.S. slave songs, or spirituals. Thomas will discuss the fascinating body of original, inspirational American folk music that, from 1619 to 1865, enabled African-American slaves to secretly communicate with one another, teach their children, record their history and heal their pain. He will review the various types of spirituals and their significance, explain the "secret codes" within them and sing passages from the authentic slave songs. Some of the music that Thomas highlights in his presentation will be sung by members of Kenilworth's Union Baptist Church, First Baptist Church and other local congregations.

Parking and entrance to the Kenilworth Seniors' Center are located at the rear of the building. For further information, please call 908-709-0434.

Thomas founded the U.S. Slave Song Project Inc. in 2005 and has given presentations on the subject at various venues throughout the United States and other parts of the world. Thomas was founding director of the American Red Cross Chorus in Washington, D.C., in 1976, and he continues to serve as a leadership volunteer for the American Red Cross. He additionally has recruited and directed military choirs in Vietnam and Germany.

While attending Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., Thomas sang with the world-renowned Fisk Jubilee Singers. He subsequently was a

member of the Robert Shaw Chorale in Atlanta, Ga., and of the Paul Hill Chorale at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

Thomas is the recipient of numerous honors, including the American Red Cross National Diversity Award (1999), the American Red Cross President's Award for Leadership (2000) and the Fisk University General Alumni Association's Alumni Achievement Award for Outstanding Service to his profession (2000).

Thomas resides in Stafford, Va., and in Martha's Vineyard, Mass.



*(above) James (Jim) E. Thomas, founder and president of the U.S. Slave Song Project Inc., dedicated to educating the public about authentic U.S. slave songs/spirituals.*



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## AUDITIONS FOR THE WHO'S TOMMY

Mystic Vision Players would like to announce auditions for their 20TH Anniversary summer production of The Who's Tommy. Auditions will be held at Reformed Church of Linden 600 North Wood Ave on Monday, March 26, 2012 and Tuesday March 27, 2012 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM; call backs will be Friday, March 30 at the same time and place. We are seeking: adults and two young boys ages 6 to 15. Please come prepared to sing 16 bars of a song in the rock and roll style of the show. Wear appropriate clothing and shoes to be able to dance. (The young boys and some adults will not be required to dance.) Visit our website [mysticvisionplayers.com](http://mysticvisionplayers.com).

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## TRINITAS CELEBRATES AMERICAN HEART MONTH

*"Joyful Heart" Tea Presentation Slated for Feb. 22*

In honor of American Heart Month in February, Trinitas Regional Medical Center will host two heart healthy events to help educate the community. Guests are encouraged to wear red to the events to help celebrate.

Women and men are invited to attend a second event on Wednesday, February 22, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Meherwan Joshi, MD, will again speak at the "Joyful Heart" Tea at which a light, heart-healthy dinner will be served. The event is designed to give the entire community

education and information about heart health. The event will take place at Echo Executive Plaza, Suite 1A, 899 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, NJ.

Both events are free, but seating is limited. Please call (908) 994-8939 to RSVP to either program.

During the entire month of February, the Williamson Street campus of Trinitas Regional Medical Center will be illuminated in red as a tribute to American Heart Month.

## LADIES' KOC EVENTS

Sunday, Feb.12th from 7:30am-1:00 Valentines Bake Sale in the McVeigh Hall. Across the street from St. Theresa Church. All homemade bake goods and treats will be ready for your purchase. Coffee will be served to all customers.

Wednesday, February 15th 7:30 pm, Kenilworth Knights of Columbus Hall, At Home America demonstration. Cash and carry items will be available and book ordering as well Coffee and dessert will be served.

## ANNUAL FISH FRY

The Rosary Society of St. Theresa's Church will be hosting the Annual Fish Fry on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, from 4:00 pm-7:30 pm at McVeigh Hall at St. Theresa School Gym.

Dine in and or take out is available. Price of Adult ticket is \$15.00 and child ticket \$6.50. All included from fish, fries, cold slaw, coffee, tea, cold drink, desserts galore.

For more information call Sue Walushen at 908-668-7325 or Darlene Candarella 908-931-1353.

## TRIP TO MOHEGAN

**(GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE)**

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a bus trip to Mohegan Sun Casino (Uncasville, Conn.) on Sat., Feb. 25, 2012.

The trip will depart Kenilworth (St. Theresa's School parking lot) at 8 a.m. and return to Kenilworth at approximately 9 p.m. Cost of \$50 includes motor coach transportation, an approximate six-hour visit to the casino, which additionally houses a wide range of distinctive shops and popular restaurants; a \$10 coupon for free bets; and a \$10 coupon for food.

There will be complimentary door prizes on this trip. For further information and reservations, please call 908-709-0391 or 908-709-0434. As space is limited, it is suggested that reservations be made early to ensure availability. Gift certificates are available.

Proceeds will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's ongoing project to restore the local 19th- century Oswald J. Nitschke House and transform it into a "living history" museum and cultural arts center.

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