

BUSINESS • LIFE KENILWORTH

PUBLISHED BY KENILWORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Issue #10

November 2008

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

NEXT CHAMBER MEETING

NOVEMBER 12, 2008

8:30 AM

KENILWORTH INN
BOULEVARD &
SOUTH 31st STREET

VFW POST 2230

will hold a
**VETERANS DAY
CEREMONY**

on

**NOV 11th
11 am**

at the

**VETERAN'S
CENTER**

Kenilworth Chamber of
Commerce
P.O. Box 300
Elizabeth, NJ 07207-0300

RICHARD TIEMANN HONORED AS EAGLE SCOUT

On Sunday, October 26, Boy Scout Troup 83 based at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2230 in Kenilworth conducted an Eagle Court of Honor, conferring on Kenilworth resident Richard Tiemann, 16, the rank he earned at a board of review last March.

According to the Boy Scouts of America the fact that a boy is an Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance, not only in Scouting but also as he enters higher education, business or industry, and community service. The award is a performance based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. Not every boy who joins a Boy Scout troop earns the Eagle Scout rank; only about 5 percent of all Boy Scouts do so. This represents more than 1.7 million Boy Scouts who have earned the rank since 1912. Nevertheless, the goals of Scouting—citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness—remain important for all Scouts, whether or not they attain the Eagle Scout rank.

Rich entered scouting in 1999 as a Bobcat Scout in Cub Scout Pack 83 at St. Theresa School. He served a year each as a Wolf, Bear, First Year Webelos and Second Year Webelos. He earned his Arrow of Light on March 24, 2003. Rich joined Boy Scout Troop 83's Cobra Patrol, the first patrol of the new troop. In troop 83, he advanced through Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life. He became an Eagle on March 6, 2008 at the age of 15. Rich has held the posts of Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, and is currently serving as Troop Guide. He has earned 36 merit badges and 2 Eagle Palms and hopes to earn the third Eagle Palm by December 2008. Rich has earned 3 religious medals in scouting: Light of Christ, Parvuli ei, and Ad Altare Dei. Rich attended one week of summer camp at Sabattis High Adventure Camp with Troop 83, and he has worked there on staff for three years, one as a CIT and two as a counselor. He has also worked on staff at several council Camporees.

Rich attended St. Theresa School from 1st grade through 8th grade. He played on the school basketball team for 4 years and participated in the annual school plays, both on stage crew as well as in acting roles. The faculty at STS chose Rich to attend the National Student Leadership Conference for a week in Washington, DC. He now is a Junior at Union Catholic Regional High School. His activities there include "Tech Crew", where he helps build elaborate and beautiful sets for two school plays each year. He also is a discus thrower on the school track team. Rich has been an altar server at St. Theresa Church from 4th grade through the present. He has been a member of the St.

Theresa CYO all through high school, and this year is on the Team. He spends Easter week in West Virginia working on Habitat for Humanity with the CYO. He also works with the CYO at Helping Hands events. Rich also participates in CYO's Living Stations and Living Nativity. Rich has also helped as a catechist for children in the RCIA program. Rich is a second degree black belt in the ATA, and is certified as both an open water scuba diver and a deep water scuba diver with P.A.D.I. He is currently pursuing training to become a volunteer EMT. He plans to pursue the Order of the Arrow and BSA Lifeguard and Snorkeler.



(above) Richard Tiemann with his parents, Mark and Suzanne.



(above) Scoutmaster John Kozak with Rich who was the first scout in the five-year history of Troop 83 to be given scouting's highest honor. Kozak believes more boys in his troop will follow Rich's example.

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Kenilworth Business Life is published by the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce, which is an affiliate of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce.

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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ADVERTISING & PRESS RELEASES

Inquiries concerning advertising and submissions of press releases can be made to the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce via phone, fax or email to:

KATE CONROY

Email: KateConroy@GatewayChamber.com

Phone: 908-352-0900

Fax: 908-352-0865

MEMO FROM THE MAYOR

KCoC • Page 2 • Nov 08



November is the month in which we traditionally give thanks for all of the many blessings that we as Americans have received. Even during these difficult financial times, we continue to be the freest, most prosperous nation on earth.

That freedom and prosperity is due, in large part, to the sacrifices made by the members of the Armed Forces of the United States. It is fitting then, that we honor our soldiers on November 11 – Veteran's Day.

In 1954 President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veteran's Day and calling upon all Americans to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. The Veteran's Administration was charged with the responsibility of organizing and overseeing the national observance of Veteran's Day.

Each year on 11/11 at 11 A.M., the Veteran's Day National Ceremony is held at Arlington National Cemetery. Similarly, at the Kenilworth Veteran's Center on South 21st Street, the VFW holds a ceremony commemorating our veterans and their service to our country.

Memorial Day is the time to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to their country. While we remember those who have died in defense of their country on Veteran's Day, the primary goal is to simply remember and thank all of our veteran's who have served our country. On this day, please remember to thank all veteran's serving now and in the past for all they have done for us. And if you can, please join the members of VFW Post 2230 at 11 AM at the Veteran's Center.

Mayor Kathi Fiamingo

UPCOMING MEETINGS

GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH

All meetings are held in Council Chambers at Borough Hall, 567 Boulevard.

NOVEMBER 12 - Work and Regular Session to start at 7:00PM

DECEMBER 9 - Work Session to start at 7:30PM

DECEMBER 10 - Regular Meeting to start at 8:00PM

UPCOMING PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings are held at Borough Hall, 567 Boulevard.

NOVEMBER 6 & DECEMBER 4 - Regular Meeting to start at 7:00PM

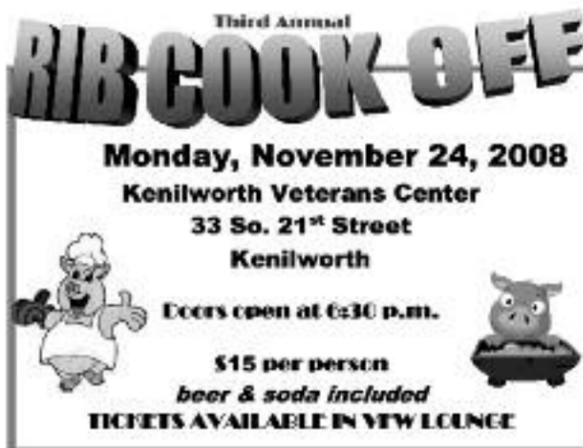
NOVEMBER 20 & DECEMBER 18 - Work Session Meeting to start at 7:30PM

KENILWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION

All meetings are held in the Board Conference Room at David Brearley Middle/High School at 401 Monroe Avenue.

Regular meetings to start at 7:30 pm

NOVEMBER 10 & DECEMBER 8 - Regular Meeting



GATEWAY CHAMBER EVENTS

11/5 THE NEW JERSEY ECONOMY & THE ELECTION RESULTS

8:00am Crowne Plaza Hotel, Clark, NJ

11/6 WORKFORCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

8:45am Gateway Chamber Downstairs Conference Room, Elizabeth, NJ

11/6 NETWORKING PROFESSIONALS OF NEW JERSEY MEETING

7:30am Perkins of Green Brook, Route 22 East, Green Brook, NJ

11/10 5th ANNUAL "TASTE OF KENILWORTH"

hosted by Schering-Plough Corp. 6-8pm Schering-Plough Corporation, Kenilworth, NJ 07033

11/12 KENILWORTH CHAMBER MEETING

8:30am Kenilworth Inn, Kenilworth, NJ

11/14 LOCAL & COUNTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

8:30am Roselle Borough Hall, Roselle NJ

11/18 IRISH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (IBA) NETWORKING EVENT

6 pm Molly Maguires, Clark, NJ

11/20 GATEWAY ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS WOMEN MEETING

11:45 La Casa di Martino, Roselle Park, NJ

11/21 SOMERSET HILLS BUSINESS NETWORK MEETING

8:00 am The Somerset Room at the Olde Mill Inn, Basking Ridge, NJ

11/25 LINDEN CHAMBER MEETING

8:30 am Cox Printers, Linden, NJ

11/26 CLARK CHAMBER MEETING

8:30 am Crowne Plaza Hotel, Clark, NJ

11/26 SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER MEETING

8:30 am Public Safety Building, Springfield

12/4 WORKFORCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

8:45 am Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, Elizabeth, NJ

12/4 NETWORKING PROFESSIONALS OF NEW JERSEY MEETING

7:30 am Perkins of Green Brook, Green Brook, NJ

The Kenilworth Business Life welcomes news and press releases from the community. To submit your news email: info@gatewaychamber.com or call 908-418-5586.

THE KENILWORTH SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

will be having a

CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, November 8, 2008

10 am to 4 pm

The event will take place at the center.

DAVID BREARLEY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT/TEACHER/EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

The October Student of the Month for David Brearley High School is Navdeep Cheema. Navdeep is described as "articulate, passionate, and hard-working" by her teachers. Another teacher says she is an excellent role model who has her eye on the future and what it takes to be successful. Senior Navdeep Cheema has served as class president for the past three years, is president of Bears That Care, and still manages to earn grades that keep her near the top of her class. Navdeep is also a member of the varsity cross country team and acts as manager of the boys' varsity soccer team. Congratulations, Navdeep Cheema, for being voted High School Student of the Month for October!

The David Brearley High School teacher of the month is history teacher Mr. Larry Sturchio. Mr. Sturchio is a true professional. Not only does he love what he teaches, he is also able to pass all of that on to his students. The students say they are inspired and that they want to look into history in the future because of his classes. One student said, "When you walk into Mr. Sturchio's room you are taken back into history and it is a great place to learn, my favorite room

in the school!" Any one with this type of passion for History creates a warm and infectious learning environment and students look forward to the next day! Congratulations, Ms. Sturchio for being chosen as David Brearley's High School Teacher of the Month for October!

David Brearley's Middle School Student of the Month is Miss Danielle Klein. Danielle is described by her teachers as being an outstanding student whose intrinsic motivation leads to her academic success. Not only does she complete her homework on a daily basis, but Danielle's outstanding writing demonstrates the depth of her mature and insightful character. Danielle always strives to do better and is highly attentive to her understanding of subject material. With this strong attitude, Danielle is surely a powerful and successful role model. Congratulations Danielle on being chosen as David Brearley's Student of the Month.

David Brearley's Middle School Teacher of the Month is math teacher Mrs. Alvarez. Mrs. Alvarez is described by her students as being a lively and fun teacher. She shows her creative instructional aptitude through games and the use

of whiteboards and shaving cream. Mrs. Alvarez is also known for using unique voices to keep the interest of her students. Her students note that she makes math easy to learn and that she's always available for help when they need it. Congratulations Mrs. Alvarez on being chosen as David Brearley's Middle School Teacher of the Month

The David Brearley Staff Member of the month is Mrs. Sues. Mrs. Sues has been an invaluable member of our Brearley Staff for several years. Although her assignments change, her work ethic, beliefs and integrity never do. She is conscientious, approachable, dependable and confidential in all she does. Many of our students have confided in and have come to depend on Mrs. Sues for her honesty, skill and guidance. The late, Lady Bird Johnson had a saying which comes to mind when one thinks of Mrs. Sues and her dedication: "Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them." Mrs. Sues has high expectations and beliefs for every student she interacts with. She believes in the capabilities of her students and reinforces these beliefs through her day to day actions.



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Would Like to Wish Everyone in Kenilworth a Happy & Safe Thanksgiving this year!!!

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“SCIENCETELLER” ANDREW PICCIRILLO WAS BACK AT LIBRARY BY POPULAR DEMAND FOR THEIR HALLOWEEN PARTY



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PAPPAS NAMED LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Kenilworth resident Carol Linda Pappas, named 2008 "volunteer of the year" by the Libraries of Union County Consortium, poses with the plaque she was presented with at the consortium's October 7 reception in Westfield.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Special Events – All special events require advance registration as space is limited. Registration for each special event opens to children who are Kenilworth residents one week before the event. If space permits, out of town children may register for special events two days prior to the event. To register, call 908 276-2451 or visit the library at 548 Boulevard during regular library hours.

NJ SNAKES & TURTLES

Children ages 4 & up will have an opportunity to learn about & view live snakes & turtles from the Trailside Nature & Science Center, Thursday morning, November 6, (Teacher's Convention Day), 11:00-11:45 AM.

THANKSGIVING DAY CRAFT

Recommended for ages 4 & up (children ages 4-6 must be accompanied by an assisting adult), Saturday November 8, 11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon.

PROGRAMMING FOR ADULTS

Because of space limitations, preregistration is required for all programs, with registration open to Kenilworth residents one week before the program date. If space permits, registration will open to non-residents two days before the date of the program.

SEVEN TURNS OF THE KEY

Book talk by NJ author Angelo Savarino. This novel, based on a true story, is a tale of "murder, deceit and infidelity" which ultimately explains why the author's family immigrated to America from Palermo and Corleone. Thursday evening, November 3, 7:00 PM.

RECITAL BY SAXOPHONIST SHANNEN PIERCE

Friday evening, November 7, 7:00-8:00 PM.

"COLONIAL AND VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS",

Lecture by Judith Krall-Russo, Tuesday December 2, 7:00 PM.

The Kenilworth Public Library is pleased to present "Colonial and Victorian Christmas Customs", a program by New Jersey food historian Judith Krall-Russo at 7:00 PM on Tuesday evening, December 2, in the library's activity room. This program will focus on holiday customs that have been handed down from earlier times, including mistletoe, gingerbread and caroling. The differences between colonial and Victorian Christmas celebrations and the foods that were served will also be explained.

This program is free and open to all members of the general public. Because space is limited, preregistration is required and can be done in person at the library or by calling 908 276-2451 during regular library hours. The Kenilworth Public Library is located at 541 Boulevard.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Book to be announced, Tuesday evening, December 9, 7:15 PM – open registration for both Kenilworth residents and non-residents.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO KENILWORTH COMMUNITY FUND NEEDED

Mayor Kathi Fiamingo has put out a call for contributions to the Kenilworth Community Fund. This fund provides assistance to those individuals in the community who are not welfare eligible but who may need some temporary financial assistance. Paulette Drogran, Kenilworth's Welfare Director has indicated that the Community Fund is substantially depleted. Ms. Drogran stated, "In this precarious economic time, this Fund becomes even more important to our community members who may have a short term need of financial assistance."

"Although our attention has been called to those in need in other states from the recent hurricanes, those close to home who have similar needs should not be ignored", said Fiamingo. "The people in our community are always ready to help their neighbors. Any donation will be put to good use by the Fund."

Community members who might be in need of temporary assistance from the Community Fund should contact Paulette Drogran, (908) 276 6461. All donations to the fund should be sent to the Kenilworth Community Fund, 567 Boulevard, Kenilworth, NJ 07033.



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUS TRIPS AND EVENTS

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a bus trip to the Vanity Fair shopping outlets (Reading, Pa.) on Nov. 20, and a trip to Brandywine River Museum (Chadds Ford, Pa.) and Longwood Gardens (Kennett Square, Pa.) on Dec. 6.

The Nov. 20 Vanity Fair shopping trip will depart Kenilworth (S. 21st Street Municipal Parking Lot) at 8 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m. The \$33 cost includes motor coach transportation, a shopping bag and discount coupons (including a coupon for lunch on your own).

The Dec. 6 trip to Brandywine River Museum and Longwood Gardens will depart Kenilworth (St. Theresa's School Parking Lot) at 9 a.m. and return at 8:30 p.m. Participants will have an opportunity to view holiday exhibits at both sites. The \$88 cost includes motor coach transportation, admission fees, lunch, tax and gratuities.

The visit to Brandywine River Museum will feature collections of Victorian dollhouses, holiday illustrations, model and toy trains, "Critters, Angels and Stars" ornaments, theme-decorated trees and the museum's renowned collection of paintings by N.C., Andrew and Jamie Wyeth. Lunch will be provided at Longwood Gardens' indoor conservatory, with time to enjoy the site's beautiful displays of poinsettias, floral trees, living wreaths and outdoor displays, including illuminated Oak Allee, topiary reindeer, snowflake and icicle displays – and more. The trip is being arranged and escorted by Progressive Travel of Union, N.J.

For further information and reservations, please call 908-709-0391 or 908-709-0434. As space is limited on both trips, it is suggested that reservations be made early to ensure availability.

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

The organization's planned events for 2009 thus far include bus trips to Mohegan Sun Casino (Feb. 21); and Philadelphia Flower Show (March 5).



Members of the Kenilworth Historical Society welcomed more than 350 visitors to Kenilworth's historic Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) at 49 South 21 Street. The house was open to the general public on Oct. 18 and Oct. 19 during Union County's annual heritage festival, Four Centuries in a Weekend. The 19th-century home belonged to Oswald J. Nitschke who served five terms as Mayor of Kenilworth in the early 1900s.

KENILWORTH COMMEMORATIVE COVERLET, CULINARY KENILWORTH COOKBOOK MAKE GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS

A beautiful Kenilworth Commemorative Coverlet (throw) featuring many of Kenilworth's prominent historic sites – and a "Culinary Kenilworth" cookbook including favorite community recipes with illustrations and poetry by local students is available from the Kenilworth Historical Society for your holiday gift-giving needs.

The commemorative coverlet's 48" x 68" colored woven design was created in honor of Kenilworth's 100th anniversary last year. It bears the borough's official Centennial logo and features such familiar sites as the Kenilworth Municipal Building (1962); Sayre-Shallcross House; Kenilworth Boulevard and trolley (early 1900s); New York and New Orange Railroad Station (c. 1903); Upsala College (c. 1898); McKinley School (c. 1903); Kenilworth Public Library (c. 1936); Shallcross Pond (Black Brook Park); Kenilworth Police and Fire/Rescue; Kenilworth Inn (c. 1903) and James Arthur residence (c. 1910).

The cost of the coverlet is \$60. Proceeds benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's ongoing project to restore the historic Oswald J. Nitschke House and transform the 19th-century home into a living history museum and cultural arts center.

The "Culinary Kenilworth" cookbook, a joint fundraising project of the Kenilworth Historical Society and the David Brearley Middle/High School art department, features numerous recipes collected from local residents and friends, student-rendered illustrations of

many of Kenilworth's food establishments, and poetry written by local students. The cookbook is available for \$10.

For further information and to purchase a Kenilworth commemorative coverlet (throw) and/or a "Culinary Kenilworth" cookbook, please call 908-245-1467 or 908-709-0434.



(above) A beautiful commemorative coverlet (throw) featuring many of Kenilworth's prominent historic sites is available from the Kenilworth Historical Society. It has been viewed by many as a wonderful heirloom gift that can be enjoyed and treasured from generation to generation.

CASINO NIGHT FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Approximately 200 people attended the Kenilworth Historical Society's Oct. 3 "Gala Casino Night and Cocktail Reception".



This major fundraiser was hosted by Schering-Plough to benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's project to restore the local 19th-century Oswald J. Nitschke House and transform it into a living history museum and cultural arts center.

Participants in the Oct. 3 event were invited to enjoy a fun evening of black jack, poker, roulette, craps and other games played on regulation tables manned by professional dealers. Wins, in the form of play money, were exchanged for chances in an elaborate Tricky Tray comprising a range of prizes. A 50/50, silent art auction (coordinated with Marlin Art) and palm/tarot card readings were also available.

The admission price included \$50 in play money for each participant to exchange for gaming chips or tickets for the Tricky Tray.

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KENILWORTH HALLOWEEN PARADE PHOTOS

Held on October 25, 2008 by the Recreation Department for children up to fourth grade.



BOULEVARD FIVE72 RIBBON CUTTING



(above) Mayor Kathi Fiamingo, third from left, graciously cut the ribbon on October 6, 2008 to mark the opening of Boulevard Five72.



(above, l-r) Bartender Manny Montes and brother Manager Joe.

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RICHARD TIEMANN'S EAGLE PROJECT



(above) Scouts of Troop 83, friends and family members all worked on Rich's Eagle Project.

Eagle Scout thanks the community

I think Boy Scouts of America is a wonderful program. It teaches many useful and important life skills, and gives you great experiences that you could never have anywhere else. I'd like to thank everyone who made this scouting experience possible for me. It has been very important part of my life, and I'll always cherish the memories I have.

First, I want to thank my scoutmaster, Mr. John Kozak. He started our Cub Scout Pack 83 and was Committee Chairman, and he started our Boy Scout Troop 83 and has been scoutmaster for all 5 years that we've been commissioned. I'd also like to thank our assistant scoutmaster, Mr. Brian Jaeckel, for always being willing to help run our troop events. I thank all of the adults who are involved in our troop for their support.

I'd also like to thank the staff from Patriots' Path Council for providing us all with such a well run program. It is also important to thank Father Joe Bejgrowicz for sponsoring our Cub Scout pack at St. Theresa School and to thank Mr. Bobby Jeans and all the veterans of VFW

My Eagle Project was to repair a badly eroded hiking trail in Watchung Reservation. The trail I repaired runs from near the top of the steep hillside just above the old Drake Farm site at an intersection with another foot trail, down the hill past where it crosses the Sierra Club Trail, and continues all the way down the hillside to the bridge that crosses Blue Brook. The project included installing 13 steps along the steepest section of the trail using 6x6 pressure treated timber with tamped earth backfill on the uphill side of each step. The timbers were spiked in

Post 2230 for their generous support of our Boy Scout troop here at the VFW. I am grateful to all of my merit badge counselors. If it weren't for their generous donation of their time to scouting, I would not be here receiving this award today.

Another important group of people I'd like to thank are all the staff at Sabattis. If it weren't for those guys, I wouldn't have had all the fun I had working on staff there these past 3 summers, and I wouldn't have all my great memories.

Now I would like to thank all those guys who worked extremely hard on my Eagle Project. If it weren't for their hard work, dedication and sacrifice, we would never have gotten this tough project done. Thanks again.

And last but not least I'd like to thank my parents. If it were not for their dedication and support, I might not have been able to stay in scouting all these years and achieve Eagle rank.

Scouting has been very important to me in my life, and if it weren't for everyone I mentioned, my scouting experience would never have been as amazing as it was.

place with 18-inch re-bars. I also installed three 6x6x12 foot-long pressure treated timber water bars in strategic locations to deflect storm water runoff away from the trail so as to prevent future erosion. The water bars were also spiked in place with 18-inch re-bars. My team and I also used crushed stone and earth backfill to perform extensive remediation of eroded sections of the trail, and we also dug drainage trenches to direct storm water away.

My team consisted of scouts from troop 83, my friends, also my two cousins and my father, who served as adult leaders as well as workers. Including everyone's time, we spent a total of 242 hours on the project, which was approved by Betty Ann Kelly and Dan Bernier of the Union County Parks and Recreation Department. Actual field work began on October 8, 2007 and was concluded on December 1, 2007.

For funding my project I had proposed to seek a grant for the lumber from the NY/NJ Trail Conference as well as to request donations from Home Depot and Lowe's for the re-bar. The gravel and earth fill were to be supplied by the Union County Parks Department. However, the NY/NJ Trail Conference's grant budget for 2006 had already been exhausted. In the end, the Union County Parks Department supplied all materials, since it was their facility that was being refurbished.

It was very hard work, but my team and I enjoyed working together very much. It made me feel very good to see how many hikers came by during the work and said "Thank you" to us for doing it. They really appreciated it. The trail had been both unsightly and hazardous, and it felt really good to see how attractive and usable it was when we were finished.

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A local Garden Center is doing much more than providing fresh, fragrant Christmas Trees for your holiday enjoyment this year. Williams Nursery is part of a national effort called Trees for Troops which will provide more than 17,000 Real Christmas Trees to military families across the United States and overseas.

Since 2005 Christmas Tree farmers and retailers have donated their own trees for the Trees for Troops program. The Christmas SPIRIT Foundation, the non-profit that implements Trees for Troops, received many requests from the public on how they could help to donate. This year, consumers will have the opportunity to purchase a tree at Williams

Nursery that will be delivered to a military family in the United States. Consumers can come during Trees for Troops Weekend, Friday, Dec. 5 – Sunday, Dec. 7, to purchase a tree for a military family or they can order one through Williams's website www.williams-nursery.com. Williams Nursery is the only location in NJ that consumers will be able to participate in the program.

"We are very excited to be a part of this program," said David Williams, partner at Williams Nursery, "Also, for every tree that a consumer purchases, we will contribute \$5 per tree to the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation, which implements the Trees for Troops program and

other programs for kids, families and the environment."

Trees for Troops began in 2005 when FedEx, who donates the shipping of the trees, and the Christmas SPIRIT Foundation provided 4,300 Real Christmas Trees to military families at five bases in the U.S. and overseas. In 2007 almost 17,000 military families at 40 bases in the U.S. and overseas received a tree. Since 2005, CSF and FedEx have delivered over 34,000 Real Christmas Trees to 17 countries. FedEx has traveled over 90,000 over-the-road miles to deliver trees. This year, CSF, FedEx and Garden Centers of America TM Members, with the help of consumers across the country, plan to deliver 17,000 – 20,000 Christmas Trees to military families.

"This is a great way for consumers to become directly involved with the Trees for Troops program and allow more military families to receive a tree this holiday season," said David Williams. "Providing memories at this time of year is extremely important, especially for families with loved ones serving our country."

Williams Nursery

Williams Nursery is a fourth generation family business that just celebrated their 88th anniversary. They have been recognized by Today's Garden Center magazine as one of the 100 most innovative garden centers in the USA for the past three years. For more information visit their website at www.williamsnursery.com

Christmas SPIRIT Foundation

The Christmas SPIRIT Foundation (CSF) is the 501(c)(3) non-profit branch of the National Christmas Tree Association. Based in Chesterfield, Mo., CSF advances the Christmas spirit for children, families and the environment. CSF implements the Trees for Troops program and has provided books for children from low-income families and services for victims of child abuse and neglect. For more details, go to www.christmasspiritfoundation.org.

Garden Centers of America

Garden Centers of America™ (GCA) was established in 1973 and has been actively supporting the garden center industry for over thirty years. The membership represents independent garden centers of all sizes from all areas of the country. GCA's mission is to ensure the long term success and sustainability of independent retail garden centers of North America. For more information, please visit www.gardencentersofamerica.org

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ST. THERESA SCHOOL BUILDS NEW PLAYGROUND

By Al-nisa Ruiz St. Theresa School Grade 8

ST. THERESA'S SOCIAL CONCERNS FOOD PANTRY

St. Theresa's Social Concerns Food Pantry is gearing up for their Thanksgiving food basket distribution. They anticipate a bigger need than any year before. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the back of the Church on Sunday's or any day of the week between 9-5 at the Rectory. Gift cards to any supermarket in \$10.00 denominations are also needed.

Frozen turkeys can be dropped off the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 22, between 9am – 1 pm at St. Theresa's Rectory.

The children of St. Theresa School in Kenilworth have a lot to be thankful for. Sr. Theresa Samson, Principal and Sr. Emy DeFilippi, Vice Principal had a vision for a state of the art playground to benefit the children.

The project was estimated to take two years to achieve and it was done in less than half the time. Over \$175,000 was donated from very generous supporters throughout the community.

The company that installed the play equipment, Giordano Contracting, went above and beyond with a beautiful landscaped garden complete with guardian angels.

Bishop Manuel Cruz, Fr. Kevin Hanbury and Sr. Joan Amelia Ferruggiaro, Superintendent of

Schools for the Newark Archdiocese were there to celebrate the blessing of the playground and the ribbon cutting ceremony along with Pastor. Joseph Bejgrowicz, Fr. Jose Erlito Ebron and Fr. Alfred J. Kowalski from St. Theresa's Church.



(above) Elizabeth Tramontana, Tochi Azu, Al-Nisa Ruiz, Shante Smith, Rosa Cuppari and Danny Tanelli participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony.



(above) Sr. Theresa, Bishop Cruz, Christopher Hnatowski, Ashley Speers and Fr. Hanbury.

Color photos can be seen, downloaded and prints can be purchased at picasaweb.google.com/joerenna1

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BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

By Al-nisa Ruiz St. Theresa School Grade 8

If you are a pet owner October 5, 2008 was the day for you and your companion to go to St. Theresa's Church and get your pet blessed by Deacon John Baltus. The ceremony took place on the steps of St. Theresa's Church located on 541 Washington Ave, Kenilworth NJ. The animal blessing brought over 30 families and their pets to the steps of the Church. Many children from St. Theresa School attended. The reason for the day's blessing was St. Francis of Assisi's Saint day. St. Francis is the patron saint of God's Creations. There were a variety of pets spanning from dogs, cats, ferrets, snakes and much more. You could tell by the expressions on their faces that both the pets and owners were very excited to be there.

Christine Coppola enjoyed the fact that her dog Cocoa was blessed but noted, "I really couldn't hear anything do to the fact the dogs were barking a lot!".



(above) Rosa Cuppari and her dog Faith, Amanda Ritter and her dog Hunter.

(right) Deacon John blessing the animals.

(right top) Marisol Ruiz, dog Snowball and Alicia Flores.



CONTRIBUTING JOURNALIST

Al-Nisa Ruiz is an 8th grade student at St. Theresa School in Kenilworth.

Each year the school has their annual Mini Courses which is held on every Friday for three weeks in the Spring. Mini Courses give parents the opportunity to come in and teach the children their trade. A variety of parents from architects to real estate brokers have participated.

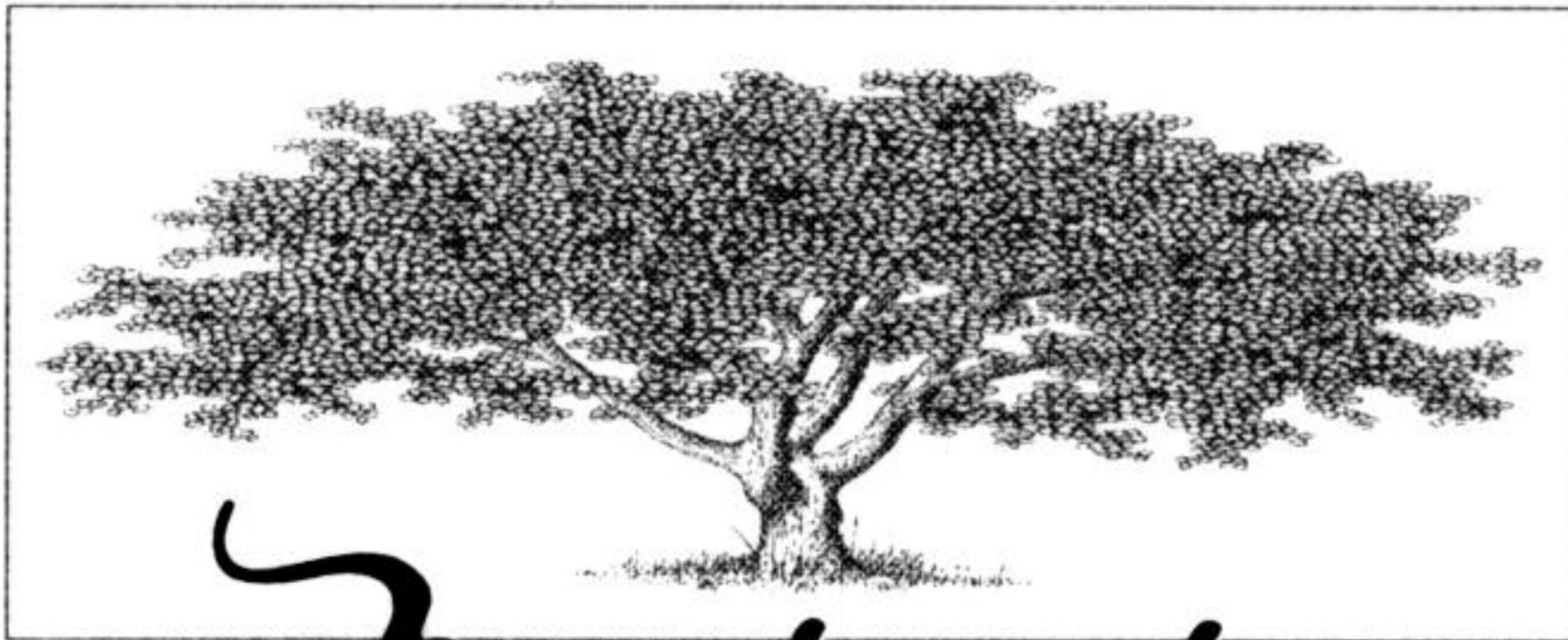
These classes are taught by parents and teachers.

St. Theresa's computer teacher, Doreen Sacco, taught the students photography. Mrs. Sacco is also in charge of public releases and the children got to take pictures of the events at St. Theresa's and it sparked an interest in Al-Nisa.

Al-Nisa has attended St. Theresa School since Pre-K and will be attending David Bearly High School in the Fall.



(above) Al-Nisa's photo is taken during photography minicourse.



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KENILWORTH CHESS CLUB WINS TILT WITH WEST ORANGE



(above, l-r) Playing for Kenilworth Yaacov Norowitz, Joe Demetrick, Michael Goeller, Max Sherer, Ziggy Bliznikas, Ian Mangion, Mark Kernighan, and Don Carrelli. Not pictured Steve Stoyko, Geoff McAuliffe.

Playing ten boards on October 16, 2008 Kenilworth Chess Club hosted a contest with the West Orange Club. Kenilworth won 6-4.

Established in 1972, the Kenilworth Chess Club is a fun and active club with both beginner and master chess players. They meet every Thursday night beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Recreation Building at 575 Kenilworth Boulevard.

Interested parties can find out more by visiting www.kenilworthchessclub.org.

The West Orange games can be found on the blog [/chesscoroner/index.html](http://chesscoroner/index.html) on this site.

Joe Knows Your Home

Home Improvement Tips from Joe Percario. Do You Know Joe?

BUY LOW AND SAVE BIG

Going into the winter season, the economy is our number one concern. The downward turn has many people questioning how best to invest their money. Everyone is also hesitant to initiate any big expenditures. Real estate has always been and will continue to be the best performer over the long term. The housing market is a catalyst in the Wall Street fiasco and it may very well be the rescue.

Since housing prices dropped it is a good time for qualified first-time home owners to buy. For existing homeowners, the strategy for a positive financial future is different. The equity in homes is at its low point. Selling would not offer the benefit it did a year or two ago. What makes sense is to stay in the home for however many number of years it will take for the economic trend to reverse. What homeowners should be doing is investing in the home that they are in.

The time is ripe to get home improvement work done. When the housing market was at its artificially inflated high point, homeowners were paying ridiculous amounts of money to buy and renovate their homes. They were acting on the false security of the inflated value of the home. They were paying high in the high market.

Home improvement contractors took advantage of the hot market and charged top

dollar. Material and labor was over priced. A lot of these contractors can't be found now-a-days. The veteran contractors, who did not gouge the marketplace and kept their prices low, are now in a position to service this market in this economy.

Investing in home improvements today is sound for several reasons. For one, the added value to the home will increase proportionately as the market inevitably starts its upswing. The cost of doing repairs in this down time is less expensive than waiting until the industry becomes hot again.

Winter months are better for making deals, rather than waiting for the spring when contractors are at their busiest. Also, the cost for material and fuel will inevitably increase in a year's time. The added value of lower energy bills over time actually pays for the improvement.

So many people invest in home improvements that go to benefit the next homeowner. The homeowners should enjoy the investment they make into a nicer place to live as long as they can. If you are planning on staying in your home, it is best to make the improvements that are inevitable sooner rather than later. This winter is the probably the best time in to do so, when prices are low at their lowest.

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