

# BUSINESS + LIFE KENILWORTH

KENILWORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Issue #57

October 2012

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## MAYOR AND RESIDENT HONORED BY OPEN GOVERNMENT GROUP

The New Jersey Foundation for Open Government (NJFOG) recognized their 2012 NJFOG LIFT Award recipients at an event held in September. NJFOG is state-wide non-profit, non-partisan coalition of individuals and civic, community and journalistic organizations founded in January 2001 that advocates for open government and helped win unanimous legislative approval for the Open Public Records Act and the creation of the Government Records Council in 2002.

Nominations for the NJFOG Lift Award were considered in three categories: Journalists, Political Leaders and Citizen Activists, all of whom contributed meaningful efforts to encourage a government entity to conduct its business in a more transparent way.

This year's recipients in the category of political leaders were Kenilworth Mayor Kathi Fiamingo, South Orange Mayor Alex Torpey and New Jersey State Senator Loretta Weinberg (D-Bergen).

Mayor Fiamingo was recognized for making Kenilworth a role model for government transparency on the internet. Her administration worked with NJFOG and the New Jersey Taxpayers Association to design a website, [kenilworthborough.com](http://kenilworthborough.com), at no cost to the Borough.

This year's recipients in the category of citizen activists with ties to Kenilworth included: John Bury of Kenilworth, and Michael Pierone of Warren County.

Michael Pierone is a computer programmer and owner of Lattice Designs, he was recognized for his design of Kenilworth's website. The website went live in July and there are many public records visitors can freely search and download. Pierone is an open government advocate and a board member of NJFOG. He volunteered his time on this project in hopes that once Kenilworth set an example of how government websites should be done, the thousands of other public entities across the state will follow. Good government groups plan to use the Borough of Kenilworth site as a showcase for best practices in open government.



*(above, l-r) NJFOG President Walter Luers and  
Kenilworth Resident John Bury.*

John Bury is a local citizen activist who uses the Open Public Records Act to monitor government pension issues and Union County government. He is an Enrolled Actuary with his own pension consulting firm, Bury Associates, in Union Township, servicing over 400 clients. He is a long-time political observer having had over 200 published letters in the Star-Ledger for which he received a Silver Pen Award in 2008.

He blogs on County Watchers and Bury Pensions primarily on actuarial issues with an emphasis on public pension plans. He has been quoted on pension issues in national publications and other media.

The award recipients were recognized at an Open Government Workshop held at Raritan Valley Community College on Saturday, September 22nd where Senator Loretta Weinberg was a keynote speaker. Weinberg was also given a NJFOG Lift Award, she has been working on updating the Open Public Meetings Act and the Open Public Records Act. Her bills are expected to be put to a vote in the very near future.



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# BUSINESS + LIFE KENILWORTH

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

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## MEMO FROM THE MAYOR



The Street Fair will be held in the Borough on October 21, 2012. Beginning at 10:00 a.m. vendors will line the Boulevard with food, rides for the kids, crafts, clothing, jewelry – you name it. This event, produced by JC Promotions, Inc. for the past several years is a huge success, drawing hundreds of vendors and people from all over. It is a great event to show off the Borough.

Any vendors wishing to obtain a table or advertise in the Borough map which is being sold to help defray the event costs should contact Cissy Gialanella at 201 998 1144 or visit [www.jcpromotions.info](http://www.jcpromotions.info).

The Borough is welcoming a new police officer, Ryan Kernan to the Kenilworth Police Department. Ryan is hardly new to the Borough, having been born and raised in town. His father, George Kernan, as well as his grandfather were police officers in the Borough, so Ryan is continuing a long family tradition. Ryan has long wanted to be a Borough police officer and was sworn in on September 26, 2012. Ryan has been in law enforcement for almost a dozen years, most recently as a member of the Union County Sheriff's office and will make a great addition to our force. I am sure everyone will give him a warm welcome.

I want to thank everyone who came to the Borough's September 11th memorial event. Once again, the Borough's Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts helped by raising the flag and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The Girl Scouts, many of whom were not even born on September 11, 2001 produced a book of their drawings related to the terrorist attacks which they presented to the Borough. The book will be available to be viewed on the web site and at the Clerk's office.

Bulky waste pickup will begin October 10 for the north side of town and October 17th for the south side. Please see the information which is posted on the web site under Department of Public Works for further information about what can be put curbside.

Finally, I would like to urge everyone to exercise their right to vote on November 6. As citizens of this great nation, it is imperative that each and every one of us participate in the election process. The local race is just as important, if not more important, as the presidential race. In that regard, there will be a debate moderated by the League of Women Voters for the candidates for Borough council this year, at this writing the date has not been set, please check [kenilworthborough.com](http://kenilworthborough.com) for more details. The debate is a wonderful opportunity to meet the candidates and hear their position on the issues which affect you as taxpayers and residents of the Borough. If you cannot attend, the debate will be videotaped and played on the local television stations. Please check the local channels for a schedule, FIOS – 26 and 45, Comcast – 36.

*Mayor Kathi Fiamingo*

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# WHAT DO ASSESSMENT TOOLS TELL US ABOUT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE?

*Dr. Scott Taylor, Assistant Superintendent, Kenilworth Public Schools*

I talked in my September article about ways Harding Elementary and David Brearley Middle-High Schools will be “telling performance stories” about children. I mentioned the Kenilworth School District’s use of an assessment tool called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and explained that teachers will be able to see student data from this assessment as well as from other tools like the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) and High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) by going to the digital “warehouse” the district has designed.

MAP is a computer-based assessment that changes the complexity of test questions

according to the test-taker’s responses in real-time. In other words, students who answer series of questions correctly will be peppered with more challenging questions, and when students struggle with questions, the level of difficulty is adjusted so the test-taker can tackle less sophisticated questions. This adaptive procedure provides the students, their parents, teachers, and school administrators with very accurate information about students’ ability to apply skills and concepts they’ve learned. Teachers will use this information to individualize their students’ learning experiences by pinpointing the child’s remedial, mastery and challenge needs.

The NJASK and HSPA are not computer-based tests and unfortunately only provide a snapshot of a child’s progress. Given over the course of three to four days, depending on the grade-level, these “summative assessments” of a student’s performance are a test of a his ability to apply a store of knowledge built up over time. While the NJASK and HSPA serve to determine whether or not kids have met certain benchmarks, they are not on their own indicators of a child’s academic growth.

NJASK and HSPA are standardized tests; they are assessments of a child’s school progress based on a set of learning expectations. The test scores are often compared to the score results of other children around New Jersey. MAP is not a standardized test; it is an assessment of a child’s growth over time and results are not compared to the results of that child’s peers. Teachers use the NJASK and HSPA to get a “ballpark” idea how a child may perform in class, while MAP is used to differentiate instruction in order to accommodate specific learning needs. Teachers use MAP scores to group students by ability and provide one to one assistance using skill lists called Descartes (these skills lists can be downloaded from the school district website; a parent can correlate the lists to a child’s MAP score).

Though the Kenilworth School District uses NJASK and HSPA scores as frames of reference of a student’s progress, the teachers and administrators at Harding and Brearley are relying on MAP to “tell the story of a child”, so they can plot a course of instruction that is highly individualized and targeted to meet each of his or her needs.



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# BREARLEY'S "BRUINS THAT CARE" HELP TO RESTOCK LOCAL FOOD PANTRY

Submitted by: David Novak – DBMHS Publicity Chairperson

The David Brearley High School in Kenilworth, has a volunteer service club called the "Bruins That Care." This club routinely does charitable good deeds for the local community, United States troops serving overseas, local senior citizens, cancer patients, young children at holiday time, and food pantries just to name a few. The "Bruins That Care" is coordinated by Ms. Westbrook. She is a teacher at the David Brearley Middle School. She is dedicated to helping students help the community.

Since President Obama declared September 11th a national day of community service, the "Bruins That Care" decided to run a food drive for The Church of St. Theresa's local food pantry. This annual food drive is dedicated in memory of the two people from the Kenilworth community who perished in the attacks on the World Trade Center on Tuesday - September 11, 2001. The two Kenilworth community members lost in these attacks were Mr. John Tobin and Sergeant Robert Kaulffers. The children of both of these fine men attended David Brearley.

In a very short period of time, the "Bruins That Care" shown in the picture collected several boxes and bags full of canned and dried foods. Special thanks needs to be given to these lead students in the food donation and collection efforts. These very dedicated students are Amber Ghigliotty, John Hartmann, and Heather Braun. They are all eighth graders at David Brearley Middle School. All of the food that was



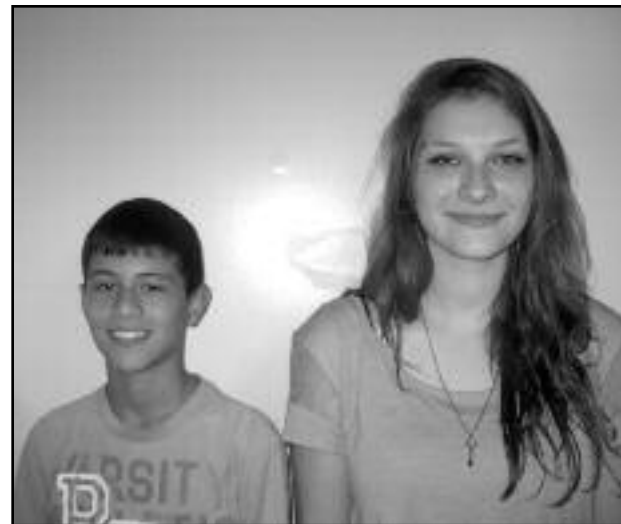
(above, l-r) Amber Ghigliotty, John Hartmann, and Heather Braun.

collected was donated and delivered to the local food pantry in the Kenilworth community run by St. Theresa's church. The food drive will be run again next year during the weeks surrounding Sept. 11th.

These acts of volunteering for the benefit of the community exemplify the depth of character of many David Brearley students. Through their donations of time and effort they make our community a better place. They bring the school closer to the community and become more aware of the real problems some of the members of our community are experiencing. Keep up the great work!

# DAVID BREARLEY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE MONTH OCTOBER 2012

Submitted by: Mr. David Novak



(above, l-r) Dylan Jorge and Gina Milazzo.

The David Brearley High School Student of the Month for October is senior Gina Milazzo. Gina's high school résumé shows an eclectic mix of accomplishments and activities spanning academics, art, athletics, and music. She is a member of the David Brearley chapter of the National Honor Society, and has been consistently named to the David Brearley High School Honor Roll. Gina is also a member of the David Brearley Band, as well as the swim team and softball team. Her artwork was recently displayed at the 2012 Teen Arts Festival. Gina also finds time to participate in the David Brearley Peer Leadership organization and the David Brearley Bears That Care charity club. Congratulations, Gina!

Dylan Jorge is the David Brearley Middle School Student of the Month for October 2012. This eighth grader is described by his teachers as being respectful, cheerful, helpful, thoughtful, and an excellent role model. Dylan Jorge is driven to actively participate in many middle school activities. He has diligently and proactively worked on the stage crew for the middle school play. His instinctive nature allowed him to make split decisions that were vital to the success of the play. He often works very effectively to accomplish goals without adult guidance. Dylan is an independent thinker. He helps his peers by translating for them from English to Spanish and often completes other school tasks without being asked by his teachers. He also enjoys playing soccer and is a team player on the field just as he is in school. Dylan's teachers are all in agreement that he will be successful in all of his aspirations. His positive attitude is an inspiration to his peers. Dylan, keep up the great work!

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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.

## WORKSHOP ON QUICKEN FINANCE SOFTWARE

The Kenilworth Public Library will present "Using Quicken for Your Personal Finances," a workshop focusing on this popular personal finance software at 7:00 PM on Thursday, November 1, in the library's activity room. The program will be presented by Kenilworth

resident Divina A. Ducusin, an accountant who is the managing member of Simply Accounting For You in Short Hills, NJ and who has gained more than fifteen years of experience working with individuals and small businesses. The information included in this workshop will include such fundamentals as how to set up accounts for the first time and how to navigate efficiently throughout the software. The workshop is intended for people who have basic computer knowledge and who are interested in learning a better way of keeping track of their personal finances.

This program is free and open to all members of the general public; because space is limited, preregistration is required.

## SCIENCETELLER



A Halloween Celebration will be presented by Scienceteller, Andrew Piccirillo at the Kenilworth Public Library on Friday, Oct. 26th at 7:00 - 7:45pm. Children ages 4 & up will enjoy comedy, science, and a high-energy interactive Halloween story. Children are invited to attend this program wearing their Halloween costume. Registration is required. Kenilworth residents may begin to register on Friday, Oct. 19th. Out of town residents may begin to register on Wednesday, Oct. 24th.

## HALLOWEEN CRAFT

A Halloween Craft will be presented at the Kenilworth Public Library on Saturday, Oct. 20th at 11:00 - 12:00 noon. Children ages 4 and up will have an opportunity to create a craft to take home and display. Children ages 4 - 6 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. Kenilworth residents may begin to register on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Out of town residents may begin to register on Thursday, Oct. 18th.

## FROM THE DESK OF DALE SPINDEL

Library Director, Kenilworth Public Library

With summer now over, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the 275 children and teens who participated in this year's summer reading program and to thank everyone who came out on the evening of August 1 to help us celebrate our third annual LibraryFest.

As always, LibraryFest would not be possible without the help of the Friends of the Kenilworth Public Library and a wonderful team of volunteers that included the following: Jim Capasso, Dolores Graham, Evelyn Hagedorn Mary Ellen Harris, Rita Ianarilli, Carolyn LoBianco, Emma, Karen, Ken and Lucille Lucadema, Barbara Morison, Carol Pappas, Dorothy Soltys and Anne Stelzer. Extra special thanks also goes to Kenilworth Councilman Scott Klinder for bringing Bjorn, our unofficial doggy library mascot, to share in the festivities. Pictures can be found by going to [www.picasaweb.google.com/kenilworth548](http://www.picasaweb.google.com/kenilworth548).

Those of you who visit the Kenilworth Public Library know that we have an outstanding team of staff members who keep things running smoothly not only during the busy summer months, but all year long. As always, special acknowledgment needs to go to Robin Koerner, our library's coordinator of children's services, for the excellent job she did organizing the summer reading program and for making sure that our schedule of summer activities for children is second to none. I also want to thank staff members Kathleen Czarnecki, Eileen LoBianco, Lori Pantano, Karen Pavone, and our temporary maintenance worker Peter Price for their hard work on the evening of LibraryFest.

Lastly, I want to thank each and every parent who took the time to bring their children to the library this summer. It is a documented fact that children who continue to read during the summer months return to school at a relative advantage to those children who did not read during their time away from school. The entire community benefits when children achieve academic success and, as I like to say, children who read, lead.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at the library now that school has started and I want to remind everyone to keep checking us out at [www.kenilworthlibrary.org](http://www.kenilworthlibrary.org), [www.facebook.com/kenilworth.library.org](http://www.facebook.com/kenilworth.library.org), the local cable TV channel community bulletin boards and the local newspapers to learn more about all the great activities we have coming up this fall.



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# PROFESSOR W'S EARTH SCIENCE CIRCUS



Professor W's Earth Science Circus will be presented by the Grand Falloons at the Kenilworth Public Library on Friday Nov. 9th at 11:00 - 11:45am for children ages 4 & up.

This program will take place during the NJ State Teacher's Convention when

all public schools are closed. Children ages 4 & up may register for this program.

Children will enjoy juggling, magic and other circus fun as they learn about recycling, what we can do about litter, and other positive messages about our environment.

This program has been funded by The Clean Communities Grant, and given to the Borough of Kenilworth from the NJDEP Clean Communities Program Fund. Registration is required.

Kenilworth residents may begin to register on Friday, Nov. 2nd, space permitting.

Out of town residents may begin to register on Wednesday, Nov. 7th.

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# FREE JOB READINESS PROGRAM: "PROJECT READY"

Project Ready will be accepting applications for its free six week job preparedness program on Tuesday, October 16 at 9:30 sharp. Applicants should be prepared to stay until 12 pm. A six week program is offered to people seeking to improve their skills as they search for employment. Students receive training in basic business and computer skills. They learn interviewing skills, resume writing, Math and English. Upon completion of the program, staff assists students with job searches.

Project Ready is located within St. Joseph Social Service Center at 118 Division St. in Elizabeth. The staff of "Project Ready" consists of a staff director and several volunteers, most of whom are retired business and education professionals.

For more information please call (908) 353-1045, email [projectreadyprg@yahoo.com](mailto:projectreadyprg@yahoo.com) or visit [www.stjosephelizabeth.org](http://www.stjosephelizabeth.org)

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Saturday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> "Carla Virde" International Singer and Musician  
Saturday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> "The Dumonts" Classic 50's, 60's & 70's HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY & BUFFET  
Wednesday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> MONSTER MURDER - Who-Dun-It Dinner & Show  
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Is the economy getting you down? Now's the time to join your local chamber! Like a good insurance policy, the chamber is here when you need it. From networking to personal introductions to other members to money-saving discounts on services you have to buy anyway, there are so many reasons to join – and only one not to. If money has gotten tight during these economically harsh times, the chamber's Recession Rate of just \$100.00 is for you. Call or email Kate Conroy (908) 352-0900, kateconroy@gatewaychamber.com for the special application and grow your business today!

The Gateway Chamber is the umbrella organization for the Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce, which means when you join at the local level, you automatically become a member at the regional level, with all the extras and perks that entails.

On Sept. 13th the Gateway Chamber is having a live networking event with 100 + people in Kenilworth that you're invited to. If giving your 2-minute commercial to almost 30 people while networking with so many more sounds good to you, you've found the right organization for your business.

Even better, for a limited time only the Recession Rate of just \$100.00 enables you to take advantage of our 150 events per year and 1,200 members. Get in touch with Kate today and watch your business take off!

## 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)

- 6:00 PM OCTOBER 16**  
**IRISH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION NETWORKING**  
Molly Maguire's Irish Pub, 1085 Central Ave., Clark
- 8:00 AM OCTOBER 17**  
**EMPLOYER LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**  
Visit our website for meeting location
- 7:30 AM OCTOBER 19**  
**MEET THE MID-MARKET: A GATEWAY TODAY EVENT!**  
**OUR "FIRST EVER" REVERSE TRADE SHOW**  
Newark Airport Marriott Hotel, 1 Hotel Road, Newark
- 8:30 AM OCTOBER 23**  
**LINDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING**  
JTG Center, 330 Helen Street, Linden  
Hosted by Primerica Financial Services
- 8:30 AM OCTOBER 24**  
**CLARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING**  
Lions Eye Bank of NJ, 77 Brant Ave., Suite 100, Clark
- 5:30 PM OCTOBER 25**  
**LINDEN CHAMBER OKTOBERFEST**  
Deutscher Club of Clark, 787 Featherbed Lane, Clark
- 8:00 AM OCTOBER 26**  
**SOMERSET HILLS BUSINESS NETWORK**  
Royce Brook CC, 201 Hamilton Road, Hillsborough

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*Tuesday*

**OCTOBER 30, 2011**

*6pm - 8pm*

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# AUTUMN TRIPS TO MOHEGAN SUN, ROCKVALE OUTLETS TO BENEFIT NITSCHKE HOUSE

The Kenilworth Historical Society will host a bus trip to Mohegan Sun Casino (Uncasville, Conn.) on Sat., Oct. 27, 2012, and a trip to the Rockvale shopping outlets (Lancaster, Pa.) on Thurs., Nov. 8.

The Oct. 27 Mohegan Sun Casino 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 \$15 coupon for food.

The Nov. 8 Rockvale shopping trip will depart Kenilworth (S. 21st Street Municipal Parking Lot, across from the Kenilworth Veterans Center) at 8 a.m. and return at approximately 8 p.m. Cost of \$40 includes motor coach transportation, about 6 hours of shopping time, a discount coupon book and a shopping outlet map.

Rockvale features more than 100 outlet stores offering up to 75 percent off retail prices on popular brand names – plus additional discounts daily. There is no sales tax on clothing and shoes. Among the diverse range of outlet stores at Rockvale are QVC, Vanity Fair, Bass, Dressbarn, Jones New York, Kasper, Levi's, Jockey, Izod, Lenox, Noritake, Pottery Barn, Orvis, Carter's, Disney, Christmas Tree Hill – and many more! Site amenities include such favorite eateries as Olive Garden, Ruby Tuesday, Cracker Barrel and Bob Evans, plus trolley/shuttle service.

There will be complimentary door prizes on

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

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.



Kenilworth's historic Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) at 49 South 21 Street will be open to the general public on October 20 and October 21 during Union County's annual historic sites tour, "Four Centuries in a Weekend." Tours of the 19th-century home of Oswald J. Nitschke, who served five terms as Mayor of Kenilworth in the early 1900s, will be given between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on October 20 and from noon to 5 p.m. on October 21. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free.

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