

LIFE *in* LINDEN

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Issue 78 • August 2016

THE CITY OF LINDEN WILL BE DISTRIBUTING BACK PACKS AND SUPPLIES

AUGUST 29, 2016

5:30pm - 8:30pm

RAYMOND WOOD BAUER PROMENADE

Pizza, hotdogs, chips and juice will be given out!

ONE BACKPACK PER CHILD!!

Linden Residents Only (Proof Of Residency Required), First Come, First Serve. Parents Must Accompany Children Grades K-8

LINDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Linden community was treated to a parade and celebration on July 16th 2016 to celebrate the Linden Fire Department's 100th year anniversary. The parade stepped off at 1pm and the Linden Fire Department was joined by many other fire departments from all over Union County, and also FD New York Engine 343. The parade ended with a solemn bell ceremony to memorialize all the brothers that died in the line of duty.

Immediately following the parade, all were invited to the Robert Wood Bauer Promenade to celebrate. The celebration included free food, rides, and entertainment. Not even the rain or heat could dampen anyone's enthusiasm for the day. During the celebration the LFD was presented with proclamations from the city, county and state which recognized their 100th Anniversary. The many people in attendance included a large number of retired firefighters from the LFD, as well as active members, politicians, other local fire department members and many city residents and members of the Linden business community. All in all the day was a huge success and a very proud moment for the Linden Fire Department.



Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Life in Linden page on facebook.com

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

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KIWANIS CLUB OF LINDEN PASTA DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS

Special thanks to our Linden community for supporting our Kiwanis club of Linden pasta dinner held at the JTG center in June. The turnout was fantastic and compliments to Chef Al Volpe. His secrets are being shared with other Kiwanians so that this tradition can always carry on. Jim Gilligan, Sabrina Elson and North Field Bank colleagues joined early to assist with the meatballs and sauce.

Several other Kiwanis Club members assisted by bringing gifts for raffles, inviting guests, selling tickets, serving and cleaning up afterwards. Kiwanian children Nathaniel Elson and Milan Lazaro helped serve the meatballs and

Key Club members served the dinners with a smile. Sam's Club donated desserts and needed items and all who attended enjoyed the cuisine.

Monies raised will go to scholarships and other community projects. Our club needs to increase our membership in order to thrive as we have several active seniors who are so passionate about our community's children and want our mission of teaching leadership skills and the significance of community service for others to continue.

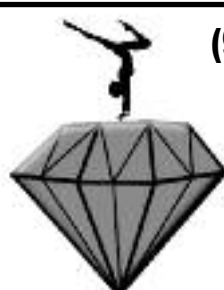
For Further info contact membership chair June Lazaro at 908 687-9008 or email junlazaro@verizon.net.



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\$339,000



LINDEN

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LINDEN

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\$355,000

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8TH ANNUAL COMM-UNITY BASKETBALL CAMP

The Linden PAL recently finished hosting its 8th Annual Comm-UNITY Basketball Camp for the city's youth and families. All are welcome at the week-long camp for a chance to make friends, stay safe, exercise, and learn about basketball.

"The only reason this works is because the community supports it," said PAL Director

Officer Daniel Kuczynski. "It is volunteer-driven. This is what it is all about. The families and children get the support of their neighbors. It is a true community effort." As such, Kuczynski also wanted to thank all the volunteers, specifically the coaches: Lennie Williams, LJ McGhee, Andre Wheeler, Andrea Valverde, Dez Wade, Darrell

Lampley, Laron Capers, and Tony Wilson.

"Without these volunteers and coaches, this event doesn't happen. Simple as that. It is important to recognize these individuals who give their time and energy to help their community. It is because of them that these kids have a safe and fun week," said Kuczynski.



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Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm

Adult\$11.59
Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
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2 & Under.....FREE!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm

Adult\$7.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99
2 & Under.....FREE!

Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm

Adult\$11.59
Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!

SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER

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MICA-JONATHAN PETIT-HOMME



(above) Mica-Jonathan Petit-Homme

When Linden, New Jersey resident and LIU Brooklyn graduate, Mica-Jonathan Petit-Homme, 22, a NCAA's First Team Track & Field All American and Northeast Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year, competed for Haiti in the 400-meter hurdles at the North America, Central America and Caribbean Under-23 Championships in El Salvador on July 17, 2016, his heart was heavy. Sadly, neither his mother Yvrose, who passed away in 2012, nor his father, Antoine, who were themselves recreational runners, lived to witness his achievement. Since he arrived from Port au Prince, Haiti in 2003, at the age of 9, Petit-Homme wanted to represent his native country at the Olympics. Before his father died in 2014, Petit-Homme promised him that he would compete for Haiti in the Olympics.

Like many Olympian hopeful, Petit-Homme's journey was fraught with challenges, and he has experienced and continues to experience a kaleidoscope of emotions. The loss of his parents within such a short period could have derailed Petit-Homme's ambitions, but fortuitously for Petit-Homme and LIU Brooklyn caring people embraced him.

Monty Brooks, a social worker and track coach in the Linden School District, and Walter Martin, a former Linden, New Jersey, Track Hall of Famer, took Petit-Homme under their wings and mentored him through Linden High School and LIU Brooklyn. Martin and his wife, Ruthie have become Petit-Homme's surrogate parents.

As a Seventh-Day Adventist, Petit-Homme participated in church-related activities from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday. Although he missed track meets in high school, he wanted to compete in college, earn a scholarship and keep his promise to his father.

The track meet at which Simon Hodnett, LIU Brooklyn's track coach, was to consider Petit-Homme for his team was scheduled to be held on a weekend, but because of inclement weather, the meet was postponed to Monday. Coach Hodnett liked what he saw and considered whether to offer Petit-Homme a scholarship. Unfortunately, Monday track meets are not the norm. Brooks candidly informed Petit-Homme that he could not

hope to receive an athletic scholarship if he refused to compete on the weekend. How could Petit-Homme honor his promise to his dad, realize his dream and practice his religion?

Faith is a powerful partner. Petit-Homme reasoned that God would not have bestowed gifts upon him if He did not want them to be used. After much soul searching and reflection, Petit-Homme arrived at a solution that enabled him to practice his religion and use his God-given athletic gifts. He listens to Seventh-Day Adventist services on the Internet, attends church and participates in ministries and church activities when his competition schedule permits.

In 2016 Petit-Homme, who speaks English, French, Creole and Spanish, not only earned his bachelor's degree in sports science with a 3.49 cumulative GPA, but he made NCAA First Team All American, becoming only the fourth LIU Brooklyn student-athlete in the school's track & field history to secure this honor. As a result of his college academic and athletic records Petit-Homme was selected North East Conference Men's Outdoor Track Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Petit-Homme excelled at LIU Brooklyn, but to realize his dream and fulfill his promise, he needed to get Haiti's attention. Martin decided to retain an attorney to aid the cause. After she heard Petit-Homme's story, Beverly Williams, an attorney with the Herbert Law Group, LLC in Englewood, New Jersey and the author of *Get the Job Done*, an employment advice book, agreed to handle the case pro bono. Thanks to sage advice from Bill Daughtry of ESPN, Williams contacted the Haiti's Consul General's office in New York City about Petit-Homme's record, and received a prompt response of interest.

Thereafter, Williams kept the Consul General's office up to date about Petit-Homme's progress. On July 17, 2016 Petit-Homme represented his native Haiti at the North America, Central America and Caribbean Under-23 Championships in El Salvador. Unfortunately, his time didn't get him to the Olympics, but he wore the uniform of his beloved Haiti when competed in El Salvador. His father would have been proud.







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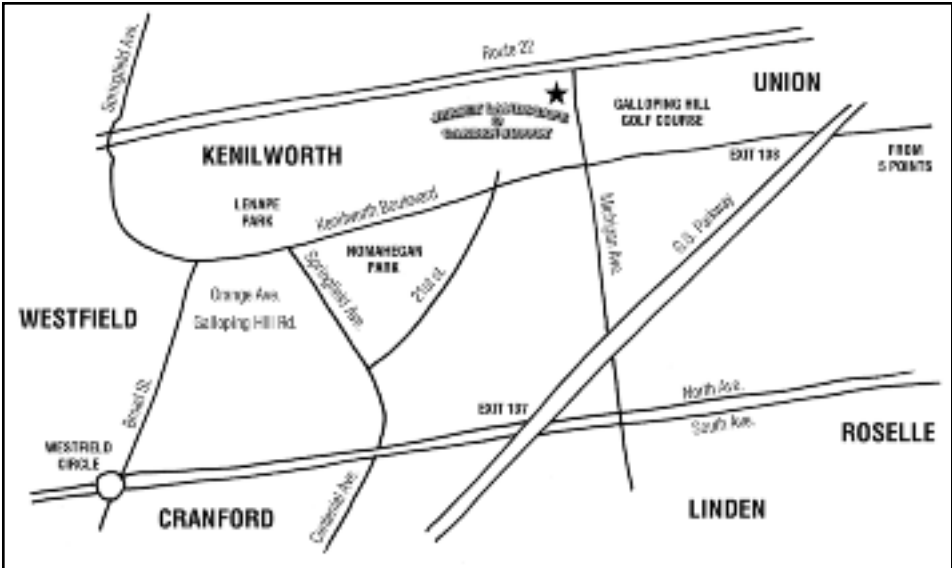
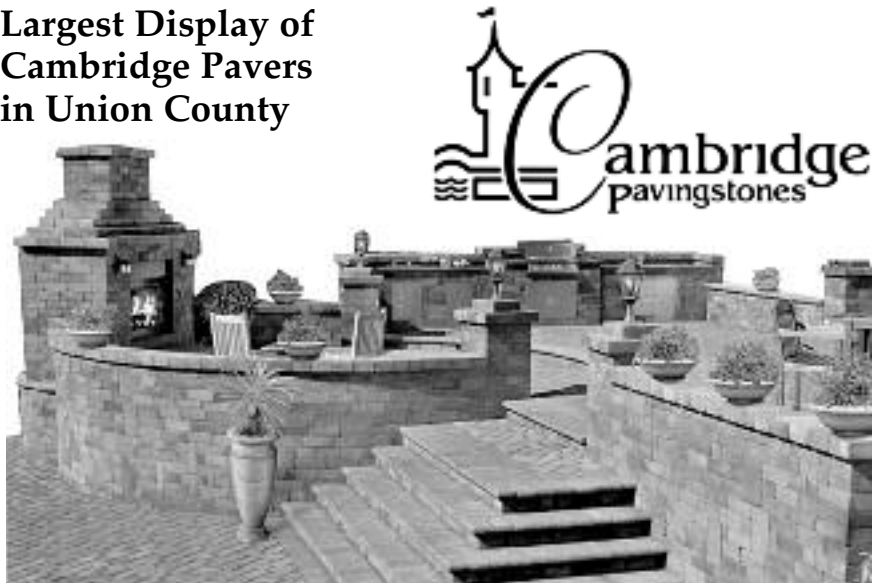
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On June 27, 2016, School Nine proudly opened its doors and welcomed parents and students to its annual ESL Summer Enrichment Program. Parents had an opportunity to learn about the program and meet the staff: Principal-Richard Molinaro, Supervisor- Mrs. Paternostro, ESL Teacher- Mrs. Orelie-Armstead, Teacher

Assistant- Ingrid Gomez and Secretary-Mary Ann Pirozzoli. According to Mrs. Armstead, "School 9 is committed to meeting the academic and social needs of English Language Learners through rigorous English classes, focusing on a different theme each year. This year the Summer Enrichment Program will focus on the study of

the "weather" to supplement English Language Acquisition. Students will engage in content-rich, fun group authentic activities and learning centers to improve their reading, listening, speaking and writing skills. By the end of the program, ESL students will have successfully completed their summer readings and projects."

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(above) Mary Melek, Veronica Hana, Ellis Chen, Darline Francilus, Erini Hana, Mariam Melek, Christian Sarmiento, Clara Toussaint, Andrew Velarde, Yousemite Pierre, Aaron Anitului, Woodley Auciell. Photo by Linden School No. 9

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TRIP TO GETTYSBURG



(above) Believing that the best way to learn history is to experience it, thirty-one students and 4 chaperones of the Linden High School Civil War Roundtable recently traveled to the Gettysburg National Battlefield Park in Gettysburg, PA. This location was the site of the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, the largest battle of the American Civil War, and President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. This is the ninth year that the club has made the journey and the second year that the students stayed overnight. On Monday June 6th, escorted by Club Advisor Mr. Eric Scheidemann, Mr. Paul Gorski, Mrs. Monica Goncalves, and Ms. Melanie Calatayud, the students toured the town of Gettysburg, the battlefield and the Gettysburg National Cemetery where President Lincoln gave his famous address, they also participated in a walking tour that highlighted the "haunted" history of the area. The students also toured the Gettysburg battlefield. Directed by Mr. Scheidemann, the students visited famous locations on the field such as Cemetery Hill, the Lutheran Seminary, Devil's Den, and Little Roundtop, all critical areas and scenes of heavy fighting in July of 1863.

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4-H CODING CLUB MEMBERS WIN AWARDS



(above) Ariana Rodriguez, Diego Rodriguez, and Alex Pillar, all of whom won awards for their presentations. Not pictured in the 4-H Club are Ashton and Ryan Armstead, Joscelin Busse, Erica Conde, and Francesca and Gianni Villani.

Three members of the Linden 4-H Coding Club presented Public Presentations at the Union County Magnet School in Scotch Plains recently. 4-H is the nation's oldest and largest youth development organization and this club meets every two weeks at the Linden Public Library and start again September, 2016.

If your 4th or 5th grader might be interested in learning how to program games while developing valuable life and leadership skills, contact Bryan Johnson, Leader, at bjohnson1969@gmail.com.

IMPORTANCE OF SAFE DRIVING



(above) Sergeant Joseph Birch from the Linden Police department took time to visit Mrs. Goncalves's Law and Government class, made up of mostly 12th grade students, to discuss the importance of safe driving. This conversation was especially important during this time of the year when many people are out celebrating various occasions like graduations and summer holidays. Sgt. Birch and the class discussed Z restrictions on driver's licenses, proper procedure during a police stop, and the documentation needed in the event you are pulled over by a police officer.

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LINDEN POLICE PROMOTE OFFICER AND ADD FIVE OFFICERS TO DEPARTMENT

LIFE in LINDEN • Page 11 • August 2016

During a ceremony held on July 6, 2016 at Linden City Hall the Police Department promoted a veteran officer to sergeant and added five new officers to its complement.

Sgt. William Bizub, a 17 ½-year veteran of the department, who was currently on loan as an investigator with the Union County Prosecutor's Office Homicide Task Force, was promoted to the rank of sergeant in front of family, friends, and colleagues. He will resume his duties as a supervisor in the Uniformed Services Division of the department.

Five new officers were also sworn in as new members of the department, increasing their ranks to 128 officers. The recruits were joined by family, friends, and colleagues during the ceremony.

Officer Michael Forfa is the son of Richard Forfa, a veteran officer. Officer Michael E. Mikolajczyk is the son of veteran Detective Kenneth Mikolajczyk, the nephew of veteran Detective Kevin Mikolajczyk, and the cousin of

Officer Adam Mikolajczyk. Officer Raymond A. Wegrzynek is the brother of Sergeant Vincenzo "Vinny" Wegrzynek.

Chief Schulhafer and Mayor Armstead congratulated the officers on their new careers and wished them luck!



(above l-r) Chief James M. Schulhafer, Sergeant William Bizub, and Mayor Derek Armstead.



(above l-r) Chief James M. Schulhafer, Officers Michael Forfa, Jabari J. Shults, Michael E. Mikolajczyk, Jose A. Hernandez, Raymond A. Wegrzynek, and Mayor Derek Armstead.



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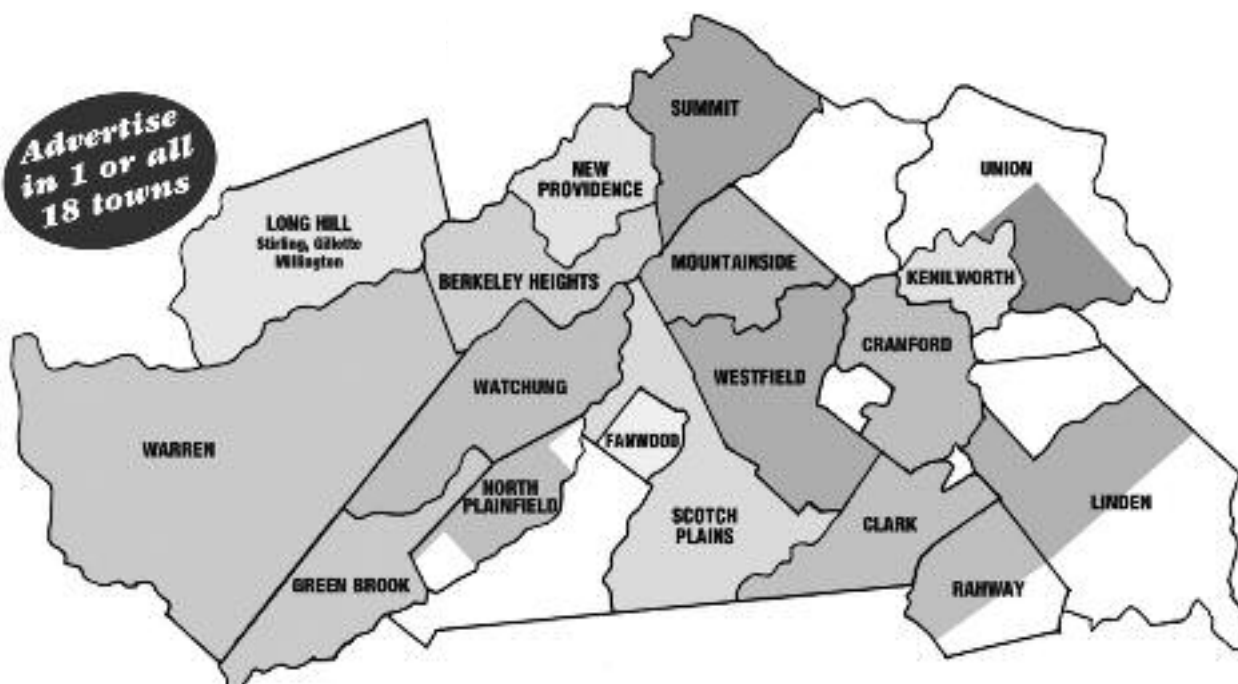
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JACLYN BEVIANO TAKES HOME TWO MEDALS IN ROLLERSKATING COMP

Jaclyn Beviano, a Freshman at Linden High School, competed in the Eastern Region Championship rollerskating competition, on Sunday, June 22. Ms. Beviano, who has been competing for six years, placed 2nd in the Figures division and 3rd in the Freestyle division. She rollerskates under the direction of Mrs. Mary Dunham, who coaches out of Woodbridge Recreational Center.



(above l-r) Jaclyn Beviano and her coach,
Mary Dunham. Photos by Rising Son Images



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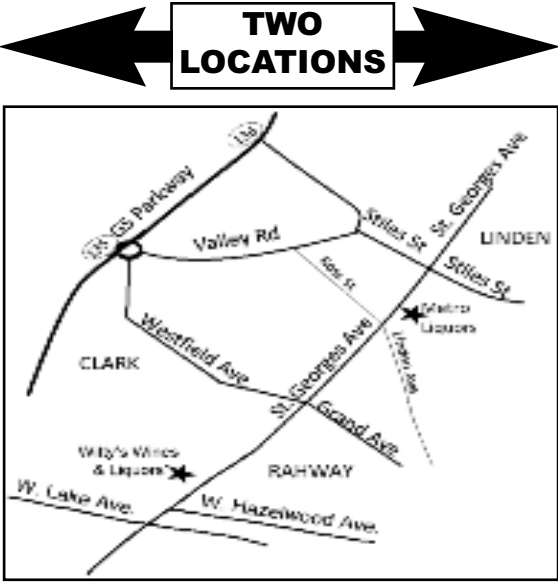
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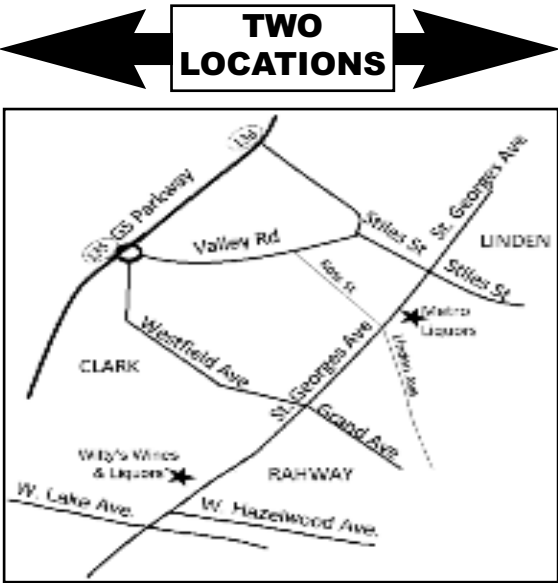
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WINE



Alamos Malbec	750ml	\$ 8.99
Andre (All Types).....	750ml	\$ 5.99
Apothic Red	750ml	\$ 9.29
Avalon (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$ 9.99
Barefoot All Types	1.5L	\$10.39
Bartenura Moscato	750ml	\$10.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	750ml	\$ 4.99
Beringer White Zinfandel	1.5L	\$ 8.69
Black Box (All Types).....	3L	\$21.99
Blackstone (All Types except Chardonnay).....	750ml	\$ 6.99
Blackstone (All Types).....	1.5L	\$13.99
Bogle (Chardonnay and Merlot)	750ml	\$ 6.99
Bolla	1.5L	\$12.99
Caymus Napa Valley (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$65.99
Carlo Rossi (Chablis, Burgundy, Sangria, Blush).....	4L	\$13.99
Carnivor (Cabernet Sauvignon).....	750ml	\$10.99
Casal Garcia Vinho Verde	750ml	\$ 5.99
Cavit (All Types)	1.5L	\$13.99
Chateau ste Michelle Columbia Valley Cabernet and Merlot	750ml	\$13.99
Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Chardonnay	750ml	\$ 9.99
Chateau Ste. Michelle Columbia Valley Riesling	750ml	\$ 8.99
Clos du Bois Chardonnay	1.5 L	\$19.99
Clos du Bois Cabernet, Merlot.....	750m	\$ 9.99
Cockburns Ruby and Tawny Porto	750ml	\$10.99
Concha Y Toro Frontera	1.5L	\$ 8.99
Coppola Diamond Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot.....	750ml	\$13.99
Coppola Diamond Chardonnay	750ml	\$11.99
Corbett Canyon (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 7.99
Cupcake (All types, except Prosecco and Moscato)	750ml	\$ 8.99
Don Perignon.....	750ml	\$149.99
Dreaming Tree (All Types)	750ml	\$11.99
Eco Domani (Pinot Grigio)	750ml	\$ 8.99
Fish Eye (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Flip Flop (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Franzia (Crisp White, Blush, Sangria, Chilable red).....	5L	\$13.99
Freixenet.....	750ml	\$ 9.99
Gato Negro (All Types)	1.5L	\$ 9.99
Gazela Vinho Verde	750ml	\$ 4.99
Ghost Pines (Merlot and Red Blend).....	750ml	\$15.99
J. Lohr Cabernet and Merlot	750ml	\$13.99
Kendall Jackson Vintners Chardonnay	750ml	\$12.09
Kim Crawford (Sauvignon Blanc)	750ml	\$13.99
Korbel (All Types except Natural and Organic)	750ml	\$11.99
La Marca (Prosecco).....	750ml	\$12.99
La Crema Sonoma Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$16.99
Liberty Creek (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 7.99
Louis Jadot Beaujolais	750ml	\$ 9.99

Louis Jadot Beaujolais Villages.....	750ml	\$ 10.99
Louis Jadot Pouilly Fuisse	750ml	\$20.99
Luna di Luna (All Types).....	1.5L	\$13.99
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	750ml	\$ 9.39
Mark West Pinot Noir.....	1.5L	\$17.99
Martini & Rossi Asti	750ml	\$11.99
Menage a Trois Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Merry Vale (Cabernet)	750ml	\$49.99
Mezzacorona Pinot Grigio.....	1.5L	\$12.99
Mi Amore Red	750ml	\$ 8.99
Moet Imperial Champagne	750ml	\$39.99
Noble Wine 337, 667.....	750ml	\$10.99
Papi (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Ravenswood (All Types)	750ml	\$ 8.99
Real Sangria	1.5L	\$10.99
Rex Goliath (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	750ml	\$ 8.99
Robert Mondavi Private Select	1.5L	\$18.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Cabernet & Merlot.....	750ml	\$15.99
Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay	750ml	\$11.99
Rombauer Chardonnay	750ml	\$27.99
Ruffino Chianti	750ml	\$ 7.99
Ruffino Chianti	1.5 L	\$13.99
Ruffino Pinot Grigio	1.5L	\$10.99
Ruffino Chianti Gold	750ml	\$29.99
Ruffino Tan label	750ml	\$19.99
Santa Margerita Pinot Grigio.....	750ml	\$20.29
Senor Sangria (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Silver Oak Alexander Valley Cabernet	750ml	\$65.99
Simi Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$12.09
Sonoma Cutrer Chardonnay.....	750ml	\$20.99
Sutter Home (All Types).....	1.5L	\$ 8.99
Tom Gore (All Types)	750ml	\$12.99
Woodbridge (All Types)	1.5L	\$10.99
Yago Sangria	3L	\$14.99
Yellow Tail (All Types)	1.5L	\$11.29

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