

The Hagedorn Little Village School *Jack Joel Center for Special Children*

December 2018 Newsletter



Parent Association Casino Night!

Thank you to Casino Night Chairpersons **MaryAnne Hyland, Dana Mancini** and their committee members for all their hard work in organizing a great evening! An extra special thank you to all of our sponsors and supporters, especially our Gold Sponsor: **United Air Conditioning Corp.**, Bar Sponsor: **Paul and Angela Adimando**, and our Silver sponsors: **Boars Head, Keep Moving Forward, Inc., Merrick Collision & Towing, Myfour Realty and the Westbury Fire Department.**





Everyone Had a Great Time at Casino Night!!



Congratulations

*Congratulations to Patti Pizza, our School Principal,
who recently celebrated her 40th year with Little Village!*



Magic Al is a Little Village Tradition During the Holidays!



Student Spotlight - Isabella Inzerillo

Isabella Inzerillo is a beautiful 4 year old student who attends a half day pre-school class at Little Village in Room 81. This is Isabella's first year at

Little Village, but she has made her presence known in and around school with her infectious smile and contagious laugh. She is sure to brighten up any room she enters.



According to her teacher Ms. Margaret, Isabella comes in each day excited to learn new things and see her friends. She greets everyone with a smile and a hug. During classroom activities, Isabella is the first one to raise her hand and be ready to participate. Isabella enjoys working at the Smart Board as much as doing table work. She has a true love for learning. Her mom has mentioned

that she has a book collection that could fill a library. She will often come into school with a book to share with her teacher and classmates. While she loves her Disney princesses, a book on just about anything will bring a smile to her face.

Isabella's joyous spirit is extremely contagious and is one the many reasons why she is so very loved by all of her classmates and staff. Prior to starting school at Little Village, the unthinkable happened. Isabella was



diagnosed with cancer. She has undergone surgery to remove brain tumors and has spent lengthy amounts of time in the hospital. With her Mother, Father, and brother Joseph by her side Isabella continues to fight. Isabella has shown strength like no other, and when her mind is set on something nothing can stop her. It was a wish of Isabella's to be in school. According to Isabella's mom, Isabella has an amazing fighting spirit and her illness has never stopped her from wanting to come to school each day to be with her friends. Isabella enjoys



telling all of her friends about her fun filled weekends, trips to the nail salon, and all the amazing things she does with her family. Isabella and her family are going on a trip to Disney, and while she will be so missed at school we can't wait for her to come back and tell us all about it!



Thanksgiving Parades!



Fun and Learning in Rooms 11 and 14

Room 11 (Teacher **Rae Ann Scalisi**) collaborated with Room 14 (Teacher **Samantha Kirincic**) for fun Halloween gross and fine motor activities.



Coming Soon!

The Hagedorn Little Village School
Jack Joel Center for Special Children

The 2019 Annual Golden Rule Award Dinner

Save the Date!

Thursday, January 24, 2019



**Gerry & Neil Levy &
the Entire Levy Family**
*Golden Rule Award
Recipients*

Fresh Meadow Country Club,
Lake Success, N.Y.

Contact Jennifer Kirincic at
(516) 520-6043 or
Jennifer.kirincic@littlevillage.org
for more information



Vijaya L. Atluru, M.D.
*Susan Weshler
Memorial Award Recipient*

MacArthur High School Lacrosse Team Supports Little Village

The MacArthur High School Lacrosse team has been an avid supporter of Little Village for many years. The team holds an annual **LAX for Autism** event with proceeds often going to Little Village.

Recently, **John Nessler** from MacArthur (pictured far right) visited Little Village to present the team's most recent donation.

Pictured along with John Nessler (from left to right) from Little Village are:

Jon Feingold, Executive Director; **Patti Pizza**, Principal, **Wendy Sciubba**, Educational Supervisor and **Jennifer Kirincic**, Fundraising Event Coordinator.

Thank you John and the entire MacArthur High School Administration and Lacrosse team!



Children's Holiday Christmas Party at the Massapequa Elks Lodge

An extra special thank you to our friends at the **Massapequa Elks Lodge** for providing our Little Villagers and their families with such a wonderful day!

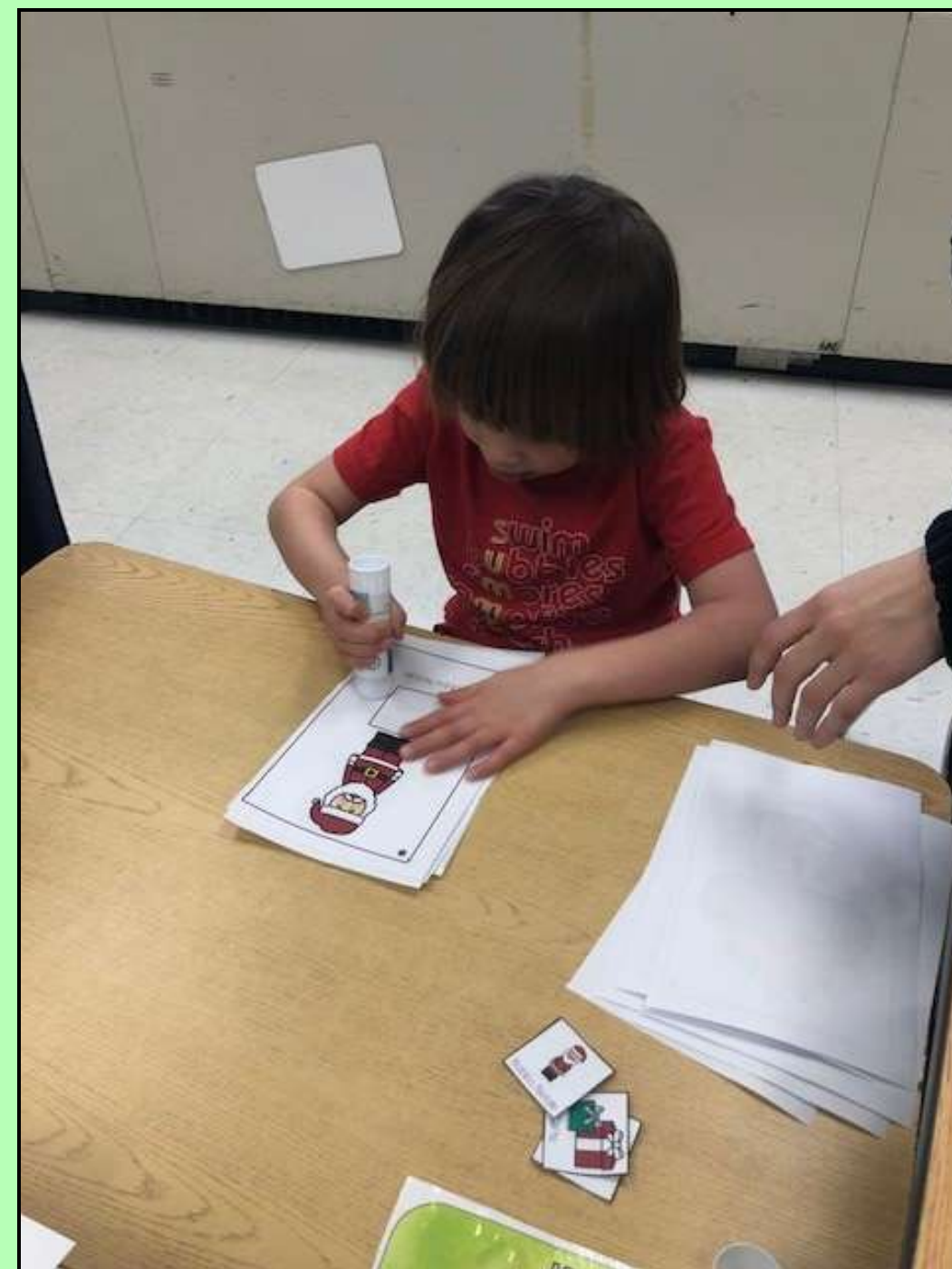
Many fun activities were planned for them including a visit with Minnie and Mickey Mouse as well as Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The children were delighted to bring home a present from Santa.



Room 24 Travels the World

Teacher **Kim Bickard** and the children in Room 24 have been traveling the globe learning about holidays and traditions in different countries. They recently visited Italy and learned about *La Befana* who is Italy's version of Santa Claus! The students LOVED traveling the world!



Giving Tree & Giving Hearts Collection

*Celebrating the generosity
and uniqueness of The Hagedorn Little Village Family*

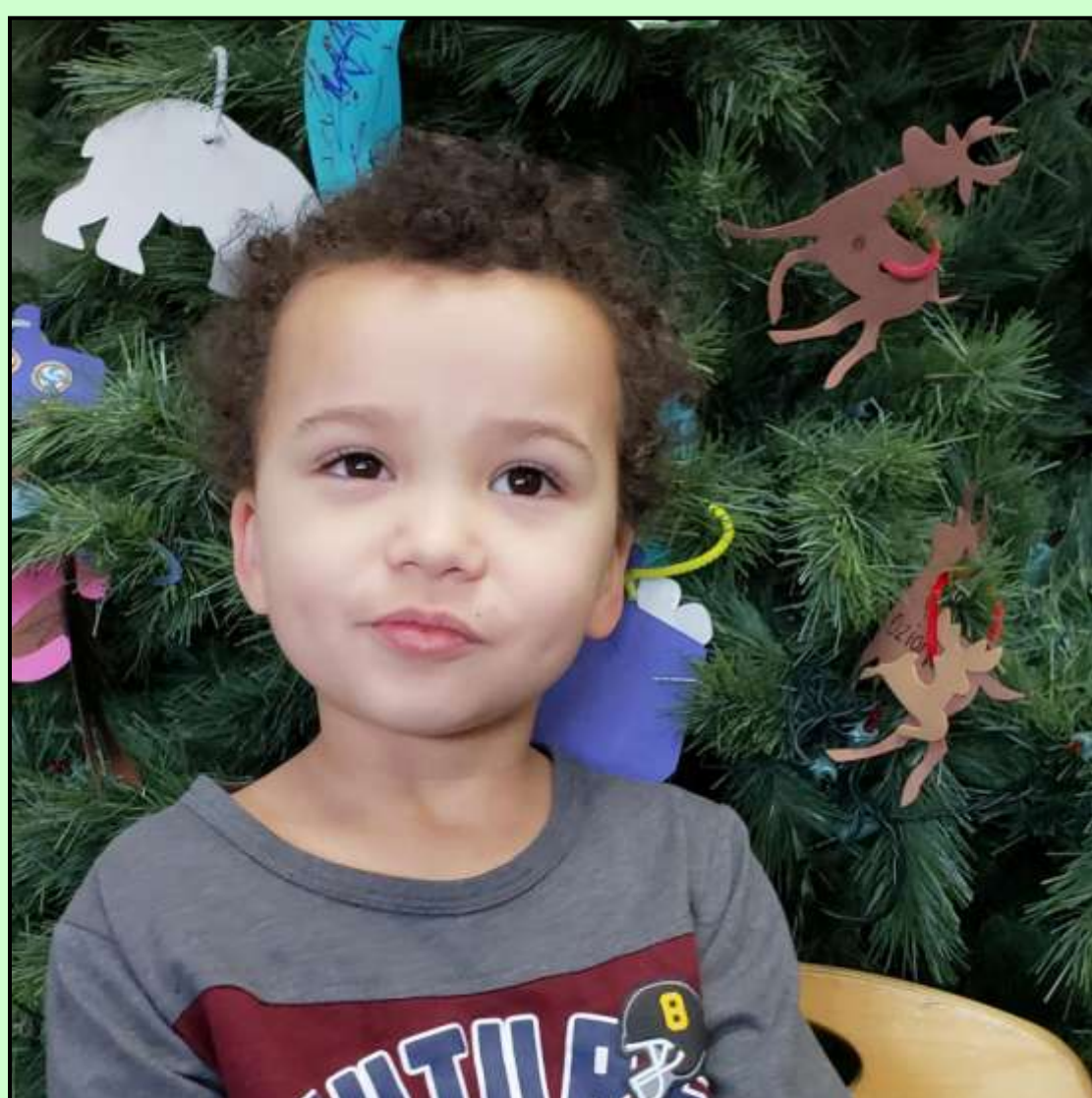
For the last 8 years, we've been sharing our story of the *Giving Hearts Collection*. Led by **Sue Lasher** and **Melissa DiCaro**, this effort has helped many of Little Village staff families who have faced difficult times. This unique program is a way for Little Village staff to help each other and extend kindness and generosity to those around us who might be in need during the holiday season. Thank you Sue, Melissa and all of our amazingly generous staff for this awesome demonstration of giving and caring.

The Giving Tree is another way Little Village staff helps families in need. The Giving Tree contains leaves with gift ideas written on each leaf. A staff member takes a leaf, buys a gift which are subsequently donated to our students' families that are in need. In addition to Little Village staff, parents and friends of Little Village also contribute to this great cause. This year, we will be providing holiday gifts to more than 25 families.

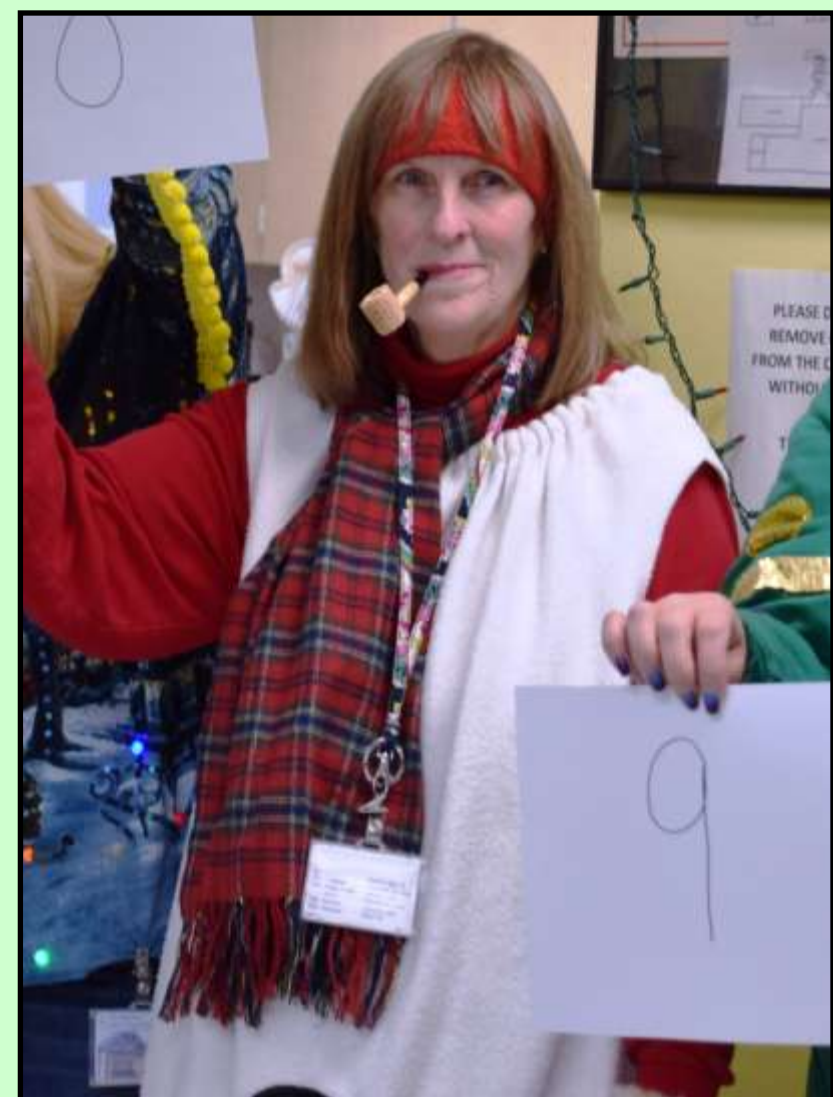
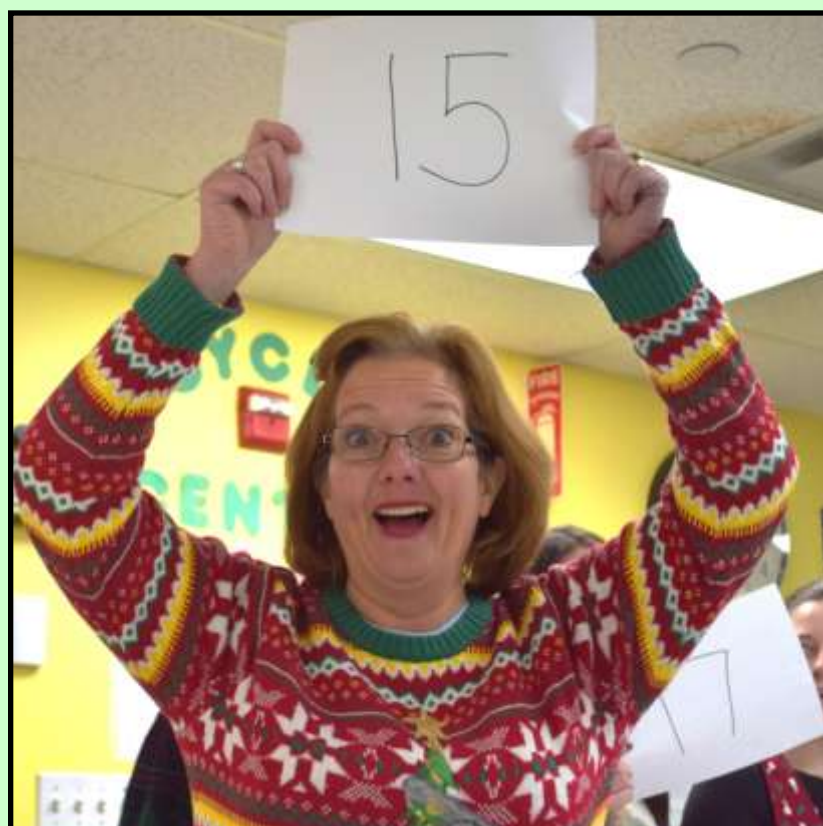


Learning About the Holidays

This month Teacher **Denise McGowan** and her students in Room 25 learned about the Holidays we celebrate in December. The children had fun listening to music and playing with Dreidels. They also had fun learning about different Holiday traditions.



Our Annual Ugly (Festive!) Sweater Contest



Babysitting Sitting Night

On Friday night December 14th, Little Village staff hosted another Babysitting Sitting Night for our students and their families. Once again, parents were able to drop off their children and siblings at school for a couple of hours of free time! Thanks to all of our many staff members, volunteers, family members and friends. In addition, thanks to student volunteers from **St. Johns University** as well as Occupational Therapy students from **Stony Brook University** for volunteering their time and giving our families a well deserved night out!



MacArthur High School Students Perform For Little Village

Thank you to the **MacArthur High School Guitar Ensemble and Chorus** for continuing their tradition of visiting Little Village and performing for our students around the holidays! The children (and staff!) have a great time!

