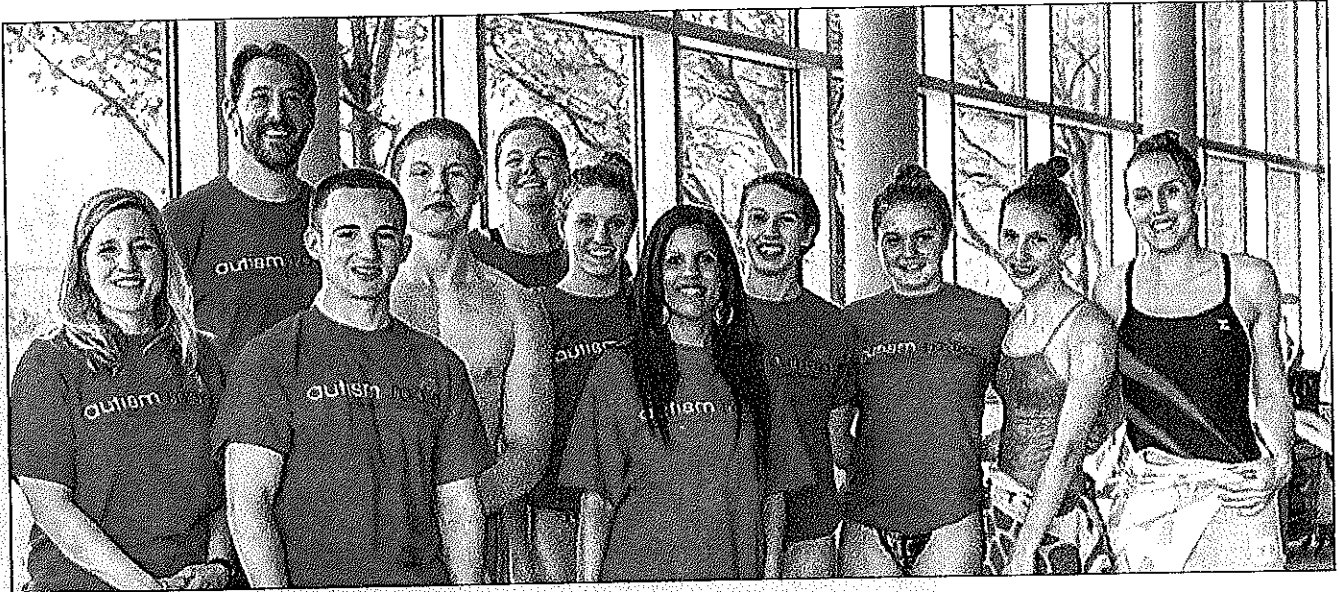


Schools



Locals launch autism swim program

WAYNE – The first meeting of the Passaic County Special Olympics Swim Team took place on April 6 at the Passaic County Technical Instituted (PCTI). Today, there are 24 children enrolled and more than a dozen volunteers that instruct the children while the coach organizes the team into various groups – one to learn water safety and drowning prevention skills, another to learn basic skills and strokes and another learning competitive swimming techniques.

The success and fruition of this wonderful swimming program is the result of the collaboration of Paul Cimins, founder and president of Autism Radio located in Wharton, the Wayne Special Par-

ents Association (SPA), the Special Olympics New Jersey and the sponsorship and support from the Passaic County Freeholders, Diana Lobosco, chief school administrator for PCTI, PCTI Board of Education.

The idea of developing this swim program first came to Cimins from Autism Radio. He knew that the statistics for children with autism of drowning is much higher than their typical peers because they are drawn to water, according to Dr. Scott Myers for ASAT, and that drowning is the number one cause of autistic children death nationwide.

Through one of his sponsors, Lourdes Cortez, president and

CEO of the North Jersey Credit Union, Cimins met the Wayne SPA President Beth Marmolejos. She was looking to develop a Special Olympics Swim team in Passaic County because there wasn't any program available, so she had to take her son to a swim team in Essex County. Wayne SPA's Vice President Cecilia Feeley also embraced the idea since she was bringing her son to private swim lessons in Morris County for more than eight years. Marmolejos, Feeley and Cimins brought it to the rest of SPA who embraced the idea.

The group envisioned a one of

SEE SWIM, PAGE 30

SPRING SALE

UN ROOMS

Schools

SWIM

FROM PAGE 25

state-wide Special Olympics swimming competitions, as well as introduce children with autism to basic swimming and safety skills.

Cimins and Marmolejos worked with Special Olympics and Lepore who embraced the idea and worked with the county personnel to secure the Passaic County Technical Institute.

Wayne SPA Assistant Treasure Staci Hesse recruited an ideal swim Coach Amiee LaSalle, who is experienced in working with children on the autistic spectrum through her work in Wayne as a para-professional, certified swimming instructor and lifeguard. Everyone involved agreed to work to recruit volunteers to assist with the lessons. Even Louis E. Imhof III, clerk to the Board of Chosen Freeholders, an experience lifeguard, volunteered to make this a successful swim program for our autistic children.

If you would like to give a tax deductible donation, e-mail the Special Parents Association at specialparentsassociation@wayneschools.com or e-mail Paul@AutismRadio.org, or call 877-HOPE-777 and leave a message with your contact information.

"You'll NEVER Leave Hungry" From Wayne Steakhouse
We are proud to serve you USDA Prime Dry-Aged Steak!



5AM: Owner of Wayne Steakhouse Tony Prelujakaj shown stamping the best USDA prime 28 day dry-aged short loins. Tony's focus and goal is to ensure every customer at Wayne Steakhouse is 100% satisfied with their sizzling steaks.

We have rooms available for Private Parties. Up to 90 people. Specializing in Corporate Parties. Free uncorking • At dessert you will be rewarded with homemade schlage whipped cream.

Serving Lunch & Dinner Open Tuesday thru Sunday • Closed Monday

RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED FOR WEEKENDS AND FATHER'S DAY

WAYNE STEAKHOUSE

2230 Hamburg Turnpike • Wayne



#1 Steak in New Jersey

For the first time in New Jersey enjoy the Peter Luger experience only at Wayne Steakhouse in Wayne.

Restaurant Tony, formerly of Peter Luger's Steakhouse, has brought #1 STEAK DINING from New York to New Jersey. Wayne Steakhouse offers TOP QUALITY FINEST CUTS of USDA prime dry aged steaks seared to perfection. With a steak you get a garden salad and onion rings.



NY Experience Now in New Jersey at Wayne Steakhouse

Peter Luger's Style

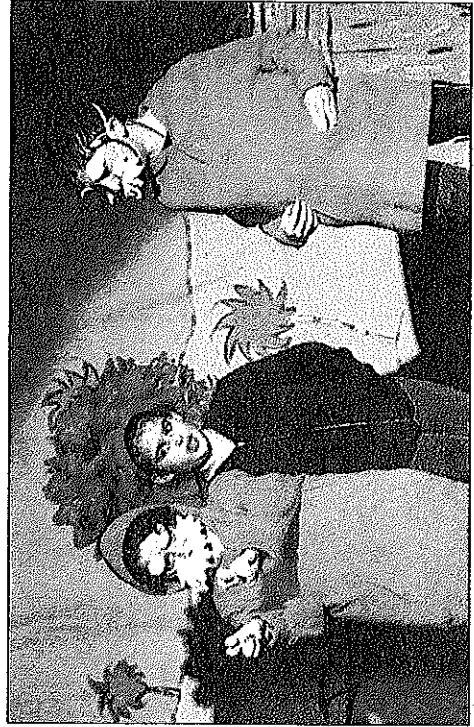
Find us on Facebook

973-616-0047

OPEN 7 DAYS • WWW.LIGHTINGEXPO.COM



THE LORAX



Students performed "The Lorax" at The Gerrard Berman Day School recently. Distances: 1/2 mile.