Your votes are in: Here's the **Best of Mendham Chester Washington Twp This Week** From March 2 through March 23, we invited our readers to cast their votes in our Best of Mendham Chester Washington Twp This Week contest. One lucky voter was even selected to win \$100.

Readers were asked to be the judge in a wide range of categories, from Best Pizzeria to Best Physician, Best Pub and Best Real Estate Agent.

Well, the results are in. On the next few pages, you can see the winners and runners-up. In some cases, there were ties, so we've included all the top vote-getters in alphabetical order.

Thanks for voting!

MCWTW Best Teacher Winner: Kimberly D'Angelo, Suburban Hills School

By JENNIFER L. NELSON

SPECIAL TO MENDHAM CHESTER WASHINGTON TWP. THIS WEEK

Kimberly D'Angelo, a pre-kindergarten teacher at Suburban Hills School in Chester, always dreamed of working with young children.

This year's winner of the annual "Best Of: Teacher" poll for Mendham Chester Washington Township This Week, the Chester resident has been teaching the program for four-year-olds at the school for 12 years.

"I've always enjoyed watching kids grow, and learning and seeing things for the first time," she said. For D'Angelo, the most rewarding aspect of being a teacher is the moment when one of her students fully grasps a concept for the first time.

'When they learn so<mark>mething</mark> new and their face lights up, that is by far the best part of being

In the classroom, D'Angelo hones in on her students strengths and weaknesses, and devises lesson plans based on what's best for each individual child. She also considers the activities that her pre-kindergartners find most enjoyable, and tries to incorporate them throughout each day.

'We do a lot of hands-on activities, and I love to do arts and crafts projects with the kids," she says. Other favorite activities include reading, storytelling, playing, and "acting silly," she said.

D'Angelo grew up in Chester and earned her education through the Chester school district. "I went to all of the wonderful Chester schools, and now Suburban Hills has become a second home to me," she said. Her mother and sister have also taught within the district.

"This school is very close to me and my fam-

great feeling to know that the children enjoy being in my class. It makes me feel good about what I do," she said.

When she's not teaching, D'Angelo can be found readtravel<mark>ing,</mark> or enjoying the great outdoors with her husband, Frank Brodeen.



MCWTW Best Teacher Runner-up: Nicole Polkowski, Bragg Elementary School

SPECIAL TO MENDHAM CHESTER WASHINGTON TWP. THIS WEEK

landers resident Nicole Polkowski has been teaching math and science to fourth graders at Bragg Elementary School in Chester for the past decade. The Chester native is honored to be selected this year's runner-up in the annual "Best Of: Teacher" poll for Mendham Chester Washington Township This Week.

"I have always wanted to be a teacher, and I absolutely love my job," she said. "I take great pride in making sure my students achieve their goals by providing them with the tools and skills they need in order to succeed — and the end result is amazing!

Polkowski received her bachelor's and a master's degree in elementary education from

Fairleigh Dickinson University, and began teaching math and science in her second year at the school.

She has always enjoyed working with numbers, equations, and money, and infuses lesson plans with her enthusiasm for the subject matter.

"I love seeing my students' enthusiasm about what they're learning, and how proud they are when they accomplish their goals," she said. "There's nothing better then being the reason for my students' happiness and success.

When she's not teaching, Polkowski enjoys reading, cleaning and organizing, and heading to the Jersey shore in the summer months. She spends most of her free time with her family, and will be a first-time aunt this month: her brother, Jon, and sister-in-law, Anni, are expecting twin boys. She credits her parents for her success.

and dad's support and love made me who I am today. My students made it easier for me after my dad passed away last month they put a permanent smile on my face, she said.



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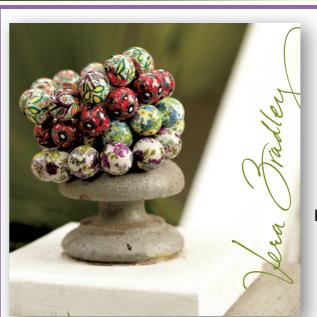
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Antiques & Collectibles

WINNER

★ Chester Antiques

RUNNER-UP

★ Stonehouse Antiques of NJ

Auto Dealer

WINNER

★ Maplecrest Ford

RUNNER-UP

* Mendham Audi

Barber

WINNER

Men of Mendham

RUNNER-UP

★ The Renaissance Barber Shoppe

Assisted Living Facility

WINNER

TIE:

★ Holly Manor in Mendham

House of the Good Shepherd **Bagel Shop**

WINNER

★ Chester Bagel

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

★ Jersey Boys

★ Kings Supermarket

★ Wicker Basket

Beauty Salon

WINNER

★ Mane Attractions

RUNNER-UP

★ Le Mirage

<u>Auto Body/Repair</u> <u>Shop</u>

WINNER

★ Moro's Automotive

RUNNER-UP

★ Mendham Auto Body

Bakery

WINNER

★ Maria's Bakery

RUNNER-UP

Sweet Spot Bake Shoppe

Candy Store/Ice Cream Parlor

WINNER

★ Taylor's Ice Cream

RUNNER-UP

Mangels Chocolates

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Owners



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AP-50004

Chiropractor

WINNER

TIE:

- ★ Complete Chiropractic & Rehab of Mendham
- **★ Peak Performance**

Clothing Store

WINNER

* Chicos

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

- * Whimsy Boutique
- * Talbots

Consignment Shop

WINNER

★ Soho Flair

Contractor

WINNER

TIE:

- Dean Painting **Contractors**
- ★ Hacklebarney Contracting
- ★ Innovative Dental Construction
- ★ Pastime Improvement

Dance Studio

WINNER

* Art of Dance

RUNNER-UP

★ Dorothy Delguercio School of Dance

Deli

WINNER

★ Wicker Basket

RUNNER-UP

★ Bella Italian Deli

<u>Dental Specialist</u>

WINNER

★ Center for **Dental-Facial Aesthetics**

RUNNER-UP

★ Dr. Howard Goodkin

<u>Diner</u>

WINNER

★ Chester Diner

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

- * Alexis Diner
- ★ Country Coffee Shop
- ★ Redwoods

Eye Doctor

WINNER

★ Silverstein Associates

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

★ Dr. Jill Saxon

Dr. Andrew Balysky

Dr. Donald Baker

Dr. Howard Hoyt

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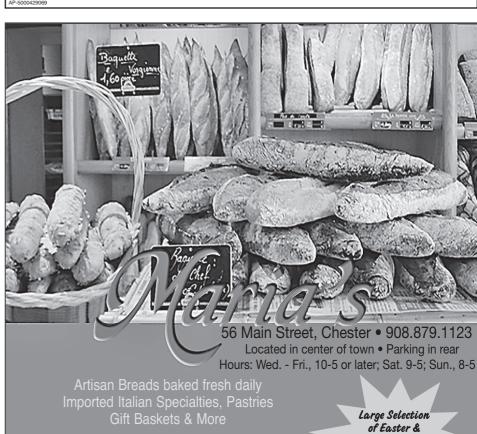
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Fitness Club

WINNER

★ Center Peak Performance

RUNNER-UP

Mendham Health & Racquet Club

Frame Shop

WINNER

TIE:

- **★ Frame Experts**
- **★ Moormans Gallery**

Home Furnishings

WINNER

★ Verge Upholstery

RUNNER-UP

★ Rolling Hills Furniture

Florist/Garden Center

WINNER

★ Stony Hill Garden

RUNNER-UP

★ Village Flower Shop

Garden Center

WINNER

★ Mendham Garden Center

RUNNER-UP

* Stony Hill Garden

Home Improvement

WINNER

TIE:

- ★ Grant Homes in Mendham
- **★ Lowe's**
- **★ Mendham Plywood**
- ★ Verge Upholstery

Footwear

WINNER

★ Sneaker Barn

RUNNER-UP

★ Aerosoles, Chester

Gift Shop

WINNER

★ Lady Fingers

RUNNER-UP

Mendham Apothecary

Interior Design

WINNER

TIE:

- ★ Jan Sullivan Design Consultant
- ★ Mendham Interiors

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www.thesports-section.com

Italian Restaurant

WINNER

★ Dante's Ristorante

RUNNER-UP

* Benito's Trattoria

Legal Services

WINNER

TIE:

- * Bogaard & Associates
- ★ Elizabeth H. Smith, Esq.
- **★ Lawrence Fox**

Orthodontist

WINNER

★ Freda and Suriano Orthodontics

<u>Japanese/Chinese</u> Restaurant

WINNER

★ Aoyama

RUNNER-UP

* Formosa Restaurant

Liquor Store

WINNER

★ ShopRite Liquors

RUNNER-UP

★ Village Wine and Liquors

Pet Shop/Pet Store

WINNER

* Well Bred

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

- * Adam's Pet Safari
- ★ TLC Mobile Pet Grooming

<u>Jewelry</u>

WINNER

★ Ladyfingers

RUNNER-UP

★ Mendham Jewelers

Mexican Restaurant

WINNER

★ Fresco

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

- * Aztec Nights
- ★ Casa Maya

Pharmacy

WINNER

★ Robinsons Drug Shop

RUNNER-UP

TIE:

- **★ Mendham Apothecary**
- * CVS



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Physician

WINNER

* Mendham Institute

RUNNER-UP

* Dr. Kadri Aygen

<u>Pizzeria</u>

WINNER

* New York Pizza

RUNNER-UP

Giuseppe's Trattoria

Plumbing/Heating/Air Conditioning

WINNER

J.A. Hall Plumbing & Heating

RUNNER-UP TIE:

- ★ Black River Heating and Cooling
- ★ Conover Plumbing
- 😾 Dan Garris Plumbing & Heating
- ★ Kelly Plumbing
- 🖈 Reissman Plumbing & Heating

Pools & Spas

WINNER

Pleasant Pools

RUNNER-UP TIE:

- **★ Blue Ridge Pools**
- * Ellmann Pool Service

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Pre-School/Nursery School/ Day Care Center

WINNER

Suburban Hills School

RUNNER-UP

TIE: ★ Clockwork Learning Center

★ Westmont Montessori

Pub or Night Club

WINNER

Old Mill Tavern

RUNNER-UP

Long Valley Brew Pub

Real Estate Broker or

<u>Agent</u>

WINNER

TIE:

- ★ Denise Mortensen of **Keller Williams Realty**
- ★ Diane Tolly of Coldwell Banker
- Donald Hansen of **New Beginnings Realty**
- ★ Patsy Soden of Coldwell Banker
- ★ Weichert Realtors Mendham

Restaurant/ Best all-around

WINNER

★ Redwoods

RUNNER-UP TIE:

- ★ Dante's
- ★ Black Horse Tavern
- ★ Sammy's Ye Olde Cider Mill

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Sandwich Shop

WINNER

★ Marilyns Cafe RUNNER-UP

* Wicker Basket

Sporting Goods

WINNER

★ Sports Section

Teachers and their schools

WINNER

★ Kim D'Angelo, Suburban Hills School **RUNNER-UP**

★ Nicole Polkowski, Bragg Elementary School

Tire Store

WINNER

* STS

RUNNER-UP

TIE: ★ American Tire

Country Tire

Wallpaper/ <u>Painting</u>

WINNER

TIE:

- Breslow Paint & Wallpaper
- ★ Dean Painting **Contractors**

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