

■ **YCS**

Straight from the Heart – The Greater Hackensack Chamber of Commerce wanted this year's Valentine's Day to be a special memory for the 65 children residing at the YCS Holley Child Care and Development Center in Hackensack. The Holley Center is one of the nonprofit organization's many diverse programs ranging from foster care and residential safe havens to special education and autism programs.

This experience was one of the most rewarding opportunities for many of our members. On February 16, we threw a Valentine's theme dessert and craft party. With over twenty Chamber members, friends of the Chamber volunteers and Hackensack Rotary Club members, we helped the children decorate wooden treasure chests. The children were also given paint by number kits as a second craft, chips, beverages, chocolates, candy and wonderfully decorated Carvel dessert cups. Special thanks to all of our volunteers, **Costco of Hackensack**, **Carvel of Hackensack** and **A.C. Moore of Paramus** for all of their donations.



Left to right: Volunteers Donna Lento, Darlene Damstrom, Linda Santucci, Danielle Rivera and Felix Rivera



Chamber and Rotary members, as well as friends of the organizations came out to volunteer at the party.

■ **Play for Pleasure**

Chamber member, Play for Pleasure, 250 Main Street, Hackensack hosted a Meet and Greet on February 1. As this was the Chamber's first visit to the adult boutique, the merchandise that this business has to offer was interesting. There is beautiful lingerie and fragrant lotions in addition to novelties, toys and movies. There is no reason to be shy, the owners and employees make you feel comfortable and welcome.



Play for Pleasure Owners, Karen and Michelle Maltese

■ **Chamber Breakfast Seminars**

On January 12, Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, hosted the first breakfast seminar of the year. "The 10 Essentials that Every New Jersey Employer Needs to Know" was the chosen topic. Employment Law Department Chair, Steven Adler and Attorney Damian Albergo discussed hiring, employment and termination issues.

With over forty members in attendance, the seminar proved to be a success. The discussion was so interesting, that many members had questions for the attorneys.

These seminars are provided to benefit our members. We will seek speakers to discuss interesting topics that will help our members understand and make decisions about various areas of interest, such as insurance, telecommunications, legal and others.



■ **Guest Speaker at Board Meeting**

Hackensack Fire Chief Joel Thornton spoke at a recent GHCC Board of Directors Meeting. Topics included Terrorism, A Community Response and the CERT Program being offered in the City.



City Manager Stephen Lo Iacono, Chief Joel Thornton and Chamber president Jack Conklin