

Spirit of UNION_{NJ}

FREE

UNION'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 14 • February 2012

**Union Elks
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FUNDRAISER
FEBRUARY 17**

7:45pm.

**UNION ELKS LODGE
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at Five Points**

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MAYOR RESPONDS TO LETTER WRITING PROGRAM FROM ST. MICHAEL EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS

On January 19th Mayor Joseph Florio stopped by St. Michael's Parish School, 1212 Kelly street Union, to talk to the two 8th grade classes in the auditorium. One of the 8th grade teachers, Tara Ship, had assigned a project where each student had to write a formal business letter, and what better way to do this than writing to the Mayor. "It was a great experience talking and reaching out to the youth of Union to talk about the community." Mayor Florio stated, "I think it is commendable that these young boys and girls are thinking about their community, how it runs, the things they like, the areas they have some concerns and even offering suggestions for improvements."

Mayor Florio proceeded to talk the students how the Township government is organized, how the departments are run and the services they offer. Also, during the discussion, Mayor Florio answered questions from the letters and afterwards opened up a discussion for additional questions. The student's questions ranged from various topics like

recreation and parks, senior programs, events around town and weather issues. "The kids were very excited that they had a chance to write to the mayor," Mrs. Ship stated, "and they were thrilled that the Mayor would stop by to talk to them." The day ended with the 8th grade classes taking pictures with Mayor Florio, a snapshot of the youth of Union already thinking about the future of their community.



(above) Union Mayor Joseph Florio addresses an assembly of St. Michael's eighth grade students.

UNION CHAMBER INTRODUCES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jim Masterson is no stranger to the Union business community, as he served on the Board of Directors of the Chamber from 1989 - 1997 in various positions, culminating in a term as Board President from 1995 - 1997. In addition, he was a Vice President at the former Union Hospital for the past 26 years before its closing in 2007.

Masterson says "It is good to be 'back home' in the Township of Union, and it is gratifying to serve with such a committed Board and loyal membership. My first order of business is to meet with each and every member. Please feel free to reach out to me, as well, with any comments or concerns, and I will do my best to assist you in any way possible. It is a great time to be a Chamber member!

Thank you for all your past and future support!"

"Meet the Mayor" Networking Event

Join the Chamber in welcoming...

Union Township Mayor ~ Joseph Florio,

Members of the Township Committee and
Key Department Heads as the mayor shares his vision
for Union in the coming year!

Wednesday, February 22, 2012 @ 5:30 pm

Hosted by Union Center National Bank

2455 Morris Avenue ~ Union, NJ

Refreshments will be served,

Registration is required

Cost: \$15 Members \$25 non-Members

To Register: call (908) 688-2777 or e-mail

info@unionchamber.com

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SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFE 2012 SHOW LINEUP

March 10 - PAM PURVIS/BOB ACKERMAN & THE BLUE SKIES BAND - Classic jazz: smooth, mellow and fun with precision musicianship and lush vocals.

April 14 - DAMN THE TORPEDOES - Tom Petty tribute band, played studio style. This will be the Torpedoes 4th Roadhouse show!

May 12 - CHRISTINE SANTELLI - Artful, creative and original blues and rock, Christine returns to the Roadhouse by popular demand

June 9 - PAUL GARGIULO BAND - "outside-the-box" combination of blues, swing, and punk-rock attitude

COOL JAZZ FOR HOT SUMMER NIGHTS series...FEATURING...

July 14 - STEPHEN FULLER - Jazz Vocals - Stephen's deep, rich voice and soulful renditions have made him a favorite around the world.

August 11 - "MADAME" PAT TANDY - A powerhouse jazz vocalist who is simply the best, with a great backup band.

September 8 - ART LILLARD QUARTET - classic jazz standards with a twist, Art's instrumental band always delights sophisticated jazz audiences with classics and his originals

October 13 - NEW TRICKS/MIKE ZUKO SHOW Returning to the Roadhouse stage as seasoned regulars, for the 5th time, New tricks and Mike Zuko always please with their original and covers of pop, rock and more

November 10 - To Be Announced

All shows start at 8:00 PM.* Doors open at 7:30 PM. ADMISSION: \$15.00* STUDENTS \$10.00
**Unless otherwise noted - check each show for details*

ALL 2012 SHOWS BENEFIT YWCA ELIZABETH'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS
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- Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and many more.
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**TOWNSHIP PROUDLY WELCOMES:
THE CAMEOS**



Do you want to find a way to hear great music but still stay warm indoors? Then head down to Hannah Caldwell Elementary School on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at 7:30pm and enjoy the benefit concert featuring The Cameos "New Jersey's Favorite Oldies Group," brought to you by the Veteran's Alliance Township of Union Parade Committee. The Cameos performance will benefit the 2012 Memorial Day Parade.

Hannah Caldwell Elementary School is located on 1120 Commerce Ave in Union, New Jersey. General Admission tickets for this concert are \$10 each. For ticket information, please contact Nancy Terrezza (908) 687-8979 or Bob Johnsen (908) 377-4527.

**UNION MUNICIPAL BAND –
VALENTINE'S DAY CONCERT**

CONCERT DATE: FEBRUARY 13, 2012

The Union Municipal Band, under the direction of Dr. John H. Bunnell will present a Valentine's Day Concert. The concert will be held at Hannah Caldwell School Auditorium, 1120 Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ. Admission is free and the public is cordially invited.

Famous American composers wrote all the music that will be played at this concert. John Philip Sousa, Leroy Anderson, Morton Gould, Meredith Wilson, Henry Mancini are some of the composers whose music will be performed.

The concert will include the following selections: America, The Beautiful, Fantasy on American Sailing Songs, Cowboy Rhapsody, Prisoner of Love, The Music Man Selections, Dixieland Festival, King Cotton March, A Trumpeter's Lullaby, Highlights of George Gershwin, Shenandoah, Mancini Magic and Selections from A Chorus Line.

The band would like to invite musicians from Union and the surrounding communities to join the group.

If you are interested, please call the band director, Dr. John Bunnell at 973-377-8058.

TRICKY TRAY

Goes



Saturday, February 25th, 2012

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CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT VAUXHALL BRANCH LIBRARY

Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend.

"School Break" Bingo Program

Tuesday, February 21st at 2:00 pm.

Dr. Seuss Program

Children in grades K through 6

Thursday, March 1st at 3:30pm

Join us for stories and crafts as we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. Space is limited. Signup is required.

Family Movie Day

"Kung Fu Panda 2: Kaboom of Doom"

Saturday, March 3rd at 2:00pm

Storytime and Craft Program

For Children ages 4 – 5, and their caregivers

Tuesday, March 6th at 11:00am.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

School-Age Craft Program

Children in grades 3 through 6

Thursday, March 15th at 3:30pm.

Space is limited. Signup is required

"Spring" Storytime and Craft Program

For children, ages 4 – 5, and their caregivers

Tuesday, March 20th at 11:00am.

Space is limited. Signup is required.



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CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT MAIN LIBRARY

Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend. No registration required.

A special "Roaring Rockets" Storytime Party

Friday, February 17th at 11:00 am.

"Olivia the Pic Book Party"

Tuesday, February 21st at 11:00 am.

A "Birds" Storytime and Craft Program

Saturday, February 25th at 11:00 am.

Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games at our Bedtime Storytime

Monday, February 27th at 7:00 pm.

Read Across America/Dr. Seuss Birthday Party

Friday, March 2nd at 3:30pm

The children's film, "Kung Fu Panda"

Monday, March 5th at 7:00pm.

Mother Goose Time,

for children 1 ½ - 2 ½ and their caregivers,

Tuesdays, February 14th, 28th,

March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th at 10:30am.

Preschool Storytime for children

3 ½ through Kindergarten

Wednesdays, February 22nd, 29th,

March 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th at 10:30am.

Toddler Time

for children 2 ½ - 3 ½ and their caregivers,

Thursdays, February 16th, 23rd,

March 1st, 8th, 22nd and 29th at 10:30am.

St Patrick's Day Storytime and Craft Program

Saturday, March 10th at 11:00am..

"Playful Puppies" Storytime and Crafts

Monday, March 12th at 7:00pm.

Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games at our Bedtime Storytime

Mondays, March 19th and 26th at 7:00pm..

"Fly a Kite" Storytime and Craft Program

March 24th at 11:00am.



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FRENCH FILM SERIES

To be screened at the Union Public Library
Beginning February 14, 2012

The Union Public Library will host a "French Film Series" with four selections beginning Tuesday, February 14, 2012 and continuing through March 6, 2012. The films will be screened on Tuesdays at 2:00 P.M. Admission to the programs is free.

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS

Tuesday, February 14th @ 2 PM
(2011) Comedy/Fantasy. 94 mins.
(Rated PG-13) © Sony Pictures Classics

PARIS 36

Tuesday, February 21st @ 2 PM
(2008) Drama/Musical. 120 mins.
(Rated PG-13) © Galatee Films

MICMACS

Tuesday, February 28th @ 2 PM
(2009) Comedy/Crime. 105 mins.
(R Rated) © Epithète Films, Tapioca Films

RUMBA

Tuesday, March 6th @ 2 PM
(2008) Comedy. 77 minutes
(Not Rated) © Courage Mon Amour Films

LIBRARY CAREER COUNSELING WORKSHOP ON FEB 18, 2012

Career counselor Christopher Cofone, will present a workshop on career counseling at the Union Public Library on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at 11 AM. The public is invited to this admission-free program but attendance is limited to the first twenty who register.

Topics to be covered in the workshop:

- 1) An overview of the job market
- 2) Resume-writing basics
- 3) Interviewing basics
- 4) Job search strategies
- 5) Tips for workers over age 50
- 6) Questions & Answers

Mr. Cofone is a National Certified Career Counselor (NCCC) and a Certified Professional Resume Writer (CPRW). He works in private practice with individuals and groups, and is also employed as assistant director of career services at a local university. Christopher has a master's degree in corporate training and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Montclair State University, as well as a certificate in Adult Career Planning & Development from New York University. He has presented workshops to various community groups, and has authored a column on career issues for USA Today.

HISTORY OF THE U.S. PRESIDENCY TALK AT THE UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

Stephen Schoeman, a Ph.D. in political science and a retired attorney-at-law, will lecture on the history of the U.S. Presidency from colonial times to the present at the Union Public Library on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 7 PM.

Professor Schoeman received his Ph.D. from New York University and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is a former Adjunct Professor of Business Law and Adjunct Professor of Government at Union County College.

The public is invited to this free program. The Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue in Union, New Jersey. Please call the reference department at (908) 851-5450, ext. 5452 for further information.

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FIVE POINTS YMCA TO ROLL OUT INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF HISPANIC/LATINO FAMILIES

The YMCA of Eastern Union County, Five Points Branch is one of 48 YMCAs nationwide selected to receive a grant from the Kraft Foods Foundation to implement Salsa, Sabor y Salud (Food, Fun and Fitness), a national healthy lifestyles program for Hispanic/Latino families. Developed by the National Latino Children's Institute (NLCI) and Kraft Foods, Salsa, Sabor y Salud is designed to raise awareness of the importance of good nutrition, increase levels of physical activity and encourage healthy lifestyle habits for the whole family.

According to the American Medical

Association, 38.2 percent of Hispanic children ages 2 to 19 are overweight or obese, compared with 31.7 percent of all children in this age group. Salsa, Sabor y Salud works with families to promote the importance of achieving balance through healthier food choices and increased levels of physical activity.

The eight-week interactive, bi-lingual course promotes healthy living while celebrating Hispanic/Latino tradition and culture. The curriculum is based on four messages:

- Eat from all food groups every day
- Be sensible about portions

- Be physically active every day
- Take small steps for success

Plans to offer Salsa, Sabor y Salud locally include weekly themed meetings available to both members and non members of the YMCA. This will be an eight-week program focusing on how small changes at home can lead to greater health and well-being for the whole family. Classes begin in February and will continue throughout August 2012.

Salsa, Sabor y Salud has engaged thousands of families with culturally relevant content built around traditions and culture,

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