

Spirit of UNION NJ

FREE

UNION'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 8 • August 2011

**SEPTEMBER 11
MEMORIAL
SERVICE
TO BE HELD ON
SEPTEMBER 9
6:30 P.M.
MUNICIPAL
BUILDING**

*Photo album of
National Night Out
and other events
can be found at
SpritofUnion.com*

EVENT UNITES COMMUNITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The "27th Annual National Night Out" sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and locally by the Union Police Department wasn't only a night filled with live DJ entertainment and attractions, it was an important night "for people to come out and show their solidarity, to stop crime together" stated Mayor Florio, "We want to make sure that this event stays very important in this community."

National Night Out was designed to: (1) Heighten Crime and Drug Prevention Awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and are fighting back. "It's just our way of bringing the community together," stated Commissioner Anthony Terrezza.

The night was filled with attractions; including a "Dunk A Cop," sponsored by Ray Catena of Union and Union PBA # 69, face painters, sponsored by FOP Lodge # 35, and a "Bounce House," sponsored by Special Improvement District. There was also a special demonstration from the United Tae Kwon Do School located in Union.

The Township would like to thank all the vendors that helped with their generous donations; Walgreens, Project Porchlight, Target, Larchmont, Cioffi's, Amici's, Mr. Nino's, Mr. Sub, Dairy Queen, 7 11 and Cakes Galore.



(above) Krista, 3-years-old, sitting on her daddy's motorcycle, Motor Officer Jamie Soltys.

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(above) EMT's Bill Vanwert & Tammy Pope.



(above) Annalise Fuzia, age 11, dunked officer Joe Sauer.



(above) Officer Stephen Viaud & Sergeant Jim Dybas.

(right) Face Painting by Jennifer.



(above) Lieutenant Sean Sherrighty serving a hot dog to Julianna Renna.

POSTAL PATRON

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(above) Music by DT Entertainment.



(above) Union's United Taekwondo Academy, students with Robert Nicholas, Head Instructor.



(above) Crime Scene Unit display table was a popular attraction.



TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES & EVENTS

Spirit of Union is published by Renna Media. Five thousand newspapers are printed monthly and 4,000 are mailed free to businesses and residents in Union and distributed free at distribution sites throughout town. Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE -

The Township Committee meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building except in August. The meetings can also be viewed on TV Channel 34 as well as on-line. The station maintains a page with links to meetings on the Township website. Dates and times can be confirmed by visiting the meetings page at www.uniontownship.com

BOARD OF EDUCATION -

Regular Sessions (with the exception of the August regular meeting) will be held in the Library at Union High School, North Third Street, Union, New Jersey. Formal action will be taken at these meetings and may be taken at any special meetings called by the Board of Education.

Please call 908-851-6400 for schedule of meetings.

ZONING BOARD -

The Zoning Board of Adjustment meets every Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. the Municipal Building.

PLANNING BOARD

The regular monthly meetings of the Planning Board are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M., in the Main Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083.

MUNICIPAL DRUG ALLIANCE -

Meets every 4th Wednesday of the month (except June, July, and August) at 6:00 p.m. in the Bonnel Room of the Municipal Building.

THE UNION GARDEN CLUB

Union Garden Club meets on Wed. Sept. 7 at 7 pm in the Bonnel Room of Town Hall. The winner of the Curb Appeal Contest will be announced. For more information please visit www.uniongardenclub.org

DOO-WOP LUNCHEON

Deborah Hospital, Park Union Chapter is hosting a Doo-Wop Luncheon featuring The Cameos on Sunday, August 21, 2011. Doors will open at 11:00 a.m., luncheon is from 12:00 – 5 p.m. at the Emeralds Irish Pub/Restaurant located at 304 Route 22 West in Springfield, NJ. The cost is \$55.00 per person. All proceeds go to Deborah Hospital. For more information or for tickets please call 908-451-0004 or 908-851-9185.

TRICKY TRAY

Deborah Hospital Park Union Chapter. October 23, 2011, Doors open 11am. Emeralds Irish Pub/Restaurant 304 Route 22 West in Springfield, N.J. Lunch will be served at 12pm. Entertainment by The Cameos. Tickets are \$50.00 (Buy a raffle book of 25 tickets, at \$2 per chance and get your entrance ticket for free). More information: Jackie Leddy-Wyklanski (908) 451-0004 or e-mail: jackiewyklanski@hotmail.com Kim Imperiale (908) 370-6178 Nina Calavano (908) 577-8212

Advertising in this newspaper

Each month 5,000 newspapers are printed and 4,000 are mailed free to businesses and residents with the balance being distributed free throughout town.

Reserve your space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com



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DECORATE A BRA TO RAISE MONEY FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Adrienne's Flower Garden in Union is calling for entries in a bra decorating contest to raise money for breast cancer research. Entries will be accepted now through September 15, 2011.

To enter the contest, decorate a bra in a theme of your choice. Any bra size and type is eligible. The rules to the contest are as follows: All bra surfaces must be completely covered. All entries must be original – not copied from similar contests. The entry may not have won previous prizes. The entry may not infringe on any third party rights. All entries must be received in the store by September 15th to be eligible contest.

One dozen roses will be awarded to each of the best designers in the following categories: Best Theme, Best Overall Design, Best Workmanship, Best Creative Use of Materials

The Grand Prize winner also will win one dozen roses, and a floral arrangement delivered to them monthly for a full year.

Storeowner Adrienne Kubicz is asking the public to come and vote on the bras, which will be on display in the store from September 15 through October 15, 2011. "To raise money for breast cancer, we are asking each person to donate a minimum of \$1 per vote. Of course



more would be appreciated and helpful in the fight against breast cancer."

All proceeds will go to the North Jersey Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Larger donations will also be accepted through different levels of sponsorship, which range from \$25 to \$500; all large donations are tax deductible.

Prizes will be awarded during a 7 pm reception at Adrienne's Flower Garden on October 20, 2011. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

To pick up an entry form for the contest, visit Adrienne's Flower Garden at 1380 Morris Avenue in Union.

ST. MIKE'S BLOOD DRIVE

St. Michael's Parish, Union, NJ will be having a blood drive on Sunday, September 11, 2011 from 7:15 am – 3:00 pm in the school cafeteria located at 1212 Kelly St. in Union. Breakfast will be served to all who come. Donors will need a picture I.D.

BOOK SIGNING & ART SHOW

Giftus R. John will be signing his latest publication entitled *Ma William and Her Circle of Friends*, a story of life in a Caribbean community as seen through the eyes of a shopkeeper and her trusted friends.

An exhibit of his oil paintings and photographs entitled, *Rainbows*, depicting scenes of my homeland-Dominica. During the launching

The event is scheduled to be held on Saturday August 20, 2011 at the Primerica Office, 1st Floor, 1767 Morris Avenue, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SpiritofUnion.com
The website features up to date articles, a calendar of events, archives of Spirit of Union and photo albums of events.

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OUR 34TH ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL

4 Big Days: September 8 to 11, 2011 • 721 Rahway Avenue Union, New Jersey



(above) St. Demetrios' Greek Festival features homemade, authentic Greek food.

Come and enjoy the foods and sounds of Greece at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church's 34th Annual Greek Festival, September 8-11, 2011.

Indulge in the homemade, authentic Greek food, including moussaka (layered sliced eggplant and ground beef topped with Béchamel cream sauce baked to a golden brown) pastitsio (layered macaroni and ground beef topped with Béchamel Sauce baked to a golden brown), roasted leg of lamb, chicken riganati, as well as souvlaki and gyro.

Appetizers include Greek salad with Feta cheese and olives, tiropites (cheese puffs), spanakopites (spinach puffs), dolmades (stuffed

grape leaves) and meatballs. Don't forget to treat yourself with the homemade, tasty desserts and pastries the festival has to offer! And to complete your taste of Greece, sip Retsina (white Greek wine) or Ouzo, the liqueur of the ancient Gods.

Enjoy the sounds of Greece with live music and authentic Folk dancing, featuring dance groups of all ages.

A zeibekiko dance contest will be held on Saturday evening, featuring a prize from The Greek Store of Kenilworth. Also free Greek folk dancing lessons will be given throughout the festival. Opa!

The Greek Import Boutique will feature a variety of imported goods, jewelry, vases and many other articles from Greece. Additional vendors will be selling hand-made copper and silver work, oil paintings, jewelry, and other items. Also, with each admission, you'll be entered to win one of 100 gift bags. Also, don't forget to bring the kids. The festival features rides and games.

Admission is \$1 and parking is free. Come rain or shine under the tents!

KALOS ILTHATE - WELC OME

34TH ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church • Union, NJ

4-BIG DAYS

Free Admission Thursday Sept 8 6:00 pm Until 7	Free Admission Friday Sept 9 Lunch 11:30 - 2:30 pm 6:00 pm Until 12:25am	Free Admission Saturday Sept 10 12 Noon Until 12am	Free Admission Sunday Sept 11 12 Noon Until 4pm
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ENJOY THE FOODS & SOUNDS OF GREECE UNDER THE TENTS! RAIN OR SHINE!

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565 Rahway Ave. Union, NJ 908.686.8589

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(above) Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church Festival - Greek Folk Dancers.

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INSURANCES: Please call if you do not see your insurance plan listed.

- Eyemed
- Medicare
- Optum Health Vision (formerly Spectera).
- VSP
- Medicaid
- United Health Care
- Aetna
- NVA
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ
- Avesis
- Block Vision
- Vision Benefits of America
- Qualcare
- Superior Vision
- Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and many more.
- Davis Vision
- Oxford

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GO UNION LADY DEVILS

Lead by coaches Laura Maloney and Sandy Santoro, the 12U Union Lady Devils Girls Softball Team took 2nd Place in the Parkway Invitational Softball League. The team finished the season with a record of 8-2 before falling to an undefeated Roselle Park team in the championship game. The girls played hard and showed great teamwork throughout the season.

We are proud of their achievements! The team consists of Caryn Filippone, Jaime Stulec, Megan Brandt, Baylee Solorzano, Joanna Stern, Kayla Warnock, Corinne Clemente, Katie Ruopp, Hope Valenzuela, Melanie Krupa, Larissa Stone, Alyssa Steinmetz, Chelsea Jenkins and Alison Pierce.



RED LOBSTER CELEBRATES RESTAURANT RENOVATIONS

Red Lobster Seafood Restaurant, located at 2520 Us Highway Rte 22 in Union, NJ, celebrated the completion of the restaurant's interior renovation with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday August 3, 2011.

Union Township Mayor Joseph Florio assisted General manger Maria Borja in doing the honors of cutting the ribbon. The Union Chamber of Commerce under the direction of Meera Rao assisted in promoting the event. The morning started with the ceremonial raising of the American Flag by Iraqi Freedom Vets, a service of the VFW organization.



(above, front, l-r) Mayor Florio and Maria Borja cut ribbon assisted by Meera Rao. (back, l-r) Red Lobster Directors Jeff Tatersall and Agam Vaidya with SVP Marty Gruetzmacher.

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(above, l-r) Red Lobster Staff pose with HT1 Robert Andrews, US Navy; AO2 Joseph Hill, US Navy Retired; IT2 Bernard Mack, US Navy Retired.



(above, l-r) Red Lobster Colony Manager Richard Scent, Michele Yacovelli, Jeff Tatersall and Agram Vaidya.

UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

1980 Morris Ave. • Union, NJ 07083 - Phone: 908.851.5450 - E-mail: UnionPL@uplnj.org
LIBRARY HOURS: Mon – Thurs: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. / Fri: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. / Sat: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FREE JOB TRAINING

Project Ready will be accepting applications for its free six week job preparedness program on Tuesday, September 6 at 9:30 sharp. Applicants should be prepared to stay until 1:30PM. Basic computer skills will be taught including Microsoft Word, Excel and navigating the internet as well as resume writing and interview techniques. Project Ready is located within St. Joseph Social Service Center at 118 Division St. in Elizabeth. For more information please call (908) 353-1045 or visit www.stjosephelizabeth.org

MAIN LIBRARY

The Children's Department of the Union Public Library has scheduled the following programs during the month of September. No registration required.

Bedtime Storytime

Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games.
Mondays, September 19th and 26th at 7:00pm.
 Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited.

Mother Goose Time

for children 1 ½ - 2 ½ and their caregivers.
September 20th and 27th at 10:30am.

Preschool Storytime

for children 3 ½ through Kindergarten
Wednesdays, September 21st and 28th at 10:30am.

Toddler Time

for children 2 ½ - 3 ½ and their caregivers
Thursdays, September 22nd and 29th at 10:30am.

Saturday Storytime and Craft Programs

Saturdays, September 10th and 24th at 11:00am.
 Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome.

VAUXHALL BRANCH LIBRARY

123 Hilton Ave. • Vauxhall, NJ 07088
 Phone: 908.851.5451

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 Thursday: 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 Friday: Closed
 Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

GLAMOROUS LADIES FROM HOLLYWOOD'S GOLDEN AGE TO BE CELEBRATED LIBRARY

A series of films celebrating five of the most glamorous, female actresses from Hollywood's "Golden Age" will be presented at The Union Public Library commencing Tuesday, August 16th. The films will be screened at 2 P.M. on successive Tuesdays through September 13.

Featured in the program are the personalities and talents of Hedy Lamarr, Rita Hayworth, Veronica Lake, Elizabeth Taylor, and Marlene Dietrich. Each of these beauties had a unique screen presence which appealed to moviegoers throughout the world.

Please join us at the Union Public Library on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 PM for this admission-free series. Call the library on (908) 851-5452 for specific films to be screened.

The Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue in Union, New Jersey (www.youseemore.com/UnionPL/default.asp).

VAUXHALL BRANCH

The Children's Department of the Union Public Library has scheduled the following programs at the Vauxhall Branch during the months of August and September:

"Under the Oceans" Storytime and Craft Program

Children in grades 1 through 6 are invited to attend.

Thursday, August 18th at 2:00pm.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

"Pancakes" Storytime Program

for children, ages 4 – 5, and their caregivers.

Tuesday, September 20th at 11:00am.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

After School Movie showing: "Rango"

Thursday, September 22nd at 3:30pm.

Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited.

No registration required.



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KICKING OFF THE POUNDS

Karen Pati was not happy with her body; she was in her 30's raising two young children and wanted to make a change in her life. She was concerned about the effects her weight would have on her health. Her children were her motivation. She wanted to be sure that she was around for them and eventually her grandchildren. It was her 8-year-old son who coxed her into joining Karate World in Kenilworth, NJ so she could get into shape. Both her son and daughter were enrolled in the youth classes at the gym.

Karen joined Karate World and started to train regularly. Karen first thought the gym would be a little scary because she didn't know what to expect. She recalled "I was self conscience about my appearance and had the idea that the instructors would be tough and mean like in the movies." Karen found the total opposite to be true. She said, "This school has saved my life. Everyone here has been so friendly, and they have always given me their endless support. The instructors are always motivated and enthusiastic which makes for a fun atmosphere!"

It took about two years for Karen to loss over 130 lbs. She loved the experience so much that after sixteen years she is still going strong, working out every day. She has earned a black belt in Muay Thai and is a 2nd degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Her husband Tony also earned his 2nd degree black belt in Tae Kwan Do. Jeff Dunn, owner of Karate World said, "Pati has transformed her body through cardio kickboxing. She is a new woman. She looks gorgeous!" Karen, a social worker, credits Master Dunn and Karate World with saving her life.

Karate World is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Students from all over New Jersey and even New York drive the distance to be a part of this school located at 753 Boulevard in Kenilworth. Master Dunn would like to invite interested parties to a free class. He can be reached at 908-241-0066.



(above) Karen Pati prior to joining Karate World.

(right) Karen today, over 130 pounds lighter with black belts in Muay Thai and Tae Kwon Do.



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Average School	Karate World
100-200 Students	500 Active Students
1,500 – 2,500 sq. feet	7,500 sq foot training center with 3 training rooms
2-3 Instructors	15 Instructors
15-20 Classes Per Week	66 Classes Per Week
2-3 Kick Boxing Classes Per Week	20 Kick Boxing Classes Per Week

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