

Union Township
Chamber of Commerce
56th Annual Dinner Dance

HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS March 25

Contact: Meera Rao
Executive Director
355, Chestnut Street
Union, NJ 07083
Tel: 908-688-2777
Fax: 908-688-0338
e-mail: executivedirector@unionchamber.com
www.unionchamber.com

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TEACHER HONORED FOR PATRIOTIC EFFORTS

At the township committee meeting held on February 22, 2011 Mr. Ed Graf received the Mayor's Award for excellence in Union Township. Mr. Graf was recognized by Mayor Joseph Florio for various patriotic efforts.

Mr. Graf serves as a History teacher at Kawameeh Middle School and vice president of the Union Township Historical Society.

Mr. Graf has made several contributions to the township and the nation. He has organized both Kawameeh's and the town's bicentennial colonial reenactments. Ed has sent hundreds of boxes of supplies and letters with his students over the past nine years to American troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ed is also a former infantry soldier having served as a company commander's radio operator and an infantry team leader while stationed in Ft. Lewis, WA and the Jungle Warfare School at Ft. Sherman, Panama.

Mr. Graf has used these experiences to help instill patriotism and pride in Kawameeh's students by coordinating the school's last three Proud to be an American Day events. These days consisted of a ceremony having the entire student body wearing red, white and blue on the school's field honoring the citizens of Union who died in defense of our nation during the Vietnam War. Kawameeh alumnus Wayne Russo who was a victim on 9/11 was honored as well as his father, World War II hero Arthur Russo. There was a 12 gun salute by the local veterans groups, taps was played, the school band and chorus performed, the National Guard landed several helicopters and last year the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team, the world's best sky diving team, landed on the



(pictured r-l) Committeeman Anthony Terrezza, Mayor Joseph Florio, Dr. Patrick Martin Superintendent of Schools, Ed Graf, Fabiola Chavez, Deputy Mayor Clifton People, Mrs. Judy Graf, Committeeman Manny Figueiredo, Committeewoman Suzette Cavadas.

school's field in a sky diving demonstration.

Ed gave a short speech upon receiving the award thanking Mayor Florio and the township committee. Ed also stated that he is continuing these efforts as a member of the town's Memorial Day Parade committee. He stressed that he would not be able to have accomplished these things without the support of Mr. Harold Bell, his former principal and mentor, Jason Malanda his current principal and Bob Johnson from the VFW and Charles Capaccio from the American Legion. Ed emphatically stated that he believes in Union and the United States of America and this is what drives him in these projects.

Advertising in this newspaper

Each month this newspaper is mailed to every business in Union and distributed free throughout Union Township.

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15TH ANNUAL UNION COUNTY ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Saturday March 12th 11 am – 4 pm – Union, NJ

11:30 am Grandstand Activities at the intersection of Stuyvesant and Morris Avenues.

1:00 p.m. Parade runs down Morris Avenue (Rt. 82) starting at Jeanette Avenue and ending at Roosevelt & Stuyvesant Avenues.

Best views are from Burnet Junior High School, Morris and Caldwell Avenues and from the Grandstand at Morris and Stuyvesant Avenues.

Free parking within walking distance at the municipal lots. Visit www.ucpatsday.com for a parking map.



Spirit of Union is published by Renna Media, Five thousand newspapers are printed monthly and mailed free to every business 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.

ADVERTISING & PRESS RELEASES

Each month 5,000 newspapers are printed and 3,000 are mailed free to every business in Union with the balance being distributed free throughout town. The ads are affordably priced with a special lower rate for members of the Chamber of Commerce. Call today to reserve your space in the next issue.

Inquiries concerning advertising and submissions of press releases can be made to Spirit of Union via email or fax to:

TINA RENNA

Email: TinaRenna@RennaMedia.com

Phone: 908-418-5586

Fax: 908-709-9209

SpiritofUnion.com

The website features up to date articles, a calendar of events, archives of Spirit of Union and photo albums of events, along with advertising opportunities.

Businesses and residents are encouraged to submit items for publication through the site.

ROSELLE PARK SUMMER CAMP

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TOWNSHIP MEETING DATES & CONTACT INFO

Dates and times can be confirmed by visiting the meetings page at www.uniontownship.com

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.

BOARD OF HEALTH -

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.

Tuesday March 15, 2011

Tuesday, April 26, 2011 (Organization)

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 (except where noted) 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.

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083

Tel: 908-688-2800 Fax: 908-851-4660 Web:

www.uniontownship.com

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Exchange for phone numbers is (908)

Emergency	911
TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR	851-8500
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR	851-8500
TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY	688-9303
ASSISTANT TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY	851-5467
TOWNSHIP CLERK	851-8501
TOWNSHIP ENGINEER	851-8506
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	851-7071
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
/EXEC. DIRECTOR S.I.D.	851-5466
FED. & STATE AID COORDINATOR	
/PUBLIC INFO. ASST.	851-5465
HEALTH OFFICER	851-8507
HUMAN RESOURCES/PERSONNEL	851-5457
LIBRARY	851-5450
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MUNICIPAL MAGISTRATES	851-5400
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GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE FREE – 2011 ROOKIE CLINIC – NEW PLAYERS ONLY

When: Saturday, March 26, 2011 & April 2, 2011
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Where: Hannah Caldwell School – Gym
Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ

Direct any inquiries to Bill Jereb at 908-688-8578
or email billj@unionsuffragettes.org

For more information, please visit our website at
www.unionsuffragettes.org

UNION SOCCER LEAGUE

The Union Recreation Department is offering a Union Soccer League April through June open to boys and girls through age 16.

Open registration will be held on the following dates: Saturday, March 19th 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Thursday March 24th 6:00 pm – 8:00 p.m. and Saturday March 26th 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The Soccer office is located at Union Soccer League 1492 Morris Avenue. For further information call 908-687-3134 or visit. www.unionsoccer.org

CASINO DAY HOSTED BY UNION COUNTY POLICE AND FIRE PIPES AND DRUMS

On Saturday, April 16, 2011 the Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums will host a Casino Day. The trip to Mount Airy Lodge and Casino, PA will depart at 10:30 a.m. sharp from the Union Knights of Columbus located at 1034 Jeanette Avenue in Union. The cost is \$40.00 per person and includes luxury bus transportation, canned beer & water on the bus, \$35.00 slot play and pizza back at the Knights of Columbus lounge. Seating is limited, reserve your seat A.S.A.P. by contacting John Peters 908-296-1638.

CAMEOS CONCERT TO BENEFIT MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

March 26, 2011 7:30 pm, Hannah Caldwell Elementary School 1120 Commerce Ave., Union, NJ. Come join the Cameos, "New Jersey's Favorite Oldies Group" and enjoy live entertainment with family and friends! General admission tickets for this concert is \$15 and V.I.P. meet and greet tickets are \$25. Please contact Nancy Terrezza (908) 687-8979.

UNION HS P.T.A. ANNUAL FASHION SHOW/TRICKY TRAY

Wednesday, March 23, 2011 The Westwood, 438 North Ave., Garwood Doors Open 5:00 pm.

Tickets on Sale Now Cost is \$45.00 Which includes dinner, wine and soda. For information please contact: Joanne Bevan at (908) 964-5048 or Vicki Cioffi at (908) 265-8614

CONNECTICUT FARMS CHURCH IN-DOOR FLEA MARKET

The Presbyterian Women's Association of Connecticut Farms Church has scheduled its annual in-door flea market on Saturday, April 9, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Vendors are needed. The flea market will feature a variety of new and "gently-used" merchandise and hand-crafted items. For further information or to rent a table please call 908-245-0562.

TRICKY TRAY / MARDI GRAS

Saturday, April 9th, 2011

Knights of Columbus

1034 Jeanette Avenue, Union, NJ

Doors Open 6:00 PM, Drawing 7:30PM

Tickets \$25.00 includes a sheet of minor tickets,
coffee & cake- CASH BAR


Tickets & info contact Diane at 908-577-6606 or
Dlupo41@aol.com

All profits will be donated to charity.

UNION HARMONICA ENSEMBLE WILL PERFORM AT LIBRARY

The Union Harmonica Ensemble, established over fifty years ago, will perform at the Union Public Library on Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 7 P.M. The public is invited to this admission-free concert.

The band is one of the few remaining touring harmonica ensembles in New Jersey. Under the direction of Ms. Caryn Feder, the group will perform a medley of works composed by John Lennon, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin and other popular tunesmiths. A tribute to works performed by the late Louis Armstrong will also be featured.



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SCHOOLS HELP OUT DURING HEART MONTH



The Builders Club (the service club of Burnet Middle School) has been working very hard raising money to combat heart disease for the American Heart Association. In celebration of Heart Month, the Builders Club sponsored three worthwhile fundraisers. First, they sold red paper hearts in honor of or in memory of loved ones, secondly, they held a Pre-Valentine's Bake Sale after school and lastly, they held the annual Hoops for Heart Foul Shooting Contest. Burnet Middle School definitely has heart. They raised \$646.84 for the American Heart Association.



The Staff of Hannah Caldwell Elementary School participated in a school-wide wear red event to celebrate National Go Red Day on February 4th. All donations went to the American Heart Association with students joining in to support the cause as well.



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FIOR D'ITALIA CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Mauro Belgiovini is celebrating the 25th anniversary of his Restaurant Fior D'Italia located in Union at 1400 Burnet Avenue on the corner with Vauxhall Road.

Fior D'Italia is a pizzeria that features a full menu of Italian specialty dishes. Mauro stresses authenticity in his cooking and gives personal attention to the cuisine.



(above, l-r) Alberto Gonzago, John Irace, Jose Gonzaga, James Brunao, Mauro Belgiovini, Daniel Toxquui Candia, and Washington Chimuris.

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In 2010 Mauro appeared in an episode of the Cake Boss which airs on the TLC cable channel. The show is hosted by Mauro's son-in-law Buddy Valastro.

Fior D'Italia has a long successful relationship with his Union customers. Mauro's relationships with some customers span generations. He looks forward to many more years serving the community. The pizzeria has moved into the digital age with its website www.fiorditalia.net. Customers can view the menu, download coupons and place orders online.



(above, l-r) Mauro Belgiovini takes an order from customer Denise LeMatty.

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CENTRAL FIVE'S GIFTED & TALENTED COMPETE IN "THINKING CAP QUIZ BOWL"



Students from Central Five/Jefferson School Gifted & Talented Program recently competed in a regional "Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl" competition. This is a national event held each year in which fifth and sixth grade classes from across the country compete against one another in a rigorous test of general knowledge. The competition took place February 23rd on the

Internet - completely in cyberspace! Some of the subjects covered include math, geography, government, sports, spelling, science, literature, English, history, current events, general information and trivia.

This year's team from Central Five's Gifted & Talented Program earned a combined score of 1211 placing them in second place of all schools competing in the Northeast division. To see the actual results you can visit thinkingcapquizbowl.com/results.shtml just select the "Northeast 5,6" contest, use the password "northeast" (with no quotation marks) and see the school's results.

(left, standing, l-r) Sienna Bucu, Paige Warnock, Jared Griffith, Annie Langan, Jeric Brual, Zean Go; (seated, l-r) Nathan Felix, Kevin Keegan, Christian Ledet, Chistopher Lepore, Priten Patel.

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THREE CENTURIES OF HEMLINES, NECKLINES AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

This exhibit will be open through June 30 and will feature an array of fashion from Liberty Hall Museum's vast collection of material culture from the late 18th century to the mid 20th century. These gowns, shoes, accessories and evening attire are genuine historical artifacts representing styles and taste from three centuries of American life. Liberty Hall is located at 1003 Morris Avenue in Union, NJ and is opened Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information please call 908-527-0400.

FREE SEMINAR: HOW TO REALLY MARKET YOUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

The Union Public Library will offer a free SCORE seminar "How to really Market Your Products and Services", Tuesday, March 15 at 7 p.m. To register please call (908) 851-5450 ext 5452

SCORE, mentors to America's small business, is a nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and helping small business start, grow and succeed nationwide. SCORE is a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

NATIONAL REFLECTIONS

The Burnet Middle School PTA believes that all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual National Reflections Program. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to submit works of art in six arts areas: literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography, and the visual arts (which include, but are not limited to, art forms such as drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage). In its more than 30-year history, the Reflections Program has encouraged millions of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to explore their artistic talents.

Burnet Middle School is very excited to have two students' projects move on to the state level; Jessenia Class in the Literature category and Amanda Lescano in Musical Composition.



(above, l-r) Amanda Lescano, Burnet Middle School Principal Raymond Salvatore and Jessenia Class.

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30 people or more.
With this coupon.

YOUNG STARS RAISE FUNDS FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



The Young Star cluster of seventh graders at Burnet Middle School raised \$199 recently with a bake sale for the Special Olympics of New Jersey. Their English teacher, Ms. Dowson, made a deal with her classes that if they raised \$100 for the charity, she would participate in the Polar Bear Plunge in Seaside Heights, New Jersey on Saturday February 26th. The sixty-nine seventh graders in the cluster, along with their families, worked hard to bring many baked goods and their efforts paid off, far exceeding their teacher's expectations. Ms. Dowson kept her end of the deal, plunging into the frigid, 39 degree water.



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THREE CUPS OF TEA

The students at Connecticut Farms School in Union, NJ have completed a unit of study based on the novel "Three Cups of Tea".

Fourth grade students teamed up with second grade students to investigate the culture and needs of children in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Students worked together to read the book "Listen to the Wind" and shared e-readers to complete the novel "Three Cups of Tea". Shared activities included making collages, participating in a lesson which required students to record their answers with a stick, drawing in the sand, and watching video clips about housing, food, religion and education in remote villages.

Students "built a bridge" to demonstrate the need for reaching out to build bridges of friendship. Participants worked collaboratively to design map flip books, and a culture quilt. The novels were used to provide instruction in language arts skills, math, social studies and

civics.

Based on research, students learned that in these remote regions of the world, just a penny can buy a pencil, start an education, and transform a life. In a region where terrorist organizations recruit uneducated, illiterate children, that pencil can empower a child to read, write and learn.

Students organized a school assembly and initiated a "Pennies for Peace" campaign.

Proceeds were sent to the Central Asia Institute which provides education and literacy programs especially for girls in remote mountain regions of Central Asia. Children in over four hundred mountain villages in northern Pakistan and Afghanistan are waiting...hoping to learn in a new school.

Connecticut Farms students hope to help build a bridge of peace, one penny at a time, offering alternatives to the cycle of terrorism, war and ignorance.



(above l-r) Lorraine Sterling, Hallie Criollo, Elijah Atwell, Daniel Atwell, Amanda Quinones & Kayla Mantilla.

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SCHOOL CELEBRATES DIVERSITY AT MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Kawameeh Middle School, in Union Township, will present "America's Heritage: Many Parts, One Family," a multicultural heritage festival, at the school on Thursday, April 7, 2011 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. This annual event is a celebration of the rich diversity of cultures represented among Kawameeh's students and staff. The 2008 Multicultural Heritage Festival was featured on New Jersey Network Public Television in October, 2008 during episode four of Classroom Closeup NJ.

The festival gives students an opportunity to share information about their own ethnic backgrounds with parents and community members, and gives members of the school community a chance to see what students have learned about the cultures of their classmates. Multicultural music, dancing, and cooking performances and demonstrations are scheduled throughout the evening in Kawameeh's auditorium. The gym and hallways are filled with displays of student projects in all subject areas. Past displays have included posters, slide presentations, models, handmade dolls and puppets, masks, charts and graphs, poetry,

games, brochures, and a variety of art forms and crafts. Activities for young children often include storytelling, face or henna painting, or simple craft demonstrations done by Kawameeh students. As they view the exhibits, people who attend can sample foods from different countries donated by Kawameeh families.

There is no admission charge to attend the festival, but students must be accompanied by an adult. All attendees are asked to sign in when they arrive, and if they wish to identify a cultural affiliation, we tally that information. In the past two years, attendance has been between 700 and 900 people representing between 30 and 35 different cultural backgrounds.



THE LOVING TREE



Students in Mrs. Nancy Hunter's Pre-K class at Livingston School are shown with the Loving Tree they created. The students in the class are working daily on becoming emerging readers through daily language arts activities. The Loving Tree is filled with special hearts that the students created. The children communicated in a complete sentence, something important in their lives that they love. These sentences were then written on the hearts for all to admire.

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THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT APRIL PROGRAMS (MAIN)

"April Showers" Storytime and Craft Program

Saturday, April 2nd at 11:00am. Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome to attend.

No registration required.

Come in your pajamas

Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games at our Bedtime Storytime to be held on Mondays, April 4th, 11th and 18th at 7:00pm. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend. No registration required.

Mother Goose Time

For children 1 ½ - 2 ½ and their caregivers, will be held on Tuesdays, April 5th, 12th 19th and 26th at 10:30am.

No registration required.

Preschool Storytime

For children 3 ½ through Kindergarten will be held on Wednesdays, April 6th and 13th at 10:30am.

No registration required.

Chess Program

Have you always wanted to learn how to play chess? Do you already know how but would like to get better?

Then join us at our Chess Program on Wednesdays, April 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th from 3:00 – 5:30pm.

Mrs. Render Cutts will teach children ages 6 and up about the game. No registration required.

Toddler Time

For children 2 ½ - 3 ½ and their caregivers, will be held on Thursdays, April 7th, 14th and 28th at 10:30am.

No registration required.

Saturday Storytime and Craft Program

Our Saturday Storytime and Craft Program will be held on Saturday, April 16th at 11:00am. Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome to attend.

No registration required.

Childrens Movie Time

The children's film, "Tangled" will be shown on Monday, April 18th at 11:00am. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend.

No registration required.

"Rebus Story-Writing" Storytime

On Wednesday, April 20th at 11:00am. Children of all ages are invited to attend. No registration required.

"Three Bears" Storytime and Craft Program

Thursday, April 21st at 11:00am. Children of all ages are welcome to attend. No registration required.

"Spring Checkers" Storytime and Craft Program

Saturday, April 30th at 11:00am. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend.

No registration required.

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

To be presented at the Union Pubic Library

Beginning March 8th

The Union Public Library continues its International Film Festival with three selections for Spring 2011 from Tuesday, March 8 and continuing through May 3.

Three countries are represented in the program:

Vietnam, Israel, and Argentina.

The films will be presented twice, with show times beginning at 2:00 P.M. and at 6:30 P.M.

Admission to the screenings is free.

The Vietnamese drama, "Owl and the Sparrow," opens the series on March 8.

"Ajami," a drama by Israeli and Arab filmmakers follows on April 5

and the Academy Award winning film from Argentina, *"The Secret in Their Eyes,"* on May 3rd

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT APRIL PROGRAMS (VAUXHALL)

Our Preschool Storytime and Craft Program

for preschoolers and their caregivers will be held on Tuesday, April 5th at 11:00am.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

After-School Craft Program

Children in grades 3 through 6 are invited to join us for our After-School Craft Program to be held on

Thursdays, April 7th and 28th at 3:00pm.

Space is limited. Signup is required

Chess Program

Have you always wanted to learn how to play chess? Do you already know how but would like to get better?

Then join us at our Chess Program on Tuesdays, April 12th and 26th from 3:00 - 4:00pm. Mrs. Render Cutts

will teach children ages 8 and up about the game.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

The children's film, "Open Season 3"

will be shown on Thursday, April 14th at 3:15pm.

Children of all ages are invited to attend.

No registration required.

"Checkers Fun"

on Tuesday, April 19th at 2:00pm. Children of all ages are invited to attend. No registration required.

The children's film, "Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2"

will be shown on Wednesday, April 20th at 2:00pm.

Children of all ages are invited to attend.

No registration required.

Bingo Program

Join us on Thursday, April 21st at 2:00pm for children of all ages. No registration required.

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Friday: Closed

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. SEUSS



Union Twp. Library Board member Sally Strauss reads from "A Cat In A Hat" to Josiah Freeman, 3 1/2 years old, who is perched on the knee of Peg Brady, Vauxhall Branch Manager at one of the library programs celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday.



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ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT HOW WE WON THE REVOLUTION

Learn more about Washington's defeat of Cornwallis at a presentation by author, Michael Yesenko.

The Union Township Historical Society is hosting the event on Sunday, March 20, at 2:30 pm at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union. Mr. Yesenko's talk will follow the Society's 2 pm meeting, which non-members are also invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Mr. Yesenko's new book, Washington's Campaign of 1781, which took two years to research and write, includes Washington's secret letters to officers in the Continental Army, the president of the Continental Congress, political and business leaders, British and French

officers, family and friends plus numerous maps and illustrations.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at \$22 each. The book may also be ordered by sending a check payable to MRY Publishing, P. O. Box 3739, Chestnut Street, Union, NJ 07083.

For more information, call Barbara La Mort at 908-687-0048.

(right The Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and serves as a museum, as well as the headquarters of the Union Township Historical Society.



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