

Spirit of UNION NJ

FREE

UNION'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 9 • September 2011

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SEPTEMBER EVENTS**

September 13, 8am
Breakfast and networking
Unity Bank
952 Stuyvesant Ave, Union
Social Media and
Relationship Marketing
Presented by Robert Provost,
Director of Marketing, SL

**Lights, Batteries,
Action!!!**
September 21, 6pm
Wine & Cheese Reception
Hosted by Batteries Plus
2200, Route 22 E, Union

MEMORIAL CEREMONY MARKS 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

For the 10th anniversary of the tragedy of September 11, 2001 the Township of Union assembled a heartfelt memorial ceremony that included the whole community, students, families and businesses, to remember those that lost their lives on that tragic day (pictured right). The community came together for this moving tribute on Friday, September 9th at 6:30pm, at the Town Hall Memorial Plaza.

A candlelight ceremony with a flag ceremony by the Union High School JR. ROTC was followed by poems and music presented in a somber remembrance. Poems were based on the theme "How did these last 10 years shape you? How will your generation keep the memory alive?"

The 9/11 Generation children, that were born in 2001, marched to the ceremony from Connecticut Farms with parents and police. This year's flag was presented to Townships schools, with a student representative from each school receiving the flag.



Wing-Wai Ching Charles Karczewski Wayne Russo



Bella Bhukhan Robert Hepburn Khalid Shahid



Edward Calderon Brian Goldberg Thomas Fisher

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HOST 5K

Union Township Chamber of Commerce has an exciting event that you should start preparing for!! Our first ever 5K Run/ Walk. Designed to get you off that couch and on to the roads, fully outfitted in your sneakers and walking or running gear, the event, which will help residents, businesses, and the town come together in a first ever Mayor's Day in Union is offered in conjunction with the Special Improvements District which will host a revival of the Festival on The Green in the afternoon.

The 5K Run/ Walk on Saturday Oct. 22. will start at Union High School on Cooke Drive. Race registration will be \$30 on the day of the race and will start at 8.30 am, with a start time posted at 10 am. On-line registrations will cost \$23.14 each at www.compuscore.com. Prizes and awards will be offered in a variety of categories.

The 5K Run/ Walk is sponsored by the YMCA of Eastern Union County. For business inquiries and any additional information please contact the Chamber office at 908-688-2777.



GARDEN STATE COMMUNITY BANK HOSTS CHAMBER MEETING

Union Township Chamber of Commerce hosted a breakfast meeting at Garden State Community Bank on Morris Ave on Aug 14. Bob Springer, of Business Tech Team spoke on the topic Help for Small Businesses in Difficult Times. A rapt audience of 30 benefited from listening to Bob's advice on how to cut costs, conserve resources and make creative changes to offset dips in the economy.



(above, l-r) Meera Rao, Executive Director of the Chamber; Magdala Tropnas, Branch GSCB Manager; Presenter Bob Springer, of Business Tech Team, and Daniel Pereira, GSCB Asst. Bank Manager.

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GARDEN CLUB'S CURB APPEAL CONTEST WINNERS

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.

Union Township Garden Club is pleased to announce the winners of the 2nd Annual "Curb Appeal" Contest. Members of the garden club were asked to knock on Union residents doors of the most beautiful gardens and landscaping and nominate a lucky homeowner to participate in this contest. The homeowner must have completed their gardens without the help of a professional landscaper and must reside in Union Township. The winner of the contest is Anwar Arshad of Wayne Terrace. Mr. & Mrs. Arshad have won a one year membership to the Garden Club, and a garden stepping stone with "UTGC Curb Appeal Contest 2011 Winner" engraved in it. The runner up award was presented to Frank & Maria Hrdina of Summit Place. The neighbors have been enjoying their curb appeal for many years.

We want to thank all the dedicated gardeners of Union Township that participated in this year's contest. It is You who keep Union

beautiful!

The Union Township Garden Club was established in 1980. Union Garden Club has planted and maintained the municipal gardens in front of Town Hall for the last 31 years. Our garden club meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Bonnell Room of the Municipal Building. Meetings are free and open to the public. Refreshments are served.



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.



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PERSPECTIVE ON 1970'S INTEGRATION OF UNION SCHOOLS

Rev. Dr. LL DuBreuil will present a talk based on Steps, her monograph on desegregation, at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union, at 2:30 pm on Sunday, September 18, 2011. An avid historian, she has compiled a timeline of pertinent events of the 1970's and will relate anecdotes based on newspaper clippings, scrapbook treasures, interviews, and videos.

As pastor of Faith United Church of Christ on Burnet Avenue in Union, Rev. DuBreuil believes her call is to also be of service to the community.

She serves on the Union Municipal Alliance, as well as the LINKS Advisory Board, and organizes the annual Community Thanksgiving Service. Rev. DuBreuil is currently involved with the Union CROP Walk to End Hunger, which will be held on Sunday, October 16, 2011.

Her program will be part of the meeting of the Union Township Historical Society, which will begin at 2 pm. Non-members are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free. For more information, please call Barbara La Mort at 908-687-0048.



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UNITED WAY'S 1ST ANNUAL "STUFF THE BUS" CAMPAIGN

United Way of Greater Union County's (UWGUC) inaugural "Stuff the Bus" campaign in partnership with local corporations and volunteers helped to make the start of the school year bright for a number of children in the county. United Way staff and volunteers from Deloitte & Touche stuffed, packed and distributed over 200 backpacks filled with pencils, markers, notebooks, folders and more to the children of Homefirst and Board of Education Family Success Centers in Plainfield, Jefferson Park Ministries Family Success Center in Elizabeth and The Connection for Children and Families in Summit.

Local corporations and individuals including: Actavis in Elizabeth, Costco in Union, G & W Labs in South Plainfield, JOM Pharmaceuticals in Somerset, Linde, Macy's in South Plainfield, Nustar, Target in Union, Tempil/ITW in South Plainfield, Total Lubricants, Williams Gas in Linden, Paul and Nancy Dango Cranford residents and Michelle Marlow of St. Luke & All Saints Episcopal Church in Union all made contributions of both cash and supplies that valued at over \$7,800.

In addition to the support of UWGUC's corporate partners, Villani Bus Company, located in Linden, donated a school bus and driver to help deliver the backpacks to the four drop-off locations.

"United Way is pleased to see the reception we received for our first annual Stuff the Bus campaign and look forward to doing it again next year," said James W. Horne Jr., President & CEO of United Way of Greater Union County. "The strong level of support our Union County community shows for our youth and the value of education is tremendous. The contributions made were greatly appreciated by the students and their families."



(above) Volunteers Raitika Sachan, Melanie Mawn, Bittu Doshi and Amar Shah from Deloitte & Touche, LLP stuff backpacks.



For more information about United Way's "Stuff the Bus" campaign and how you can get involved next year, call 908-353-7171.

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB PROMOTES COMCAST INTERNET PROGRAM

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County, we know that many students and their families would like to have Internet service at home so they can do homework, search jobs, download music, communicate with others and much more. We also believe the Internet can be an important part of your child's education. That's why we want to make sure you know about a new program provided by Comcast called Internet Essentials.

If you have at least one child receiving free school lunches and you live within a Comcast service area, your family may qualify for this fast, affordable home Internet service for the new school year. Internet Essentials costs just \$9.95 per month (plus tax). For participating

families, there are no price increases, activation fees or equipment rental fees.

In addition, you can buy a low cost computer for just \$149.99 (plus tax) and receive free Internet training - online, in print and in classroom. If you think this might be right for your family, it's easy to get started. Call Comcast toll free at 1-855-8-INTERNET (1-855-846-8376) to see if you qualify, enroll and get connected. Or for more information, you can go to InternetEssentials.com.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County wants to make sure students have access to online learning, and we are excited to tell you about programs like Internet Essentials that may be helpful to your family.

Grace Lutheran Church
 2222 Vauxhall Road, Union
 will hold a flea market
 Saturday, September 24
 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Rain date is Saturday, October 1.
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• 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	

CEO OF BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE



Russell Triolo

Russell Triolo, Chief Executive Officer of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County was recently named "Executive of the Year" by the Garden State Chapter of The Professional Association of Boys & Girls Clubs. This award is presented annually to a member who holds the title, duties and responsibilities of Chief Executive Officer within their organization and who has made significant contributions to the work of the Boys & Girls Club Movement while in this executive leadership role.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County, which operates facilities in Union, Roselle, Plainfield, Elizabeth and Hillside, serve over 7500 children a year. They seek to inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential and have provided opportunity for youth since 1955. They are part of a national network of some 4,000 neighborhood-based facilities, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, which serves more than 4.6 million young people annually, in all 50 states and on U.S. military bases worldwide. Known as "The Positive Place for Kids," the Clubs provide guidance-oriented character development programs on a daily basis for children 6-18 years old, conducted by a full-time professional staff.

Key Boys & Girls Club programs emphasize leadership development, education and career exploration, financial literacy, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation, and family outreach. To find out more, please visit <http://www.bgcuc.org>.

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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FORMATION OF SCRABBLE CLUB AT LIBRARY

The Union Public Library announces it will host the formation of a Scrabble Club with the inaugural meeting to take place on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at 7 PM. Beginners, intermediate, and advanced Scrabble players are encouraged to become members. Mrs. Harriette Steinberg, a local Union resident, is the club's organizer.

Admission to the weekly sessions are free but you must register with the library. Board sets will be provided to the players. For information on club registration, please contact the reference department at (908) 851-5452.

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.

VAUXHALL BRANCH LIBRARY

123 Hilton Ave. • Vauxhall, NJ 07088

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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.

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

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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MORE NEW JERSEY FILM STARS AND HOLLYWOOD DIRECTORS TO BE CELEBRATED AT THE UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

The third in a series of films celebrating the talents of New Jersey personalities Meryl Streep, Bruce Willis, Jerry Lewis, the Ritz Brothers, and a tribute to legendary Hollywood directors, Ernst Lubitsch and Frank Borzage, will be featured at the Union Public Library commencing

Tuesday, September 20, 2011. The films will be screened at 2 P.M. on successive Tuesdays through November 1st.

Frank Borzage, (1893-1962), actor, director, and producer was the first person to ever win the Academy Award for Best Director. He directed such classics as 7th Heaven (1927), A Farewell

to Arms (1932), and The Mortal Storm (1940). Ernst Lubitsch, (1892-1947), actor, writer, producer, and director of sophisticated comedies, was responsible for such notable films as Ninotchka (1939), The Shop Around The Corner (1940), and To Be or Not to Be (1942).

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 in the series.

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

HAPPY, HEALTHY, HOUSEPLANTS PROGRAM AT LIBRARY

Joan Witterschein, Union County Master Gardener, will present a 35-minute guide to selecting plants suited to the specific lighting, temperature, and humidity conditions typically found indoors at the Union Public Library on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 7 PM. The talk explains how to maintain healthy plants by giving them the right amount of water and fertilizer and also covers how to identify and deal with plant problems. A Q&A session will follow her presentation.

Admission to this program is free. For further information, please contact the reference department at (908) 851-5452.



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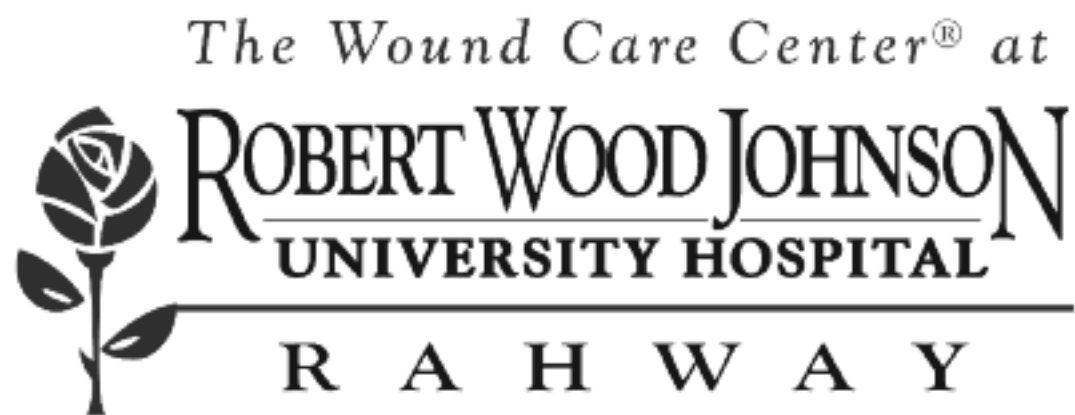
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