Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 48 • December 2014

UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL HOLIDAY MEET AND GREET EVENT WEDNESDAY **DECEMBER 10TH** FROM 5:30 -7:30 P.M. HELD AND HOSTED BY NORTHFIELD BANK 1305 MORRIS AVE., AT CORNER OF MORRIS AND SALEM AVES., UNION, NJ.

US POSTAGE PAID PRSRT STD-Permit #1087

(SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 2)

UNION HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY PRESENTS "A CHRISMTAS CAROL"

Join the Union High School Performing Arts Company in conjunction with the Encore Orchestra of New Jersey as they bring a little holiday spirit to Union Township with their production of A Christmas Carol: In Concert, on December 20th, 2014. The show will take place at 2pm and 7:30pm in the Theatre at Union High School located on 2350 North Third Street, Union, NJ. Regular tickets are \$15, for groups of 10 or more tickets are available for *\$10 (this rate applies to tickets sold prior to the performance you are attending). Tickets are available by visiting www.uhspac.com (Click on the A Christmas Carol tab) or can be purchased at the door the night of the show. It is recommended to purchase tickets online to avoid lines at the door. *Additional fees may apply.

The Charles Dickens classic, originally published in 1843, has been made into many different versions we have come to love to watch around the holiday season. In 1994, the story was adapted into a musical with music by Disney hit maker Alan Menken with lyrics by Lynn Ahrens; it was performed annually at Madison Square Garden from 1994-2003. To make this performance special, the show will be presented in a concert format accompanied by a forty piece orchestra featuring Union Township Elementary, Middle, and High School students. The performance will also feature appearances by UHS alumni and township employees.

UHS class of 2009 alumni and current Burnet Middle School Teacher Bridget Sloan had this to say regarding her experience "After 5 years, I am so excited to be back on the UHSPAC stage. It has been a rush to experience the process from this new perspective. I love the interactions between the students and the alumni. With the current students, alumni, and staff; we have an awesome cast, I cannot wait for people to come and see our finished product of this classic story!" The holidays are a special time of year, and uniting High School students past, present and future has been a rewarding experience for the members of the UHSPAC. "We really wanted to do something for the holidays and what better way to kick off the tradition then with A Christmas Carol. It's been wonderful working with students young and old, and of course the Encore Orchestra of NJ. We look forward to spreading holiday cheer with everyone!" said choreographer Jennifer Williams.

The Cast includes:

- Christopher Damas (UHS Alumni c/o 2013) as Bob Cratchit
- Marcel Smith (UHS Alumni c/o 2013) as Jacob Marley
- Leon Richardson (UHS Alumni c/o 2008) as Ghost of Christmas Past
- Brianna Javis (UHS Alumni c/o 2014) as Ghost of Christmas Future
- John Magbanua (UHS Alumni c/o 2010) as Ghost of Christmas Pres.
- Jonathan Duvelson (UHS Junior) as Mr. Fezziwig
- Bridget Sloan (UHS Alumni c/o 2009) as Mrs. Fezziwig
- Noelle Argonza (UHS Alumni c/o 2011) as Emily
- James Frazier Jr. (UHS Senior) as Fred Anderson
- Jaden Foreman (Franklin Elementary 4th gd) as Jonathan Anderson
- Jazmine Ramos (UHS Senior) as Sally Anderson
- Alex Rivera (UHS Alumni c/o 2011) as Mr. Smythe
- Jessica Braham (UHS Alumni c/o 2013) as Mrs. Martha Cratchit
- Cameron Brito (Kawameeh Middle School 8th gd) as Scooge at 12/8
- Connor Van Tine (Livingston School 3rd Grader) as Tiny Tim *Special Guest Star to be announced staring as Scrooge

For more information regarding the UHSPAC please visit www.uhspac.com and follow them on Facebook.





Spirit of UNION • Page 2 • December 2014



Spirit of Union is published by Renna Media. 5,500 newspapers are printed monthly and 5,000 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.

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www.RennaMedia.com

UNION CHAMBER INVITES YOU TO ITS ANNUAL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS HOLIDAY GATHERING

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Holiday Meet and Greet event on Wednesday December 10th, 2014, from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. The program will be held and hosted by Northfield Bank, 1305 Morris Ave., at corner of Morris and Salem aves., Union, NJ.

"This is a wonderful and relaxing way for our members and friends to celebrate our accomplishments for the year," said James Masterson, Chamber Executive. "We are grateful to our hosts – Northfield Bank – who

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce have graciously opened their beautiful branch in Union for our gathering."

Pre-Registration is required by contacting the Chamber at 908-688-2777

or by emailing

executivedirector@unionchamber.com.

Admission for members is free.

Admission for guests is \$10.

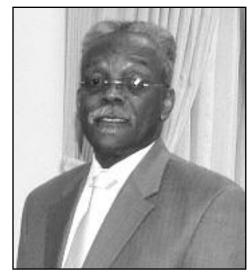
The Union Township Chamber of Commerce is a professional association organized to unite, strengthen, represent and promote the growth and success of its member businesses.

BUSINESSES AND PUBLIC INVITED TO MEETING WITH MAYOR CLIFTON PEOPLE, JR.

The public is invited to join The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce in our meeting with Mayor Clifton People, Jr. on Friday, December 12th at 8:30 AM at the Union Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union. Come and network with Mayor Clifton People, Jr., Township Officials and other Gateway Chamber Members.

The Local & County Affairs Committee provides Gateway Chamber Members with a Local Government Connection. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month. We provide a forum to facilitate communication and co-operation between the business community and Local/County government on issues of mutual concern.

Please RSVP by calling the chamber at 908- 352-0900 if you plan on attending.





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908-490-1600

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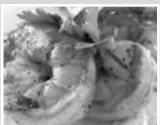
www.hibachigrillandbuffetnj.com BLUE STAR SHOPPING CENTER



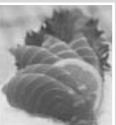
Large Parking Lot to Accommodate our Customers

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MONDAY - THURSDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pr	n Dinner 3	3:30pm - 9:30pm
Adult\$7.	39 Adult	\$10.99
Kids 7-10\$5	39 Kids 7-10.	\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$3.		\$5.99
2 & UnderFRE		·FREE!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3	3:30pm	Dinner 3:30p	m • 9:30pm
Adult	\$7.99	Adult	\$10.99
Kids 7-10	\$5.99	Kids 7-10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6	•	Kids 3-6	\$5.99
2 & Under		2 & Under	FREE!

SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER 11am · 10pm

Adult......\$10.99 Kids 7-10\$6.99 Kids 3-6\$5.99 2 & UnderFREE!

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HIBACHI

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ASK US ABOUT CATERING YOUR NEXT EVENT!

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\$500 OFF ADULT BUFFETS

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GO-GO BAR TURNS OVER NEW LEAVES

What does a former go-go bar and a produce market have in common? Well, in this case, very little except location! What was once a dance bar in the heart of Union, NJ has now been magically transformed into a bright and airy fruit and vegetable market showcasing an impressive variety of farm-fresh produce, breads, nuts and seafood, to meet every busy shopper's needs.

22 Farmer's Market is proud to announce its Grand Opening at its freshly refurbished location at 1235 West Chestnut Street, Union, NJ 07083, just off of Route 22 West (immediately behind the shopping center) with plenty of free parking.

In addition to fulfilling a need for a centrally

What does a former go-go bar and a produce arket have in common? Well, in this case, very the except location! What was once a dance opportunity for significant savings through its highly competitive pricing.

Vegetables at the 22 Farmer's Market include a wide variety of lettuce, carrots, asparagus, cauliflower, celery, collard greens, corn, cucumbers, dandelions, arugula, avocado, string beans, beets, brussels sprouts, broccoli, red and green cabbage, eggplant, escarole, leeks, onions, shallots, scallions, spinach, Swiss chard, squash, okra, parsnips, snow peas, seven varieties of both peppers and potatoes, radishes, turnips, yams and watercress.

Shoppers will also find a large variety of fruit, like bananas, blueberries, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, varieties of apples, pears, peaches, plums, papaya, honeydew melons, cantaloupe, watermelons, pomegranates, pineapples, oranges, tangelos, mangos, limes, lemons, varieties of grapes, grapefruit and kiwi.

Herbs and spices are available, including basil, cilantro, chicory, dill, ginger, garlic, mint and parsley. Additionally, the store will carry a variety of breads and an impressive fish and seafood section. The market plans to offer a variety of regional/international food items in the near future.

As part of the 22 Farmer's Market Grand Opening festivities, a FREE dozen of extra-large eggs will be given away to customers who spend \$20 or more, while supplies last.

Regular business hours are Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For inquiries, call (908)-688-8806.





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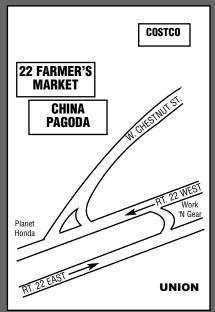


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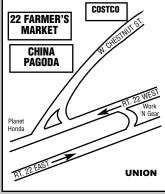
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\$1.00

beverage per person. Up to four people. Expires 12/31/14.

\$2.00

With the purchase of one beverage per person. Expires 12/31/14.

7 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE PUTTING YOUR HOME UP FOR SALE

Union NJ - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market.

The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-888-243-5861 and enter 2003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.

This report is courtesy of All Towne Realty Realtor.

Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers
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UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

1980 Morris Ave. • Union, NJ 07083 • web: youseemore.com/UnionPL 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

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LIBRARY HOURS: Mon: 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. / Tue & Thurs: 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. / Wed: 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. / Friday: Closed / Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT THE MAIN LIBRARY

No registration required.

The Children's Department will be sponsoring two book contests during the month of December.

These contests will run from December 1st through December 30th. Three winners will be randomly picked from the correct entries and each will receive a prize from our prize box. Only one entry per person may be submitted for each contest. The names of the winners will be posted January 7th. The answers for each contest will also be posted January 7th.

1st contest "Choose Your Book Partners".

The contest sheet will have two lists of characters found in children's books. Match the book characters in the first column with his or her book partner in the second column. Return your completed form to the Union Public Library no later than December 30th.

2nd "Do You Know Your Children's Book Trivia?"

The contest sheet will have 20 children's book-related trivia questions to answer. Answer the questions and return your completed contest form to the Union Public Library no later than December 30th.

Bedtime Storytime

Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games at our Bedtime Storytime to be held on Mondays, December 1st, 8th and 15th at 7:00pm. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend.

No registration required.

Preschool Storytime

for children 3 ½ through Kindergarten will be held on Thursdays, December 4th, 11th and 18th at 10:30am. No registration required.

Science Experiment Program

Saturday, December 6th at 11:00am. The Kean University Chem Club will show us how to do various fun science experiments. This program is for children in grades 1 and up and their caregivers.

No signup required.

Mother Goose Time

for children 1 ½ - 2 ½ and their caregivers, will be held on Tuesdays, December 9th, 16th and 23rd at 10:30am.

No registration required.

The Union Public Library Lego Club

for children of all ages will meet again on Thursday,
December 18th at 3:30pm. This is an opportunity for
kids to get creative and build anything they choose. The
library will provide the Legos, while the kids provide the
imagination! All materials must stay at the library so
bring your camera to document your creations.
Caregivers are asked to stay in the library and are
welcome to assist. No registration required.

"Trains" Storytime and Craft Program

Saturday, December 20th at 11:00am. Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome to attend.

No registration required.

The Disney children's film, "Frozen"

will be shown on Monday, December 29th at 11:00am. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend. No registration required.

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I can go up and down steps with no pain."

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My life is getting back to normal."

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— Quenton L.

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Color and Shape Bingo

for preschoolers and their caregivers, will be held on Tuesday, December 30th at 11:00am.

No registration required.

Book Bingo

for children who can read well, will be held on Tuesday, December 30th at 2:00pm. No registration required.



ANNUAL COMMUNITY KWANZAA CELEBRATION

Saturday

DECEMBER 27, 2014

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

AT THE VAUXHALL BRANCH LIBRARY

123 Hilton Ave. Vauxhall, NJ 07088
Celebrate Family, Community and Culture
A community dessert table will be provided.
Space is limited. Please register in advance
by calling (908)851-5451.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT VAUXHALL BRANCH

Bedtime Storytime

for children of all ages and their caregivers Monday, December 1st at 7:00pm.

No registration required.

"Candy Cane Ornament" Storytime and Craft Program

for children, ages 3-5, and their caregivers *Tuesday, December 2nd at 11:00am.* Space is limited. Signup is required.

Let's play chess at the Vauxhall Branch Library.

Learn to play or improve your game with instructors, Mr. Perry and Mr. Outlaw,

Tuesdays, December 2nd, 9th, and 16th at 3:00pm.

Children, ages 8 through 16, are invited to attend.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

Game Day

for children, in grades 1 and up, and their caregivers Thursday, December 4th at 3:30pm. Space is limited. Signup is required.

"Who Am I? A Teen Brunch 'n Series"

presented by Someone's Daughter Inc. Saturday, December 6th at 11:00am

This series will focus on self-esteem and confidence building for girls between the ages of 10 and 17.

Space is limited. Signup is required.

"Make a Stain Glass Window"

School-Age Craft Program

Thursday, December 11th at 3:30pm.

This program is for children, grades 1 and up, and their caregivers. Space is limited. Signup is required.

Game Day

for children ages 3 – 5 and their caregivers *Tuesday, December 16th at 11:00am.* Space is limited. Signup is required.

Our After School Movie Presentation of, "Santa Claus" Thursday, December 18th at 3:00pm.

Children of all ages are welcome to attend.



ROBIN'S NEST Rhythm & Blues

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TUES. - WILDCARD TUESDAY WED. - "ALL STAR BLUES JAMM" /WITH DEAN SHOT

THURS. - T-RAY R&B

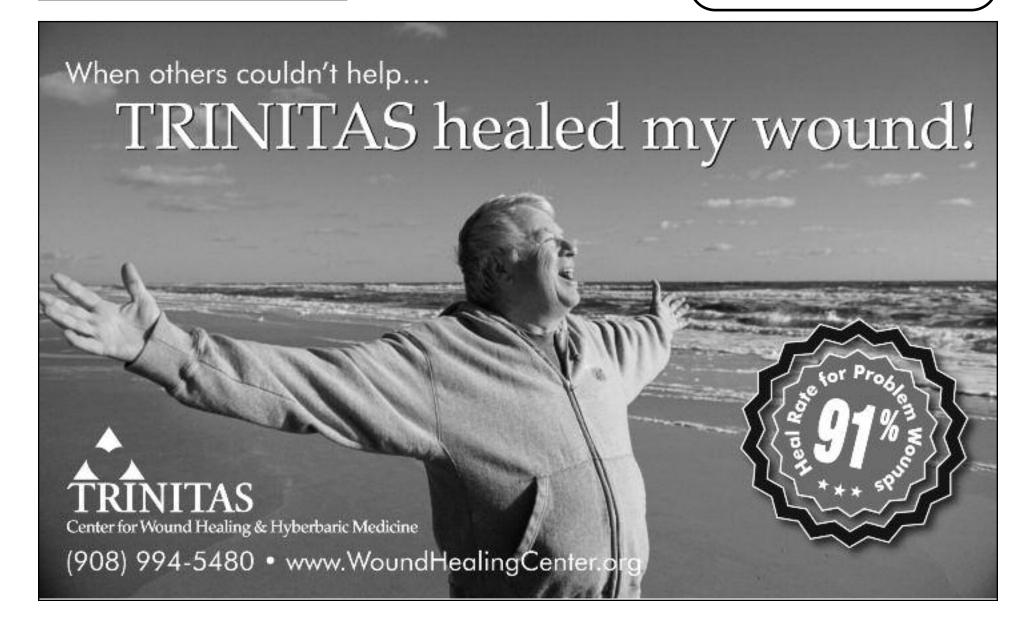
1ST RESPONDER'S & SPECIAL DRINK NIGHT: 10% OFF

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NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BLUES PERFORMERS FRI SAT ADMISSION 15.00 AND UP

SUN. COOL JAZZ JAMM

COOL JAZZ JAMM W/ DON WILLIAMS AND FRIENDS



Spirit of UNION • Page 8 • December 2014

(above) Jay Escobar standing with his friend, James Collura, who served in the U.S. Army.



(above) The students standing with their Veteran and presenting them with a rose to say thank you for serving the U.S. military.

STUDENTS HONOR VETERANS

On Tuesday, November 11th Ms Mason, a third grade teacher at Washington Elementary School, put together an assembly for the 3rd and 4th grade students to honor local veterans.

In early October, Ms. Mason sent out a letter to the 3rd graders asking them if they have any



(above) Michael Boll standing with his 3rd grade friend, Aneliese Oliveira. After serving the U.S. Marines, he became a Union Police Officer.

veterans in their family that would like to come in to speak at the assembly. This year there were seven veterans including Vic Mason (Ms. Mason's father), James Collura, Scott Heaton, Captain Scott Winterton, Matthew Brady, Robert Paolello, and Michael Boll, that volunteered their time to tell their military stories to the students.

The assembly started off with the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of "God Bless America". Several students from Ms. Mason's class got up to explain the meaning of Veterans Day and why we celebrate it. Two 4th grade students wrote letters to the veterans thanking them for their service and they read those letters aloud to the audience. After that, a very talented 1st grader, Ololade Falae, sang "The Star-Spangled Banner".

The veterans then spoke for about five minutes each sharing their wonderful stories. The presentation was finished off with all the third and fourth grade students singing "I'm Proud to be an American" and a question and answer session with the veterans.

The secretary, Mrs. Finnerty, provided bagels and coffee for the visitors.



(above) Captain Scott Winterton receiving a rose from his daughter after the assembly to thank him for his serving the U.S. military



(above) Captain Scott Winterton, Michael Boll, Vic Mason (Ms Mason's father), Scott Heaton, James Collura, and Matthew Brady and in front of bulletin board of thank you letters Ms Mason's 3rd grade class wrote.



David Fuerst, DVM Robert Markowitz, VMD Isabel Perez, DVM **We see exotics!**

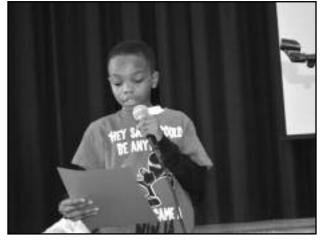
Hours of operation 8 am to 7 pm Mon - Fri Sat 8 am - 1 pm, Sun closed

908-378-5188 1067 Commerce Ave. Union, NJ 07083





(above) Matthew Brady standing with his daughter, Riley Brady, a 3rd grader, showing off all the equipment he would have to wear.



(above) Siris Day, 4th grader, reading a thank you letter he wrote to the Veterans.



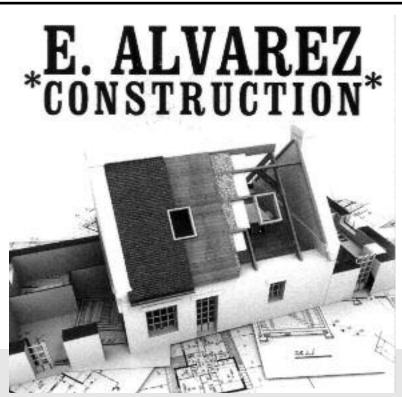




(above) Dylan Intwala, 3rd grader, is reading a speech about the meaning of Veterans Day during the assembly.



(above) Ololade Falae, 1st grader, singing the Star Spangled Banner during the Veterans Assembly.



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Like us on Facebook and check out our website Cafeznj.com.

DECEMBER EVENTS

New Years Eve Frankie M. Patty Friday, Dec. 12th **DJ SAM**

Friday, Dec. 19th

R & B WITH ROCKY AND BILLY



Saturday, Dec. 20th **BREAKFAST** WITH SANTA

10:00 am and 12:00 am seatings \$10.95 Adults \$5.95 child Reserve in advance with your child's name!!

Saturday, Dec. 27th THE ROTATIONS....DOO WOP

EVERY WEDNESDAY is Karaoke w/ Teddy **EVERY 2nd SATURDAY is COMEDY NIGHT**

EVERY 3rd SATURDAY is OPEN MIC Night

THERE IS STILL TIME TO **BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY**

We cater on or Off Premises and have reasonable Prices. We will do everything we can to make your event EXTRA SPECIAL!

WATCH ALL THE GAMES IN THE LOUNGE...



2333 Morris Ave., Union (908) 686-4321 CafeZNJ.com

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RECREATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

The Township of Union Recreation Department is still accepting registrations for the ROID Program, (Recreation Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities). This is an afterschool inclusion program that brings together regular education students and special need students, ages 6-9. The program strives to reinforce the status of persons with disabilities as complete members of the community; to promote the lease restrictive environment in providing recreation and leisure services for persons with disabilities.

The ROID Program will be held at the Recreation Department & Hannah Caldwell School Gym, 1120 Commerce Ave on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. Ms. Karen Borkowski is the contact teacher for the program. The program will run from thru April 2015.

There are still a number of openings available for this program but space is limited.

Please go to our web page at www.uniontownship.com/147/recreation for further information or call 908-686-4200.

PROJECT READY

Tuesday, January 6, 2015: Start of a new session of Project Ready at St. Joseph Social Service Center

Project Ready is a free 6-week job readiness and computer skills training class designed for adults who are actively looking for work. Volunteer tutors help students identify skills, write resumes, practice interviewing, and search for jobs. Basic computer skills, including Microsoft Word and Excel, are also taught. The program runs Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm. The next session begins January 6, 2015 and ends on February 12, 2015. For more information, please call us at (908) 353-1045, Ext 8. orProjectreadyprg@yahoo.com. Project Ready is located within St. Joseph's Social Service Center located at 118 Division St. Elizabeth, NJ.

FREE HELP FOR CAREGIVERS

If you are caring for someone 60 years of age or older and you feel stressed, frustrated or overwhelmed there is help available. Catholic Charities offers confidential counseling sessions for caregivers of Union County residents. We also provide information and assistance in regards to senior and caregiver services offered in your local area. Our licensed social worker can meet with you at 505 South Ave East, Cranford NJ 07016 or in your own home for your convenience. Please call 908-497-4011 to make an appointment! You don't have to do it all on your own!

LITERACY NEW JERSEY **OFFERING FREE GED TEST PREP CLASSES**

ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The 15-Week Program will be held at Elizabeth Public Library, located at 11 South Broad St, Elizabeth. Go to the 3rd floor, behind the elevator. ASSESSMENT ON Monday, January 12, 2015 at 10am. Classes start on Thursday, January 15, 2014 and will be held Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Mondays: Essay Writing and comprehension for Reading, Social Studies and Science; Thursdays: Mathematics

ROSELLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The 15-Week Program will be held at Roselle Fire Department, 725 Chestnut St, Roselle. Use rear entrance from parking lot, elevator to 3rd floor, room 316. ASSESSMENT ON Monday, January 12, 2015 at 6:30pm. Classes start on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 and will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Mondays: Mathematics; Wednesdays: Essay Writing and comprehension for Reading, Social Studies and Science.

Advanced registration for these classes is required. For more information, or to register, 908-486-1777, or email call Dawn dharrison@literacynj.org

Classes are free but Test Prep Booklets cost \$5 each. Total cost \$25. We are not a test center. You must go to a NJ Official Test Center to take the test. The TASC test costs \$92.

WE BRING TRAINING AND EDUCATION TO BUSINESS ATTEND SPANISH FOR THE WORKPLACE

Our New Spanish for the Workplace class is designed to encourage improved communications between English speaking employees and Spanish speaking associates, customers, clients and other people in the workplace. This program will focus on the words and phrases needed to communicate at work with minimal difficulty. It will not create fluency in Spanish but will enable you to welcome and communicate at a basic level.

This is a twelve hour course to meets: Tuesday, Jan 13, 2015 - 8:30 to 11:30 am Thursday, Jan 15,, 2015 - 8:30 to 11:30 am Tuesday, Jan 20, 2015 - 8:30 to 11:30 am Thursday, Jan 22, 2015 - 8:30 to 11:30 am

Participants must commit to attend the entire 12 hour program under the requirements of the NJBIA grant which funds this and allows us to bring it free of charge.

NOTE: We can bring this program to your business for your employees (groups of 10 or more). Email or call for details.

Contact: Nancy Burke (908) 527-7207 or burke@ucc.edu

UNION HIGH MARCHING BAND WINS GROUP 3A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Nov. 8 was cold, crisp, and clear. A perfect Class National Championships. In their final day for marching band enthusiasts to sit back and enjoy a full slate of bands competing in the USBANDS Preview of Champions at Union High School. A perfect day to indulge in their favorite band comfort foods, portable "marching tacos", chili, and burgers all washed down with hand warming hot chocolate. The Union High School marching band staff arrived at Harry Cooke Memorial Field at 8:00 am to begin preparations to host the competition. Their day would not end until well after midnight. A short time later band students and volunteer parents arrived and walkie-talkies crackled with instructions. The competing bands arrived; the judges were ready and everyone enjoyed a wellrun competitive event.

But Union High School's day was just beginning. Band staff and parents then loaded the equipment bus and the band traveled to J. Birney Crum Stadium in Allentown, PA to compete that evening in the 2014 USBANDS A

Expires 1/10/15.

competition of a very successful season Union High School took top honors and was crowned Group 3A National Champion for their visually exciting show titled "Soaring". In addition to the National Championship title, the sixty-five member band led by Drum Major Patrick Phillips and Color Guard Captains Luciene Loyd and Leanne Laurino also earned the awards for Best Music, Best Color Guard, Best Visual Performance and the US Army Award of Excellence. This followed their first place finish two weeks ago in the 2014 USBANDS New Jersey State Championships.

Band director Laura Muller complimented the students on an amazing performance at the end of a very long and tiring day and for representing their school and their community with pride. Muller also recognized the outstanding work of the marching band design staff; Assistant Directors Carlos Esquivel and Michael Hamilton, designers of the competitive

show; Color Guard Designer and Instructor PJ Tankard; Percussion Arranger and Instructor Steve Myers; and Color Guard Instructor Shannon Marshall. "Thank you to the wonderful band staff who spent countless hours designing, planning and practicing. Their efforts moved the students to this level of performance," said Muller.

The staff thanks the parents of the UHSPAC for their never ending support. They also thank Supervisor of Music, Ron Rago, for his guidance; Supervisor of Mathematics, Jason Mauriello, for filling in for band staff when they left for Allentown; and the administration, the members of the Board of Education, and the community for their support of the arts through

USBands is a competitive circuit for scholastic band programs nationwide and has a membership of more than 700 high school marching bands. For more information on Union High School see uhs.twpunionschools.org/







"BE A HERO - SUPPORT BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS YEAR END APPEAL"

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County has announced the kick off their "Year End Appeal" from November 17 through December 31, 2014. Did you know our programs reach 750 youth daily in Union County? We offer programs in Union, Plainfield, Elizabeth, Hillside, Roselle and Linden. Donors from our communities allow us to continue to provide a safe place for youth during the critical hours of 3:00 PM -7:00 PM each day. These are the most important hours in the development of youth. Club Members participated in many activities this year, including assembling food packages at NJ Community Food Banks, Tour de Elizabeth Bike Tour, Breast Cancer Awareness Fundraising, Blood Drive, Canned Food Drive, and Steve Adubato's "Stand & Deliver" program. The 2014 Youth of the Year was awarded to Marlisa Shaw, who has been an active member of our Union Club for years. Marlisa is hoping to become a pediatric surgeon and recently completed a service trip to Ghana to volunteer in

"This has been a very exciting year for Club members," stated Russell Triolo, Chief Executive Officer. "Kids come to Boys & Girls Clubs because they are safe, and feel that they belong. Our programming provides life-long skills to members, including water safety, public speaking, healthy lifestyle choices, community service, and civic engagement."

Will you 'be a hero' to our youth? Give a gift that allows us to not only continue, but grow our mission serving the children of Union County. To make a donation and to receive a tax deduction to the extent allowed by law, visit our website: www.bgcuc.org/yearendappeal or mail a check made payable to Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County labeled "Year End Appeal" to 1050 Jeanette Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. For information on our clubs and programs, please visit our website www.bgcuc.org or contact us 908-687-2697. Youth programs are available in Hillside, Roselle, Linden, Union, Elizabeth and

Plainfield.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County seeks to inspire and enable young people, who need them most, 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 & 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. Clubs provide guidance-oriented character development programs on a daily basis for children 5-18 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.

For more information on our mission and programs, please contact Lisa Sepetjian, Director of Development & Marketing at 908-687-7976 ext. 4.





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KEAN UNIVERSITY CREATES EXCITEMENT FOR SCIENCE AT UNION LIBRARY

On Tuesday, November 4, two science teachers and six students from Kean University's Chemistry Club gave a hands-on science presentation for the children at the Union Public Library at 1980 Morris Avenue. The show was part of the Club's volunteer community outreach efforts to share the fun of science with children. The program began with a story read by Library

Assistant Director/Head of Children's Services Mary Pritting. The children were then treated to several hands-on science activities such as testing acidity with pH paper, making super snow, changing colors based on acid vs. base, and creating slime. The young children enjoyed learning from the university students.







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Warmest Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

Wishing you a happy holiday season and a joyous New Year from the NYCB Family of Banks to your family.



UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MONTHLY MEETING

DECEMBER 14, 2014

2:00 pm

HANSON HOUSE

Home of the Cranford Historical Society
38 Springfield Ave • Cranford, NJ
(908) 276-0082

GUEST SPEAKERS

JOE & TINA RENNA

Authors of The Peterstown Book

HAVE YOU EVER FELT THE SATISFACTION OF TEACHING SOMEONE TO READ?

If you have, then you know the joy when reading "clicks" with a person, and if you haven't, this is something you want to experience! Please join Literacy New Jersey in our Winter Tutor Training class being held this coming January and help an adult student learn to read English.

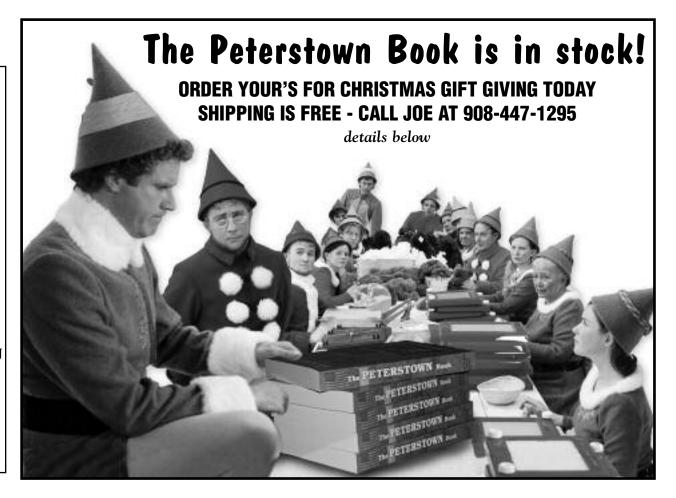
Literacy New Jersey (LNJ), is a volunteer driven, non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the literacy of adults in Union County, and we are now registering for the Winter New Tutor Training Workshop.

The workshop will take place at the LNJ Union county office, located at 121-125 Chestnut Street in Roselle. Classes will be held January 20, 22, and 29th from 9a.m. to 1p.m. with a class observation on January 26th. Attendance is required at all sessions to become a certified tutor of both Basic Reading Skills and English as a Second Language.

To become a volunteer you do not need to know a foreign language or have teaching experience, but you must be at least 18-years-old and able to speak, read and write English, willing to tutor in Union County and able to commit to volunteering at least two hours each week for a period of one year.

There is a \$45 non-refundable registration fee to cover the cost of materials distributed to new volunteers at the workshop. Need based scholarships are available to cover the cost of registration to qualifying individuals.

For more information about Literacy New Jersey, you may call 908-486-1777, e-mail vsimpson@literacynj.org or visit our website www.literacynj.org.



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The Peterstown Book is the 100 year history of an Italian-American neighborhood told through stories about the people and families who lived there. The book records the oral history in danger of being lost and illustrates the traditions and customs of the community through thousands of photos, hundreds of recipes, and antidotes shared by residents past

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RENNA MEDIA NAMED 2015 SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR BY THE GATEWAY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce is the largest business association in the New York Metropolitan area with about 1,200 members. The group's long history dates back to 1911 when it was founded as the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce by John D. Rockefeller and other New Jersey industrialists. Today the Gateway Chamber serves as an umbrella organization for a dozen regional and local chambers and networking groups.

Each year the Chamber selects three businesses as their large, medium and small businesses of the year. They have selected Renna Media as the small business of the year for 2015. The honor of large company of the year goes to Linden petroleum company Infineum USA L.P. and Summit investment firm R Seelaus & Co. was named as the medium company of the year. The Linden Chamber of Commerce was named the Chamber of the Year.

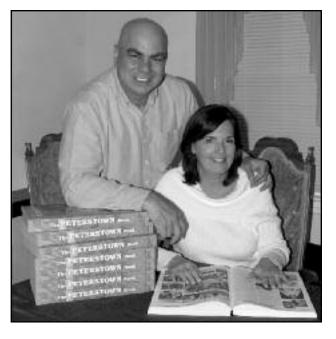
Joe and Tina Renna were nominated and selected not only for the success of their business but the community service aspect of their business plan. Renna Media publishes twelve community newspapers that are mailed free to 58,000 homes and businesses on a monthly basis. The focus of the newspapers is to support the community service organizations in the towns that they publish in. Non-profits can promote events at no charge. The publications also recognize individuals and businesses that perform community service. The newspapers also serve as a calendar of upcoming events for the towns, schools, and libraries.

Renna Media launched their newest publication Cranford Monthly in January of 2014, it is mailed to every home and business in town. It joins other Union County publications in Clark, Linden, Rahway, Kenilworth, and Union, along with six newspapers in their western zone, Warren, Watchung, Long Hill, Green Brook, Dunellen, and North Plainfield.

Tina and Joe also publish Around About Peterstown on a bi-monthly basis. This publication is less of a business venture and more of a labor of love. The Peterstown Newspaper attempts to record the oral history of the Elizabeth neighborhood Joe grew up in. In September of 2013 they published The Peterstown Book, a one hundred year history of the Italian American Neighborhood.

The biggest benefit to being a Gateway Chamber member is networking. The smallest companies have access to the largest. The Chamber hosts approximately 180 networking events a year. Prospective members are invited to events also. If a business is a member of one group then they are automatically a member of all groups.

The groups include: Linden Chamber of Commerce Clark Chamber of Commerce Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce Warren Chamber of Commerce Somerset Hills Business Network Irish Business Association Gateway Association of Business Women Workforce Education Committee



AWARDS DINNER:

Approximately 600 people from a broad range of businesses attend the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce annual awards dinner. This year's event will be held on

February 9, 2015 from 6:00 pm to -9:00 pm at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel, 1 Hotel Road, Newark, NJ

Anyone interested in attending or becoming a member can call Kate Conroy at 908-352-0900 email kateconroy@gatewaychamber.com or visit the website at www.gatewaychamber.com

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The next issue will be distributed the week of December 8th. Ad placement deadline is Nov. 19th. Call Tina today to reserve your space 908-418-5586.

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