

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
HOSTS  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**SUNDAY**  
**JAN. 11, 2015,**  
*from 2 to 5 p.m.*

**THE PARSONAGE**  
909 Caldwell Avenue  
Union, NJ.

*See details on page 2.*

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL IN CONCERT IS BIG HIT

Seventh Graders from Burnet and Kawameeh Middle Schools were treated to an early holiday present in December, when they were invited to a special performance of the Union High School Performing Arts Company's A Christmas Carol in Concert. The show was the culmination of months of coordination between elementary, middle, and secondary education teachers who brought Dickens's famous Christmas story to life for Union Township residents to enjoy. Only the second performance of its kind, this production by the UHSPAC involved not only students from the high school, but also elementary and middle school students, as well as alumni, community members, and teachers from throughout the district.

Reading and analyzing a dramatization of A Christmas Carol in class has long been a part of the Township's seventh grade language arts curriculum, so when teachers found out that the UHSPAC would be producing a musical version of the story, they were thrilled at the chance to expose the students to such a high quality live performance, made all the more meaningful by the fact that it was produced entirely by members of their own community.

After the performance, the cast and the students took part in a "Talk Back," in which students were given the opportunity to ask the cast, orchestra, and technical crew questions about the show they just saw. It was telling that most students asked questions about the set, choreography, music, and costumes: the parts of the play that they may have difficulty imagining when reading just dialogue and stage directions in class.

Kawameeh seventh grader Sabrina Duarte expressed just this when she wrote in a reflection essay, "I liked the play a lot because it gave me a better perspective of the story." Her classmate Aishah Ibrahim added, "In the textbook, I couldn't really understand it because I didn't know if the characters were yelling or being emotional, but in the Union High School play, I could understand it better since the characters were talking out loud." Comparing and contrasting a written drama to its staged version is one of the Common Core Standards that all seventh graders are expected to meet.

For more information regarding the UHSPAC, please visit their website [www.uhspac.com](http://www.uhspac.com) and visit them on Facebook @UHSPAC.



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## HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

On Sunday, January 11, 2015, from 2 to 5 p.m. an open house will be held at the Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union. The museum, once the residence of Rev. James and Mrs. Hannah Caldwell, is listed on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

Lore Ullrich, a UTHS member, dressed in authentic colonial attire, will serve as docent. Admission is free. More information is available at one of the Society's websites, [www.uniontwp-historical-society.webs.com](http://www.uniontwp-historical-society.webs.com) or by calling Barbara La Mort at 908-687-0048.



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## A UNIQUE AND CREATIVE WAY FOR STUDENTS TO FEEL CONNECTED

Union High School Student Assistance Counselor Lucille Williams wanted to find a unique and creative way to make her students feel connected. After seeing a project that was done at Jefferson School, she got the idea to use all different puzzle pieces to show unity amongst the 2,300 plus students that attend Union High School.

The premise: students were to write what was unique and special about themselves on all different shapes of puzzle pieces that would be displayed and used to connect the two cafeterias at the high school.

With help from the school's English teachers, students took writing interesting facts about themselves resulting in a beautiful display of unity. "My goal was to make our students feel special. While we all have our own unique qualities, it's important to show that we all may be different, but we still fit together," Williams had to say of her goals for the project. "My job is to make the students feel comfortable and safe when they come to school, and having a special project like this is just one part of many different activities we do here at Union High School to help our students."



## 11 CRITICAL HOME INSPECTION TRAPS TO BE AWARE OF WEEKS BEFORE LISTING YOUR HOME FOR SALE

Union NJ - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To order a FREE Special Report, visit [www.njhomeinspectiontraps.com](http://www.njhomeinspectiontraps.com) or 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 3003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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## UNION HIGH SCHOOL WINS BASF \$5000 GRANT

Union High School is pleased to announce that Tyler Kneidl and Michael Atzbi, both science teachers at Union High School, recently received a \$5,000 competitive grant from BASF Corporation in Florham Park, NJ. This grant will be used to purchase a 3D printer for use in Physics and Engineering Classes. The grant will also purchase two small plastic shredders, so that students can collect plastic water bottles in the cafeteria and recycle them into filament for use in the 3D printers. This new technology is used in many occupations from advertising and marketing to engineering. With the purchase of this technology the students will be able to create objects designed in the physics and engineering classes at Union High School.

Each year, BASF invites New Jersey schools to submit proposals summarizing their specific science education needs and how a grant would help them meet those needs. The proposals are reviewed by an internal science advisory committee composed of BASF scientists and business leaders. The grants are designed to give students a greater understanding of the role science plays in their daily lives. "Our goal is to engage students in creative new ways that will stimulate their interest in STEM related fields and encourage them to view science as a long-term field of study and possible career path," said Robin Rotenberg, Vice President and Chief Communications Officer for North America at BASF Corporation. "Through the programs

supported by these grants, we hope to develop the innovators and technical visionaries who will shape our future."

BASF Corporation donated \$100,000 to support science education programs in 20

schools throughout New Jersey. The BASF Science Education Grants, each totaling \$5,000, will enhance science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related learning for students in grades K – 12.



(above, l-r) Derek Fairclough, Senior Vice President, Ecology/Safety, BASF Corporation; Tyler Kneidl, AP Physics and Engineering Teacher; Maureen Guilfoyle, Grades 6-12 Science Supervisor; Michael Atzbi, Engineering Teacher and John Mahoney, Vice President, Accounting & Reporting, BASF Corporation.



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## THE A.R.T. OF RESCUE

Heart is what drives most artistic souls, and so determines their fate. That's pretty much how Angela Renna Teixeira ended up working as a painter and ceramic artist, using her skills and vision to feed another passion, animal rescue.

She is a dog lover with an insatiable obsession for funny little short dogs. She has three pugs of her own but also keeps others in her home, as she and her husband, Paul, volunteer as a foster home for dogs in rescue that are waiting to be adopted.

The dogs are Angela's muses. Their clown-like natures and expressive faces became the subject of her paintings and clay creations. There was a growing interest in her art from other dog lovers and so Angela started to sell her work through the internet. Every piece she makes is listed for sale through eBay's Giving Works, where a percentage of all sales go directly to non-profit, volunteer-based (mostly), dog rescue groups.

Before she added a full pottery and art studio to her home, she worked for many years as a dog

portrait artist, and still enjoys a long career in graphic design as an art director in the publishing industry.

Angela fostered her interest in art while attending the Elizabeth public school system enrolled in the gifted and talented program. She had excellent commercial and fine art teachers who encouraged young artists like herself to work with their strengths. Angela credits the system and her teachers and says "It was a gift, without which I don't know where I'd be today. Thankfully, my early life in Elizabeth, NJ handed me the opportunity to find out the kind of person I really am."

Angela is driven to the core by passion, kindness, humor, and art with good intentions. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of Visual Arts after graduating Elizabeth High School, Class of '89.

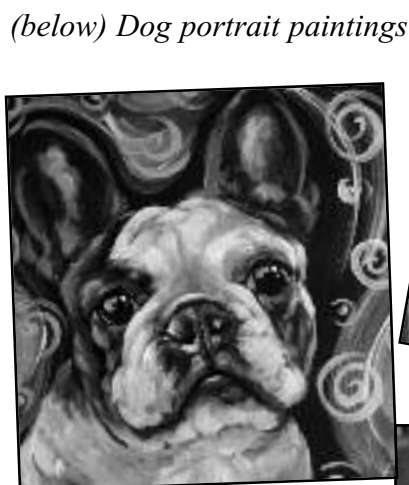
Angela's family moved to Union, where her mom, also named Angela, still lives. Both Elizabeth and Union are still very much a part of her life and what shapes her sensibilities.



(above) Angela in her home studio with Jingles, a rescue pug, wearing one of her many outfits. Yes, pugs are very fashion conscience.



(left) Angela Renna with her daughter and namesake Angela Renna Teixeira.



(below) Dog portrait paintings



(right) Dog themed pottery



### WEBSITES:

[www.ArtofRescue.com](http://www.ArtofRescue.com)  
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## CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT THE MAIN LIBRARY

**Mother Goose Time**  
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**and 27th at 10:30am.**  
No registration required.

**Preschool Storytime**  
for children 3 ½ through Kindergarten  
**Thursdays, January 8th, 15th, 22nd**  
**and 29th at 10:30am.**  
No registration required.

**Bedtime Storytime**  
Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games  
**Mondays, January 12th and 26th at 7:00pm.**  
Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to attend. No registration required.

**A "Trains" Storytime and Craft Program**  
**Saturday, January 17th at 11:00am.**  
Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome to attend. No registration required.

**The Union Public Library Lego Club**  
for children of all ages  
**Thursday, January 22nd 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.

**Saturday Storytime and Craft Program**  
**Saturday, January 31st at 11:00am.**  
Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome to attend. No registration required.

## THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT VAUXHALL BRANCH

**"Who Am I? A Teen Brunch 'n Series"**  
presented by Someone's Daughter Inc.  
**Saturday, January 3rd 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.

**Bedtime Storytime**  
for children of all ages and their caregivers  
**on Monday, January 5th at 7:00pm.**  
No registration required.

**"Winter Snowman" Storytime and Craft Program**  
for children, ages 3-5, and their caregivers  
**Tuesday, January 6th at 11:00am.**  
Space is limited. Signup is required.

**Let's play chess at the Vauxhall Branch Library.**  
Instructors Mr. Perry and Mr. Outlaw  
**Tuesdays, January 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th, 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, January 8th at 3:30pm.**  
Space is limited. Signup is required.

**Our After School Movie Presentation of,**  
**"Dolphin Tale 2"**  
**Thursday, January 15th at 3:00pm.**  
Children of all ages are welcome to attend.

**Game Day**  
children ages 3 – 5 and their caregivers  
**Tuesday, January 20th at 11:00am.**  
Space is limited. Signup is required.

**"Make a Snow Globe" School-Age Craft Program**  
**Thursday, January 29th at 3:30pm.**  
This program is for children, grades 1 and up, and their caregivers. Space is limited. Signup is required.



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## IRISH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION DONATES FOOD TO COMMUNITY FOOD BANK OF NEW JERSEY

Tim Vogel, director of food sourcing at the Community Food Bank of New Jersey in Hillside, accepted food collected by the Irish Business Association at the group's December holiday party. Presenting the donation were Brian Reilly of Centric Benefits and Stephen Flood of Scomage Information Services. Vogel told Reilly and Flood that donations are always welcome and that volunteers also are needed. Visit <http://www.cfbnj.org/> to learn more. The Irish Business Association meets the second Thursday of every month at Molly Maguire's Irish Pub & Restaurant in Clark, 6:00 p.m. to

8:00 p.m. First-time guests are free. Visit <http://irishbusiness.org/>.

### ABOUT THE IRISH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Irish Business Association is an association of New Jersey business professionals and business owners launched in March 2008, committed to promoting business relationships and personal interaction within the Irish-American business community in New Jersey, based on a shared heritage. The IBA is part of the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, the largest business association in the New York/Northern New Jersey Region, comprising 14 regional and local chambers. With 1,400 members, the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce has a 95 percent retention rate, the highest in the country. Visit <http://irishbusiness.org/>.



(above, l-r) Tim Vogel, Brian Reilly, and Stephen Flood

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## “ELVIS” IS COMING

On Sat., January 10, 2015, the Kenilworth Historical Society will present a Rockin' BBQ With “The King,” a fun-filled evening of great live “Elvis” music and a barbecue-style dinner, at the Kenilworth Veterans Center (33 South 21st Street) from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Admission is \$50. Advance reservations (by December 27) are required. The event seating plan accommodates eight people per table. Early reservations are encouraged to ensure availability. For reservations/tickets, please call 908-709-0434 or 908-709-0391 or visit Especially Yours Florist (13 North 20th Street, Kenilworth), where tickets for the event also are being sold.

Proceeds from the Rockin' BBQ With “The King” will benefit the Kenilworth Historical Society's Oswald J. Nitschke House (c. 1880) “living history” museum and cultural arts center by helping defray the cost of an elevator that makes all levels of the newly restored site fully accessible to everyone.

## PROVIDENT BANK FOUNDATION AWARDS BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF UNION COUNTY

The Provident Bank Foundation recently awarded a grant for \$2,500 to Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County to support their Career Launch, Financial Literacy and Teen Programs. Paula Palmero, Vice President Area Manager, and Tracy Bara, Banking Center Manager Clark, presented the check to Russell Triolo, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County.

“We are thrilled to have the Provident Bank Foundation as a partner and supporter of our teen programs, including Career Launch and Financial Literacy”, said Mr. Triolo. “Building partnerships with businesses in our communities provides our youth with access to diverse careers and professionals to guide teens as they prepare to enter the workforce”.

Provident Bank has branches throughout the area, including Clark, South Orange, Fanwood and New Providence.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County offers Career Launch as part of teen programs. Teen leadership programs are available for teens aged 14-18 at our clubs in Union, Plainfield and

Elizabeth. Members participate in character, leadership, career preparation and community service activities throughout the year. Youth programs are available in Hillside, Roselle, Linden, Union, Elizabeth and Plainfield. For information on our clubs and programs, please visit our website [www.bgcuc.org](http://www.bgcuc.org) or contact us 908-687-2697.



(above, l-r) Russell Triolo, CEO Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County; Paula Palmero, VP Area Manager Provident Bank; Tracy Bara, Banking Center Manager Clark Provident Bank.



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# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS CELEBRATES GREAT FUTURES AT ANNUAL MEETING

*Spirit of UNION* • Page 9 • January 2015

-- In keeping with the national initiative of providing great futures for youth, Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County celebrated the election of a new Executive Committee and installation of Board Members at their Annual Board of Directors meeting at Mario's Tutto Bene Restaurant in Union on Tuesday December 2, 2014.

The newly elected 2015 -2017 Executive Committee consists of: Marcy Metz (B.J. & M. Auto/Asisco Auto, Inc.) Board Chair; Robert Poles (Toll Brothers) Board President; Wendy

Cama (Crowe Horwath, LLC) VP Finance; Wycliffe Wilkinson (We've Got Rhythm Foundation) VP Resource Development, Frank Lawrence (James Guerra Architects) VP Facilities; Fred Shahrooz-Scampato (Law Office of Fred Shahrooz-Scampato) VP Human Resources; Regina Nicholls (Investors Bank) Board Secretary.

Completing the board of 21 members the following were installed as Members of the Board of Directors: Geraldine Boone (Sleepy Hollow Realtors), Angel Cartagena (Batteries

Plus Bulbs), Remi Christofferson (Marion P. Thomas Charter School), Ana Galindo (Allstate NJ) Robert Genovese, Esq. (Genovese Law), Jennifer Fernandes (Northfield Bank), Brian Lupo (Celgene Corp.), Brian MacLean (Elizabethtown Gas), Scott Myers (Altria), Robert Oliver (Lincoln Technical Institute), Edmund Palmieri (Economic Planning Group), Kim Smith (Comcast), Derrick Watkins (Derrick Watkins, Enterprises), and Timothy Williams (Consultant).

The recently formed Corporate Advisory Board was also inducted at the Annual Meeting. Members of this project-focused fundraising committee are: Yvette Bonk (Fresh Start Children's Boutique), Felicia Daniels (United Airlines), Aunrie Dash (Credit Suisse), Jacquelyn Dufner (Greystar), Lourdes Guerro (Revolution Foods), Tonya Hall (Kean University), and Jacki Scampato (IBM).

Russell Triolo, Chief Executive Officer, began the evening by presenting the "State of the Organization" report, highlighting programs, events, collaborations, relationships and new initiatives that contributed to the success of the organization in 2014. He also announced plans for the 60th Anniversary of the organization, which will be celebrated throughout 2015.

The highlight of the evening was Mr. Triolo being presented with the Board of Directors award for 35 years of outstanding service as Chief Executive Officer of Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County by Board Chair Marcy Metz. Mr. Triolo received a standing ovation by all attendees.

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## WHITE CASTLE TO HOST SCOUT CHESS EVENT

The Munsee District of the Boy Scouts of America is hosting their Second Annual Chess Tournament open to all registered Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers, who know how to play chess. The tournament will be held on Saturday February 21, 2015 at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ. The event will run from 10am to 2pm. The tournament is being generously sponsored by White Castle.

Scouts interested in playing can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line at [ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1564572](http://ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1564572) or Email Jim Parlapiano [jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com](mailto:jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com).

## KENILWORTH CHESS CLUB KICKS OFF 2015 SEASON

The Kenilworth Chess Club has kicked off their 2015 season with the elections of new officers and an invite to a wave of new players. The new President is Bob Sherry, New Vice President is Joe Renna and Geoff McAuliffe has stayed on as treasurer.

The club will be reaching out to high schools and colleges students interested in playing. Sherry is putting a schedule together to attract players looking for USCF rated games as well as offering programs for beginners.

The Kenilworth Chess Club is well known for their strong players and participation in state and national tournaments. The club's website is well read and features an award winning blog by Michael Goeller. [www.kenilworthchessclub.org](http://www.kenilworthchessclub.org)

The club, which was established in 1972 has a reputation for being friendly and accommodating. It welcomes non-members with no obligation or cost. It's a place where beginners can learn in a casual setting without being intimidated.

Players are welcome to just pop into the Kenilworth Chess Club with no formalities every Thursday evening at 8pm at the Kenilworth Community Center located next to city hall on the Boulevard on the corner of 24th Street.



(above, l-r) NM Scott Massey, Kenilworth Chess Club Vice President Joe Renna, Luis Ruales.

**2nd  
Annual**

# 2015 White Castle



## Munsee District Boy Scout Chess Tournament

### Saturday, February 21, 2015

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Sign-in/setup starts at 9:00 am

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Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers.

Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess. Registration is \$6  
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Email Jim Parlapiano [jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com](mailto:jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com) for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

Commemorative ribbons and gift bags for all participants.

Lunch will be provided by White Castle for all players.

This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

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PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL



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[www.kenilworthchessclub.org](http://www.kenilworthchessclub.org)

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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 and their families, 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](mailto:vsimpson@literacynj.org) or visit our website [www.literacynj.org](http://www.literacynj.org).

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