Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 50 • February 2015

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ROADHOUSE CAFÉ RAISES FUNDS TO AID THE HOMELESS

Salem Roadhouse Café, Union, NJ presented a donation of \$775.00 to Monarch Housing Associates, Cranford, NJ, which helps homeless people locate affordable shelter. Monarch operates in all 21 New Jersey counties and has assisted over 3,000 people to find homes. Salem Roadhouse Café is an intimate music venue that showcases the area's top professional musicians. The Roadhouse raised the donation from its annual Love Notes Jazz Marathon event, held November 8. Twenty-one local musicians donated their time and performed for over four hours, headlined by Carrie Jackson and Stephen Fuller. Past marathons have benefited Haiti Earthquake Relief, Union County YMCA's domestic violence programs, Hurricane Sandy Relief, and Monarch Housing. This is the second time the donation went to Monarch.

Richard Brown, CEO of Monarch Housing stated, "Since 1990, Monarch Housing has been working to end homelessness in NJ through sound planning, advocacy and partnerships and the creation of housing opportunities for all. Love Notes Jazz Marathon helped us increase awareness that we can and must end homelessness. Partnering with the Salem Roadhouse Cafe is always a joy and pleasure."

Bruce Tangowski is the Director of the Salem Roadhouse Café. He said, "The Roadhouse Café is all about music, art — and charity. The monthly Roadhouse Café shows raise funds for numerous charities around New Jersey, and we are proud to offer the community a safe, friendly, professional, and fun place to hear music and see local artwork by New Jersey artists." The Roadhouse Café holds its shows at Townley Presbyterian Church in Union.

ABOUT MONARCH HOUSING

Monarch Housing has assisted more than 3,000 persons with unmet needs by creating permanent, affordable and supportive housing opportunities in all 21 counties of New Jersey. Monarch Housing Associates is a mission-driven, results-oriented non-profit. Our Vision: Every person will have quality affordable, permanent housing that fosters freedom, independence, and community integration. Our mission: To expand the supply, accessibility and variety of affordable, permanent supportive housing through development, planning, advocacy and partnerships. Visit us on the web www.monarchhousing.org.



(above, l-r) Lois Tangowski, Townley Presbyterian Church; Bruce Tangowski, Director, Salem Roadhouse Café; Richard Brown, Director, Monarch Housing; Janet Sangekar, Townley Presbyterian Church.

ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

The Salem Roadhouse Café offers an intimate, nightclublike setting for hearing first-rate professional musicians, both local and from farther afield — with the stage just a few feet from the audience. Musicians especially enjoy the feedback they get from playing in front of an attentive audience. Over its six years of operation, the Roadhouse has brought back many performers at their request. Shows are monthly. Admission includes hot and cold snacks, desserts, assorted non-alcoholic beverages, and three blends of gourmet coffees and teas. Funds generated from performances always support various charities. The Salem Roadhouse Café is a non-profit enterprise. The work of local artists are on display in the Roadhouse Fine Arts Gallery. Hey, it may be in a church basement, but it puts out top-flight performances.

Shows are regularly broadcast on UNION TV34, Union NJ's local TV station on their regular "Union After Dark" music series.



Spiriton

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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LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM EVENTS

Fans of Dr. Seuss can put on their Bar-ba-loot suits, hop on pop and make a stop at Liberty Hall Museum for a super good time at our Dr. Seuss' Birthday Breakfast! Visitors will enjoy a breakfast buffet, crafts & even take a picture with The Cat in the Hat. Feb 28 from 10 am - Noon. \$25 per child, \$30 per adult. Reservations required.

Grab some friends and join us for a fashion-forward ladies' night at Liberty Hall! You'll be treated to wine and cheese while enjoying an exclusive viewing of Liberty Hall Museum's collection of vintage clothing & accessories as well as presentation on fashion's biggest do's & don'ts from the past two centuries. March 13 from 7-9pm. \$25 per person

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL

The YM-YWHA of Union located at 501 Green Lane, is holding an Antique appraisal event Wednesday, February 25th at 6:30 pm. David Pownall Willis, a renowned appraiser will provide the appraisals. The cost is \$10, Y members receive a \$2 discount. Everyone can bring one item for an appraisal. An additional \$5 will be charged for an additional two (2) appraisals. Refreshments will be provided free of charge .For more information call Susan at 908-289-8112.

On Saturday, March 28 from 10 am - Noon, welcome Spring with us at this hands-on workshop for kids! Children will get a chance to explore and learn about our green house filled with historic and heirloom plants. Learn what makes them grow and get a chance to plant your own geranium plant to take home! \$20 per child & one adult.

On Saturday, April 11 from 1 - 3pm, guests will be treated to a "fancy farm girl" tea party of scones, finger sandwiches, sweet treats & iced tea on real china while watching a fashion show of reproduction historic children's clothing. There will also be a dress up/play tent, games and prizes. \$30 per child, \$25 per adult. Reservations required.

UNION ELKS DINNER DANCE

Union Elks Lodge #1583, located at 281 Chestnut St., Union, will host a Sweet Heart's Dance Fund Raiser on Saturday, February 14, 2015 7 P.M.

The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes a Roast Beef dinner, salad and dessert, with music by a DJ.

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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 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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CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT THE MAIN LIBRARY

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Bedtime Storytime

Mondays, February 9th and 23rd at 7:00pm.

Come in your pajamas for songs, stories and games. Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited.

Mother Goose Time

Tuesdays, February 10th, 17th and 24th at 10:30am. for children 1 ½ - 2 ½ and their caregivers,

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays, February 12th, 19th, 26th at 10:30am for children 3 ½ through Kindergarten.

Black History Month

Saturday, February 14th at 11:00am

The Children's Department continues our celebration of Black History Month with our Storytime and Craft Program featuring the work of Caldecott Award winning author and illustrator, Jerry Pinkney. Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome to attend.

Library Lego Club

Thursday, February 19th at 3:30pm.

The Union Public Library Lego Club for children of all ages. This is an opportunity for kids to get creative and build anything they choose. Bring your camera to document your creations. Caregivers are asked to stay in the library and are welcome to assist.

Saturday Storytime and Craft Program

Saturday, February 28th at 11:00am.
Children of all ages and their caregivers are welcome.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT VAUXHALL BRANCH

Let's play chess at the Vauxhall Branch Library.

Tuesdays, February 10th, 17th and 24th at 3:00pm. Learn to play or improve your game with instructors, Mr. Perry and Mr. Outlaw. Children, ages 8 through 16, are invited to attend. Space is limited. Signup is required

"Valentine's Day Cards" School-Age Craft Program

Thursday, February 12th at 3:30pm
This program is for children, grades 1 and up, and their caregivers. Space is limited. Signup is required.

Game Day

Tuesday, February 17th at 11:00am for children ages 3 – 5 and their caregivers. Space is limited. Signup is required

Our After School Movie Presentation of "Journey of Henry Box Brown"

Thursday, February 19th at 3:00pm Children of all ages are welcome to attend.

Game Day

Thursday, February 28th at 3:30pm for children, in grades 1 and up, and their caregivers . Space is limited. Signup is required.

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WINTER CONCERT TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 23RD

The Union Municipal Band, under the Works. A number of the band members will also direction of Dr. John Bunnell has rescheduled their next concert titled, "A Winter Concert" to February 23, 2015. The concert will include Broadway Show Tunes and Classical Master

be featured as soloists for this performance. The concert will be held at Hannah Caldwell School Auditorium, 1120 Commerce Avenue and will start at 7:30 PM. The band would like to invite musicians from Union and surrounding communities to join the group. If you are interested please call Dr. John H Bunnell at 973-377-8058. For more information please call the Union Recreation Department at 908-686-4200.





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MAJESTIC WINDS TO PERFORM A WINTER CONCERT AT THE GREEN LANE YM-YWHA

Majestic Winds, the professional wind band of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, will present a winter concert at the YM-YMHA of Union County, 501 Green Lane, Union, NJ on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. The ensemble will be directed by Howard Toplansky, an NJWA staff instrumental instructor. "Our musical offerings are geared to please a variety of musical tastes and range from Renaissance to Ragtime favorites," stated Toplansky

"Peter Schmoll" Overture by Carl Maria von Weber, Highlights from "Take Me Along" by Robert Merrill and "Toujours ou Jemais" Waltz by Emil Waldteufel will be the main selections on the first half of the concert. "Reverie" by Claude Debussy will also be featured on this program. Several fine marches will also be performed which include "Men of Ohio" by Henry Fillmore and "Keeping Step with the Union" by John Philip Sousa.

Rounding out this concert will be "Fashion

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Majestic Winds, the professional wind band the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, will Frank Erickson.

Rag" by Charles Cohen, and "Ballet Song" by Frank Erickson.

A special offering on this concert is "Rumba" by Mark Strimovskiy. The composer, a trumpeter and member of Majestic Winds has composed many excellent pieces for band, several of which have been performed by Majestic Winds.

Mr. Strimovskiy was formerly a 28 year member of the Soviet Ministry of Defense Band in Kiev and has also performed with the elite Red Army Band in Moscow. For this concert Mark Strimovskiy will conduct his own composition which will give great authenticity to this performance of his "Rumba."

This event is open to the public. Admission is free for Y members and \$3.00 for non-members. Contributions will be gratefully accepted. For additional information about NJWA or Majestic Winds, call 908-789-9696 or email njwaband@att.net.



"MEET THE MAYOR" IS UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER'S FEBRUARY NETWORKING EVENT

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce's annual "Meet the Mayor" networking event is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2015 from 5-7 p.m., at ConnectOne Bank, 2003 Morris Avenue, Union (at Morris and Stuyvesant Aves.).

The program will feature a time for Chamber business owners to meet Union Township Mayor Manuel Figueiredo, who will share his vision for the Township in the coming year, and update attendees on current projects and programs affecting the economic vitality of the community. In addition, various Township officials and department heads will be in attendance to address issues and concerns from local businesses and organizations.

Admission for the event is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. Preregistration is required by contacting the Chamber by calling 908-688-2777, or by emailing executivedirector@unionchamber.com.

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce is a professional association dedicated to strengthening, uniting, promoting and representing member businesses located in Union and the surrounding area.

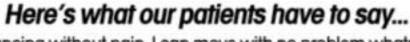
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GATEWAY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS INTRODUCED

monthly for intensive networking.

The group kicked off its program year on January 28 at Kilkenny House in Cranford, NJ, with a presentation by association president Brian Randall of The Insurance Centers.

"This group is about bringing together young professionals who want to grow professionally and meet potential mentors," Randall said. "If they're looking for a job, we want to help them. If they're looking to grow their businesses we want to help them. If they're looking to help out other young professionals, we want to plug them in to the group quickly."

Already the group has garnered the interest of almost 50 young professionals in the Gateway Region. Kate Conroy, vice president of the Gateway Chamber, said, "We feel overwhelmed by the support members have shown for this new group. The Young Professionals is off to a great start, and we can't wait to see where the journey takes us!"

Added Jim Coyle, Gateway president, "The Wednesday of each month.

The Gateway Young Professionals will meet Gateway Chamber is thrilled to be a part of such an endeavor. There is no additional membership fee to be part of this group. Once you're part of the Gateway Chamber, you're automatically a member of all our local groups and are invited to attend as many as you'd like."

> The other groups under the Gateway umbrella are: Union County Chamber; the Central Jersey Chamber; the Route 22 Chamber; the Springfield Chamber: the Kenilworth Chamber: the Roselle Park Chamber; the Clark Chamber; the Linden Chamber, the Somerset Hills Business Network; the Gateway Association of Business Women, the Warren Township Chamber of Commerce and the Irish Business Association.

The cost of attending each meeting is \$10.00 and includes a free drink.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. at Kilkenny House in Cranford.

Future meetings take place on the fourth



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SPEED THE PLOW AT CDC THEATRE

Speed The Plow, written by the celebrated requiring them to give of themselves completely American play write David Mamet, will run weekends from February 6 through February 21 at CDC Theatre in Cranford, NJ. Located at 78 Winans Avenue, CDC Theatre is the oldest

community theatre in New Jersey. A satirical dissection of the American movie business in Hollywood, Speed The Plow focuses on two high-powered Hollywood executives who have come up from the mail room together, Bobby Gould, played by Mike Burdick, and Charlie Fox, played by Jonathan Fishman. Mr. Fishman is also directing the production.

"I have wanted to be in Speed-The-Plow since the indelible experience I had when I saw the original play on Broadway in 1988" said Mr. Fishman at a recent rehearsal. "The play felt like a touchstone representing the kind of brand-new visceral in-your-face theatre I connected with and wanted to do. The thrill of taking an audience on a journey through a performance where the characters are all in desperate pursuit of finding themselves, willing to fight for the thing that they believe in, and in doing so

leaving it-all-out there on the stage floor. I have picked up the script many times over the years, my desire to do the play never diminishing with each read. "Although no longer a new piece of theatre, I find a fresh perspective and strong connection with the material every time."

When asked about his dual role in this CDC production, Mr. Fishman responded, "I have directed and performed in many shows but never before at the same time and I find there is certainly a big difference between directing the scenes I am in, and those I am not. When I am in the house, I can really take in what Kate and Mike are doing and offer suggestions that capitalize on the best of what they are bringing. Switching between listening from the perspective of my character, Charlie, providing performance energy and focus to properly be inthe-moment as the character in support of my co-stars, while also listening to them in order to provide feedback and guidance is very challenging, but can also be very liberating. Directing and acting in the same piece, this

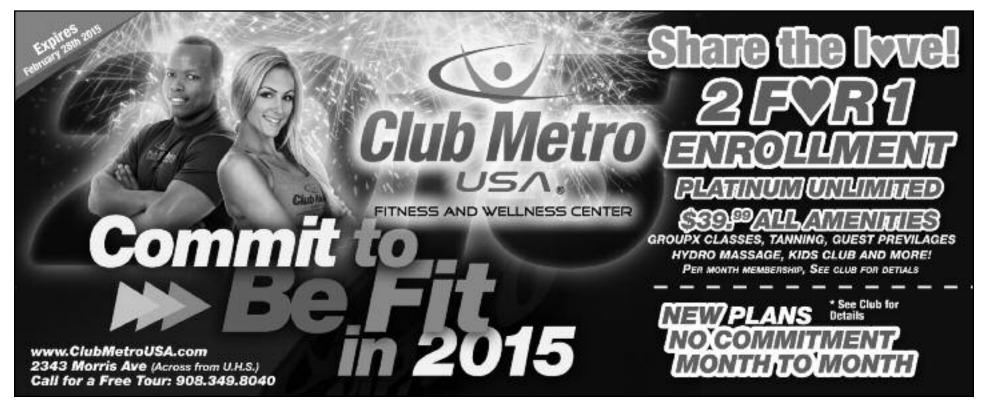


piece, is an exciting challenge that I am thoroughly enjoying!"

Speed The Plow will run weekends from February 6 through February 21. Visit www.cdctheatre.org or call 908-276-7611 for details and tickets. Funding has been made possible in part by the NJ State Council on the Arts, Dept. of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs.







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 or Email Jim Parlapiano jim.parlapiano@bankofamerica.com.





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

Cranford Community Center

220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ • 908.709.7283

Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers.

Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess. Registration is \$6

Use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line at ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1564572

Email Jim Parlapiano 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.

Event Sponsored by





Event coordinated by

RENNAMEDIA.COM





SCOUT'S 2015 ANNUAL PINEWOOD DERBY

Following a tradition started more than 60 years ago, Cub Scouts of all ages will gather at St. John the Apostle Church in Clark on Saturday March 7, 2015 for the annual Munsee District Pinewood Derby.

Last year's District Derby was hosted by Cub Scout Pack 103, chartered under the Cranford Presbyterian Church, who generously volunteered their track for the Derby. Adult leaders from Cranford Packs 103 and 75 as well as Boy Scouts from Cranford Troops 80 and 75, along with DJ Bobby Walker and Batman (special appearance), provided an exciting and fun-filled day at the Derby.

The 2015 Munsee District Pinewood Derby will be hosted by Cub Scout Pack 30, chartered by St. John the Apostle Church in Clark, kindly allowing the use of their track and church hall for the event. The 2015 District Derby will be held at the Church, starting 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 7th, 2015. New for 2015 is a dedicated Girl Scout Division with trophies and medals. Parents of Derby Scouts may now compete for "Lord Munsee's" Cup, a new annual



trophy for Parents who have as much fun as their sons (and now daughters) racing in the Pinewood.

The Munsee District encompasses Cub Scout Packs and Girl Scout Troops in Clark, Cranford, Edison, Elizabeth, Hillside, Kenilworth, Linden, Perth Amboy, Rahway, Union and Woodbridge. All Munsee Cub Scout Packs and Girl Scout Troops are invited to visit the Patriots' Path Council Website (Munsee District Calendar) for more information and to register: http://ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/1564574

(left) Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts and their families from Clark, Cranford, Edison, Elizabeth, Hillside, Kenilworth, Linden, Perth Amboy, Rahway, Union and Woodbridge eagerly watch their hand-built Pinewood Derby cars race down the track.

Photos by Don Sweeney-Troop 80.



INTERESTED IN FINANCIAL SERVICES?

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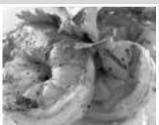
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MONDAY - THURSDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm	Dinner 3	:30pm - 9:30pm
Adult\$7.3	9 Adult	\$10.99
Kids 7-10\$5.3	9 Kids 7-10	\$6.99
Kids 3-6\$3.3		\$5.99
2 & UnderFREI		FREE!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am -	3:30pm	Dinner 3:30	pm - 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	
Kids 3-6	
2 & Under	· ·

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