

## UNION TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## UNION HIGH PERFORMING ARTS SHINES AT PAPER MILL

By: Edir Coronado

Union High school was nominated for 12 Paper Mill Rising Star awards and took home the Best Choreography award. Students performed “Step in Time” from this year’s performance of Mary Poppins, chosen by the Paper Mill. Performing the routine at the Paper Mill stage had its challenges, the number is over 5 minutes long and had to be cut down to 3 minutes and 30 seconds.

The piece is a tap dance number, with plenty of intensity and the group worked hard to make sure that none of the passion wavered. For their performance they included 12 dancing sweeps, which included all of their high energy moments with dancers flipping, and a dance off by student Johnathan Develson.

Their success on stage started in early May, when the Union High School performers first heard that they had been nominated for 12 awards. They immediately delved into rehearsal, preparing for the big event 3 times a week for more than two hours at each practice. The students enjoyed the repetition, despite the strenuous work because they wanted to master their craft. They did just that by setting a goal and accomplishing their objective. Their overall achievement as skilled performers started in the beginning of the school year, working hard from the very start.

Jennifer Williams, choreographer, described the event as “Very exciting.” Even though this marks her third win in the last four years and she foresees future awards with the incredible amount of talented students that enter Union High School. “We do get a handful of students who come in with dance training and they are so wonderful, but a majority of them come in with no dance training experience at all,” said Williams. “These students come with a spark and instantly I know we can teach them to become dancers,” explains Williams.

Students like Jonathan Duvelson, who won this year’s Douglas Michael Krueger Scholarship, had no prior dance experience. Douglas Michael Krueger was a young performing arts student from Union who lost his



life at a young age. Jonathan winning the award hit home for Williams because Doug and she were close friends and to this day she and Doug’s mother continue to help raise money for the Douglas Michael Krueger Scholarship. This year Jonathan Duvelson was nominated for Best Lead Actor in his performance, he didn’t win, but being nominated and winning the scholarship marked a very special evening.



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## UNION TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY PASONAGE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT NIGHT

Members of the Union Township Historical Society participated at the Somerset Patriots' Revolutionary Spirit Night held on Flag Day June

14, 2016. Sponsored by the Crossroads of the American Revolution, the evening brought 1,000 extra fans to the minor league baseball game.



*(above) "Benjamin Franklin" greets Kathy Arminio, trustee of the Union Township Historical Society, at the Somerset Patriots' Revolutionary Spirit Night.*



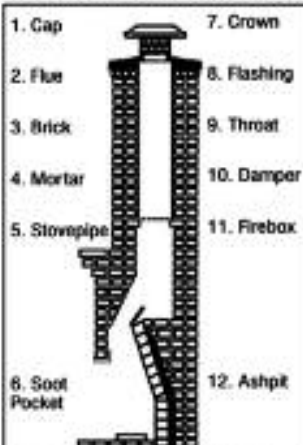
*(above) Kathy Arminio, a trustee of the Union Township Historical Society, dressed in traditional colonial garb, welcomes fans at the Caldwell Parsonage table on the concourse of the TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater, NJ. Five other members of the Society represented Union.*

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### ***60th Class Reunion***

***Sunday, October 09, 2016***  
***1:00 PM - 6:00 PM***

***Buffet Luncheon***  
***\$60.00 per person -Event is Open***  
***To Guests***

***The APA Hotel at Metro Park***  
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***or***  
***Joanne Tisebler Stern at 732-548-0588***

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**Pay Before Aug 29, 2016**

The Michael A. Kelly Post 2433, Veterans of Foreign Wars of Union, and its Auxiliary, recently installed their officers for the 2016/2017 program year. Robert Jeans, District #5 VFW Commander and Auxiliary Installing Officer Pat Schleck officiated at the ceremony.

Calling on the inductees to maintain the high standards of performance and activity of the organization's past history, Schleck installed the following Auxiliary officers:

President Alma Lauer, Sr.  
Vice-President Marion Bozolus, Jr.  
Vice-President Gussie Moran,  
Secretary Jane Graf,  
Treasurer Amelia Rodin,  
Chaplain Paula Wojtczak,  
Guard Dolly Kizima,

Patriotic Instructor Alice Knecht,  
Trustees Marie Kelly and Millie Plesko.  
Commander Jeans, commending the Post for its continuing work with hospitalized and needy veterans and various other worthy civic endeavors, installed the following Post officers:

Commander Leo Graf, Sr.  
Vice-Commander Joe Lauer, Jr.  
Vice-Commander Phil Bozolus,  
Quartermaster Bob Johnsen,  
Chaplain Ed McElroy,  
Judge Advocate Bob Leamy,  
Surgeon Dan Sickels,  
Trustees Dan Sickels, Joe Barbella,  
Leroy Johnson,  
Adjutant Joe Lauer  
and Service Office Ed McElroy.



*(above) Auxiliary Officer Marie Kelly, Millie Plesko, Dolly Kizima, Marion Bozolus, Alice Knecht, Gussie Mahon, Amelia Rodin, Jane, Graf, Pat Young, Alma Lauer, and Paula Wojtczak.*

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## TOWNSHIP OF UNION GARDEN CLUB HOSTS ANNUAL ROSE CONTEST



(above) The Township of Union Garden Club held their Annual Rose Contest in June at Town Hall. Entries were accepted from Garden Club members, and the submissions were required to be grown by Garden Club members as well. Committeeman Joseph Florio was on hand to congratulate the winner, Marie Dyke, whose rose won by one tie-breaking vote.

Photo courtesy of the Township of Union.

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## CONNECTION: THE NEW CURRENCY UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER'S JULY NETWORKING EVENT

Looking to increase your net worth? Join the Union Township Chamber of Commerce at its July networking event, "Connection: The New Currency," scheduled for Thursday, July 21, at Affiliated Monitoring, 2 Stahuber Ave., Union, from 5-7p.m.

Doing everything right is not enough to develop lasting relationships, let alone build wealth. Underneath a great product or service, there has to be a human connection. Attendees will learn how to build and leverage their networks in order to increase impact, influence, and income.

The event features the nationally-known Lisa Marie Platske, an award-winning leadership expert, who will be sharing what exceptional leaders do differently, why connection is the new

currency, and how to position yourself strategically for big opportunities. As a certified master coach, Lisa Marie's strategies have resulted in her clients getting six-figure opportunities, tripling their income, securing bonuses and promotions, and finding up to 21 extra hours in each workweek.

Admission for the event is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. To register, or for any questions, contact the Chamber by calling 908-688-2777, or by emailing [executivedirector@unionchamber.com](mailto: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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## UNION FIRE DEPARTMENT DEMONSTRATES NEW EXTRICATION EQUIPMENT

The Union Fire Department recently took delivery of their new extrication equipment, which will help them respond to emergencies where individuals may be trapped in their vehicles. A demonstration was performed this morning at the UFD training facility where members of the Fire Department simulated such a scenario on a Hyundai Veloster donated by the BASF Corporation.

“Our old equipment was purchased about 10 years ago,” said Township of Union Fire Chief Thomas Byrne. “In that time the way vehicles are manufactured has changed. Manufacturers are using different metal compounds which are now more difficult to cut through.”

This cutting-edge, Holmatro equipment allows quicker and easier access to victims requiring extrication from the ultra-high strength and boron-infused steel used in manufacturing today's contemporary motor vehicles. The equipment is 30% lighter, yet, three times more powerful than its predecessor, allowing the responder to work more efficiently while simultaneously increasing the likelihood of the best possible outcome for the victim.

“In emergency situations every second lost is the difference between life and death,” said Mayor Manuel Figueiredo. “We are proud to be able to support the Fire Department and outfit them with the latest in lifesaving technology.”

During the course of the simulation, the extrication process was seamless with equipment that cut through metal and glass in minutes. The entire process, from start to finish, took approximately 10 minutes.



Photos by Township of Union.



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<sup>2</sup>To earn 1.11% APY on the 11 Month CD, enrollment in NYCB Elite is required. NYCB Elite Gold Checking account minimum to open is \$5,000. NYCB Elite Relationship Terms and Conditions apply. Not available for non-profit or business accounts. Maintain \$100,000 or more in combined balances in the NYCB Elite relationship to waive monthly fee. Those not enrolled in NYCB Elite will earn 1.01% APY on the 11 Month CD. Offer may be withdrawn at the discretion of the bank at any time. This bank is not responsible for typographical errors.  
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## BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS SUMMER FUN CLUB REGISTRATION

Looking for something fun to do this summer? Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County has an entire summer of fun and exciting events planned! Programs are available for youth ages 5-18 in our Union, Plainfield, and Elizabeth Clubs. Summer programming will run daily 8:00 am – 5:30 pm. Early is available for an additional cost.

Summer Fun Club for children ages 5-11. Members will enjoy an exciting mix of both outdoor and indoor activities. Outdoor activities include basketball, soccer, football, double-dutch and other games along with teambuilding activities and scavenger hunts. Indoor activities include digital arts, arts & crafts, movies, swimming, sports, games room and more! Our 3 Clubs will participate in the Unity Day event and an End-of-Summer cookout! Members also have the opportunity to participate in weekly field trip

adventures for an additional cost.

Teen Leadership Camp for teens ages 12-16. Teens will have the opportunity to learn the importance and advantages of working together as a part of a successful team while participating in exciting activities. Activities will include career and education exploration, educational and fun filled field trips, cooperative challenges, team building exercises, community service projects, leadership training, swimming and more!

The Union Club will also offer youth swim lessons for youths ages 5-18. This fun series of courses teaches water safety and swimming skills! Lessons will be offered four days a week for two weeks – morning and afternoon sessions are available. Stroke Development Swim Camp is offered as full day or half day sessions. This program is for competitive swimmers already on a swim team or for someone looking to join a

swim team. The focus is to provide stroke development, conditioning and preparation for the upcoming season. Members will improve their skills with stroke clinics, instructional videos, stretching and conditioning techniques, and nutrition information. Program components include: freestyle, starts, backstroke, breast-stroke, butterfly, turns, and individual medley. For more information please visit our website: [www.bgcucaquatics.org](http://www.bgcucaquatics.org) or call 908-687-2697 ext. 0.

For more information on Summer Fun Club/Teen Leadership Camp please visit our website: [www.bgcuc.org](http://www.bgcuc.org) or call your local club:

Union: 908-687-2697 ext. 0

Elizabeth: 908-351-3344 ext. 0

Plainfield: 908-822-8672 ext. 0.

Registration has already begun, don't wait – register now!



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## KEAN GOSPEL CHOIR WINS FIRST AT MCDONALD'S GOSPELFEST

Kean University Gospel Choir won first place in the adult choir category at McDonald's GospelFest 2016, held on Saturday, May 7th at the Prudential Center in Newark. Competing against six other choirs from the tri-state area, including the 2015 GospelFest winner, Montclair State University Gospel Choir, the Kean University Gospel Choir wowed the audience with its rendition of "None but the Righteous." The choir was awarded a trophy and a cash prize that will go into funding future endeavors for the group, and each member of the choir received an individual medal.

Prior to the competition, the choir had the privilege of singing on the Fox 5 News show, Good Day Street Talk. The executive producer of GospelFest, A. Curtis Farrow, chose the Kean Gospel Choir to appear on the program, which aired April 16th.

"We were overwhelmed with joy when Mr. Farrow asked us to sing as representatives for GospelFest on Fox 5 News. But when they announced Kean Gospel Choir as the champions – the most indescribable feeling – tears, screams, dancing. The Kingdom of God rejoiced!" Alston added.

The Kean students performed alongside some of the biggest names in gospel music, including Shirley Caesar, Jennifer Holiday, Donnie McClurkin, Hezekiah Walker, Tye Tribbett, Yolanda Adams, and others. GospelFest has been held at the Prudential Center since 2008 and been described as the most spectacular gospel celebration in the nation for successfully bringing together the largest collection of gospel performers and attracting over 16,000 attendees annually.



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## BATTLE HILL ELEMENTARY VISITS THE CALDWELL PARSONAGE

This year the Union Township Historical Society opened the doors to the Caldwell Parsonage for elementary students of Union Township, and hopes to make it an annual field trip. Battle Hill Elementary had the opportunity to visit this historic landmark. The Caldwell Parsonage serves as a historical museum, owned and operated by the Union Township Historical Society. It is located on Caldwell Avenue, and was the home of the Rev. James Caldwell, a Presbyterian minister and active supporter of the Patriot cause during the Revolutionary War. The Caldwell House is on the National Register of Historic Places as a well-preserved 18th-century farmhouse with a historical connection. Several state grants have been made for renovations and upkeep of the aging structure.

The students of Battle Hill were guided through the home and barn outside by Mrs. Barbara La Mort, Historical Society President; Mr. David Arminio, Historical Society Vice President and Union Board of Education member; and Mr. Joseph Canarelli, Historical Society Trustee.

The students were given the opportunity to learn about the rich history that took place in the area in which they live. They were engaged through the tour and were challenged to complete a scavenger hunt. They were also able to play games from the Revolutionary period.

To follow up with the tour of the Caldwell Parsonage, the 4th grade students were treated to a reenactment of the life of James Caldwell, portrayed by Union High School graduate, Meridoc Burkhardt. This presentation was a great follow-up to the tour and helped the students better understand the historical events that took place in their hometown.

The Caldwell Parsonage is open to the public once a month and by appointment. Questions or concerns can be directed to Mrs. La Mort, who can be reached at [babslamort@hotmail.com](mailto:babslamort@hotmail.com).



(above) Miss Brehm's 4th Grade Students from Battle Hill Elementary with Mr. Arminio.



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## TOWNSHIP OF UNION HOSTS 1ST PLAY BALL EVENT

Mayor Manuel Figueiredo, Deputy Mayor Suzette Cavadas, Committeeman Joseph Florio, and the "Play Ball Summer" committee, hosted their first "Play Ball" event in June, a game of catch with the Mayor. "Play Ball Summer" is an effort by American mayors that will span from June through August. The initiative encourages mayors across the country

and in Puerto Rico to host activities to engage citizens, families and city departments to organize individual and community-based events (such as playing catch, "running bases" in the backyard, family gatherings, park and recreation activities and business-supported activities) to strengthen the connection between baseball and American communities.



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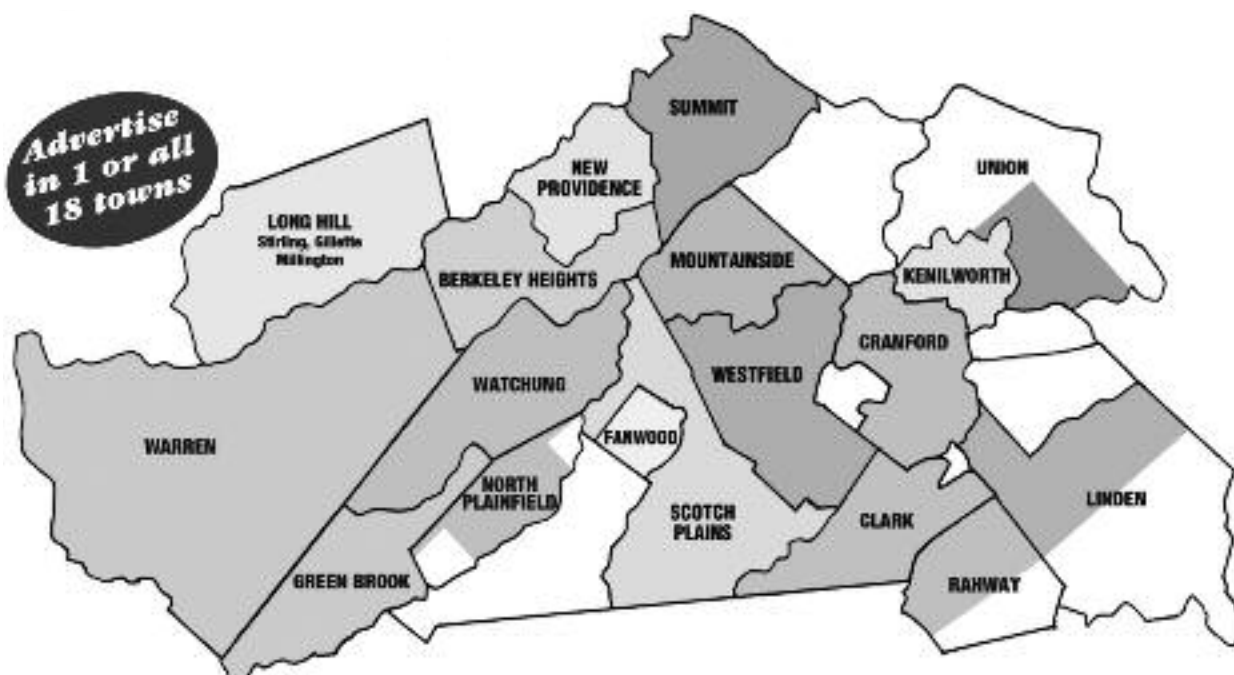
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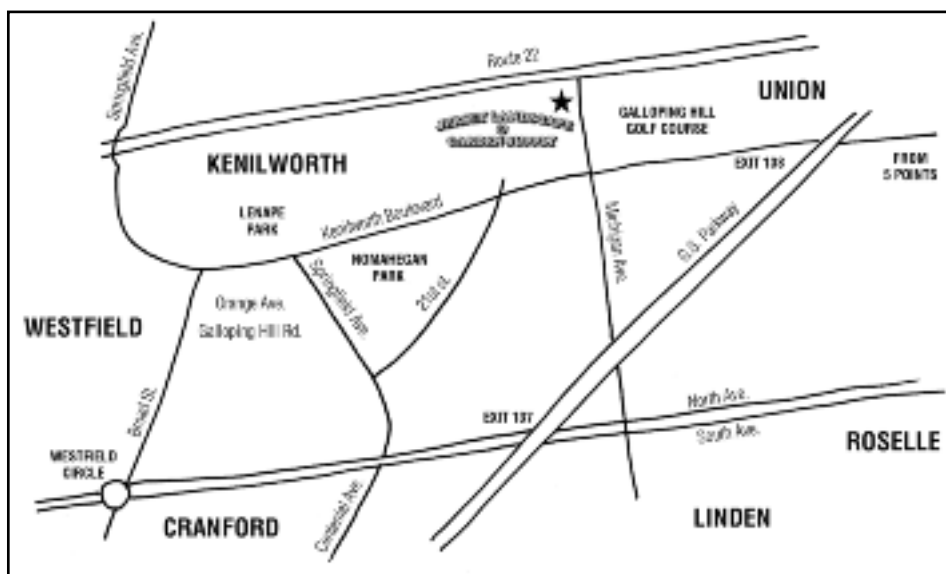
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