

UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER'S AUGUST NETWORKING EVENT

**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 31, 2016**

from 5-7 p.m.

THE AVE OF UNION,
1070 MORRIS AVENUE,
UNION, NJ

ADMISSION IS FREE

but pre-registration
is required.

Contact the Chamber
to register at

(908) 688-2777

or email:

executivedirector@
unionchamber.com

TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES PERUVIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

By: Edir Coronado

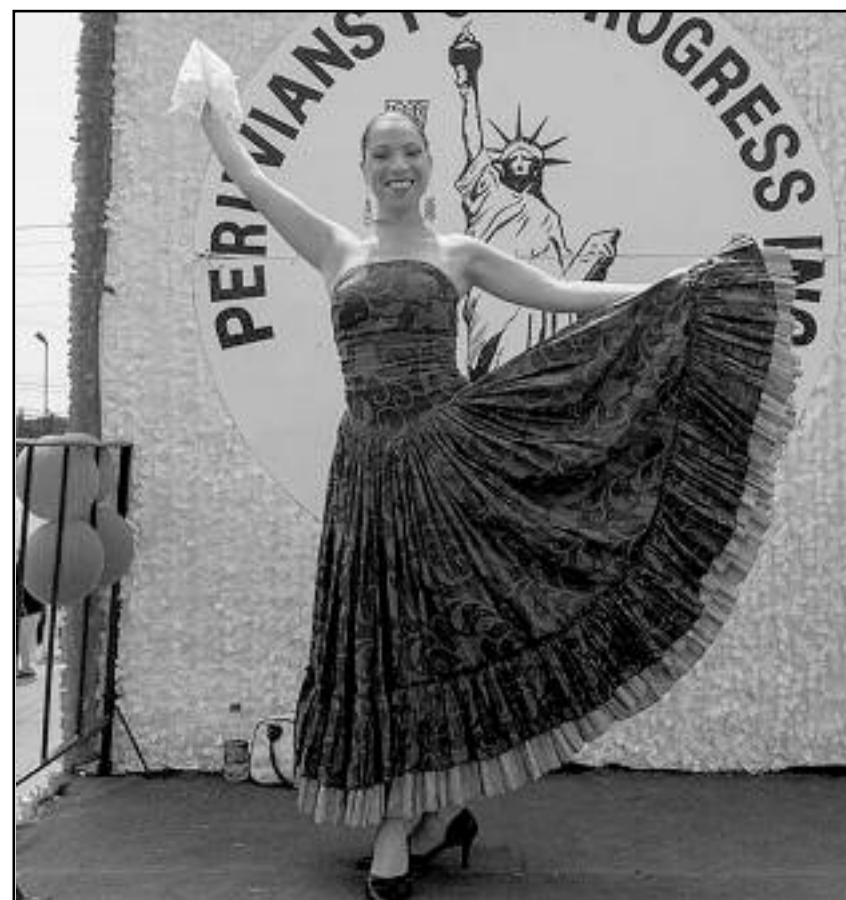
On Friday July 8th Peruvians took to the street in celebration of their 195th independence day in Union Township. The Peruvian community was elated to receive the hospitality of the townspeople. "We felt the warm welcome of the Township of Union, represented by Mayor Figueiredo and his staff," expressed Luis Palomino, President of the Peruvians for Progress, a non-profit organization founded in 2000. Their goal is to unify professionals with Peruvian American citizens in Union County in order to integrate the Peruvian community.

The Peruvian population in the United States has been rising, with New Jersey holding the third largest amount of Peruvians in terms of population, according to a Cuny Graduate Center study, Peruvians in the United States, published in 2010. Within New Jersey, Union County is the region with the third largest amount of Peruvians, according to the Department of Labor, New Jersey. "We heard the Peruvian community in Union is growing, we do not have the numbers, but what we know is that we want them to participate in our communities more actively," stated Palomino.

The significance of Union Township and its elected representatives welcoming the Peruvian parade and its Peruvian citizens, is key to the Peruvians for Progress vision. Peruvians for Progress first takes the initiative of linking local governments with the Peruvian community. The plan is that with this newfound recognition from the local administration, it could energize those of Peruvian heritage to actively participate in the whole community.

There are big plans in the works for the Peruvian residents, spearheaded by Peruvians for Progress such as a possible mentorship program, where college students volunteer to help guide high school students through their journey to higher education and a Christmas party for younger kids, catered with scrumptious Peruvian food. This is in addition to a scholarship offered through the non-profit organization.

Often different groups of diverse backgrounds feel isolated, but Peruvians for Progress was formed to mend those issues among the Peruvian people. Although Peruvians for Progress represents one group they have a larger amalgamating message, "We are strong believers that union creates strength," stated Palomino.



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POKÉMONGO FEVER SAFETY TIPS FROM UNION POLICE DEPARTMENT

As the PokémonGo fever hits Union, the Township of Union Police Department wants to remind you and your kids of some simple safety tips. As you battle, train, and capture your Pokémon just remember you're still in the real world too! Around the country the PokémonGo craze has seen reports of accidents, injuries and even crimes where suspects have set-up fake 'Pokéstops'. So as you or your kids set out to capture them all:

- Be alert at all times
- Stay aware of your surroundings: look up and be aware who is around you-besides Pokémon
- Play in pairs or as a group to ensure your safety
- Do not drive or ride your bike, skateboard, or other device while interacting with the app... you can't do both safety

- Do not trespass onto private property or go to areas you usually would not if you weren't playing Pokémon Go
- Be aware and tell your kids about "stranger-danger". The app may draw strangers together in real life at 'Pokéstops'
- Parents - be aware of 3rd party software apps claiming to enhance the gaming experience however, these 3rd party apps only gives access to sensitive data - i.e. name, email, calendar
- Be courteous to your neighbors and residents of the community while searching for Pokémon Characters- be mindful of noise and local ordinances.

Have fun AND stay safe. Good luck in your quest, and happy hatching, trapping, and training at the Pokémon Gym!

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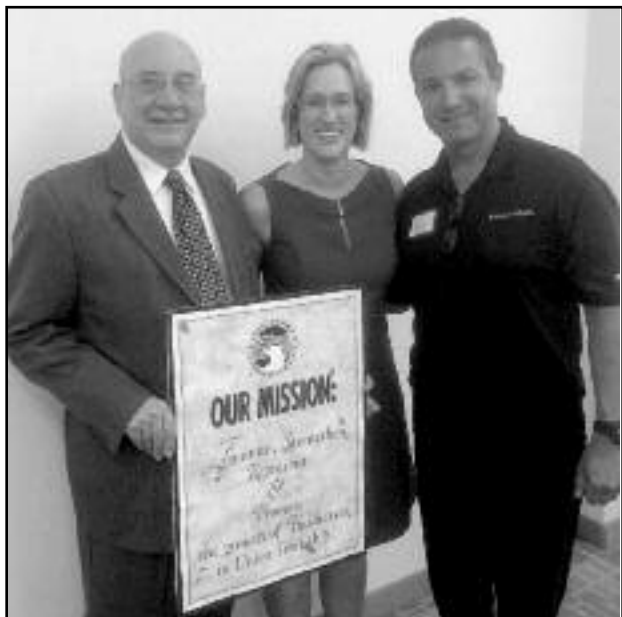


Angie's List

CHAMBER JULY MEETING

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce July meeting was held on Wednesday, July 21, 2016. The guest speaker was Lisa Marie Platske, a Certified Master Coach who is the President of Upside Thinking a consulting company. She gave a lecture titled: "Connection is the new Currency"

Anyone interested in joining the Union Chamber of Commerce can reach out to James Masterson, Executive Director by calling 908-688-2777 or by email ExecutiveDirector@UnionChamber.com



(above l-r) James Masterson, Executive Director, Union Chamber of Commerce; Lisa Marie Platske, guest speaker President of Upside Thinking; Angel Cartagena, President of the Union Chamber of Commerce.

KICK OFF TO MAYOR'S WEEKEND IS SET AS CHAMBER'S AUGUST NETWORKING EVENT

Come celebrate with the Union Township Chamber of Commerce and the Union Center Business District for the Chamber's Annual "Kick Off to Mayor's Weekend!" on Wednesday, August 31, 2016, from 5-7 p.m. at The AVE of Union, 1070 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ.

The event will honor this year's sponsors, highlight the cause for 2016 and encourage community participation.

The Mayor's Weekend is comprised of three events: "Union's Got Talent" show on Friday, Sept. 23; the "Welcome Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. 24 and the Union Chamber's 6th Annual 5k Run on September 25.

"Mingle and network with other Chamber members by the pool and enjoy a glass of wine and great food," said Chamber CEO James Masterson. "This is an enjoyable event that celebrates an important and fun community weekend."

He added that a portion of the proceeds from this year's event will go to assist local families affected by ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

Admission is free, but pre-registration is required. Contact the Chamber to register at (908) 688-2777 or email: executivedirector@unionchamber.com.

"KICK OFF TO MAYOR'S WEEKEND!"

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

5 p.m. — 7 p.m.



AVE

1070 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ

- Come join us as we commemorate this year's Mayor's Weekend which features Union's Got Talent on September 23rd, the Welcome Fall Festival in Union Center on September 24th, and our annual 5K Run on September 25th.
- Mingle and network with other Chamber members by the pool or enjoy a glass of wine on us!

A huge thanks to our generous sponsors of the 5K and the entire weekend!

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Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm

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Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
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FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am - 3:30pm

Adult\$7.99
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99
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Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm

Adult\$11.59
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MOTHER LAUNCHES LOCAL AUTISM SEARCH DIRECTORY

Officially launched this past April, NeedQuest.com is an innovative take on something that's become quite familiar in the 21st century: the online local search directory.

However, what sets NeedQuest apart from other similar websites is two-fold. In addition to being a community-building site that directly connects parents of special needs children in the greater Westfield area with reputable service providers located right in their backyards, this new website is also founded by a local parent of a special needs child.

"My 14 year-old son, Jack, was diagnosed at age three with an autism spectrum disorder," says Leslie Crowe, Founder of NeedQuest LLC. "At that time, I was told by our public school district in Brooklyn to locate a Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT) on my own. It was quite a jarring experience because I didn't know where to begin! The internet? The yellow pages? Our pediatrician? I really had no idea."

For Crowe and her son Jack, it took four more months before they could find an appropriate professional. Thereafter, locating an appropriate school for Jack took another three years. Over time, as Jack grew, so did his needs. From therapy to after school programs, summer camps and more, the list of concerns that Crowe found herself combing the Internet in search of answers for, as well as her own anxiety and despair steadily increased.

"I know there are a lot of special needs parents looking for resources for their children," Crowe says. "However, I could not fathom that there wasn't a more efficient tool to navigate the Internet while searching for local providers to

meet our children's needs. Eventually, after years of personal frustration, in 2015 I founded NeedQuest.com and committed myself to filling this void for the special needs community."

When it comes to affirming the need for Crowe's mission, the numbers don't lie.

According to the 2012 National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (NSCSN), nearly 14 percent of children under 18 years of age in the United States, or approximately 10.2 million children overall, were estimated to have special health care needs. In New Jersey, the same study uncovered that out of the state's 1.5 million school-aged children, the number of children reported to have a disability

is 4.5 percent, or 67,772 children overall.

32 percent of parents spend more than 40 hours per week with their special needs child or the amount of time equal to a second full-time job.

As such, helping her fellow special needs parents ease these kinds of concerns has become a driving force for Crowe.

"Parents are looking for services and providers at a time in their lives when they have the least amount of energy," she emphasizes. "With NeedQuest, we're aiming to be a catalyst for change when it comes to northern New Jersey special needs search - and hopefully, we'll make everyone's life, both parents and providers a little easier."



(above) Jack and Leslie Crowe

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DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Spirit of UNION • Page 7 • August 2016

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a women's volunteer service organization dedicated to historic preservation, education and patriotism.

For membership in the DAR a woman must prove her lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. DAR volunteers are always willing to provide guidance and assistance with your search for ancestors.

The Crane's Ford chapter was organized in March of 1944 in Cranford. Meetings are held

from October to June each year. Programs include guest speakers giving presentations on Conservation, Historic Preservation, and American History, visits to the VA facility in Basking Ridge, and the annual holiday party when school supplies are collected for DAR sponsored schools.

For more information the Crane's Ford chapter Registrar, Patti Campanelli, can be reached by email at patushkat@aol.com or visit the National DAR at www.dar.org.



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UNION'S GOT TALENT FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Union's Got Talent and Investors Bank are excited to announce their upcoming partnership for Union's Got Talent 2016 to be held on Saturday, September 24th, 2016 at the Theater at Union High School. "It's great to see kids of all ages from the community showcase their talents in such a big and positive way. I'm looking forward to seeing what talents Union has to offer in this year's show!" said Manuel Figueiredo, Mayor of Union Township.

Union's Got Talent, inspired by the popular hit television series America's Got Talent, aims to showcase local talents of ALL AGES in Union. Produced by the Union High School Performing Arts Company and Douglas Michael Krueger Scholarship Fund, this year's event will include a partnership with the Township of Union through their "We Are Union" coalition.

The show will also be featured as one of the main attractions to see during "Mayor's Weekend." Union's Got Talent will be hosted by Doc Burkhardt with featured celebrity guest judge.

"We are thrilled to be involved with Union's Got Talent," said Regina Nichols, Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager at Investors Bank. "At Investors Bank we are committed to supporting the communities we serve."

This year's finalists include; Bob Kalkus - Singer/Guitar Player - "Wild World"; Grace Rivera - Singer/Guitar Player - "Dear No one/ No One"; Lisette Serrano - Singer - "What I Did For Love"; Team Action - Dancers; Caitlyn Dy - Singer/Songwriter - "Destiny"; Christopher Erdman - Singer/Guitar Player - "Lover Come Back"; Maria Barmina - Singer - "My Heart Will

Go On"; Dance Impressions - Dancers - "Walking on Sunshine"; Angela Zhang - Dancer - "Revolting Children"; Kimberly Morrira - Singer - "Titanium"; Aidan Perez - Pianist - "Holy, Holy, Holy"; Ryan Pearce - Singer - "Home"; Eboni Pearce; Singer/Songwriter - "The Queen"; Ashley Fullerton - Singer - I Will Always Love you"; and Jonathan Hyes - Singer - "Dany Boy"

All proceeds from Union's Got Talent will go towards the two organizations in helping them achieve their goals of giving back to the students of the Township of Union. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top acts.

For additional information, visit www.uhspac.com to purchase tickets or contact Jennifer Williams of the Union High School Performing Arts Company.

AUDITIONS ANNOUNCED FOR JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

Open auditions for a musical version of James and the Giant Peach will be held at CDC Theatre, 78 Winans Ave. in Cranford on Monday, August 29 and Thursday, September 1. Children will be seen from 7- 8pm and adults from 8-10pm. Call backs will be by invitation only on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 7:30pm.

Rehearsals will be at CDC Theatre and will begin on October 18. Multiple performances are set for December, 9, 10 and 11.

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(above) Finalists for the 2016 Union's Got Talent Competition taking place September 24th at Union High School. This year's competition is brought to you by Union's Got Talent, the Township of Union through the We Are Union coalition; and is being sponsored by Investors Bank.

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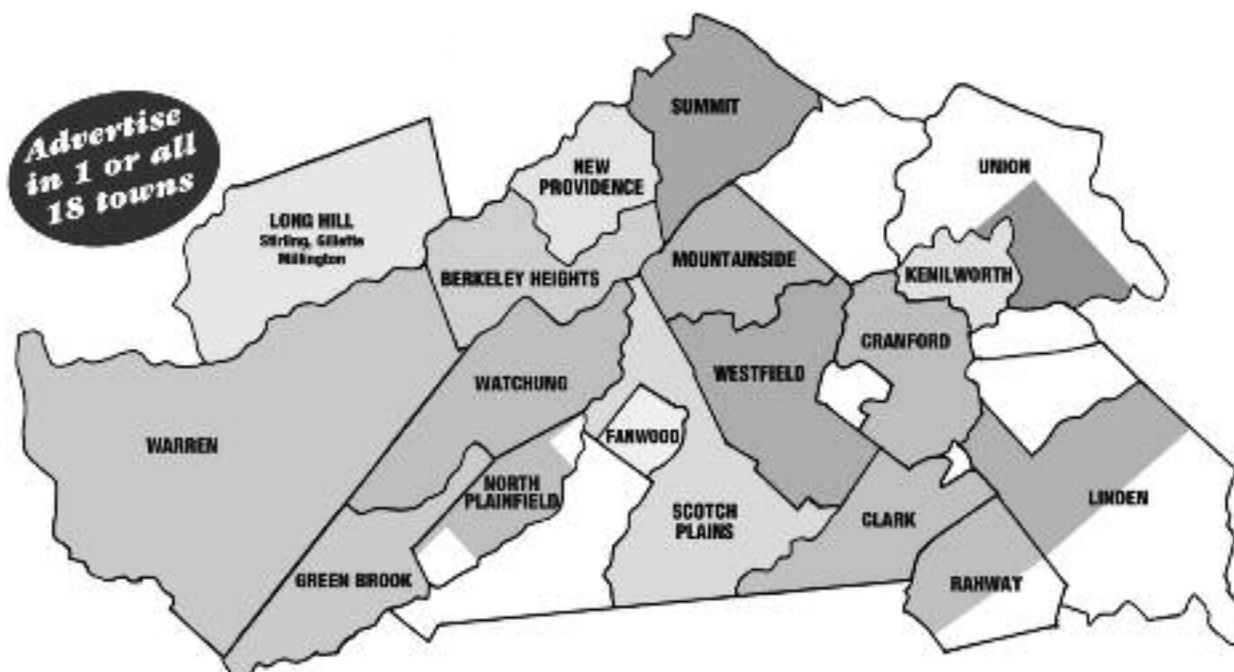
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MAIN LIBRARY AUGUST EVENTS

The Main Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083.

For additional information call 908-851-5450.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Songs and History of the Big Band Era

Monday, August 8 at 7pm

Join musician, and local resident David Aaron for an evening of big band music, trivia, and fun!

Arm Chair Art Tours: The Ancient Olympics

Monday, August 15 at 7pm

Sit back and relax while you are transported to the art and time of the Ancient Olympics.

Adult Summer Movies

Tuesdays at 2pm

August 23 join us to watch new release, sports themed films. Contact the Library for titles.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Teen Movies

Tuesdays, August 9th and August 16 at 6pm

Please call the Library for exact titles.

Cubeecraft

Friday, August 12 at 3pm

Create 3D paper figures of some of your favorite TV, movie, game, and book characters!

Summer Memory Magnets

Friday, August 19 at 3pm

Bring in your favorite photos and make cool magnets to decorate your locker or fridge.

Sign-up required. Email teens@uplnj.org to sign up.

Teen Coloring Club

Thursday, August 11 at 4pm

Take part in the coloring craze!

Materials will be provided.

Join the Teen Advisory Board

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 2 at 6pm

Help us create the Teen Library Programs that you want to see.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND TWEENS

Story & Craft

Mondays at 11am. August 8, 15 and 22

Monday Movies

Mondays at 3pm. August 8, 15 22.

Please call for exact titles.

Lego Buddies

Wednesday August 17 at 2pm

Book Buddies

Wednesdays August 10 and 17 at 11am.

Pre-registration is required

Special Science Program: Cool Science

Wednesday, August 24 at 3pm

Tween Thursday Theater

Thursday August 18 at 3pm

Please call Library for titles.

End of Summer Ice Cream Party

Thursday, August 25.

Please call Library for exact time

VAUXHALL BRANCH

123 Hilton Avenue, Vauxhall, NJ 07088.

For information call 908-851-5451.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Tai Chi for Adults

Tuesdays in August at 12:30pm.

Sign-up is required.

Movie Night for Adults

(new release)

Mondays, August 22 and August 29 at 6pm.

Please call the Library for more information

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Board Game Hour

Wednesdays, August 10 and August 24 at 6pm

Thursday August 18 at 4pm

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Pre-K Fun Day

Tuesdays August 9, August 16,

and August 23 at 11am

Friday Family Films

Friday August 19 at 2pm.

Please call the Library for more information.

Tween Game Day

Thursday, August 25 at 2pm

All programs are free and open to the public.

The library's children, teen and adult summer reading calendars are available on the Union Public Library website www.uplnj.org



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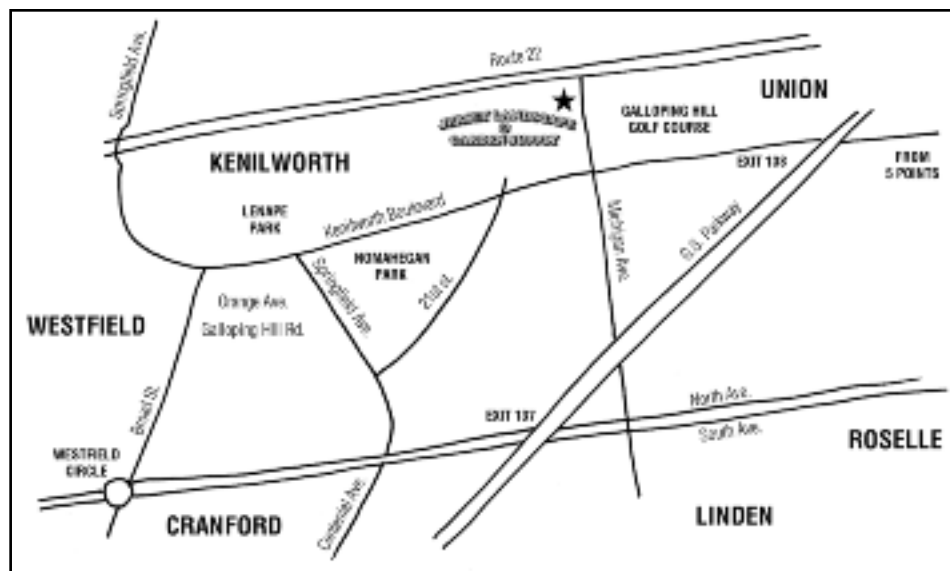
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