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## UNION HIGH PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY PRESENTS: "FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL" DECEMBER 8,9,10,11

Join the Union High School Performing Arts Company December 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th for Footloose the Musical, based on the 80's hit movie of the same name. Featuring classic 80's hits such as "Holding Out For a Hero," "Somebody's Eyes," "Let's Hear it for the Boy," "Almost Paradise," and Kenny Loggin's classics "Heaven Help Me," and the title track "Footloose;" don't miss your chance to dance along with this talented cast of triple threat performers. Opening Thursday, December 8th, Footloose at UHS will run the 8th, 9th, and 10th at 7:30pm and December 11th at 2pm. Student pricing will be available to all Township of Union Students with a valid Union Township ID, tickets will be available to them for \$10 at any performance, purchased in person. A group rate of \$12 will be available for sale to groups of ten or more sold for any one single performance. Regular priced tickets are \$15. For more information and to purchase tickets head over to [www.uhspac.com](http://www.uhspac.com).

Footloose follows Ren McCormack as he and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town called Bomont after his father leaves. Ren is faced with a new world, very different from the one he is accustomed to, including a ban on dancing instituted by the local Reverend. Ren sets out to change the ways of this small town who are effected by an accident that killed several young people many years prior, one of victims belonging to the Reverend. A heartfelt story emerges as we follow a father longing for the son he lost and

that of a young man aching for the father that walked out on him. Director James Mosser shared "Footloose is not only a lot of fun with great songs like "Let's Hear it for the Boy" and "Holding Out for the Hero" performed by our incredibly talented students, but it also has a heartfelt message. We get to see an entire community learn how to come to terms with loss and celebrate their relationships."

The cast features Jason Yanto as Ren McCormack, Christopher Erdman as Rev. Shaw Moore, Alyssa Carbonell as Ariel, Joseph Laurino Jr. as Willard Hewitt, Crystal Wright as Rusty, Abby Hagen as Vi Moore, and Grace Rivera as Grace McCormack. As with any UHSPAC performance, you can expect a supporting cast of singers, dancers and actors sure to warm your hearts and make you want to jump out of your seat.

The Union High School Performing Arts Company continues to remain one of the strongest arts training programs for high school students in the state of New Jersey. The UHSPAC is inclusive of an award winning theater department, a nationally rated instrumental music program, and a top notch choral music group. The Theater Department has been nominated for over 116 prestigious Paper Mill Rising Star Awards, an event that recognizes excellence in high school theater, similar to the Tony Awards. They have won 28 awards and currently hold the record for the most wins ever won by a single show for their 2015 production of Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies, winning 9 awards.



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UNION HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY  
PRESENTS

# Footloose

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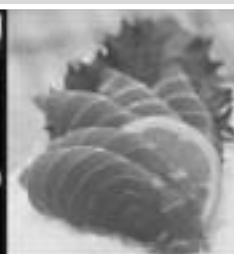
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## UNION ELKS ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

### LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY



**Saturday, December 10, 2016  
6:00pm - 10:00pm**

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Tickets must be purchased by  
Monday, December 5, 2016

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## DEVELOPMENT TO CONTINUE IN UNION'S SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

When residents pushed for redevelopment in Union's Special Improvement District, Township Administrators listened. The face-lift to the town's economic center began in 2014 with a high-end, mixed-use building on the corner of Morris Ave and Stuyvesant Ave that is now home to two eateries, and retail stores.

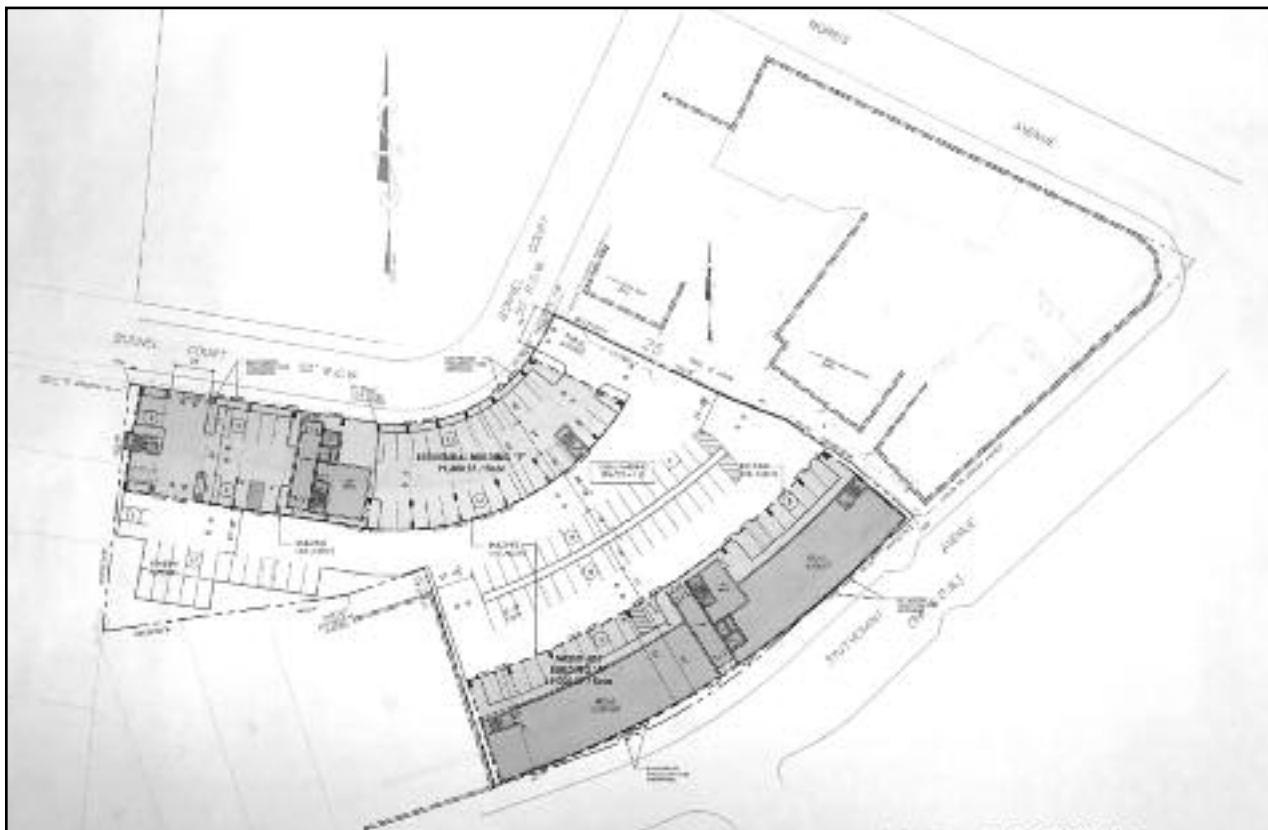
"Since, it's construction, retailers have reported favorable results, and increased foot traffic," said Ron Manzella, Township Administrator.

It was recently announced by the Mayor and Township Committee that the improvements to Union Center will continue along Stuyvesant Ave, as American Landmark Developers has acquired several properties near Bonnel Court and is anticipating another mixed-use project. "America's changing population is creating a demand for new types of homes, offices, and

retail outlets," said Manuel Figueiredo, Mayor of the Township of Union.

Township Administration cited studies that have shown that with time, these types of developments increase revenues without overburdening infrastructure and public service; and in addition, improve quality of life, attract businesses, and strengthen a community's economic stability. A similar project is already underway on Stuyvesant Ave across from O Lagar Bar, Restaurant and Winery. "This project is going to continue to revitalize this area," said Deputy Mayor Suzette Cavadas. "Not only will it attract people from around the area, but it will bring new energy to the Center which will help merchants thrive here."

Details about the groundbreaking and a timeline for demolition and construction will be made public in the coming weeks.



(above) A schematic site plan for the proposed development project by American Landmark Developers at Stuyvesant Ave and Bonnel Court. Photo courtesy of the Township of Union



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## WINTER FESTIVAL RETURNS TO UNION DEC. 10

The Union Center SID will proudly host its 3rd Annual Winter Festival on Saturday, December 10th, 2016 from 12pm to 4pm, in Union Center.

The Winter Festival is a fun filled day focusing on strengthening the Center, community and families with Holiday magic, laughs and cheers.

The festival will be filled with exciting activities for the entire family to enjoy including:

- \$5 Early Bird Movies at Union Theatres (10am Showing only)
- Horse & Buggy Rides starting at Wells Fargo Bank
- Pictures with Santa at Here's The Story...Books & Videos (\$5)

- Arts & Crafts at Gusta Rosso Trattoria & Bar, Blue Ribbon Bakery ConnectOne Bank
- Face Painting at Cioffi's of Union & Express Latin Grill
- Balloon Making at Killer Vegan & THE GYM FOR KIDS

The following merchants will also be providing holiday discounts and promotions only valid during Winter Festival hours: AmericanShave Classicbarber, Cricket Wireless, THE GYM FOR KIDS, Magic Fountain • Union, Mr. Nino's, Nate Kupperman Clothes, Noodlefan USA, You & I and Vivid Market.



(above) 2015 Winter Festival featuring horse and buggy rides through the Union Center SID.



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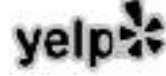
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## TOWNSHIP OF UNION HOSTS STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY

The Township of Union recently hosted Union High School's "Student Government" pupils for "Student Government Day" at the Township Municipal Building. As a part of the day, students paired off with municipal employees, administrators, the Mayor and Committee to get

an inside look at what goes into running the Township on a day to day basis. Students who were paired with the Clerk, Mayor and Committee members were even able to run a Township Committee meeting where they got to experience government in action.

*(below) Mayor Manuel Figueiredo, Deputy Mayor Suzette Cavadas, Committeewoman Michele Delisfort, Committeeman Joseph Florio, Committeeman Clifton People, Jr., and the pupils of Union High School's "Student Government."*

Photo Courtesy of the Township of Union



Photo Courtesy of the Township of Union



*(above) Robert Britt, Jr with his father and mother along with Mayor Manuel Figueiredo.*

## ROBERT BRITT, JR. HONORED FOR VOLUNTEERISM

The Township of Union Mayor and Committee recognized Robert Britt, Jr. with a Mayor's Award at their Committee Meeting on October 15, 2016 for his outstanding work with the American Red Cross and Team Rubicon. Britt is a Union resident and a Union EMT.

The award states: For the past four years, Robert has been a volunteer EMT for the Union Emergency Medical Unit where his experience has ranged from providing first aid at town events; to managing incidents on I-78; to performing CPR and instructing new and existing members on the new CPR protocols. He has taken part in multiple national disaster response

exercise in New York, New Jersey and as far as Wisconsin. This summer, he also became a wild land firefighter with the Bureau of Land Management to respond to forest fires around the country. He has also deployed to West Virginia and Louisiana with the American Red Cross as a volunteer EMT to provide medical care to flood victims. Furthermore, he has provided volunteer medical coverage at the Special Olympics Games and rebuilt houses from Asbury Park to Brooklyn in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy with organizations such as Team Rubicon and Habitat for Humanity.

*May the Warmth of the Season*  
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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP AT BLOOD DRIVES

New Jersey Blood Services, a division of New York Blood Center, which supplies blood products and services to 60 hospitals throughout the state, is in need of volunteers at blood drives. The blood service volunteer is an integral member of the collection team whose task it is assist donors with registration, escorting and

canteen duties, and to watch for post donation reactions. Volunteers should have the ability to relate to the public, be able to perform different jobs as needed and have the willingness to follow the rules. For additional information contact, Manager of Community Relations, R. Jan Zepka at 732•616•8741 or rzepka@nybloodcenter.org.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Union Township Historical Society will host its annual member-guest Christmas party at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, on Sunday, December 11. The 1782 house, now a museum, will be decorated in 18th-century style holiday style. A unique feature of the decorations will be fragrant ornaments made of Osage oranges from the Osage orange tree on the Parsonage grounds - one of the few such trees surviving in our area of New Jersey.

For information about the UTHS, please call 908-591-4377.



## UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS & FRIENDS HOLIDAY GATHERING

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Holiday Meet and Greet event on Wednesday December 14, 2016, from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. The program will be held and hosted by Investors Bank, at its branch located at 2441-A Rt. 22 Westbound, Union, NJ.

"This is an enjoyable and relaxing way for our members and friends to celebrate some social time together and reflect upon our many accomplishments over the past year," said James Masterson, Chamber Executive. "We are grateful to our hosts - Investors Bank - for graciously opening their 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.

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## ATTORNEY SETTLES HOME EXPLOSION LITIGATION FOR \$975,000.00

Attorney David C. Bendush announced settlement of a lawsuit arising from a home explosion in Hunterdon County in September of 2014. The blast was caused by a contractor who was converting the home of his clients, from oil to natural gas. The clients were in the home with their infant daughter at the time of the explosion and fire. Davis Heating and Cooling was attempting without success to purge the new gas lines. Large amounts of natural gas were caused to accumulate inside the basement until the gas exploded, nearly levelling the structure and knocking the clients to the ground where they stood. Mr. Bendush litigated the liability issues aggressively, and attained the unusual result of summary judgment for plaintiff. The defense had little choice but to settle quickly and on favorable terms, in order to avoid a trial.

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## RESIDENTS SELECTED AS WINNERS OF AIVA'S 2016 BEST ORIGINAL SONG

Union resident DaVido and Edward B. Kessel are among the recipients of the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts' Communicator Awards of Distinction in the Audio Production/Original Music category. The



(above l•r) Edward B. Kessel and DaVido

winning entry is a song written by DaVido and Kessel, entitled "Just Say Merry Christmas".

The 22nd Annual Communicator Awards drew over 6,000 entries from across the US and around the world. It is the largest and most competitive awards program honoring creative excellence for communications professionals.

DaVido, of Union, NJ, is a composer, vocalist and entertainer. He had reached out to another New Jersey native, award-winning Composer/Producer Kessel, to help finish writing the song. Kessel arranged and produced it in his Springfield, NJ studio, where DaVido performed the lead vocal. Kessel, president of renowned production company Sound Imagination, has written, arranged and produced Top 40 songs, orchestrated music for such Broadway shows as "A Tale of Two Cities", and composed music for film scores, TV soundtracks, jingles and commercial scores. He won five Communicator

Awards and two Telly's this year alone..

"When DaVido played me a rough version of the song with his guitar, I knew it was special and the song had a fresh message that was perfect for the times," said Kessel.

DaVido said, "I usually don't try and get political with my music; I leave that up to greats like Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen, but this just struck a chord inside my soul. 'Just Say Merry Christmas' shows exactly what I want to say about the politically correct, incorrect world we are living in today."

The Communicator Awards are judged and overseen by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts (AIVA), a 600+ member organization of leading professionals from various disciplines of the visual arts dedicated to embracing progress and the evolving nature of traditional and interactive media.

Link to song: <https://vimeo.com/149909215>

## DESTINATION BEAUTIFUL VOLUNTEERS AT GOLDEN RULE FOOD PANTRY

On Saturday, November 12, 2016, Destination Beautiful, Inc. volunteered at the Golden Rule Lodge No. 24, Subordinate Lodge of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of New Jersey and Golden Rule Chapter No. 50, Subordinate Chapter of OZIEL Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliate of New Jersey's food pantry in Vauxhall, NJ.

Destination Beautiful, Inc. helped the Golden Kitchen Food Pantry prepare over 40 bags of groceries to hand out to families in need. The food pantry is a vital part of the community as it opens its doors once a month and has fed over 90 families since it began a year ago.

For more information on how to donate to the Golden Rule Lodge No. 24, food pantry please contact Sis McNeil at 908•413•1808.

Destination Beautiful, Inc. is a New Jersey 501(c)(3) mentoring non-profit organization for young teenage girls between the ages of 12•17. The organization has been in existence for over three years now. It is our mission to Be Empowering and Uplifting to Young Girls

(Beauty). Destination Beautiful key focus areas are empowerment, leadership, volunteerism, and scholarship. For more information on Destination

Beautiful, Inc., please contact them directly via email at [destinationbeautifulinc@yahoo.com](mailto:destinationbeautifulinc@yahoo.com) or visit the site at [www.destinationbeautifulinc.org](http://www.destinationbeautifulinc.org).



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Join us Tuesdays at 2pm for free movies. The theme for December is Book to Movie. Admission is free and doors open at 1:50pm. Elevator access is available.

#### TAI CHI FREE EXERCISE PROGRAM

Tuesdays from 12:30-1:30 December 6, 13, 20, & 27

For mature adults. Wear sneakers and comfortable clothing.

#### SCORE: SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Monday, December 5 at 6:30pm

Join Speaker Boynton Weekes for this informational workshop on small business opportunities. Learn about common myths and truths about franchising and ownership options like professional advisory services, facilitation, light manufacturing, social entrepreneurship, education, home services, and passive owner models.

#### WRAPPED IN LOVE KNITTING GROUP

Monday, December 12 from 6:30-8pm

Love to knit or crochet? Always wanted to learn how?

Join our new monthly group from the NJ sharing Network Bring your own material or we can get you started. Please register in advance.

#### LINCOLN CENTER LOCAL

Union Public Library has partnered with Lincoln Center

Local to bring prerecorded film screenings of world class performances directly to the library community.

#### Curtain Up – School of American Ballet Workshop

Performances (57 min)

Thursday, December 15 at 2pm

Go behind the scenes for the first time ever to experience the intensive training of ballet's brightest future stars as they prepare for their vital end-of-year performances. An all-Balanchine program features Serenade, and excerpts from Swan Lake, and Western Symphony.

#### Sweeney Todd:

The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (2- ½ hrs)

Saturday, December 17 @ 1pm

Murder, mayhem, and the ultimate revenge... Stephen Sondheim's musical masterpiece returns to life in a bold new performance by The New York Philharmonic, starring Bryn Terfel and Emma Thompson.

#### ANNUAL KWANZAA CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION

Wednesday, December 28 from 6:00-8:45pm

Celebrate family, community, and culture. This is a program for the entire family. Refreshments will be served and space is limited.

## VAUXHALL PUBLIC LIBRARY

123 Hilton Avenue, Vauxhall, NJ 07088 • 908-851-5451.

### CHILDREN

#### PRESCHOOL GAME TIME

Tuesday, December 6 from 11:00am-11:45

Children ages 3-5 and their parents/guardians.

#### LEGO CLUB

Wednesday, December 7 from 3:30-4:30pm

Kids of all ages are invited to create with Lego.

#### PRESCHOOL HOLIDAY STORY AND CRAFT

Tuesday, December 20 from 11:00 am -11:45am

Children ages 3-5 and their parents/guardians.

### TWEENS AND TEENS

#### GAME TIME FOR TWEENS

Thursday, December 1 from 4:00-5:00pm

Ages 9-12 are welcome to try their hand at board games, card games and more!

#### SOMEONE'S DAUGHTER YOUNG LADIES ACADEMY

Saturday, January 7 from 11am – 1pm

"F.A.B." Fashion Against Bullying. First Saturdays of the month beginning in November 2016 and ending in June 2017. Young ladies in middle and high school will learn how creative solutions like fashion can be used as a tool against bullying. For more information or to register, please call (908) 937-4613 or the Vauxhall Branch at (908) 851-5451.

#### CLUB TEEN: GAME NIGHT

Wednesday, December 7 from 6-8pm

High School students can enjoy modern board games in a fun and relaxed setting. No sign up required.

#### TWEEN MAKE IT @ YOUR LIBRARY:

Starburst Ornament Craft

Thursday, Dec. 15 from 4-5pm

Children ages 9-12 are welcome to come and make a craft.

#### CLUB TEEN: Pajama Movie Night

Wednesday, Dec. 21 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

Join club teen in your pj's for some hot cocoa and popcorn. ELF is rated PG, 97 mins. No sign-up required.

#### AFTERNOON MOVIE FOR TWEENS

Thursday, December 29 from 3-4:45pm

Finding Dory Rated PG, 105 minutes.

No sign-up required.

Programs at Union Public Library (MN)

The Main Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. For additional information call 908-851-5450, or find us on the web at [www.uplnj.org](http://www.uplnj.org)

#### OFF THE SHELF BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Thursday, December 15 at 7:00pm

The book selection this month is The Christmas Kid and Other Brooklyn Stories by Pete Hamill. Please contact the Reference Desk at the Main Library (908) 851-5450 for help in obtaining the book.

#### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, December 7 from 6-7pm

Teens ages 13+ help us make Union Public Library a place for you! Let us know what programs and events you want to see. Earn community service hours by coming to meetings.

#### TEEN PROJECT: BLANK PAGE

Wednesdays, December 14 and 28 from 4-5:30pm

We'll provide the notebooks, you provide the creativity.

Fill each page with writing, drawings, sketches, paintings, photographs, or anything else that make you feel creative. Share your work with others and get feedback. Project Blank Page meets twice a month. Snacks, art supplies, and inspiration will be provided.

For teens ages 13+-



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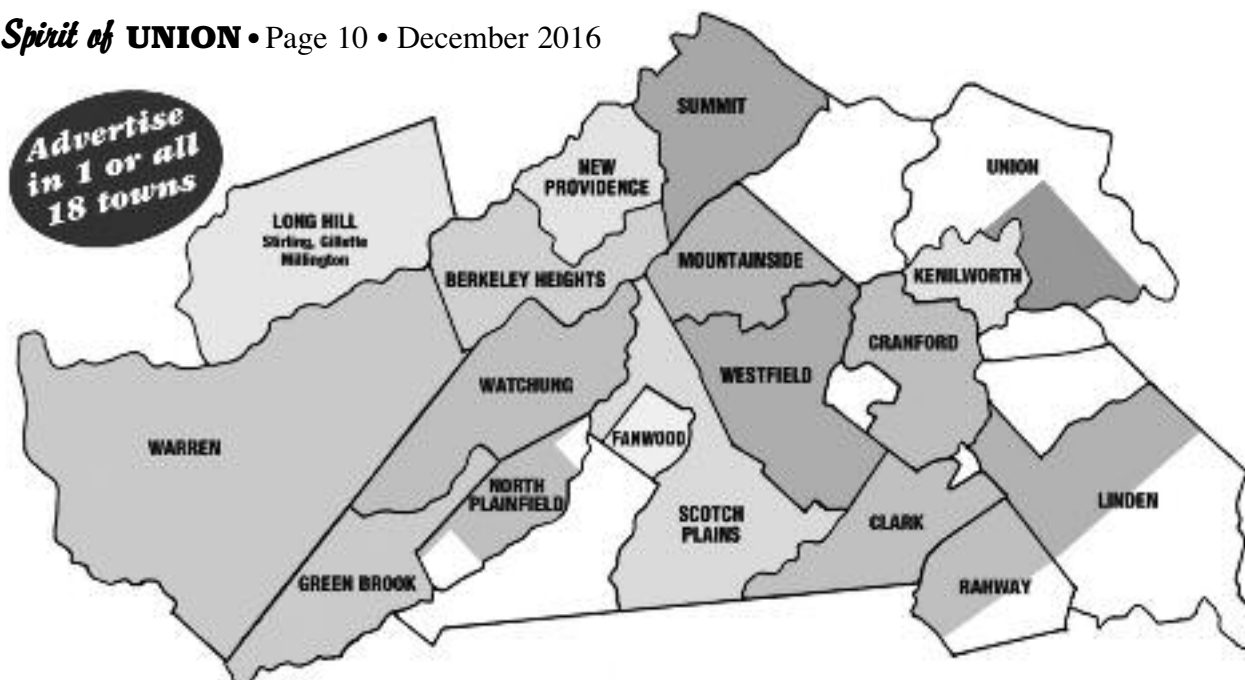
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# MRS. WISNIEWSKI'S HOMESCHOOL CHEMCLUB OF UNION



Mrs. Wisniewski's HomeSchool ChemClub of Union recently celebrated "Mole Day." A mole is a standard scientific unit for measuring very large quantities such as atoms and molecules and is celebrated on Oct. 23. The students calculated the molar mass of several chemicals, prepared compounds of various molar concentrations, and baked 'Happy Mole Day' cookies. The Club is part of the American Chemical Society's High School ChemClubs.

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- Berkeley Heights News: CANDIDATE KANE CAUGHT IN LOVE NEST WITH "SINGER"
- Clark Monthly: VITO CORLEONE FEARED MURDERED
- Cranford Monthly: KRIS KBINGLE KRAZY? KOURT KASE KOMING "KALAMITY!" KRY KIDDIES
- Fanwood Post: GALLAGHER KEY SUSPECT IN DIAZ DISAPPEARANCE
- Green Brook Gazette: CLOCK TOWER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING
- Kenilworth Life: SOPHOMORE DIES IN KILN EXPLOSION
- Life in Linden: JOHN HAY FORREST KILLED IN ACCIDENT
- Long Hill Leader: PRESIDENT DECORATES HARRY BAILEY
- Mountainside View: PENGUIN FORGIVES PARENTS
- New Providence News: THIRD GOLDEN TICKET FOUND
- The Pride of North Plainfield: APOLLO CREED TRAINS FORMER RIVAL
- Our Town: ALIEN STOLE MY HUSBAND'S SKIN!
- Scotch Plains Monthly: INCREDIBLE RESCUE AT SEA
- Summit Times: STORM OVER "CRIME CURE" BOY
- Spirit of Union: ROXIE ROCKS CHICAGO
- Warren Monthly: WHO'S THAT GIRL?
- Watchung Post: CAPED WONDER STUNS CITY
- Westfield Monthly: NAME JOHNNY FRIENDLY AS WATERFRONT MURDER BOSS

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1. Berkeley Heights News 11. The Pride of North Plainfield  
2. Clark Monthly 12. Our Town Rahway  
3. Cranford Monthly 13. Scotch Plains Monthly  
4. Fanwood Post 14. Summit Times  
5. Green Brook Gazette 15. Spirit of Union  
6. Kenilworth Business Life 16. Warren Monthly  
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8. Long Hill Leader 18. Westfield Monthly  
9. Mountainside View 19. Peterstown Newspaper  
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