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HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS WIN BIG IN NATION'S CAPITAL

The students and staff of the Union High School Performing Arts Company (UHSPAC) traveled to Washington, DC this spring to compete in the National WorldStrides Heritage Festival. WorldStrides On-stage programs aim to fuel the passion of aspiring artists of all ages by providing world-class performance opportunities in music, drama, and dance. Groups competing for the UHSPAC were the swing choir, symphonic band, indoor color guard, and marching band.

Ensembles from across the country came to compete, with the UHSPAC ranking at the top of the pack. The UHSPAC swing choir finished with a Gold/Superior Rating, with the highest score of the entire competition; as a result, they were granted the title of Best Overall Choral Ensemble. Their fifteen minute show, comprised of the music from the Broadway Musical "Beautiful: The Carol King Musical," was a hit, and won them the Adjudicator Award for being the judges' favorite in that category.

Swing Choir Director James Mosser shared, "Going to a national festival gives the students a chance to perform in different venues, and compete against lots of different kids

from across the country. It was really exciting to see that our students are among the best in the country: earning top honors and all of the possible awards in their category. These students have a lot to be proud of."

The indoor color guard had a strong showing with a Gold Rating; they also finished first in their group and took home the Adjudicator Award. The symphonic band and marching band both finished with Gold Rating. The two ensembles were also awarded the Adjudicator Award, and the parade band walked away with the titles of Best Music, Best Percussion, and Best Marching. The symphonic band was named Outstanding Overall Band.

Band Director Laura Muller added, "Our UHSPAC students had an amazing day of competition. From the swing choir to the symphonic band, to the parade band and indoor color guard, every single student demonstrated high levels of skill and discipline. They performed their activities with pride and represented our school district with great energy and passion. We are so proud of their accomplishments! We would also like to thank the parents who traveled out to support us and all the chaperones."




(above) The Union High School Performing Arts Company.

Swing Choir:	Color Guard:	Parade Band:	Symphonic Band:
Gold Superior Rating, 1st Place	Gold Rating, 1st Place	Gold Rating, 1st Place	Gold Rating, 1st Place
Maestro Award: Emilee Litvinchuk	Adjudicator Award	Best Music	Adjudicator Award
Adjudicator Award		Best Percussion	Outstanding Overall Band
Outstanding Overall Choir		Best Marching and Maneuvering	
		Adjudicator Award	

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JEFFERSON SCHOOL HOSTS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LEADERSHIP DAY

Submitted by Jefferson Fifth Grader Kate Sousa

Jefferson School hosted its second annual Leadership Day in May. Students chose the decorations, entertainment, hosting duties, and decided on this year's theme: "Knights United." The event was fully run by students, allowing them the opportunity to showcase their leadership skills and celebrate all the hard work they put in throughout the year.

After a tasty breakfast spread, guests were taken to the cultural fashion show where students walked their way down the red carpet in outfits unique to different countries and societies. Once that was complete, guests were given some time to inspect and admire a series of tables that students had set up beforehand. Every booth focused upon a different club or subject, and interested parties were invited to listen as student representatives further explained the nature of each table. Students hosted a tour of the fabulous Jefferson School, which ended in the auditorium. Here, performances were held — these included a traditional Indian stick dance, a rhythmic display of Brazilian martial arts called Capoeira, and finally a selection sung by the Jefferson Vocal Ensemble.

A fifth grader shared, "Leadership Day was a very fun day because we got to show off all the fun things we learned this year. My favorite part was the cultural fashion show because everyone

had amazing outfits!"

Student Joshua Forest said, "My favorite part of Leadership Day was seeing the faces on the adults when they saw the student presentation stations and I also liked the Leadership Day performances. This day is very unique because the students run the day. This made me feel great and empowered!"

Teacher Kelly Piano stated, "Leadership Day is a chance for students to practice their leadership skills, show fellow educators the impact of The Leader in Me, and engage the community. The students use the opportunity to practice skills such as organizing, planning, teamwork, and public speaking. In addition, the day affords students a chance to share their academic successes and other talents. The Leader in Me program is a whole-school transformation that empowers students with the skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. Leadership is taught directly to the students as well as integrated with everyday lessons. Students look for ways to use their talents to better the school community. We were very grateful to our local sponsors for their generous donations, specifically Trader Joe's, Chick-Fil-A, Bagel Spot, Cozy Corner, Dunkin Donuts, ShopRite, and Costco. We look forward to seeing all of our guests return next year for another wonderful Leadership Day."



(above) An interested guest listens as two students present their table.



(above) Parents and teachers enjoy the fashion show.

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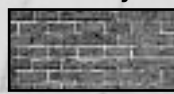
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(above) Photo of the 2016 Township of Union, All-American Soap Box Derby winner, Juliano Guimaraes. The Derby will return this year as a part of the Township's 2017 4th of July Spectacular. Photo courtesy of the Township of Union.

UNION'S DAY-LONG JULY 4TH SPECTACULAR

The Mayor and Committee of the Township of Union are proud to invite residents to the 2017 Fourth of July Spectacular taking place along Stuyvesant Ave and in Biertuempfel Park on Tuesday, July 4th.

"There is nothing more patriotic than the coming together with your neighbors, family and friends to celebrate this great country," said Mayor Suzette Cavadas. "This is truly a hometown experience we look forward to every year."

THE FOURTH OF JULY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS IS AS FOLLOWS:

- 10:00 a.m. festivities will begin on Stuyvesant Ave, between Mountainview and Tyler Ave., with the All-American Soap Box Derby.
- 7:30 p.m. for your listening pleasure, enjoy a concert by John Christian & Soiree in Biertuempfel Park

- 9:00 p.m. the fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular

All events are family-friendly and free to the public.

The All-American Soap Box Derby is open to Union girls and boys ages 8-12, measuring up to five feet, and weighing up to 100 pounds. Participants must be accompanied by a parent/guardian to participate and must bring their own helmet. Space is limited to the first 24 qualified contestants. The deadline to register is June 23rd. For additional information, or to register for the Soap Box Derby, please contact the Township of Union Department of Recreation at 908-686-4200.

For additional information on the Fourth of July Spectacular or the Township of Union Summer Concert Series, visit uniontownship.com or contact Natalie Pineiro, Public Information Officer, at npineiro@uniontownship.com.



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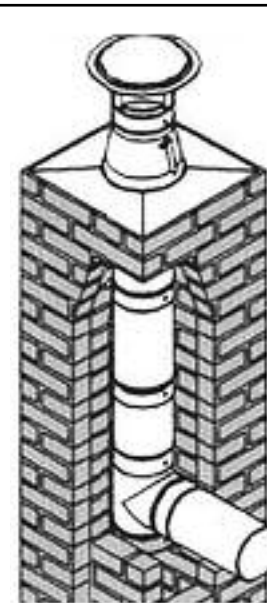
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UNION TEACHERS AMONG THOSE HONORED AT KEAN UNIVERSITY

Kean University hosted Union County's Teachers of the Year on Wednesday, May 24 with a breakfast and award ceremony at the New Jersey Center for Science, Technology and Mathematics. Sponsored by the Union County Superintendents' Roundtable, the Union County Teacher Recognition Program honors one outstanding teacher from each school within the county. Nearly 60 of the honored teachers are Kean University alumni.

Union teachers who were honored included Kahy Brooks, Suzanne Droban, Jamie Ficchi, Amanda Havyar, Elizabeth Macheska, Jamie Mobley, Eric M. Shaw, Judith Supino, Janet Whitehouse, and Suzanne Zawacki.

"There is no doubt that your impact will be

realized beyond the scope of this state, this nation, and indeed this world," Anthony A. Pittman, Ph.D., acting dean of Kean's College of Education, told the teachers. "You educate and empower our next generation of leaders."

The featured speaker at the event, 2016-2017 New Jersey Teacher of the Year Argine Safari, recalled a high school teacher who pushed her and encouraged her to reach for more.

"Think for a moment how incredible that power is that we have in our classrooms. Think of the influence that we all have," Safari said. "Every child deserves to have a champion. I had my champion, and I'm sure that you can name teachers who influenced you. We have to continue to work and advocate for our students."

Also speaking at the event were Interim Executive County Superintendent for Union County Juan Torres, Superintendent of Springfield Public Schools Michael A. Davino, and Union County Freeholder Bruce H. Bergen. Each praised the honored teachers for their dedication to the students of the county.

"Thank you is the best that I can come up with, but I think you know how much I appreciate you," said Davino.

Pittman left the assembled educators with an original poem that he wrote in the teachers' honor, which read in part, "One day soon I hope you find / You did more than help them pass / I hope you'll soon discover / That your wind helps them soar first class."



(above) Anthony Pittman, Ph.D., acting dean, Kean University College of Education (front, left) poses with the nearly 60 Kean University alumni honored as Union County Teachers of the Year at the New Jersey Center for Science, Technology and Mathematics at Kean University.

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SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT HONORS UNION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

On Monday, May 22, with graduation quickly approaching, the Union High School Class of 2017 held their first of many celebrations to come. Senior Awards Night honored members of the Class of 2017 with scholarships, special recognitions, plaques and certificates. In total, 239 awards were given to 150 student recipients. Students accepted a wide array of donations from

local Union Township businesses and organizations, including the Union Historical Society, ConnectOne Bank, Union Township Chamber of Commerce, and the Union EMT. Scholarships were awarded in loving memory of Douglas Michael Krueger, Jason Lopes, Crystal Scretchen and Jeff Bubnowski. Numerous Union High School Clubs, Athletic Teams, and Alumni

also contributed. In total, almost \$100,000 worth of scholarships were distributed. Regarding Senior Awards Night, Union High School Principal Corey Lowery said, "It's amazing that the students have this opportunity and it gives them something to strive for. It also is great to see that the community is so supportive of our students."



Congratulations to the Class of 2017, and a special thanks to all of the donors.

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YMCA SUPPORTS 7TH GRADE STUDENTS WITH FREE MEMBERSHIPS

The Gateway Family YMCA provides free memberships for all 7th Grade students as part of the NJ YMCA 7th Grade Initiative, a state-wide program designed to support and encourage teens to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Providing services for Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County for over 100 years, The Gateway Family YMCA has 5 YMCA branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union, NJ. 7th Grade students from the surrounding areas are invited to visit the YMCA and sign up for this complimentary membership.

The goal of the 7th Grade Initiative is to increase physical activity and support teens in the development of lifetime healthy habits while providing a safe and supportive environment at the YMCA. "We recognize that 7th grade is a pivotal time in youth development, where sports become more competitive and many teens begin to become less active," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "We believe in providing these students with a positive environment, where healthy habits can be learned and reinforced, where new friendships can be made, and where positive programs and role

models are part of the daily routine," added Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO.

Local students are invited to visit The Gateway Family YMCA with a parent/guardian and proof of grade to sign up for the free membership. Students are invited to participate in programs and services offered by the YMCA, and are provided with a complimentary Full Privilege membership including health and wellness options, swimming, group exercise, as well as teen programs. "Our goal is to provide support for 7th grade students, allowing them to strengthen healthy behaviors, increase activity, gain a better understanding of nutrition and the importance of continuing these habits into their adult lives," stated Thomas Galuppo, Director of

Healthy Living, Five Points Branch.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, health and community service organization of caring staff and volunteers dedicated to strengthening the foundations of community and stands For Youth Development, For Healthy Living and For Social Responsibility. The Y impacts the community by providing quality services to people of all ages, races, faiths or incomes.

For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA or the 7th Grade Initiative, please visit www.tgfymca.org or contact the Elizabeth Branch at 908-355-9622, Five Points Branch at 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch at 732-388-0057 or Wellness Center Branch at 908-349-9622.

POLICE OFFICERS PROMOTED TO SERGEANT



Officers Matthew Mularz and Dorothy Mascidlo-Skiper were promoted to Sergeant at the June 13, 2017 Union Township Committee Meeting. Both officers were joined by their family and friends as they were sworn into their new positions. The Mayor and Committee along with Daniel Zieser, Director of Union Police Department congratulated Officer Matthew Mularz and Officer Dorothy Mascidlo-Skiper on their promotions. Photo courtesy of the Township of Union.

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34TH ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Township of Union Police Department participated in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run which was held on June 9. They joined with over 3,000 law enforcement officers from over 300 New Jersey police departments. They each take a turn running one of 26 separate

legs carrying the "Flame of Hope," the Special Olympic torch, throughout the day which began at 4:45 a.m. and snakes through more than 300 towns.

The run ends in the evening on the same day at the Special Olympics New Jersey summer

games opening ceremony held at The College of New Jersey. The event started in 1984 to join a national effort. Its goal is to raise money and awareness for Special Olympics New Jersey. You can learn more and donate by visiting www.sonj.org. Photo by Township of Union Police Department.



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GEOFF GALLANTE TO PLAY NORTHERN NEW JERSEY'S MOST INTIMATE COFFEEHOUSE

The Salem Roadhouse Café proudly presents Geoff Gallante and Quartet, who will be performing on Saturday, July 8, 2017.

Returning to the Salem Roadhouse Café for the fourth year in a row, Geoff is one of the most celebrated young musicians in the world today. Geoff found his older brother's trumpet at age four and has since performed on prominent stages and alongside distinguished artists all across the country-- as acclaimed soloist with concert band, brass band and pops orchestra, as featured jazz performer and national anthem performer, and as a church soloist. All ages are welcome. It's a wholesome show, so bring the entire family.

Geoff has performed in 34 states nationwide-- including five different ensembles of the U.S. Military! By the age of six he had already garnered guest soloist engagements with the likes of the Louisville Orchestra and Duke Ellington Orchestra and Philadelphia Brass Quintet. As

anthem performer Geoff has appeared in 16 pro-sports venues across the country including 7 Major League Baseball stadiums, 8 NBA arenas and 1 NHL arena! He's the youngest instrumentalist, at six years old, to have ever performed at the White House or at the prestigious Kennedy Center in D.C. Geoff's network TV appearances include The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, NBC'S Today Show and the CBS Early Show.

Doors open 7:30 p.m. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$20.00/\$10.00 for students with ID. The Roadhouse, located in Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Road, Union, serves real coffee and tea - it's a coffeehouse, not a bar, after all. Hot and cold snacks and desserts are included in the admission.

As a fun, creative, community outreach mission of the church, show proceeds always benefit local NJ charities. The 2017 season has been benefitting the Union County YWCA



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DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM ADMISSION: \$20.00 STUDENTS \$10.00

Admission includes snacks, beverages, tea, coffee & desserts

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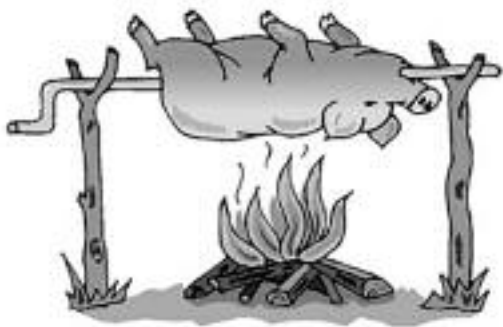
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mike.willemse@gmail.com to RSVP

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ICE CREAM SOCIAL WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce will host an Ice Cream Social as its monthly networking event, on Wednesday, July 19, at the Magic Fountain, 1081 Stuyvesant Avenue in Union.

The event will feature a presentation by Dr. Laura Rokosz of Egglock Nutrition on the value of Chamber membership, called: "How I used our Chamber member benefits to substantially grow my business."

Admission to the social, scheduled from 5 pm to 7 pm, is \$10 for Chamber members, and \$15 for non-members. Registration is required. To register, please contact the Chamber at: executivedirector@unionchamber.com, or (908) 688-2777. Parking is available at various lots around Union Center.

"We are delighted that Magic Fountain is hosting our summer ice cream social, which we expect will be a fun gathering," said James Masterson, the Chamber's executive director. "It's a great time to be a Chamber member! And we're honored that Dr. Laura Rokosz will share her own experience about how others can use the Chamber to greatly grow their businesses."

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

UNION TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

LOST AMUSEMENT PARKS OF THE NORTH JERSEY SHORE

Monday, July 10, at 7 p.m.

Meet the author: The Union Township Historical Society (UTHS) will host author and historian Rick Geffken, at the Union Public Library, on Monday, July 10, at 7 p.m. The Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union. Mr. Geffken will present "Lost Amusement Parks of the North Jersey Shore," based on his new book of the same title. Refreshments will be served, and books will be available for purchase and signing. Admission is free. For more information, please call Karen Jason at 908-851-5450.

BUS TRIP TO PHILADELPHIA:

The UTHS will take a field trip to Philadelphia to visit the new Museum of the American Revolution on Wednesday, July 26. The trip will include lunch at the City Tavern, and a tour of the National Constitution Center. The 31-passenger bus will depart the parking lot across from Burnet Middle School, 1000 Caldwell Avenue, at 8 a.m. and return at 7 p.m.

The cost of the trip is \$80.

Please contact Marie Canarelli for reservations at mcanarelli1331@aol.com or 908-687-7468.

350TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SAVE THE DATE: SAT., OCT. 28

Save the Date: Saturday, October 28, for the 350th anniversary celebration of the founding of Connecticut Farms (which was renamed "Union" in 1808). The gala event will include the induction of the inaugural class into the UTHS Hall of Fame and will take place at Suburban Golf Club from 7 to 10 p.m. More information to follow.



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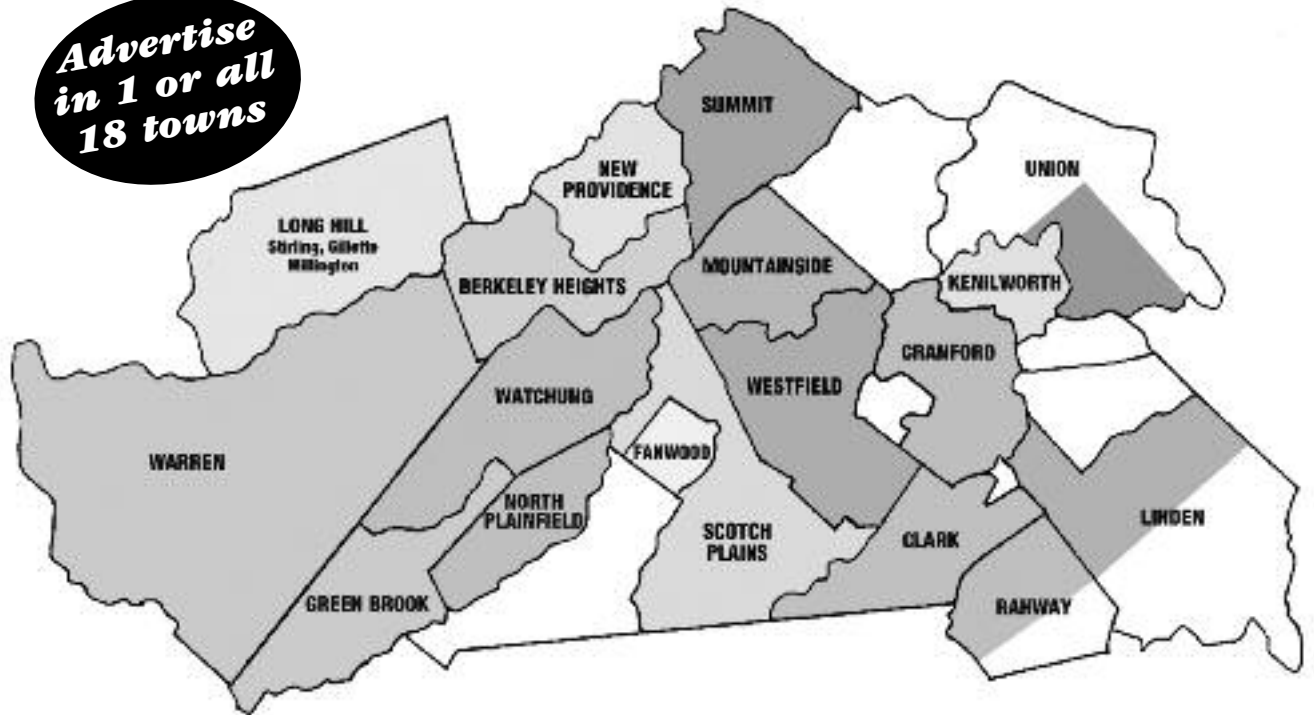
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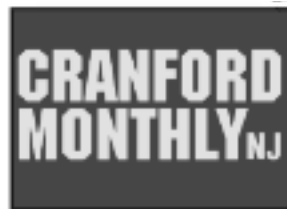
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SUMMER FUN CLUB & TEEN LEADERSHIP CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN AT BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF UNION COUNTY

Let the Summer Fun begin! 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 with early and late pick up options.

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 team building activities and scavenger hunts. Indoor activities include STEM Enrichment, Karate, digital arts, arts & crafts, movies, swimming, sports, games room and more! There will be an Outdoor Carnival and End-of-Summer cookout in August.

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 college/university tours, career and education exploration, educational and fun filled field trips, cooperative challenges, team building exercises, community service projects, leadership training, swimming and more! Four (4) Community Service Projects will take place at the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. Trips include: Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island,

Camelbeach Water Park and Round Valley State Park (contact your local Club for all trip details).

The Union Club will 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 half day sessions from 9:00am to 1:00 PM. 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.bgcuaquatics.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 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,
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MAKE A DIFFERENCE! SUPPORT BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF UNION COUNTY ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Be the change you want to see in your community. Support Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County Annual Fund Drive. This year, we have set a goal to raise \$130,000; to date, total contributions are more than \$85,000. Your support allows many of our members to attend programs in our Clubs. Each day, we serve an average of 800 youth ages 5-18 in Union County.

"We have seen an increased need for our programs and services over the last few years," said Russell Triolo, Chief Executive Officer. "Many members cannot pay; we do not turn away members who are not able to pay. Your support is needed to ensure these youth are able to participate in programs in a safe and nurturing environment."

Core programs include: Teen Leadership Programs (Keystone Club and Torch Club, Digital Literacy, Educational Enhancement, Aquatics (Union Club), Healthy Lifestyle Choices, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Youth of the Year and Career Launch. Each program is made up of components designed to prepare members to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

Please visit our website www.bgcuc.org and click the Annual Fund Drive banner to make a donation; or contact our office at 908-687-2697 x115.

Summer Program registration is now open at our Union, Plainfield and Elizabeth Clubs. Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County offers youth programs in 5 communities during the school year in Union County: Plainfield, Elizabeth, Union, Hillside and Roselle. Teen leadership programs for ages 14-18 are available in Union, Elizabeth and Plainfield. Members participate in character, leadership, career preparation and community service activities throughout the year. Aquatics is available at our Union Club. For information on our clubs and programs, please visit our website www.bgcuc.org or contact us 908-687-2697.

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