Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 86 • February 2018

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JEFFERSON STUDENTS SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER

Submitted by: Akua Boakye and Jennifer Williams

The students at Jefferson Elementary School, Union, wanted to spread some holiday cheer so they decided to adopt a homeless family with four young children. Members of the Student Lighthouse Team came up with ideas on how to fundraise for the family. Activities included Duct Taping the Principals and Wacky Week.

Ryan Rampaul stated, "I enjoyed helping a family that is not as fortunate as me."

Jefferson School paired up with the Good Counsel for the Heart by Women project. Gabriel McGee stated, "I was able to be part of the committee, but we wouldn't have been able to do this without all the students' help." Many of our students participated in the fundraising activities so we could raise enough money to fill the family's entire wish list.

Nkechi Okafor stated, "It felt great to load the truck with all the donations. I was glad to help during the holiday season." The students on our Community Service team packed up all the goods and delivered them to the drop off location.

Kelly Piano, Jefferson's Leader in Me coordinator, was thrilled to see the whole school come together to help give these young children a happy holiday.



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Executive Club No one in the world sells more Real Estate than RE/MAX **Spirit of UNION** • Page 2 • February 2018



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Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (accomplishment, honor, award, etc.). Do you have an event that you need help publicizing? Then send Renna Media your news!

Call: Maryanne 908-858-4012 Email: editor@rennamedia.com

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'BLACK HISTORY THE MUSICAL' - FEB 3RD - 3PM

Union Public Library, and the Friends of the Avenue, Union, New Jersey. Admission is free. Union Library will co-sponsor "Black History: The Musical" on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 3

The Union Township Historical Society, the p.m. at the Union Public Library, 1980 Morris Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 908-851-5450 x 2.

"Black History - The Musical"

Saturday, February 3 at 3pm



Join us for a musical journey through American black history. Actress, playwright, and local resident Lisa G. Fleming presents her original musical ensemble production celebrating Black History Month.



This program is sponsored by the Union Public Library, the Union Township Historical Society, and the Friends of the Union Public Library.



Union Public Library 1980 Morris Aue. Union, NJ 07083 (908) 851-5450 www.uplnj.org

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(above) Jermic Ayree.

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JERMIC AYREE ACCEPTED INTO CORNELL

Submitted by Akua Boakey and Jennifer Williams

The Township of Union School District would like to congratulate Union High School senior Jermic Ayree on his acceptance to Cornell University. Jermic, who applied Early Decision to the program, was accepted into the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Currently, he is enrolled in the Allied Health Shared Time Program at Union County Vocational School.

The Shared Time Program offers students the opportunity to attend Union County Vo-Tech for a portion of the academic day and receive technical training in one of the many different fields. The Allied Healthy Program at Vo-Tech is an intensive curriculum offered through a partnership with Rutgers University. The

program gives students an opportunity to explore a wide variety of health careers while earning high school and college credits.

Jermic plans on majoring in biological science with a concentration in neurobiology and behavior. Jermic is both a member of the UHS wrestling and tennis teams. Jermic stated "I am extremely thrilled to be given this opportunity to study at Cornell University and I am more than happy to see my hard work and perseverance paid off."

Jermic's school Counselor, Valery Desamours, added, "As his counselor, I am extremely proud of Jermic and his accomplishments. I wish him much success at Cornell University."

DOC BURKHARDT PORTRAYS REV. JAMES CALDWELL AT UNION SCHOOL

Last December Doc Burkhardt, aka James Caldwell, from the Union Township Historical Society visited the four kindergartens and three first grade classes at Connecticut Farms School, Union, to talk with the children about citizenship and community. The students practiced using their listening skills to help foster good communication among them. The presentations were facilitated by Ms. Ashley Kondracki, Acting School Counselor.

Mr. Burkhardt and Ms. Kondracki also took turns reading "Zero" by Kathryn Otoshi to the classes. The book tells the story of the "big round number" and is a springboard to "developing social skills."

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE IN UNION

New Jersey Blood Services would like to announce that it is conducting a blood drive in Union which is open to the public, on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at Miron Student Center of Kean University, 1000 Morris Avenue, Union, from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



(above) Rev. James Caldwell, portrayed by Doc Burkhardt, reads to a group of students at Connecticut Farms School.





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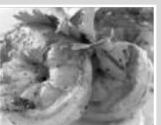
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Kids 7-10\$5.99	Kids 7-10\$7.49
Kids 3-6\$3.99	Kids 3-6\$5.99
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FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Lunch 11am · 3:30pm		Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm		
Adult\$	7.99	Adult	\$11.99	
Kids 7-10\$	5.99	Kids 7-10	\$7.49	
Kids 3-6\$3		Kids 3-6	\$5.99	
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Kids 3-6	
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CHAMBER TO HOST ANNUAL "MEET THE MAYOR" NETWORKING EVENT

In line with its role as a bridge between local businesses and public officials, the Union Township Chamber of Commerce will host its annual "Meet the Mayor" networking event on Wednesday, February 21, 2018.

The business community and all Chamber members, are encouraged to seize the opportunity to meet Union Township Mayor Suzette Cavadas and other members of the Township Committee, who will share their goals and plans for the community, and answer questions.

The gathering is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at ConnectOne Bank, 2455 Morris Ave, between Burnet and Bashford avenues, in Union. Refreshments will be served.

Registration is required. Admission is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. To register or for more information, contact the Chamber at (908) 688-2777, or Chamber Executive Director James Masterson.

"It's a terrific opportunity to meet our local officials and department heads to stay close and informed, added Masterson. "This is one of our most popular and well-attended events."





Wednesday, February 21, 2018

When: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.Where: ConnectOne Bank 2455 Morris Ave. Union, NJ

(Note: This is the branch located between Burnet and Bashford avenues.)

Refreshments will be served *Registration is required*

Parking is available in the branch's parking lot.

Join the Chamber in Welcoming Union Township Mayor Suzette Cavadas, as well as members of the Township Committee & key Department Heads ... as the Mayor shares her vision for Union in the upcoming year!

Cost:

- \$10 for Members
- \$15 for Guests

To register or for any questions, contact the Chamber:



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FIREFIGHTERS TO COMPETE IN FOOD COMPETITION

On Monday, February 26, 2018 Township of Cooking" category. Union firefighters will join with firefighters from around New Jersey to compete at the Cooked and Uncorked Food and Wine Festival benefiting the New Jersey State Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association and the St. Barnabas Burn Center/Foundation.

The competition is part of the culinary extravaganza where attendees will be able to experience the tastes and flavors of more than 30 of New Jersey's finest restaurants, caterers, and dessert shops all in one location. There will also be 30 tables offering all types of beverages for tasting. This event, which draws people from throughout the state, will be held at the Pines Manor located on Rt 27 in Edison, NJ, from 6 to 9 p.m.

integral part of the evening.

The New Brunswick, Clifton, Bayonne, South Orange, Roselle, Morristown, Trenton, Nutley and Hamilton Fire Departments competing in the Gourmet Cooking Category.

Union, Long Branch, Cranford, Belleville, Maplewood, Montclair, Carteret, Paterson, Westfield, Hillside and Plainfield Fire Departments will compete in the "Firehouse

New this year will be the Rahway, Local 500 (retirees), Elizabeth, Linden and Harrison Fire Departments competing in the dessert category.

Some of the judges will be, Shelli Sonstein -104.3 radio, Tony Caputo- Channel 12, Bart Oates – NY Giants, Mike Murphy – NY Giants, David Diehl - NY Giants, Kara Decker - Head Chef 100 Steps Restaurant, Joe Mastrella -Executive Chef Luciano's restaurant, Mike Christensen – Pinnacle Foods, Darius Peacock – two-time Chopped Champion, GiGi and Nicole Gallodoro – GiGI Cupcakes, AJ Fusco – Chef and Firefighter Harrison NY, Christian Coughlin - District manager for Kona Grill, Mariso Esteves - Owner of Cake on Heels, Tom Coughlin – CEO of Bayonne Community Bank, The "Ultimate Firefighter Cookoff" will be an Lou Healey, CFO of Allied Beverage. Others will be added.

> If you are looking for an entertaining evening of great food and wine, don't miss this event. Tickets are \$60 in advance and \$65 at the door. Visit www.cookedanduncorked.com to view participating restaurants, wine/spirits, our celebrity judges and for more information. Tickets can be obtained on the website or by calling 732-499-9250.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS OPEN HOUSES

The Union Township Historical Society will host open houses at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union, NJ from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, February 11 and Sunday, February 25,

T wo exhibits for Black History Month:

• The Veterans of Vauxhall, curated by Jon Rosser; and

• Memorabilia of Eulace Peacock, a UHS track and field star, who beat Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens.

Reservations are not required. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

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UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY - MAIN

The Main Library: 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. For additional information call 908-851-5450, or find us on the web at uplnj.org

FEBRUARY 2018 YOUTH PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Mondays: Construction Zone 3:30PM

All Ages | No registration required Learn, play, and build with us every Monday! Build your own creations out of Lego, K'NEX, or blocks!

Tuesdays: Crazy 8s 4:30PM

Grades 3 - 5 | Registration required
Join Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s Math Club where you'll
build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a
tmess...it's a totally new kind of math club!
This program runs from Jan. 9th - Feb. 27th.

Wednesdays: Babies in the Library 10:30AM

Birth – 18 months | No registration required Spend this special time with baby singing songs & rhymes, listening to stories, followed by free play & socialization.

Thursdays: Pre-K Storytime 4:00PM

3 years – 6 years | No registration required
Jump into reading with UPL! We explore phonics, letter
recognition, and numbers all while reading fun stories
and making new friends!

Fridays: Toddler Storytime 10:30AM

18 months – 3 years | No registration required Enjoy stories, singing, and movement, following a different theme each week!

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Black History Month Bingo

Monday 2/5, 4:30PM

Grades 4 - 6 | Registration required Learn about important African American figures in history while playing Bingo! We're also hosting a potato chip tasting in honor of George Crum, African American chef and inventor of the potato chip.

Intergenerational Storytime

Thursday 2/8, 10:30AM

All Ages | Registration required Bringing generations together with a special storytime.

Teen Hangout

Friday 2/9, 3:30PM

Ages 13+ | Registration required
Play some games on the Wii, try out a board game,
and/or create your own font using your own handwriting!
Snacks will be provided!

Family Drop-In Craft

Saturday 2/10, 2:00PM

All Ages | No registration required We're getting ready for Valentine's Day and making some funny, furry lovebugs!

Alma Thomas Craft

Monday 2/12, 4:30PM

Grades 1 - 3 | No registration required Learn about African American expressionist artist, Alma Thomas, and recreate one of her paintings!



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Bedtime Storytime

Thursday 2/15, 7:00PM

All Ages | Registration required
Put on your PJs and join us for a special story time
about Valentine's Day!

Music & Movement

Friday 2/16, 10:30AM

Ages 2 - 5 | No registration required Get movin' and groovin' with your toddler! Interactive play time with a focus on music and movement.

Teen Movie

Friday 2/16, 12:30PM

Ages 13+ | Registration required Come in and enjoy a screening of the film Hidden Figures. We'll provide the snacks!

SciFri

Friday 2/16, 3:30PM

Ages 6+ | Registration required Channel your inner detective by trying some forensic science activities! We'll learn about our fingerprints, write messages in invisible ink, and more!

Munchies and a Movie

Saturday 2/17 @ 2:00PM

All Ages | Registration required
Join us for a showing of Akeelah and the Bee (2006).
We'll bring the snacks! Parents must be present. (Rated
PG; 1hr 52m)

ShopRite Kids Cuisine

Wednesday 2/21, 4:00PM

Ages 6 – 12 | Registration required Learn about nutrition and make some delicious and easy snacks with our visiting ShopRite Registered Dietitian!

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Friday 2/23, 3:30PM

Ages 13+ | Registration required
Help us make Union Public Library the place for you!
Let us know what programs and events you want to see
at the library. Recommend books, movies, and music
you want to see on the shelves, and earn community
service hours by coming to TAB meetings and
participating in programs!

Family M.E.S.S.

(Math, Engineering, and Science Saturday)

Saturday 2/24, 2:00PM

Ages 2+ | Registration required

In this fun early literacy program, families will learn
about math, engineering, and science concepts by
exploring different projects and activities each month!

24/7 DIGITAL LIBRARY.

Download e-books and e-audiobooks, movies and t.v., digital magazines, and music concerts. Visit our webpage at www.uplnj.org and click on the 24/7 Digital Library tab, to see all that we have to offer.

CAREER COACH

The library now has a Career Coach in our Mobile Job Search Lab to provide job-search and career navigation assistance to community members. During lab hours, the Career Coach will be available to assist job seekers, provide career guidance and job search assistance, and offer resume writing assistance and job interview preparation.

FEBRUARY 2018 ADULT PROGRAMS

MEDITATION CLASSES RETURN

Thursdays in February at 11:45 am

$\label{eq:Relax} \textbf{Relax and unwind in our ever popular meditation class.}$

Wednesday, February 28 at 1pm Join us for a filmed musical concert featuring the

prolific Ray Charles.

FRIENDS OF UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

Thursday, February 1 at 7 pm

Monthly meeting of the Friends of the Library.

New members always welcome.

FREE CITIZENSHIP/NATURALIZATION CLASSES

10 Saturdays beginning January 6 from 9am-1 pm
The library will begin offering free
Citizenship/Naturalization classes on 10 Saturdays,
beginning January 6. Classes will run from 9am-1pm.
These free classes will focus on Citizenship Exam
Preparation, including the N400, American History, and
civics. You must bring your Green Card to register.
It's not too late to sign up.

BLACK HISTORY - THE MUSICAL

Saturday, February 3 at 3 pm

In honor of Black History Month the Union Public
Library is proud to present "Black History- the Musical"
Created by actress, playwright, and local resident Lisa G.
Fleming, this live musical production takes us on a
journey through American black history.
Jointly sponsored by the Union Public Library,
the Union Township Historical Society, and the Friends
of the Union Public Library, the performance is
free and open to the public.

MOVIES FOR ADULTS: TUESDAYS AT TWO

February 6, 13, 20, and 27

Join us at the library Tuesdays at 2pm for free movies. Doors open at 1:50pm and elevator access is available. Please call the Library for specific titles and more information at (908)-851-5450.

INTERGENERATIONAL STORYTIME

Thursday, February 8 from 10:30-11 am
Join us for a special opportunity to read to young
children ages 2-5. Please call the library at 908-851-5450
x3 if you are interested in signing up. Books and light
snacks will be provided.

BITE CLUB RETURNS

Monday, February 12 at 6 pm Join us for a new foodie experience. Email EMacleod@uplnj.org for more information and to sign up.

HEALTHY SNACKING ON THE GO

Tuesday, February 13 at 12 pm Join Shoprite of Union for nutrition tips, recipes, and tastings.

OFF THE SHELF BOOK GROUP

Thursday, February 15 at 7 pm

This month the group will choose from one of two books about Rosemary Kennedy. The Missing Kennedy, by Elizabeth Koehler-Pentacoff, or Rosemary, by Kate Clifford Larson. New members always welcome. Please contact the library to receive a copy of the book.

INTERNATIONAL FILM

Thursday, February 22 at 2 pm
Join us to view a new foreign film every month. Please
call the library for exact title.

SENIOR RESOURCE CONNECTION:

UNION COUNTY'S MOBILE AGING SERVICE KIOSK (ASK)

Tuesday, February 27 from 12-2 pm

Union County's new mobile Aging Service Kiosk (ASK) will host free information events at the library on a monthly basis. The events are designed to provide residents with a convenient, friendly way to find out about services for the aging, and for their families and caregivers.

UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY - VAUXHALL

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

FEBRUARY 2018 YOUTH PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Mondays: Toddler & Pre-K Programs

@ 11:00AM
Toddlers & Pre-K | Registration required
Interactive storytimes, crafts, and more for young

children and their parents/ guardians.

Music & Movement: Special showing of
'Dancing in the Light: The Janet Collins Story'

Pre-K STEM Storytime: Hearts - 2/13

Interactive Learning Time:
Puzzles, coloring, memory & other fun activities - 2/20
Pre-K Story & Craft: Polar Bears - 2/27

Wednesdays: Let's Play Chess Club 3:15PM

1st – 12th Grades | Registration required
For students in grades 1st – 12th, of all levels. Facilitated
by Chess for Everyone. Registration required.

Thursdays: Tween Programs 3:00PM

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required Awesome activities designed for tweens! **Tween Movie - 2/1** 'Queen of Katwe'

(PG; 123 minutes)

Tween Make It @ Your Library: Valentine's Craft - 2/8

Tween Game Time - 2/15

Tween DIY: Bath Bombs - 2/22
ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Club Teen "Game Time"

Wednesday 2/7 @ 6:00PM

Ages 14+ | Registration required Enjoy games with friends in a relaxed environment!

Painting Class "Unwind and Design"

Wednesday 2/21 @ 6:00PM

Ages 14+ | Registration required Come in and relax as we paint together. Supplies will be provided.

Family Storytime and Project:

"Black Inventors and Their Inventions"

Saturday 2/24 @ 2:00PM

All Ages | Registration required
Presented by Debbie Kirkland of Afrocentric Parties.





Munsee



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District

Boy Scout Chess Tournament

Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers.

Non-scouts welcomed!

Saturday, February 24, 2018

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

Registration is \$12 • Note: this is a non-rated tournament.

Non-scouts (under 18 only) can register by calling Joe Renna at 908-447-1295.

Scouts can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link to register on-line at ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2300308

Scouts can email Will Adams at Will.adams@scouting.org for more info.

Trophies awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

Lunch will be provided for all players and fans.

This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.



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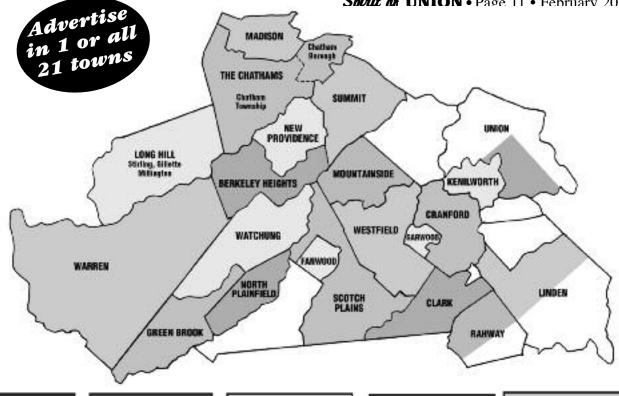
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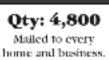
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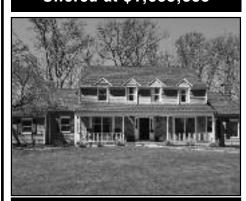
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