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UNION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS PARTICIPATE IN KEAN UNIVERSITY'S "THE FUTURE TEACHERS' ACADEMY"



Photo by Township of Union School District

In conjunction with Kean University, eighteen senior students from Union High School were invited to a program on November 30, 2018. The Future Teachers' Academy event included an address by Dr. Anthony Pittman, Acting Dean for the College of Education. Dean Pittman spoke to students on topics related to trends in education and the need for highly qualified educators. An additional session presented by the admissions department discussed the various majors and extracurricular opportunities available to students at the University. Union High School Seniors participated in various break out sessions and had the opportunity to interact with faculty and students of the

University as well as students from other area high schools. Ron Zieser, a teacher at UHS who chaperoned the trip stated, "This is a great opportunity for our students to experience college life and to become more familiar with the teaching profession."

Senior Britney Kennedy, who was recently accepted to Kean described her day as, "I felt like I learned how to become a better teacher in the future."

Nicole Ahern, Supervisor of Counseling for the district shared that, "We are looking forward to a district partnership with Kean where we can develop future courses at Union High School to promote becoming an educator as a career."

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS SOUGHT BY UPD

The Union Police Department is now accepting School Crossing Guard Applications for the current school year.

School Crossing Guards safeguard all pedestrians crossing the street at their assigned posts, with special attention to school children and accompanying parents, and stop traffic to the extent necessary to accomplish this function.

They are required to be of good moral character, be able to speak, read and write English, and never have been convicted of a criminal offense involving moral turpitude.

Applications are available 24 hours a day at the front desk of the Union Police Department located at 981 Caldwell Avenue, Union, NJ.

For more information please contact the Union Police Traffic Bureau between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at 908-851-5070 for more details. After business hours, applicants can leave a voice message with their name and phone number and someone will return their call the next business day.

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DELISFORT SELECTED AS MAYOR

On New Year's Day, the Township of Union held its annual reorganization meeting at Town Hall where newly reelected committeewoman Michele Delisfort was selected as the Township's new mayor.

"I am excited and humbled to have the opportunity to continue my service to you as Mayor of this great community," Delisfort said to the audience after thanking her parents and family for their sacrifices.

As part of her speech to the hundreds of residents in attendance, she lauded her predecessor, Committeewoman Suzette Cavadas, for all of the accomplishments realized during her two years as Mayor, and highlighted some of the initiatives in store under her leadership for 2019.

Among them she reiterated her commitment to sound infrastructure and development, and eliminating eyesores and vacancies in the community.

"If we do not see positive movement with sites like the old Shoprite and the Money store, we are prepared to take aggressive actions to ensure outcomes similar to that of the Garden State Motel and Clinton Manor Properties," Delisfort said.

She also announced the upcoming examination of the Township's Master Plan, the implementation of a Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan that will include improvements to Weber and Friberger parks this year, and an initiative to promote further public engagement.

An announcement was also made regarding a complete reconstruction of Fairway Drive, and the establishment of a Citizen's Parking Committee.

"With all of the investment and development in our Center, and the considerable requests we have received further expansion, we have heard the concerns of our residents about the future effects on parking in the area," Delisfort said.

Her full address, as well as a recording of the entire reorganization meeting can be found at uniontownship.com or on the Township's Facebook page @TwpUnionNJ.

Delisfort is the first black female mayor in the Township's history, and the first Haitian female Mayor in the State.

She is a small business owner of an urban planning consultancy firm and has over 20 years of professional experience in land use planning, redevelopment planning, and community development. She is a licensed professional planner and nationally certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners. She also serves as Chairperson of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association's Redevelopment Planning Committee. Most recently, she was appointed as a member of the Ethics Committee for the National American Planning Association.

Prior to being elected as Committeewoman, Delisfort served on the Township of Union Planning Board, not only as an active member but as Vice Chairperson.

For additional information on Mayor Michele Delisfort, or any of the 2019 initiatives please contact the Office of Public Information at publicinfo@uniontownship.com.

Photo by Township of Union



(above) Union's new Mayor, Michele Delisfort.

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GALLERY ON THE BOULEVARD TO PRESENT WORK BY UNION RESIDENT JESSICA GARBER

"Terra" an Exhibit of Ceramics and Photographs by Union resident Jessica Garber will be hosted by the Gallery on the Boulevard. It will be on display from January 4 through March 30, 2019.

Garber has been creating ceramics for the last four years and specializes in carved surface textures and applied patterns, as well as experimentation with different ceramic firing techniques. Jessica holds an AAS and BFA from the Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY. She has a passion for teaching and has held various roles in New York and New Jersey. Her ceramic work is showcased in large scale photographs and 3-dimensional work in this solo exhibition.

The Gallery is located in the Kenilworth Library, 548 Boulevard. The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular library hours. For further information call: 908-276-2451 or visit kenilworthlibrary.org.



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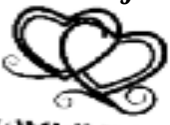
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The Gateway Family will be hosting Senior Wellness Events throughout all branches in February 2019. The free Senior Open House is open to the community and includes special events, senior classes, health and nutrition information and membership options at little or no cost to local seniors.

“The YMCA is one place where everyone can participate, get healthy and make new friends. We offer trained, knowledgeable instructors and Wellness Coaches to partner with our members in their path to better health, including specially tailored programs to combat chronic disease,” stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. “We invite the community to explore a number of classes that are chair based and do not involve getting up from the floor, as well as Water Exercise Options. These programs are particularly conducive to those less mobile.”

The Gateway Family YMCA’s Free Senior Wellness Events will take place on:

- February 20 - Elizabeth Branch,
135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth
- February 22, 9:30-11:30 a.m. - Five Points
Branch, 201 Tucker Avenue, Union
- February 21 - Rahway Branch,
1564 Irving Street, Rahway
- February 13, 12-2 p.m. - Wellness Center
Branch, 1000 Galloping Hill Rd, Union



(above) The Gateway Family YMCA will offer
Free Senior Wellness Events
during the month of February.

By appointment at the WISE Center YMCA Branch, 2095B Berwyn St, Union – please call 908-687-2995 to schedule a tour or assessment.

In addition there will be health information, YMCA tours and membership information available at all branches throughout the month of February.

Serving communities in Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County since 1900, The Gateway Family YMCA specializes in health and wellness options for those with chronic disease and anyone who needs a little extra support. The Y offers Enhance Fitness – an evidence based program for those with arthritis, LiveSTRONG at the YMCA – a free community program in support of cancer survivors and programs for Diabetes Prevention or Maintenance.

“In addition to many programs and services offered free to the community, The Gateway Family YMCA provides Financial Assistance ensuring that everyone in need can benefit,” stated Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO. “The Y participates in many insurance reimbursement programs, offers senior membership pricing and a senior couple membership.

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 Gateway Family YMCA impacts the community by providing quality services to people of all ages, races, faith or incomes. The Y doesn’t just strengthen bodies – it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information about programs and services provided by The Gateway Family YMCA or the Senior Wellness event, visit tgfymca.org or contact the Elizabeth Branch 908-355-922, Five Points Branch 908-688-9622, Rahway Branch 732-388-0057, Wellness Center Branch 908-349-9622 or the WISE Center YMCA Branch 908-687-2995.

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UNION MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT, FEB. 4

The Union Municipal Band, under the direction of Howard Toplansky will present a free concert on Monday evening, February 4, 2019. The concert will be held at Hannah Caldwell School Auditorium, 1120 Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free and the

public is cordially invited to attend.

Some of the selections will include: Light Cavalry Overture, "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," Black Horse Troup March by Sousa, Selections from "Exodus," "They Can't Take That Away From Me," "Valse Mingnonne," and many other

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The band would like to invite musicians, including High School students from Union and the surrounding communities to join the group. If you are interested please call the Recreation Department at 908-686-4200.



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TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING GRADUATES 112 WITH 15 FROM UNION

One hundred and twelve students received their nursing diplomas at the Trinitas School of Nursing's 161st Convocation Ceremony held at St. Michael's Church in Cranford. Surrounded by family, friends, and staff that supported their efforts every step of the way, 99 women and 13 men proudly accepted their pins and diplomas. They also became eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN registered nurse licensing examination.

"The Trinitas School of Nursing congratulates the Class of January 2019," said Dr. Rose Santee, Dean of the Trinitas School of Nursing, a diploma in nursing program which is affiliated with Union County College that also awards the Associate in Science Degree to the graduates. "The administration, faculty and staff continue their commitment to the success of all our nursing students using innovative

strategies to promote student success. We prepare our graduates to be entry-level nurses in today's dynamic health care environment."

Graduates from Union were Mickerlande Medilien, Anna Horner, Isabel Leal, Alyiah Melton, Marisa Pagano, Clifia Previlon, Isabel Leal, Clifia Previlon, Chelsea N. Aryee, Amanda M. Colon, Quanetta R. Cooper, Sabrina Iris Grimila, Tigist D. Kenea, Franciele Dias Rocha, Kristina Valerio.

Graduate nurses took part in the occasion in various ways. The ceremony began with "America the Beautiful," sung by Huguette Jean, accompanied by her husband Arrol Jean on the piano. The Welcome speech was given by Anaelisa Ramirez, while the Senior Class Address was delivered by Rebecca O. Thompson and the Closing remarks were given by Pamela Santamarina.

Trinitas School of Nursing, a collaborative nursing program of Trinitas Regional Medical Center and Union County College, currently holds full accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the New Jersey State Board of Nursing. The National League for Nursing has awarded the School of Nursing a third designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education status for the years 2015 - 2020 for Creating Environments that Enhance Student Learning and Professional Development.

The majority of the full-time faculty and administration are doctorally prepared and hold certifications as NLN Certified Nurse Educators (CNE).

The School holds a 25-year, 50-class national RN licensing examination (NCLEX) average pass rate of 95% on first attempt.



(above) Trinitas School of Nursing Class of January 2019 photographed outside St. Michael's in Cranford.

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AMERICAN LEGION ORATORICAL CONTEST

Submitted by Akua Boakye

The second round of the National American Legion Oratorical Contest was held at Union High School on Saturday, January 12, 2019. It was a nailbiter as both finalists were excellent speakers. Union High School 11th grade student, Ayokunnumi (Faithful) Oluwakuyide, finished first and will now proceed to the regional contest in Branchville, New Jersey on February 10. If she is successful, Faithful will move on to the state finals. Faithful won the second round of the

Oratorical contest against a student from Kent Place who was third in the state last year. She was supported by Mrs. Althea Bossard, Acting Principal of Union High School and Co-Coordinator, Sandra Mangarella and Jonathan Tumillo, English teachers at Union High School. "We are all so proud of her!" Ms. Bossard shared.

For more information on the contest, you can visit .legion.org/oratorical.



CALDWELL PARSONAGE FEB OPEN HOUSES

The Union Township Historical Society will host open houses from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, February 10, and Sunday, February 24, 2019 at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

Visitors will have the opportunity to view the latest exhibit at the museum, which was mounted in October 2018 by the Union High School History Club. It features photos and text that focus on the history of the Union schools and Union High School, in particular. Reproductions of the 1860 Thomas Hughes farm map of the Township of Union will be available for purchase for \$15.

For more info, please call 908-591-4377.



ANNOUNCING: THE CONNIE DWYER BREAST CENTER AT TRINITAS

Trinitas Regional Medical Center has partnered with The Connie Dwyer Breast Cancer Foundation to open a new breast center in Connie's name at Trinitas. The brand new \$3.4 million facility will offer a highly empathic approach to screening, diagnosis, treatment, community outreach and education to all women, regardless of financial status.



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WALTER PODGURSKI OF UNION TO BE HONORED AT ANNUAL “HOT STOVE” AWARDS DINNER, SUNDAY, FEB. 10 SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: DWIGHT “DOC” GOODEN

The Union County Baseball Association will induct four new members into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame at the organization’s 83rd annual Hot Stove League Dinner on Sunday, February 10, 2019 beginning at 1:00 p.m., at The Gran Centurions in Clark, New Jersey.

The four new inductees into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame include:

Rich Biddulph of Roselle, an All-State catcher for Roselle Catholic High School and longtime coach of American Legion Baseball teams in Cranford and Roselle;

Walter Podgurski of Union, an All-State second baseman for the Farmers, who went on to play for the University of Pennsylvania and was drafted by the Minnesota Twins;

Chris Roof of Berkeley Heights and Scotch Plains, a standout player at Governor Livingston High School and Montclair State University and longtime coach at Governor Livingston;

Tom Urban of Elizabeth, a varsity infielder at Thomas Jefferson High School, baseball coach in Elizabeth and at Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark, and director of the Union County Baseball Association Summer and Fall leagues.

The special guest speaker at the annual event will be Dwight “Doc” Gooden, the former award-winning pitcher for the New York Mets

and the New York Yankees. Gooden’s headline-grabbing 16-year Major League career – including Rookie of the Year and Cy Young awards with the Mets and his no-hitter while pitching for the Yankees – remains a hot topic of discussion nearly two decades after he threw his final pitch.

Scholastic athletes from throughout Union County also will be honored at the afternoon awards ceremonies on Feb. 10 for their accomplishments in high school, college and Union County Youth Baseball leagues. Among these honorees will be Luis Amaro of Roselle Park; Jamie Belfer and Danny Serretti, both of Berkeley Heights; and Ed Kushner of Linden.

Tickets for the 83rd annual Hot Stove League

awards dinner may be purchased online at UCBA-NJ.org or by writing to the Union County Baseball Association, PO Box 176, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Sponsored by the Union County Baseball Association, in cooperation with the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Hot Stove League awards dinner is the primary annual fund-raising effort for the Union County Youth Baseball Leagues. The summer and fall leagues have given more than 40,000 boys and girls an opportunity to participate in an organized baseball program for the past 70 years.

For more information call Jim Iozzi, UCBA president, at 908-917-2523.

UNION FIREFIGHTERS WILL COMPETE AT FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

On Monday, February 25, 2019, Union firefighters will join 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 Burn Center at Saint Barnabas Medical Center. This event, which draws people from throughout New Jersey, will be held at The Pines Manor, 2085 Route 27, Edison, NJ from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Last year more than \$50,000 was raised from the event which was attended by more than 900 people.

The Ultimate Fire Department Cook-off will be an integral part of the evening as firefighters from 25 departments will compete in three

different categories: Gourmet, Firehouse and Dessert.

The competition is part of the culinary extravaganza where participants will be able to experience the tastes and flavors of more than 40 of New Jersey’s finest restaurants, caterers and dessert shops all in one location.

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 cookedanduncorked.com to order tickets, view participating restaurants and wine/spirits and for more information.

Tickets can be also be ordered by calling the NJ FMBA at 732-499-9250.

OPERATION REBOUND INVITES VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS TO ATTEND FEB. MEETING

The New Jersey Veterans Network along with the Operation Rebound Racing Team host free monthly PTSD and benefits meetings which will aim to be fun, while being informative.

The next meeting, featuring a comic performance, will be held on February 25, 2019

at the Scotch Plains American Legion, located at 237 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ at 6:30 p.m.

If you are interested in attending please contact Michael D. Boll via email mdbollio@Optonline.net, or call/text (973) 332-1556.

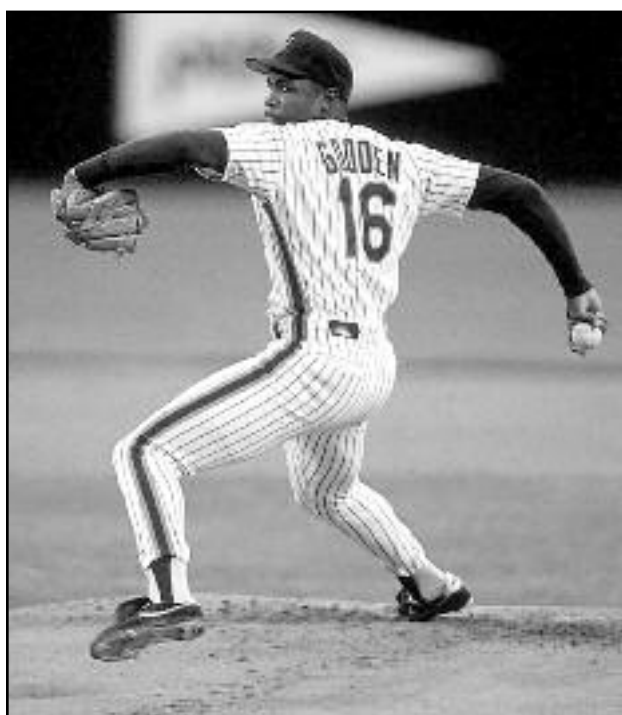
UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS HOMEBOUND DELIVERY SERVICE TO PATRONS IN NEED

If Union residents are unable to visit the library in-person due to physical limitations or medical conditions, books and other materials can be delivered to their homes, at no charge, through a service provided by Union Public Library.

Many people are unaware that Union Public Library offers delivery service for library patrons unable to leave their homes due to health-related issues. This service is staffed by volunteers from Friends of Union Public Library who can pick up items from the library, bring them directly to the homebound patron, and return them to the library when patrons are finished.

If you are homebound and wish to apply, or know someone who would like to apply, please call the Reference Desk at (908) 851-5450 x2 to arrange for services. A Union Public Library card is required to obtain homebound delivery services; the library will work with you to obtain a card if not a member already.

Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ, with a Vauxhall Branch located at 123 Hilton Avenue, Vauxhall, NJ. For more information, please contact the Main Library at (908) 851-5450 or visit our website at uplnj.org.



(above) Dwight “Doc” Gooden will be the guest speaker at the 83rd annual Hot Stove League Dinner on Sunday, February 10, 2019.

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GAMES NIGHTS
For Details Visit FaceBook
Lun Wah Restaurant
Monday
11:30 am – 10 pm
Tuesday & Thursday
11:30 am – 11 pm
Friday & Saturday
11:30 am – 12:30 am
Sunday & Holidays
12:30 pm – 11 pm
\$6 Lunch Menu

THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA RECEIVES AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE SENIOR PROGRAMMING

Susan Butler, Director of WISE Adult Day Services was presented with the George Williams Special Project Award from the YMCA Professional Network (YPN) Chapter 17 at the Annual Recognition Luncheon held recently in Long Branch, NJ. The George Williams Special Project Award is provided to a staff member who has made an extraordinary contribution to the YMCA by developing a project or activity that is clearly outstanding and noteworthy.

The Gateway Family YMCA's Connections program is an early intervention program for individuals with Early Stage Dementia or Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) provided at the WISE Center YMCA Branch in Union, NJ. Research shows that individuals diagnosed with early stage dementia can slow their physical, mental and psychological decline by actively participating in regular exercise programs. Combining health and wellness opportunities with mutual support among members in the program, the goal is to slow the progression of the disease and keep members engaged in the community.

"The Connections program is an example of how innovative and unique programming can strengthen a YMCA's commitment to service all in the local community. Through this program, our Y is able to improve the health and well-being of those in the local community who otherwise would not be able to participate in typical YMCA programs, or many other local community programs," said Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA.

"For 35 years, Susan has provided leadership and service to the community. The WISE Center YMCA Branch impacts the lives of people with physical challenges and memory impairment as well as their caregivers by providing a warm, loving and supportive environment with dedicated staff so that each can live life to the fullest," said Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO. "In addition to the Connections Program and WISE Adult Social Day Services program, Susan also leads a monthly Alzheimer's NJ Caregivers Support Group and Bereavement Support Group. It is through her leadership, knowledge and experience that the Connections program was

designed and implemented as a program for The Gateway Family YMCA."

The W.I.S.E. (Wellness, Independence and Socialization for our Elders) Adult Day Services Program is a social opportunity designed to help adults maintain their independence and improve their quality of life through activities designed to meet their special needs. Caregivers are provided a necessary respite while their loved ones are cared for in a safe, secure and supportive environment.

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. The Y is a powerful association of men, women and children of all ages and from all walks of life joined together by a shared passion: to strengthen the foundations of community.

For information about The Gateway Family YMCA or the WISE Center YMCA Branch, visit tgfymca.org or contact 908-687-2995.

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- Jesse Jackson

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(above) Susan Butler, WISE Adult Day Services Director, was honored for the Connections Program in Union.



SENIOR WELLNESS EVENT

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT • FOR HEALTHY LIVING • FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY


THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA
TGfYMCA.ORG

Elizabeth Branch 2/20

Five Points Branch 2/22
9:30-11:30

Rahway Branch 2/21

Wellness Center Branch 2/13
12-1pm



YMCA Senior Wellness Event
Branch Details at tgfymca.org
For more than a workout. For a better us.

UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY FEBRUARY EVENTS

MAIN LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAMS

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

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Mondays: Construction Zone *at 3:30 p.m.*

All ages | No registration required
Learn, play, and build every Monday using Legos, K'Nex, and more during this fun drop-in program!
Please note: Construction Zone will not be held on 2/18, as the library will be closed for Presidents' Day.

Wednesdays: Tiny Tots (Storytime) *at 10:30 a.m.*

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

Thursdays: Alphabet Soup (Storytime) *at 4:00 p.m.*

Ages 4 - 6 | Registration required for 2/7 and 2/21
Jump into reading with UPL! We explore phonics, letter recognition, and numbers all while reading fun stories, singing songs, and making new friends! The 2/7 session will feature a craft following storytime, and the 2/21 session will be Stretchy Stories, a yoga and movement-based storytime.

Please note: Alphabet Soup will not be held on 2/14, due to Bedtime Storytime later that evening.

Fridays: Toddler Tales (Storytime) *at 10:30 a.m.*

18 months - 3 years | No registration required
Enjoy stories, singing, and movement, following a different theme each week! The 2/15 session will focus on music & movement.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Saturday 2/9: The W.H.O. (We Help Others) Club: **Teen Edition** *at 12:00 p.m.*

Ages 13 and up | Registration required
Interested in making our community a better place and earning community service hours? Join us each month for a new service project. This month, we'll be designing bookmarks for Library Lovers' Month!

Monday 2/11: Tween's Night Out *at 6:00 p.m.*

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required
Hang out with your mom, dad, older brother/sister, or another favorite relative for an evening of fun and relaxation! We'll be making perler bead keychains and melted crayon art, plus there will be a hot chocolate bar!

Tuesday 2/12: It's Lit! Kids' Book Club *at 6:30 p.m.*

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required
Get a sneak peek at some of our most anticipated middle grade books this season and take part in some awesome activities!

Wednesday 2/13: Teen Wii U & Board Games *at 1:30 p.m.*

Ages 13 and up | Registration required
Join us for an afternoon of friendly competition. We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of boardgames. Feel free to bring your own games too!

Thursday 2/14: Bedtime Storytime *at 7:00 p.m.*

All ages | Registration required
In honor of National Children's Dental Health Month, special guest Dr. Mouli Surti of Pediatric Dentistry of Union will read some fun stories all about teeth! Don't forget to wear your coziest PJs!

Friday 2/15: SciFri (Science Friday) *at 3:30 p.m.*

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required
In honor of Thomas Edison's birthday, we'll be making LED bookmarks to celebrate the Father of Invention!

Saturday 2/16: Saturday Stories *at 11:00 a.m.*

All ages | No registration required
Spend your Saturday morning listening to some fun stories, singing songs, and more!

Saturday 2/16: Kids in the Kitchen *at 2:00 p.m.*

Ages 6 - 12 | Registration required
Prepare a recipe in advance from our featured cookbook, Chock Full of Chocolate by Elizabeth Macleod, and bring it with you to share with other participants! Copies of this cookbook will be available to borrow at the Children's Room circulation desk. Miss Emily will also lead a cooking demo during this program. Please inform staff of food allergies when registering, if necessary.

Tuesday 2/19: The W.H.O. (We Help Others) Club: **Kids Edition** *at 4:30 p.m.*

Ages 5 - 12 | Registration required
Interested in making our community a better place and earning community service hours? Join us each month for a new service project. This month, we'll be designing bookmarks for Library Lovers' Month!

ADULT PROGRAMS AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

The Unfortunate History of Slavery in NJ *Saturday, February 2 from 2-4 p.m.*

New Jersey, sadly, was the last northern state to outlaw slavery. An overview of the history and legacy of New Jersey's 200-year embrace of human bondage. Rick Geffken has presented historical research topics at the New Jersey History and Historic Preservation Conference. Lecture is sponsored by the Union Township Historical Society.

Please call (908) 851-5450 x2 to register.

Meditation

Thursdays in February 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Relax and unwind in our ever popular meditation class.

Friends of the Union Public Library Meeting *Thursday, February 7 from 7 - 8:30 p.m.*

Monthly meeting of the Friends of the Library. New members always welcome.

The Golden Age of Musicals, Pt. 1 (Movie Musicals History Lecture #2)

Saturday, February 9 from 2-4 p.m.
In this second installment of a series of lectures about the History of Movie Musicals sponsored by the Friends of the Union Public Library and BCB Bank, Sam and Candy Caponegro, scholars in this subject, will speak about movie musicals created during the 1950's such as Singin' in the Rain, Funny Face, and Gigi.

Chair Exercise

Wednesday, February 13 from 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Wednesday, February 27 from 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Gentle and relaxing. No experience necessary.

Romantic Envelope Craft for Adults

Wednesday, February 13 from 11:30-12:30
Learn to make decorative envelopes out of doilies and wrapping paper for Valentine's Day! These envelopes are a great way to hold a gift certificate, a cookie, or a letter for your loved one. Supplies are limited, please call (908) 851-5450 x2 to register.

Writer's Support Group

Thursday, February 14 from 7-8 p.m.
Are you looking for feedback on the book you're working on, trying to overcome writer's block, or trying to figure out your personal writing style? Come join this group of authors and writers whose mission is to encourage, support and promote authorship.

Leave 'Em in Stitches!

Tuesday, February 19 from 7-8 p.m.
Bring your own project(s) and get ready to knit/crochet!

Wednesday 2/20: Tween Tabletoppers *at 3:30 p.m.*

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required
Join us for a rousing game of Munchkin in our first-ever meeting of Tween Tabletoppers. Beginner and veteran tabletop gamers all welcome!

Friday 2/22: Teen Wii U & Board Games *at 3:30 p.m.*

Ages 13 and up | Registration required
Join us for an afternoon of friendly competition. We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of boardgames. Feel free to bring your own games too!

Saturday 2/23: Black History Month Family Craft *at 11:00 a.m.*

Ages 3 and up | Registration required
Create a masterpiece using chalk in the style of celebrated artist Jean-Michel Basquiat!

Please note that you can sign up for programs up to two weeks in advance. We recommend signing up as early as possible to avoid disappointment!

Program details subject to change. Please contact the library to confirm.

Off the Shelf Book Discussion Group

Thursday, February 21 from 7 - 8:30 p.m.

This month members will discuss "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. New members always welcome. Please contact the library to receive a copy of the book.

Black Comedy: No Tears, Just Politics *Saturday, February 23 from 2-3 p.m.*

Black Comedy brings unique insight about politics and the arts to audiences, including an examination of the historical AND contemporary significance of the intersection between civil rights activism and comedy. Participants will explore how comedy can be effective in breaking down barriers and sparking fruitful discussion. Please call (908) 851-5450 x2 to register.

Mobile Aging Kiosk

Tuesday, February 26 from 11:30-1:30 p.m.

Union County's mobile Aging Service Kiosk (ASK) is designed to provide residents with a convenient, friendly way to find out about services for the aging, and for their families and caregivers. ASK is staffed by professionals with the Division on Aging and Disability Resource Connection of the UC Department of Human Services.

Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 26 from 6:30 - 8 p.m.

International Film

Thursday, February 28 from 2 - 4 p.m.

Join us at the library for a free international movie. Doors open at 1:50 p.m. and elevator access is available. Please call the Library for the specific title and more information at (908) 851-5450.

Tuesdays @ 2 Movies

February 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 2- 4 p.m.

Join us at the library for free movies. Doors open at 1:50 p.m. and elevator access is available.

Please call the Library for specific titles and more information at (908) 851-5450.

Connect Explore & Discover Digital Resources *Friday, February 15 from 2-3 p.m.*

Monday, February 25 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Learn how to download e-books, e-audiobooks, digital magazines, language learning programs, and more using just your Union Public Library card. Please bring your library card and mobile device.

Les Malamut Art Gallery

Join us for an exhibition of photography by local resident Adrienne Bednarz.

The exhibit will run until the end of February.

UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY FEBRUARY EVENTS

VAUXHALL LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAMS

*The Vauxhall Branch Library is located at 123 Hilton Avenue, Vauxhall, NJ 07088.
For information please call the library at 908-851-5451, or find us on the web at uplnj.org.*

All programs are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, advance registration required, please call 908-851-5451 to sign up.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Tuesdays: Toddler & Pre-K Time
at 11:00 a.m.

Ages 3 - 6 | Registration required

Interactive storytimes, crafts, and more for young children and their parents/guardians.

2/5: Music & Movement / Black History Film Festival (Garrett's Gift)

2/12: Story & Craft: Mail

2/19: STEM Story & Activity: Hearts

2/26: Interactive Learning Time

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Wednesday 2/6: Club Teen Game Night at 6:00 p.m. | Ages 14 and up | Registration required

Join us for an evening of friendly competition. We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of board games. Feel free to bring your own games too!

Tween Black History Film Festival: Akeelah and the Bee
Thursday 2/7 at 2:45 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

An uplifting tale of an inner-city girl striving to become a spelling champ. Rated PG, 112 minutes.

Family-Friendly Black History Film Festival
Saturday 2/9 at 10:30 a.m.

All ages | Registration required

The whole family is invited to watch the inspirational true stories of Janet Collins (17 minutes), Garrett Morgan (20 minutes), and Henry Box Brown (28 minutes)! Not rated.

Tween Drama Workshop:

Discovering Black History Through Theatre

Wednesday 2/13 at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

In this interactive performance workshop, participants will learn about black history and important historical figures through theatre games, improvisation, and readers' theater.

Homeschool Hangout

Thursday 2/14 at 11:00 a.m.

Ages 10 and up | Registration required

Meet, learn, and engage with other local homeschooling families through a variety of fun and interactive activities!

Family Game Time

Saturday 2/16: at 3:00 p.m.

All ages | Registration required

Come play board & card games in the library. We have classic games as well as new games for children of all ages. Bring your friends and family!

Club Teen ShopRite Workshop

Wednesday 2/20: at 6:00 p.m.

Ages 14 and up | Registration required

Join Megan Hewitt, RD from ShopRite of Union to learn about healthy eating and try some yummy new foods!

Tween STEM Builders Club

Thursday 2/21 at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

Play around with Legos and 3-D magnetic tiles to create amazing shapes and structures!

Tween 'Make it @ Your Library'

Thursday 2/28 at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

Weave and decorate your own dream catcher out of a paper plate!

ADULT PROGRAMS AT VAUXHALL BRANCH (VH)

February is Black History Month!

Be sure to check out all of our programs that celebrate African American heritage!

Connect, Explore and Discover

Saturday, February 2 from 10-11 a.m.

Monday, February 11 from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Join us for Tech Instruction and learn how to download e-books and e-audiobooks from our digital resources using your Union Public Library card.

No registration required.

WCEC Presents:

Women Entrepreneur Information Session

Monday, February 4 from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Always thought about owning your own business but need help knowing where to start, or need support while growing a business? Come learn about resources available to women entrepreneurs and get support for challenges you are facing in your own business.

Black History Film Festival Session 1 (Adults)

Monday, February 4 from 6:30-8 p.m.

Join us for this documentary about how the backgrounds of champion boxers are similar to millions of neglected Americans.

Black History Film Festival Session 2 (Children)

Tuesday, February 5 from 11-11:30 a.m.

Join us for this family film about a young boy whose creative mind gets him into trouble until he begins to apply his talents to life-changing inventions, including the traffic signal.

Black History Film Festival Session 3 (Adults)

Wednesday, February 6 from 1:30-3:05 p.m.

Join us for this documentary about the talented and gregarious lead singer of the Grammy nominated R&B band "Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings."

Black History Film Festival Session 4 (Tween/Teen)

Thursday, February 7 from 2:45-4:40 p.m.

Join us for this uplifting tale of an inner-city girl who strives to become a spelling champ.

Black History Film Festival Session 5 (Family)

Saturday, February 9 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us for 3 short movies celebrating Black History. Please call the library for the exact titles.

Hilton Readers Book Club

Monday, February 25 at 6 p.m.

This month members will be discussing "Truly Madly Guilty" by Liane Moriarty. New members always welcome. Please contact the library to receive a copy of the book.

Jersey Job Club: Acing the Job Interview Pt. 1

Wednesday, February 27 from 3-4:30 p.m.

Join our Career Coach, Deb Warner, to learn tips that will enable you to achieve success with your job search. No registration required.

Tai Chi Free Exercise Program

Tuesdays in February

First session: 12:30-1:15 p.m. -- Advanced

Second session: 1:30-2:15 p.m. -- Beginners

For mature adults.

Wear sneakers and comfortable clothing.

UNION'S TREX PLASTIC BAG CHALLENGE UNDERWAY

The Township of Union is proud to be participating in the TREX Plastic Bag Challenge. The challenge is currently underway and will last for six months.

"We are thrilled to be a part of the TREX challenge," said Suzette Cavadas, Mayor. "This is an exciting program that gets people excited about recycling plastics by providing a tangible and useful reward."

The Trex Plastic Bag Challenge encourages Union residents to collect and turn in a minimum of 500 pounds or 37,500 plastic bags. If the goal is met, TREX Outdoor Furniture will turn them into a bench to be placed in one of Union's parks.

There will be three drop off locations where residents can bring their plastic bags to be collected for the Challenge in Union: Union Town Hall, 1976 Morris Ave.; Union Senior Center, 968 Bonnel Court; and Union Department of Public Works, 1 Swanstorm Place.

Items that can be turned in for the Challenge include the following: LDPE/HDPE films, newspaper sleeves, bread bags, product wrap, cereal liners, food storage bags, ice bags, pellet bags, produce bags, dry cleaning bags, grocery bags, case overwrap, packaging air pillows, and salt bags.

PROJECT READY JOB TRAINING PROGRAM **EMPOWER YOURSELF!!**



MUST BE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR WORK! **How to Find, Get, and Keep a Job!**

Free 5 week job readiness & computer skills training program.

Tues.-Fri., 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

(Participants must be able to communicate in English)

Sign up and information session:

Wednesday, 02/13/2019 - 10:00 am

Class begins: 02/19/2019 and ends 03/21/2019

Quick Start Program:

06/19/2018-06/22/2018

LOCATION:

St. Joseph Social Service Center

church building,

118 Division St. Elizabeth, NJ 07201.

CONTACT:

Colletta Luccardi or Iris Rodriguez

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projectready@sjeliz.org

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LATIN FRATERNITY AND SORORITY RECOGNIZED FOR 43RD ANNIVERSARY



(above) *Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.*



(above) *Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.*

On Tuesday, December 4, 2018 during a Township Committee Meeting, the Mayor and Committee were proud to recognize Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. and Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc. on the celebration of their 43rd anniversary.

"It gives us a great sense of pride to know that the first and largest Latin fraternal organizations were founded right here in Union, New Jersey. Both organizations make a real impact on the community where it pertains to the empowerment of the Latino community, and we are glad that they call Union their home," said Suzette Cavadas, Mayor.

Lambda Theta Alpha and Lambda Theta Phi are the first and largest Latin sorority and fraternity in the nation. They were both founded at Kean University, in December of 1975 and have grown over the past 43 years to include more than 150 chapters across the nation. The organizations advocate for the empowerment of both men and women who seek academic

excellence, political awareness and community activism.

Current and Alumni members of both organizations were present to accept a testimonial resolution from the Mayor and Committee of the Township.

"This is a great honor," said Luis Miranda, who pledged Lambda Theta Phi in 1979. "We are proud to have seen the vision of our founding

members come to reality."

Also present were sisters from Lambda Theta Alpha's inaugural line of 1979 and the 5th line of 1984 among others.

"We are still very involved with the girls," said Yanet Rodriguez, of Lambda Theta Alpha's 1984 line. "We believe in helping your fellow mates accomplish everything they can accomplish in today's society."

NEWARK BAIT AND FLYCASTING CLUB

The Newark bait and Flycasting Club was founded in 1907 and remains the oldest fishing clubs in the nation. We are listed on Amazon Smile and are a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit. We provide outings to support veterans, adults and children as well as people with disabilities which focus on environmental education, fishing knowledge and practice.

We are always looking for new members, donations, and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth, NJ, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except July and August). There is no fee to attend a meeting.

Our Annual Kids Seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, V.F.W. 33 South 21st street Kenilworth, NJ. A Guest speaker to be announced and topics of discussion will be safety while fishing, fish identification, and practice casting. Prizes will be awarded and snacks will be served. There is no fee to attend.

For more information visit nbfcc.org or contact Bob Jones BJonesJRNJ@hotmail.com or 908-272-3545.

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®**
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL

6th Annual

Munsee



District

Boy Scout Chess Tournament

Open to all registered Boy Scouts/Venturers/Explorers
Non-scouts welcomed!

Saturday, February 23, 2019
10:30 am to 3:00 pm
Sign-in/setup starts at 10:00 am
Registration Closes 2-22-19

Cranford Community Center
220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ • 908.709.7283

Registration is \$15 • Note: this is a non-rated tournament.
Limited to 40 players who must know how to play chess, age 11 and older.
For More Information: Email Jim Parlapiano at jim.parlapiano@hotmail.com
Or Will Adams at will.adams@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 x234
Scouts can use Patriots' Path Council Munsee District Double Knot link
to register on-line at ppbsa.doubleknot.com/event/2459042
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.
This tournament meets the 6a requirement for earning a Chess merit badge.

UNION SWEARS IN FOUR NEW POLICE OFFICERS



Photo by The Township of Union.

In January at Town hall, the Township of Union Police Department swore in four new police officers.

“Having these new additions to our Union family is amazing. We cannot wait to see all the great things these four new officers will do for the community,” said Michele Delisfort, Mayor.

The officers that were sworn in were: Jessica Da-Silva Rocha, Thyago O. Morais, Edherson Thalout, and Jennifer Long.

The new officers will be entering the John H. Police Academy, where they will begin their training. There the officers will be receiving the finest training with state of the art equipment. Upon completion of the Academy, the new officers will be working with the Union Police Department to continue to keep the streets of Union safe.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS – JOIN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS

On Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, NAMI is hosting a unique program offering discussion / sharing / learning groups for both those who care for someone with a mental illness and a separate group for anyone who lives with a mental health diagnosis. Each group is led by an experienced facilitator and offers a comfortable environment to share concerns, ask questions, and get support from others. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at RWJ Rahway Fitness & Wellness Center, 2120 Lamberts Mill Rd., Scotch Plains.

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. For more information, please visit the NAMI website at nami.org.

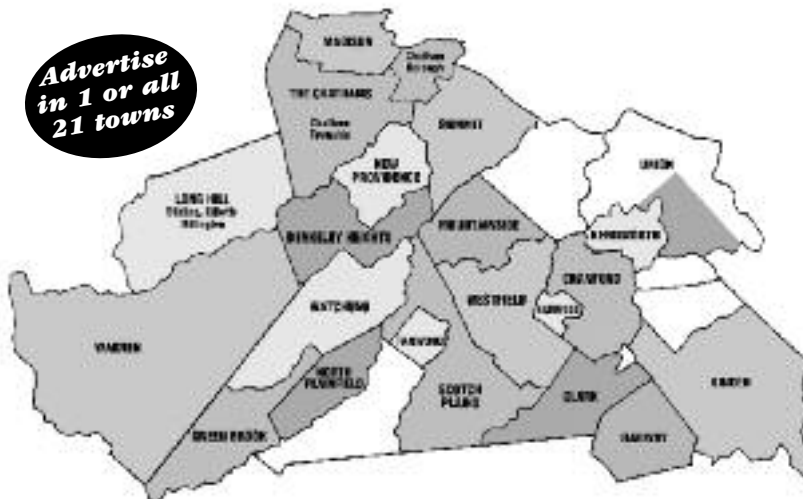
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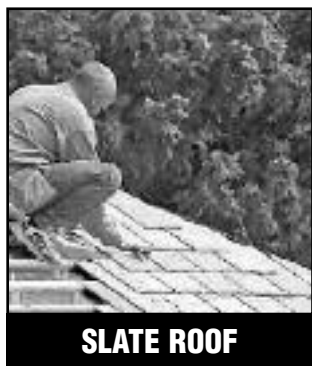
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