Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 102 • June 2019

The greatest

gift you can leave your loved ones isn't what you think.

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BRADLEY Bradley, Hadborle S. Barth Fundral Homo

Lauren Hayes, Manager N.J. Lic. No. 4609 1100 Prin Avenue Union, NI 07065

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OPERATION REBOUND HONORS ANTHONY STIETZ

Submitted by Michael D. Boll

Recently, the Township of Union lost a beloved high school JROTC Cadet, Anthony Stietz. Anthony was an inspiration to so many. He volunteered countless hours helping our veterans and their families live a better way of life.

This young man was a role model to the entire school and community. Because of this I felt obligated to share his story with as many people as possible. Following is a message from Andy Imbimbo, Anthony's mentor and pastor of the Crossroads Christian Fellowship.

Anthony Steitz was far from your average teenager. I had the honor and pleasure of being Anthony's youth pastor for 5 years, and I can confidently say that there was no other teen like him. Anthony was at the church with me about 4-5 days a week. He would be the first one there to help me set up and the last one to leave after cleanup. Anthony wasn't just involved in our youth ministry because he was a leader in training with the goal of one day stepping into full-time ministry as a youth pastor.

Anthony had a drive to be the best at whatever he pursued. He actually kept a notebook filled with ideas on how to improve the JROTC program with the goal of becoming the battalion commander next year. Anthony would do the same with youth group by helping me to come up with ideas, prepare lessons, invite his friends, and improve our weekly meetings. I would frequently get texts or calls from Anthony asking me how to help a friend who was going through a rough time. Anthony would always make himself available to people in need because that's how he lived his life.

When Anthony passed away I had the pleasure of meeting his mentors from JROTC (Colonel Walter Alvarado & 1st Sergeant Gerald Schemal). We talked about how Anthony's passion and drive actually motivated us to become more dedicated, more committed, and never settle for average. For example, about a month ago my alarm went off at 7 a.m. for me to get up and go to the gym. I hit the snooze button and rolled over, until I thought, "Anthony has been awake and training for the past three hours before he has to sit in school all day! I have no excuse! Time to get up!"

Anthony used to come to the church to play ping-pong against me after school. Not only would I beat him, but I would flaunt it in his face and gloat. This lasted for about two months. I hate to admit this, but two days before Anthony died, he beat me while playing left-handed. That's how Anthony lived his life. He never settled for average but he lived with purpose and with passion. He didn't just believe in Jesus, he lived his life for Jesus and made an impact on countless young people. He didn't just participate in JROTC, he helped transform that program and motivate others to pursue greatness and success. JROTC and youth group will never be the same without Anthony, but it will also never be the same becuse of Anthony. He taught us what it means to have a drive, commitment, and a passion. He taught us that no matter what obstacles come our way, you must find a way to overcome, and help people who are struggling. We are forever thankful for Anthony. His life was short, but his impact was insurmountable.



(above) JROTC Cadet, Anthony Stietz

Operation Rebound invites Veterans and First Responders to join their team. If you are interested please contact Michael D. Boll via email mdbollioOptonline.net, or call/text (973) 332-1556.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 1st - Union Relay for Life Union High at Union High School on the High School Track Team is Ruck Marching/Walking - from 3-10 p.m. June 7th - Mendham Relay for Life Team is Ruck Marching/Walking - from 5p.m. - 5a.m. June 19th - VFW POW/MIA 100-mile Bike Ride Wildwood Boardwalk Convention Center Team will be biking in Wildwood - from 7a.m. - 7p.m. There will be several distances available and multiple level courses set up. After the ride there will be a ceremony on the bordwalk for the POW/MIA. Volunteers are needed for the following charity events: July 16th - NJVN GOIf outing - Seabrook Tuckerton., NJ July 20th - Somerset Patriots Food Truck and beer Festival

July 29th - Golf outing Somerset NJ



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Spirit of UNION • Page 2 • June 2019



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SEND US YOUR NEWS

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!

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ANNUAL MOVIES UNDER THE STARS FEATURING SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE

The Township of Union Recreation Department is proud to bring back their "Movies Under the Stars" for its fifth year. Held at Rabkin Park, 1 Swanstrom Pl E, Union, NJ, the movies draw residents from the far reaches of town, and provide a one of a kind source of family entertainment.

"With the weather warming up, we are looking forward to another great season of movies," said Mayor Michele Delisfort. "This is the perfect way for families to come out and enjoy a night filled with great entertainment and lots of fun for all ages."

The first movie, Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse, will be held on Friday, June 7, 2019 at 8:30 p.m. Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse is a PG movie about Miles Morales, a Brooklyn teen boy who becomes the Spider-Man of his reality, crossing his path with five counterparts from other dimensions to stop a threat for all realities.

Starting at 7:00 p.m., there will be preentertainment such as a photo booth, music, strolling Spider-Man and Spider Gwen characters, and a Rams obstacle course. Goodie bags will be provided for children on a first-come first-served basis.

Movie goers are encouraged to dress in costume for the most creative Spider-Man costume contest. Judging for the contest will take place from 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Winner will be announced at 8:30 p.m., followed by the movie.

Movies under the Stars are open to the public and are free of charge to attend. Blankets and chairs are welcomed. Food is available for purchase from the Rams concession stand.

The Union Recreation Department will host the 2nd segment of the Movies under the Stars on Friday, September 20, 2019. For movie and preentertainment details visit uniontownship.com.

For more information on "Movies Under the Stars" contact the Department of Recreation at 908-686-4200 or contact Natalie DaSilva, Public Information Officer at 908-851-5096 or via email at publicinfo@uniontownship.com



(above) Township of Union Recreation Department's "Movies Under the Stars" is back for its fifth year with Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse on Friday, June 7.



Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com

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JUNE 26: START OF A NEW SESSION OF PROJECT READY AT ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER, ELIZABETH NJ

Project Ready is a free 5-week job readiness and computer skills training class designed for adults who are actively looking for work. Volunteer tutors help students identify skills, write resumes, practice interviewing, and search for jobs. Basic computer skills, including Microsoft Word and Excel, are also taught. The program runs Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm. For more information, please call us at (908) 353-1045, Ext 8, or email Projectreadyprg@yahoo.com. If you are interested in participating in this class, join us for our information and sign up session which will be held on June 26, 2019 at 10 a.m. (118 Division St. Elizabeth, NJ).





TOWNSHIP OF UNION EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S EDUCATOR'S END-OF-YEAR TRIBUTE FUND

Submitted by Kathy Arminio

Looking for an end-of-the-school year gift to say "Thank you"?

The Educator's End-of-Year Tribute Fund has been established to offer a way to show appreciation to your child's teacher, principal, bus driver, nurse, guidance counselor or any staff member who had a positive impact on your child this past school year.

The person honored will receive a card of thanks, noting a donation was made in his or her honor. The amount of the donation is not disclosed and is tax deductible.

Donations to the fund will be used to award grants supporting creative and innovative educational programs throughout the district. In

order to have the tribute card sent out before the end of the school year, submit order by June 14, 2019.

If you would like to contribute to the Educator's End-of-Year Tribute Fund in honor of a staff member, make check payable to Township of Union Education Foundation and mail to: Kathy Arminio, 1032 Woodland Avenue, Union 07083. Minimum of \$5 per honoree is suggested. Send with the name and school of the staff honoree that you choose, and your name, or your child's name, as you wish it to appear on Tribute card.

Questions? Call Foundation President Susan Lipstein at 908-851-9869.

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BUBBLES 4 AUTISM AT BATTLE HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Submitted by Alison Brehm and Jessica Mongiovi

April is designated as National Autism Awareness Month. It is a time to not only educate the community about autism, but to promote inclusion and acceptance about the disorder in the classroom and beyond.

Battle Hill Elementary School, in Union Township, recognized the event on Monday, April 29, 2019. Known as Bubbles Day, all Battle Hill students and staff gathered in the playground and blew bubbles at 2:00 p.m. The purpose of Bubbles Day is to help children with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) burst out of their bubble of isolation and raise awareness and understanding of autism in the community. Details about the event are available on their website at: faces4autism.org.

In addition to school principal, Mark Hoyt, teachers and students, the event was attended by: Nancy Minneci, Board of Education President; Latesha Jenkins, Supervisor of Special Services; Akua Boakye, Personnel Manager and PR Coordinator; Theresa Matthews, Elementary Supervisor; Kara West, parent and SEPAG School Liaison; as well as Edwin Oyola, UHS

Career Education Teacher.

Prior to and during the event, staff and Student Council members assisted in collecting donations. The staff participated in a \$10 dress down week and a portion of the "Kindness" tshirt sales was added to the donation. This year the school came together inside of the giant

puzzle piece painted on the playground by Alison Brehm and Jessica Mongiovi, Student Council Advisors, and event coordinators: Sarah Norman, Art Teacher; Ingrid Soares, School Councelor; Laura Finnerty, School Secretary; and Anita Laverty, PTA Treasurer.

Donations to Faces 4 Autism totaled \$851.



(above) Battle Hill School inside of the giant puzzle piece on Bubbles Day.











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TOWNSHIP OF UNION TO BEGIN A NEW SIX-MONTH TREX RECYCLING CHALLENGE

The Mayor and Committee of the Township of Union are excited to announce that the Township of Union will begin a new six month round for the Trex Plastic Bag Challenge after surpassing 1,037lbs in the initial challenge.

"I'm beyond ecstatic knowing that our residents were devotedly pitching in to recycle their share," stated Mayor Michele Delisfort. "I encourage our youth and local organizations to join us as we embark on another six month challenge and help us reach our goal again."

The new six-month challenge will run until November 16, 2019.

Drop off locations are the following

- Union Town Hall 1976 Morris Ave. Union, NJ
- Union Senior Center
 968 Bonnel Court. Union, NJ
- Union Department of Public Works 1 Swanstorm Place. Union, NJ

The Challenge is part of the Trex Recycling Program, aimed at encouraging the general public to recycle their grocery bags, bread bags, produce bags, cereal bags, ice bags, case overwrap, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, Ziploc and other re-sealable bags, and similar bags and wrap for other objects. If the organization or school collects 500 or more pounds of thin film plastics within a six-month period, Trex will send the group a Trex Outdoor Furniture 48" Yacht Club Bench.

The Trex Company estimates that the weight of 75 thin film plastic bags equals approximately one pound. This means that for every 500 pounds collected, a total of approximately 37,500 thin film plastic bags were collected. For more information, visit uniontownship.com.



UNION CHAMBER'S JUNE NETWORKING EVENT: THE 23RD ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce invites the business community to its 23rd Annual Legislative Breakfast for an opportunity to meet and hear from various elected officials. Held in partnership with the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, the event will feature state, county, and local officials who will share issues and updates pertinent to business and industry.

The event will take place from 8-10 a.m. on Friday, June 28, 2019, at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Union County, 1050 Jeanette Avenue, Union. A light breakfast will also be served.

Admission is \$20 for Chamber members and \$30 for guests. Pre-registration is required by

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce contacting the Union Chamber of Commerce at vites the business community to its 23rd 908-688-2777 or by emailing executivedirector@unionchamber.com.

"This is our 23rd year of conducting this very popular and well-attended event," said Chamber Executive James Masterson. "This program provides our members with the opportunity to meet with their elected officials and discuss specific items of interest as they affect the business community."

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



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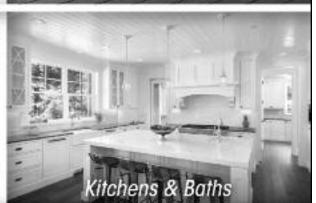












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SUMMER CONCERT SERIES RETURNS JULY 4

Submitted by Keily Padilla

The Mayor and Committee of the Township of Union have announced the 2019 Summer Concert Series lineup as it kicks off on July 4th with Smooth Band and Orchestra at Biertuempfel Park. The series continues every Thursday in July, featuring concerts at Rabkin Park beginning July 11, 2019.

"We are excited for the tremendous line up that we have this year," said Mayor Michele Delisfort, "Some of our crowd favorites will be returning and there are also a few new bands who will be making their first time appearance at our concert. This will be such a great way to bring the community together and enjoy some great music."

THE SERIES IS SET TO INCLUDE:

- "SMOOTH BAND AND ORCHESTRA"
- JULY 4, AT BIERTUEMPFEL PARK.

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"THE INFERNOS" - JULY 18, AT RABKIN PARK.

Four decades of musical magic - the crowd will be dancing to the tunes of this entertaining group. From "Barry White", "Earth Wind & Fire" and "Stylistics" to today's hot sounds of "Bruno Mars" and many more. They can do it all!

"NEW POWER SOUL" - JULY 25, AT RABKIN PARK.

This dynamic, high energy, 9 piece band will entertain the crowd with their music and showmanship. From R&B, Classic Rock, 80's to Top 40.

Concerts are open to the public and are free of charge to attend. They run from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., and blankets and chairs are welcome. Food and refreshments will be available for purchase. In case of inclement weather, concerts will be held at the Hannah Caldwell School, located at 1120 Commerce Ave, Union, NJ.

For more information, visit uniontownship.com or contact the Public Information Office, at 908-851-5096 or at publicinfo@uniontownship.com.

Concerts are sponsored by various community partners. For more information on sponsoring one of our concerts please contact Township of Union Administration at 908-851-8500.

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COMMEMORATION OF HANNAH CALDWELL DAY

Submitted by Barbara La Mort

Hannah Caldwell Day (June 7) will be commemorated at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union, on Sunday, June 9, 2019 from 2 - 5 p.m. Members of the Union High School History Club, along with Union Township Historical Society members in colonial costume, will host an open house at the Parsonage, as well as tours of the Union Tool Museum in the adjacent carriage house (barn).

There will be photo ops for children with prop tricorn hats and colonial-style bonnets; and kids can make "church" dolls and play colonial games.

"Rev. James Caldwell," portrayed by Doc Burkhardt, will greet visitors and recall the heroism of his wife during the American Revolution, specifically the Battle of Connecticut Farms on that fateful day in 1780.

Collect Union County's Hannah Caldwell, James Caldwell, and Battle of Connecticut Farms trading cards. Get National Park Service Passport and/or Union County Passport booklet and have it stamped - the Parsonage is part of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area and an official cancellation location.

Refreshments will be served. Admission is free. Souvenirs will be available for purchase.



(above) Hannah Caldwell will be commemorated on June 9, 2019 at the Caldwell Parsonage.



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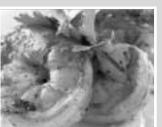
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MAGIC FOUNTAIN CELEBRATES 35TH YEAR

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Magic Fountain Union Creamery celebrated Union Center for years. In 2016, the Peraza their 35th Anniversary with an afternoon of fun family took over the ice cream parlor with a and ice cream on Saturday, May 11th, 2019. Built mission to continue making ice cream and Italian in 1983 by the Gabriele family, Magic Fountain ice with same old fashion technique but adding



(above) "We're excited to have the community and our patrons help us celebrate 35 years of great business here," said Ruben Peraza, Magic Fountain Owner. "This is also a great way to begin kicking off our season. Nothing says summer like ice cream."

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YWCA UNION COUNTY HONORS EIGHT ALLIES

Submitted by Shannon Myre

The YWCA Union County honored eight individuals and organizations for their committed effort on behalf of domestic violence survivors during their Annual Meeting held at the Clark Public Library on April 25, 2019.

Each honoree received a certificate and resolution in their name for their partnership in empowering survivors of domestic violence throughout the county. The honorees were Theresa Cosmas; Sgt. Mahasin El-Amin; Ryan & Dana Felmet; First Presbyterian Church of Cranford; Garden State Bank: A division of New York Community Bank; Annette Ferrigno, Kids For Kids: A Mindfulness Movement; Gail Veltre, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Rahway – Barnabas Health; and Lauren Thorne.

The YWCA's mission is eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Locally, the YWCA Union County is on a mission to empower survivors of domestic violence to become safe and free from abuse through

comprehensive, client-centered services, and through education, collaboration and advocacy that builds safe, informed and supportive communities.

Domestic violence crosses all barriers of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender and socioeconomic status and it is a crime that impacts our entire community. It is estimated that 1 in every 4 women will be affected by domestic violence in her life- more than breast cancer, lung cancer, and ovarian cancer combined. The monetary cost of domestic violence in the United States in dollars has been estimated to exceed 9.3 billion a year in medical and mental health services, loss of productivity, and loss of paid earnings. An average of 3 women per day in the United States are killed as a result of domestic violence.

If you or anyone you know is experiencing domestic violence, call the 24-Hour Hotline at 908-355-HELP (4357).

For more information about YWCA Union County's services or how you can get involved, visit ywcaunioncounty.org.



(above, l-r) YWCA Board President, Delaine Bailey, Honorees Dana and Ryan Felmet, and YWCA CEO Janice C. Lilien.





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REGISTER FOR SUMMER YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

The Union County Baseball Association invites baseball players between the ages of 8 and 15 to register for its Summer Youth Baseball League.

All games are played in Warinanco Park, on the border of Elizabeth and Roselle, Monday through Thursday between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. The games are coached and supervised by Union County Baseball Association staff. The season will begin in late June and end the first week of August.

Players are divided into three age groups: Minor League 8-10 year olds, Major League 11-12 year olds, and Teen League 13-15 year olds.

The Union County Baseball Association has added indoor clinics to the Summer League program. UCBA staff will utilize the new stateof-the-art Warinanco Park Skating Center, which is equipped with artificial turf and indoor batting cages, to provide players weekly clinics focused on hitting, fielding, pitching, and catching. This added benefit is included with the player registration fee.

The registration fee for the Summer Baseball League is \$50 and players can register online at ucba-nj.org. In-person registration will also be held on June 15th and June 22nd from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Warinanco Park Boathouse.

ABOUT THE UNION COUNTY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION



SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFE This month: ROCK-BLUES-SLIDE GUITAR

ROBERT HILL BA

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 8:00 PM DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM ADMISSION: \$20.00 STUDENTS \$15.00

Admission includes snacks, beverages, tea, coffee & desserts



An outstanding slide guitar player, Robert's songs have been used extensively on television, including his song, "Long Rain", used for a Smirnoff Ice commercial which aired during the Super Bowl, and continued to run internationally for several years. His music has also been used on "Dexter", "All My Children", 'Queer Eye For The Straight Guy", Canadian TV series, "Hell On Hooves" and numerous PSAs and radio spots. He has done extensive studio work as well, lending his slide guitar and arranging expertise to many commercials.

He has played national festivals, including The Arkansas Blues & Heritage Festival, which attracts a weekend crowd of 60,000 people. He also has performed throughout Spain. He performs regularly around the NYC area, where he currently resides. This will be Robert's third performance at the Roadhouse, where he quickly endeared himself to the Roadhouse "Family" of great performers.

> Original art work by ROBERT HILL and Roadhouse Director BRUCE TANGOWSKI will be on display at the

> > ROADHOUSE GALLERY OF FINE ARTS

2019 Show proceeds will benefit FAMILY PROMISE UNION COUNTY



All shows are featured on UNION TV34's "UNION AFTER DARK" nightly music series Plenty of free parking in our two lots and on the street

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BATTLE HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REMEMBERS CAMPBELL HOYT WITH PINWHEEL PROJECT

The students of Battle Hill Elementary School in Union united to remember Campbell Hoyt, niece of the current principal, Mark Hoyt, who battled cancer for 5 years before succumbing to a rare cancer in 2014. Campbell fought Anaplastic Ependymoma for 1,827 days, and in honor of that a pinwheel was displayed commemorating each of those days. She died at the age of 8, the display remained for 8 days.

The Team Campbell Foundation was formed in late 2014 in memory of Campbell Hoyt, who courageously battled this rare cancer for 5 years. The mission of the foundation is to improve the lives of families facing a childhood cancer diagnosis through raising awareness, funding research, and providing psycho-social enrichment opportunities. Donations were submitted by students, parents and staff. \$753 was donated to the Pinwheel Project in honor of Campbell.

Student Council Advisor and teacher at Battle Hill Alison Brehm said "that's our mission at Battle Hill, we want to teach our students the importance of helping others, in any way they can. Our hope is that their participation in these events will set them on the path to doing good for others throughout their lives."

The Pinwheel Project advocates that during a pediatric hospital stay, children and their family members deserve and need an extra layer of comfort and support. They achieve this goal by working to keep spirits higher and stress levels lower. All of their programming is provided at no cost to the kids, families, or hospitals regardless of diagnosis, length of stay or ability to pay.

When all available medical treatment fails, the Pinwheel Project attempts to ensure that each child enjoys the best quality of life possible for whatever time they may have.

SEA SCOUT OPEN HOUSE - JUNE 8

Submitted by James Zatwarnicki

Are you interested in boating, sailing, or mechanics? Come check out Sea Scouting and let the adventure at sea begin! Sea Scout Ships 228 and 243 of Patriot's Path Council will be holding an open house from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, June 8, 2019 at their sea base located at 4400 Tremley Point Rd, Linden, NJ. The open house will include demonstrations and tours at 10 a.m., a free BBQ at 11:30 a.m., and boat rides from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Sea Scouting is open to both male and female youth member' ages 14-21 who have graduated the 8th grade; we also have a new Maritime Explorer Club for younger youth in 6th to 8th grade. Adult volunteers with maritime experience or captain's licenses are needed too. Join us for a day on the water and bring a friend! Visit our website for more information visit ship228.com.





(above) Students and teachers gathered at Battle Hill School to display the 1,827 pinwheels.







(above) Sea Scouts from Ship 228 operate the 65' vessel Sea Dart II, one of the largest Sea Scout vessels on the east coast, along with a fleet of smaller vessels (including sailboats) from their base located in Linden, NJ. Sea Scouting (Part of the Venturing Program of the BSA) offers young adults the opportunity to travel and learn skills that could be useful in future careers. Whether you're steering the vessel from the wheelhouse, learning engine room repair or visiting a new port on one of the many trips, there's something you'll enjoy in Sea Scouting. So, try something different, check us out, and prepare yourself to set sail for a real adventure.

JUNE PROGRAMS AT UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Main Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. Tel: 908-851-5450 • Visit us at www.uniontownship.com/379/Union-Public-Library Library hours are Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday & Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (Saturdays Closed in the Summer), Sunday, Closed

The Vauxhall Branch Library is located at 123 Hilton Avenue, Vauxhall, NJ 07088. Tel: 908-851-5451 • Visit us at www.uniontownship.com/379/Union-Public-Library Library hours are Monday, & Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday, Closed, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (Saturdays Closed in the Summer), Sunday, Closed

Union Public Library (UPL) has many exciting events planned for adults this June at both the Main Library (MN) and Vauxhall Branch (VH). All programs are free and open to the public.

Protecting Your Privacy Online

Saturday, June 1, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., MN Concerned about the digital footprint you leave behind when online? Learn to protect your privacy!

Connect, Explore, Discover

Monday, June 3, 1:15-2:15 p.m., VH Discover our free digital resources for downloading e-books, audiobooks, music, and more. Please bring your mobile device and Union Library card. Presented by Erica Bell.

How to Break Up with Your Clutter

Monday, June 3, 7-8 p.m., MN If stuff topples out of closets and paperwork covers your tabletops, then run don't walk to this decluttering comedy show! Come hear a humorous take on how to get organized by parting with things you no longer use.

Tuesdays@2 Movies

Call 908-851-5450 for movie title. June 4, 2-4:00 p.m., MN Gentle Chair Exercise for Adults All levels welcome. Instructor Natalia Belyakova is a former professional dancer and has performed all over the world. Wednesday, June 5, 10:15-11:15 a.m., MN

Keyboard & Mouse Basics

Wednesday, June 5, 1:15-2:15 p.m., VH This hands-on class will cover tips and tricks for beginners learning the basics of the keyboard and mouse. Note: Sign up early -this class is restricted to six people. Computer workstations provided. Presented by John Daquino, Head of Adult Services.

Friends of Union Public Library Meeting Thursday, June 6, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., MN

Connect, Explore, Discover

Friday, June 7, 2-3:00 p.m. MN Discover our free digital resources for downloading e-books, audiobooks, music, and more. Please bring your mobile device.

Social Media Marketing for Real Estate Agents

Saturday, June 8, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., VH Presented by Michael Santos, Branch Manager Executive / Mortgage Loan Originator for MLB Residential Lending, LLC During this workshop, participants will create a social media plan to help them to market and grow their business. There will also be a discussion about the different social media

platforms and how to use them.

"Dinner and a Movie"

Monday, June 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m., VH Bring your dinner and we'll supply the popcorn. Call 908-851-5451 for movie title.

Tuesdays@2 Movies

June 11, 2-4:00 p.m., MN

MS Windows Basics

Wednesday, June 12, 1:15-2:15 p.m., VH Participants will learn basic computer terminology and given a general introduction on the basics of Windows operating system. Note: Sign up early -- this class is restricted to six people. Presented by John Daquino, Head of Adult Services.

Meditation

Thursday, June 13, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., MN No experience necessary, no reservations needed.

Writer's Support Group

Thursday, June 13, 7-8:00 p.m., MN Join our group of writers whose mission is to encourage, support and promote authorship.

Bullet Journaling

Monday, June 17, 7-8 p.m., MN Bullet Journaling allows you to plan for the future, learn from the past, and stay in the present in a way designed to serve you. Presented by Hector Ibarraran,

Tuesdays@2 Movies

June 18, 2-4:00 p.m., MN Call 908-851-5450 for movie title.

Leave 'em in Stitches

Tuesday, June 18, 7-8:00 p.m., MN Calling all beginning, intermediate, and advanced stitchers! Bring your project(s) and get ready to knit and/or crochet!

Gentle Chair Exercise for Adults

Wednesday, June 19, 10:15-11:15 a.m., MN All levels welcome. Instructor Natalia Belyakova is a former professional dancer and has performed all over the world.

Internet Basics

Wednesday, June 19, 1:15-2:15 p.m., VH Whether you are new to the web or are looking to improve your Internet skills, this Internet Basics class has you covered! Note: Sign up early -- this class is restricted to six people. Computer workstations provided. Presented by John Daquino, Head of Adult Services.

Connect. Explore. Discover

Wednesday, June 19, 3-4:00 p.m. MN Discover our free digital resources for downloading e-books, audiobooks, music, and more. Please bring your mobile device.

Meditation

Thursday, June 20,11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., MN No experience necessary, no reservations needed.

Off the Shelf Book Discussion Group

Thursday, June 20, 7:00-8:30 p.m., MN New members are always welcome to this monthly book group. This month we discuss "The Woman in the Window" by A.J. Finn. Books are available at the Reference Desk.

Adult Summer Reading Program Kickoff

Monday, June 24, 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. MN Monday, June 24, 2:00-8:00 p.m., VH Enjoy snacks and giveaways and find out about this year's summer reading program.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group

Monday, June 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m., VH Closing Ceremony (for summer) for the Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group. New members always welcome. Bring a dish, dessert will be provided.

Mobile Aging Kiosk

Tuesday, June 25, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., MN 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.

Tuesdays@2 Movies

June 25, 2-4:00 p.m., MN Call 908-851-5450 for movie title.

Email Basics

Wednesday, June 26, 1:15 p.m.-2:15 p.m., VH The topics in Email Basics will teach you the essentials of email, including proper email etiquette. Note: Sign up early -- this class is restricted to six people. Call 908-851-5450 to register. Computer workstations provided.

Presented by John Daquino, Head of Adult Services.

Meditation

Thursday, June 27, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., MN No experience necessary, no reservations needed.

International Film

Thursday, June 27, 2-4:00 p.m., MN Call 908-851-5450 for movie title.

African-American Genealogy Research

Thursday, June 27, 7:00-8:30 p.m., MN Come learn African-American family history research tips from an expert. Registration required; please call 908-851-5450 to sign up. Presented by Gene Armstead, African American History and Genealogical Society of New Jersey.

Family Prize Bingo

Play BINGO with your family and win prizes! Friday, June 28, 1:00-2:00 p.m., VH

Connect, Explore, Discover

Friday, June 28, 2-3:00 p.m., MN Discover our free digital resources for downloading e-books, audiobooks, music, and more. Please bring your mobile device and Union Library card.

Jersey Job Club Workshop -- The Right Career for You Friday, June 28, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. VH Assess your personality type to find the right

career path for YOU!

UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY JUNE YOUTH PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Mondays: Construction Zone

at 3:30 p.m.

All ages | No registration necessary Learn, play, and build every Monday using Legos, K'Nex, and more.

Wednesdays: Tiny Tots

(Storytime)

at 10:30 a.m.

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

Fridays: Toddler Tales

(Storytime)

at 10:30 a.m.

18 months - 3 years. No registration necessary Enjoy stories, singing, and movement, following a different theme each week! The 5/24 session will focus on music & movement.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Saturday Stories

Saturday, June 1 at 11:00 a.m.
All ages | No registration necessary
Spend your Saturday morning listening to some
fun stories, singing songs, and more!

Family Craft

Saturday, June 1 at 12:30 p.m. Ages 3 - 12 | Registration required Join us for a fun summer-themed art activity!

Homeschool Hangout

Wednesday, June 5 at 1:00 p.m.

Ages 5 and up | Registration required

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

Bedtime Storytime

Thursday, June 6 at 7:00 p.m.
All ages | Registration required
Join us for a special evening storytime! Don't
forget to wear your coziest PJs!

Masterpiece Studio

Saturday, June 8 at 12:00 p.m.

Ages 5 - 12 | Registration required This month, we'll be imitating the abstract shapes and optical illusions of Hungarian painter Victor Vasarely!

UPL VolunTeens

Saturday, June 8 at 12:00 p.m.
Ages 13 and up | Registration required
Earn community service hours and help us
make the library a better place!

ShopRite Kids Cuisine

Wednesday, June 12 at 3:30 p.m.
Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required
Learn about healthy eating and try some
yummy new foods!

Kidoodlers

Thursday, June 13 at 3:30 p.m.

Ages 5 - 12 | Registration required

Stop by after school and join us for
a fun art activity!

Alphabet Soup (Storytime & Craft)

Thursday, June 13 at 4:30 p.m.

4 - 6 years | Registration required We explore phonics, letter recognition, and numbers all while reading fun stories, singing songs, and making new friends! It will run on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. starting July 1.

Children's Summer Reading Program Begins!

Monday, June 17

Entering Kindergarten - 6th Grade Earn chances to win weekly raffle prizes, as well as the grand prize at the end of the summer, by reading and participating!

Teen Summer Reading Program Begins!

Monday, June 17

Entering 7th - 12th Grade

Sign up for our Teen Summer Reading Program starting today! Earn chances to win weekly raffle prizes, as well as the grand prize at the end of the summer.

Farmers' Market Storytime

Thursday, June 20 at 3:00 p.m.
All ages | No registration required
Hungry for books? Meet us at the first Union
Farmers' Market of 2019.

Tween Wii U & Board Games

Friday, June 21 at 1:30 p.m.

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of board games. Feel free to bring your own games too!

Teen Wii U & Board Games

Friday, June 21 at 2:30 p.m.

Ages 13 and up | Registration required We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of board games. Feel free to bring your own games too!

Summer Reading Program Kick-Off with ScienceTellers

Monday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Ages 5 - 12 | Registration required Don't miss this action-packed and educational alien adventure using science experiments for special effects,

Eyes of the Wild

Friday, June 28 at 2:00 p.m.

Ages 3 and up | Registration required Join us for some furry, scaly & feathery fun when Eyes of the Wild visits UPL with some animal friends!

Union Public Library - Vauxhall Branch

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Tuesdays: Toddler & Pre-K Time

at 11:00 a.m.

Ages 2 - 6 | Registration required Interactive storytimes, crafts, and more for young children and their parents/guardians.

Story & Craft: Balloons

June 4

Music & Movement

June 11

STEM Story & Activity: Summer

June 18

Interactive Learning Time

June 25

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Tween Game Time

Thursday, June 6 at 2:30 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

We're breaking out the Wii U and our
collection of boardgames. Feel free to bring

your own games too!

Homeschool Hangout

Thursday, June 13 at 11:00 a.m.
Ages 10 and up | Registration required
Meet, learn, and engage with other local
homeschooling families.

Tween 'Make it at Your Library'

Thursday, June 13 at 3:00 p.m.
Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required
Create a cool 'You're My Hero' card, which
makes a great present for
a special man in your life!

Tween Wii U Friday

Friday, June 14 at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required Join us for an afternoon of Wii U gaming. Bring friends or make new ones as we use our Wii U game console!

Children's Summer Reading Program Begins!

Monday, June 17

Entering Kindergarten - 6th Grade Sign up for our Children's Summer Reading Program starting today! Earn chances to win weekly raffle prizes, as well as the grand prize at the end of the summer, by reading and participating in library programs!

Teen Summer Reading Program Begins!

Monday, June 17

Entering 7th - 12th Grade

Sign up for our Teen Summer Reading Program starting today! Earn chances to win weekly raffle prizes, as well as the grand prize at the end of the summer, by reading and participating in library programs!

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 19 at 5:00 p.m.

Ages 14 and up | 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!

Club Teen: 'Reflections on the School Year'

Wednesday, June 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Ages 14 and up | Registration required Members of Club Teen are invited to reflect on memories of this past school year and celebrate with students who will be graduating!

Tween STEM Builders Club

Thursday, June 20 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 Game Time

Friday, June 21 at 1:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | 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!

Tween BYO Lunch and a Movie

Thursday, June 27 at 1:00 p.m.
Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required
Enjoy the first day of summer vacation by
watching a movie at the library! Bring your
lunch -- we'll supply the popcorn and a
beverage. Please call library for movie title.

Family Prize Bingo

Friday, June 28 at 1:00 p.m.

All ages | Registration required
Bring your family along for an afternoon of fun
-- win prizes while playing Bingo!

GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA HONORED FOR SUPPORTING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PRACTICES

The Gateway Family YMCA has been recognized for their commitment to diversity, inclusion and global initiatives by the YMCA of the USA and has been awarded the title of the 82nd Diversity, Inclusion and Global (DIG) Innovation Network YMCA for their dedication and commitment to supporting diversity and inclusion practices. The Gateway Family YMCA is the third YMCA in the state of New Jersey to achieve this honor.

"The Y is a positive force in this community. We are honored to be recognized for our commitment to diversity and this very important work," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO. "We understand and celebrate the fact that our local communities are richly diverse. It is our goal to build bridges between diverse communities, and work towards creating greater equity for all."

A DIG Innovation YMCA is a pioneer Y dedicated to creating, strengthening and replicating innovative diversity, inclusion and global services, partnerships and best practices at home and abroad that foster greater community cohesion and social equity for all. DIG Innovation Ys drive and showcase the U.S. YMCA movement's efforts to advance diversity and inclusion and build global community in partnership with YMCA of the USA and other local YMCAs.

"We are pleased that your YMCA will take active leadership in our shared work to ensure access, engagement and inclusion for all as articulated in our collective cause-driven organizational behaviors," stated Thomas Valentine, Vice President, International Group, YMCA of the USA. "The DIG network is a catalyst for innovation towards elevating social inclusion, cultural competence and global responsibility a business imperative."

The Diversity, Inclusion and Global (DIG) Innovation Network consists of YMCAs that have made an organizational commitment to integrate diversity, inclusion, and global strategies across key operational and programmatic areas to strengthen their capacity to serve diverse and underserved populations, foster community cohesion, and address social equity and inclusion issues.

"Our YMCA is committed to continue to implement innovative programs that advance anti-bias, global education and cross-cultural learning for youth and meet the needs of our diverse communities," stated Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO, The Gateway Family YMCA.

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. Since 1900, The Gateway Family YMCA has served the communities surrounding Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex

County in New Jersey.

To learn more about The Gateway Family YMCA visit tgfymca.org.



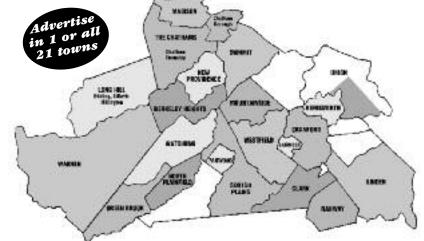
(above) The Gateway Family YMCA staff pose with "82" to celebrate earning the title of the 82nd Diversity, Inclusion and Global (DIG) Innovation Network YMCA.



Tina Renna 908-418-5586 tinarenna@rennamedia.com

Joe Renna 908-447-1295 joerenna@rennamedia.com

202 Walnut Avenue Cranford, NJ 07016 info@ rennamedia.com





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AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL COLORING CONTEST WINNERS



(above) Mr. Brian Toscano, Art Teacher and Mr. John Blank, Americanism Chairman Union County American Legion along with the student winners.

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Submitted by Akua Boakye

Once again the American Legion - Department of New Jersey sponsored their annual coloring contest for Jefferson School students. The theme for this year's contest was the "American Legion honoring 100 years of service."

Mr. John Blank, Americanism Chairman of the American Legion is proud to announce the Connecticut Farms American Legion Post 35 of Union, New Jersey winners: Taylor Demas, 1st Place; Alina Vannoni, 2nd Place; and Rebecca Gonzalez, 3rd Place Winner. Taylor's winning entry advanced to Union County American Legion contest where she was named the 1st Place winner.

Congratulations to all of our student winners.I







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