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## HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS WITH BACKPACKS FOR LIFE

*Submitted by Michael Boll, New Jersey Veterans Network*

For the last few years our charity racing team, Operation Rebound, has been sponsored by Backpacks for Life (BFL). This amazing charity is responsible for providing thousands of homeless veterans backpacks full of essential toiletries and personal items. Also, the BFL will seek out veterans in need and help them with housing, food, employment and any other service that will help them live a better life.

The founder of the BFL, Brett D'Alessandro, is a United States Marine Corps veteran and started this outstanding charity shortly after he returned home from his tour of duty in Afghanistan. Brett recalls living out of a backpack during the war and felt a backpack can be a life-saving tool. In just a few years, Brett and the BFL are responsible for making thousands of backpacks for our homeless veterans.

The BFL doesn't just do backpacks, they are committed with helping our disabled veterans with providing them with the necessary resources and life-saving services by participating in various health fairs and PTSD groups. The BFL estimates about 350 disabled veterans have benefited from their resources and outreach. The BFL feels it's easy for a veteran to feel lost in the system. There are amazing resources out there, but it can be overwhelming trying to navigate it alone, so the BFL is there to help and guide the veteran through this agonizing process. What makes the BFL special is they invite veterans into their home and help with filling out paperwork, draft resumes, apply for housing, or whatever else is needed to help the veteran.

The future looks bright for the BFL. They're excited to expand their backpacks distribution and reach even more homeless veterans. As they connect with more veterans' organizations across the country, they will equip even more communities with backpacks.

Their mentorship and coaching process will soon be accessible online. In this exciting development, veterans from across the country will be able to utilize the organization despite their location. Through this growth, the BFL focus remains on bringing hope back into the lives of veterans.

The BFL is out there every day making a difference and the Operation Rebound Racing Team is lucky to be a part of this incredible charity.

If you are interested with helping the Backpacks for Life please visit their website [backpacksforlife.org](http://backpacksforlife.org).

For more information about New Jersey Veterans Network visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).



*(above) Brett D'Alessandro, Founder of Backpacks for Life*

### ABOUT OPERATION REBOUND

Operation Rebound is a mobile outreach team of mentors who help at-risk veterans and first responders to live a better life. For the last two years, our team has made huge strides with suicide prevention simply by building trust and cementing friendships with people in need. It's most important to be honest with each person in crisis and follow up with ways to help them regain purpose in life. Setting goals motivates them to stay on a positive track. If you are interested with joining the Operation Rebound Racing Team please feel free to contact Michael Boll at [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net) or call 973-332-1556.



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# HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR - OCTOBER 26



Spirit of Union is published by Renna Media. 5,500 newspapers are printed monthly and 5,000 are mailed free to businesses and residents in Union and distributed free at distribution sites throughout town.

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Tina & Joe Renna, Publishers  
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E-mail: info@rennamedia.com

The Township of Union Recreation Department is starting a new tradition this year by celebrating Halloween with a Spooktacular Saturday jam-packed with activities throughout the day in Vauxhall and at Rabkin Park on October 26.

“Our Halloween Spooktacular Saturday promises thrills, chills, and fun for kids of all ages,” stated Michele Delisfort, Mayor. “After decades of our traditional Halloween parade and costume contest, it was time to bring a fresh approach to the Township.”

The spooktacular Saturday is set to include; Annual Big Halloween Trunk or Treat from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Jefferson School parking lot, 155 Hilton Ave, Vauxhall, NJ 07088.

All Hallow’s Eve-ning from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Rabkin Park, 1 Swanstrom Place East.

The Annual Big Halloween Trunk or Treat will feature over 30 vehicles, and a prize will be awarded for the Best Decorated Vehicle. Registration for the Trunk or Treat is open online

at uniontownship.com/recreation. Registration can also be done by phone by calling our Recreation Department 908-686-4200.

The inaugural All Hallow’s Eve-ning will feature pre-move activities starting at 3 p.m. such as inflatables, carnival games, pumpkin painting, mask craft and more. The event will end with a showing of a medley of Halloween themed cartoon specials, featuring characters from Toy Story, Shrek, Tom and Jerry, and Casper. Roaming judges throughout the night will be looking for the best costumes for our costume contest. The finalists and the winner will be announced before the movie at 6:15 p.m.

Kids and families are encouraged to attend all events in costumes and invited to share their spooktacular costumes and event photos with the township on social media @twpunionnj.

For more information on these events, please contact the Union Recreation Department at 908-686-4200 or visit our website at uniontownship.com.

## 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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If your home is currently listed with another real estate broker, please disregard this advertisement. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers.

## AT-RISK YOUTH HEAR STORY OF PERSONAL PERSEVERANCE

Submitted by Christopher Reardon

One evening El-Amin Jumuah mapped out his strategy for building his fledgling fashion business, including financing it with the salary from his job. The next day he was laid off.

Four years later, Jumuah's business, Passionate Rebel, is thriving and has been featured on News 12 New Jersey's Spotlight Edition and various New York Fashion Week media platforms.

Jumuah served as the keynote speaker at the 2019 Annual Youth Conference hosted by Community Access Unlimited (CAU) that drew more than 100 at-risk youth from more than a dozen youth services programs from throughout the state. CAU is a Union County-based, statewide nonprofit that strives to integrate people with disabilities and at-risk youth into the general community through comprehensive supports.

"The conference is designed to bring together youth from a number of programs, allow them to network and provide them with information and resources, thereby empowering them," said Carla Hollinger, a curriculum specialist at CAU. "It's a day of fun and education."

Jumuah's apparel is intended to create self-directed leaders who, with their independent passion, will enhance their creative skills and rebel against not following their passion, according to the Passionate Rebel website.

"Be a passionate rebel," he told the youth. "Be someone who is dedicated to following your goals regardless of the obstacles. Be a dreamer. Understand dreams take you far but they depend on the time and effort you put into them."

Jumuah said to be successful they first must define their own success. For example, a single mother might define success as caring for her children while a college student might define success as working his way through college and graduating. Success is not defined by money and material belongings, he said.

"You have to go out and learn for yourself," he said. "And there's no shame in struggling. That's the way you get to where you want to be."

Jumuah's message resonated with the youth in attendance, including Romance Morrison, 21, a CAU member.

"He really got through to me about how he started his own business out of nothing," Morrison said, adding that he has set his goals for success as going to college, getting a good job and starting a family.

"I already achieved the first part of my goal," he said. "I'm starting college in September."

Cassandra Jeffers, 22, also a CAU member, said Jumuah's message of overcoming struggles helped her. She lost her family, lost her job and lived in many places before coming to CAU.

"My goal is to get into the art of make-up," she said. "I practice every day and post videos on YouTube. But it's hard to stay motivated. So his message about not getting down when you are struggling resonated with me."

The conference also featured a number of workshops designed to help the attendees better manage their lives and improve their life skills, according to Hollinger. Examples included goal

setting, healthy relationships and living within the system.

"The workshops are intended to prepare them for life going forward," she said.

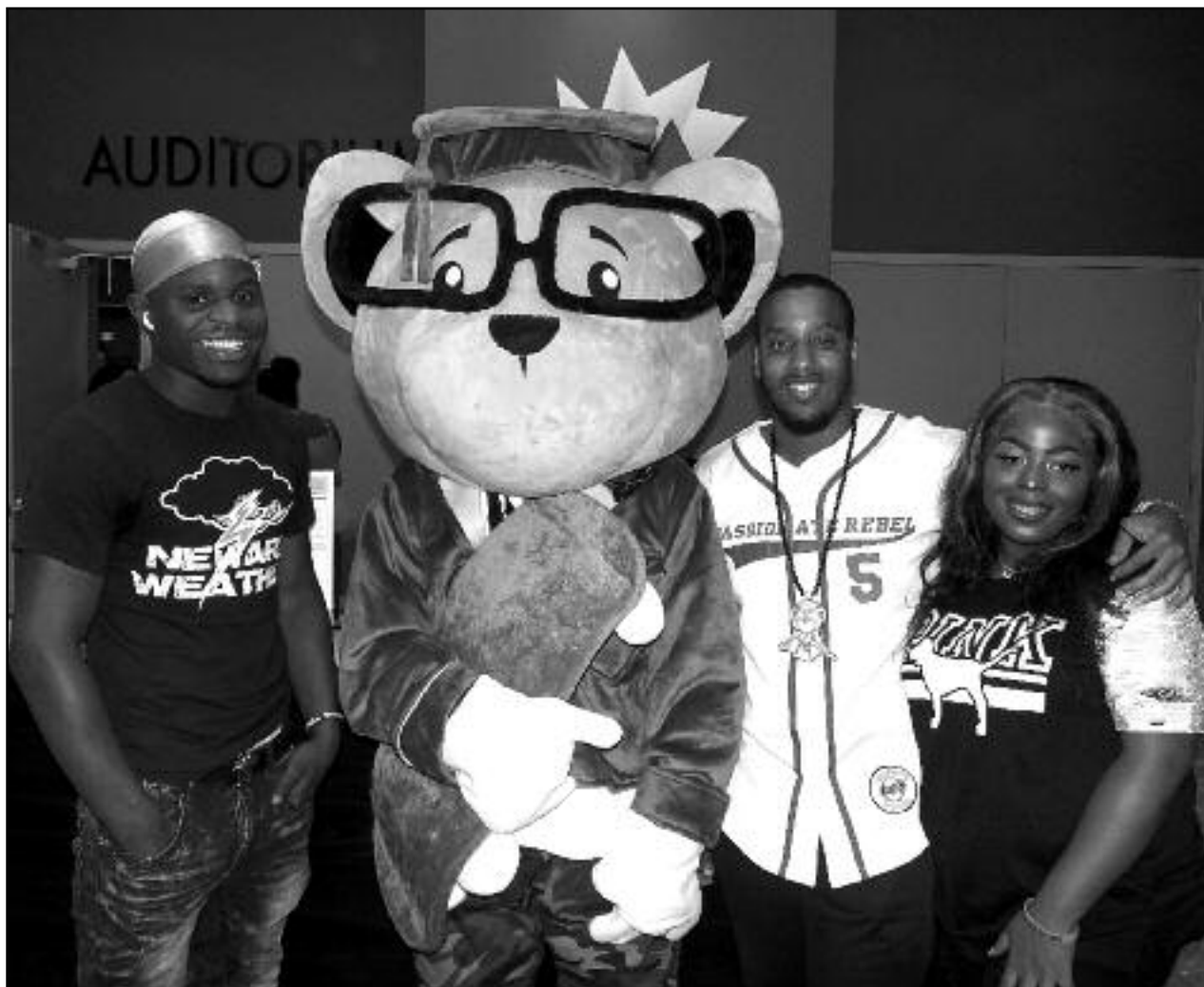
To learn more about CAU, visit [caunj.org](http://caunj.org) or follow the agency on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

### ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating its 40th year in 2019, supports people with special needs in achieving real lives in the community. CAU provides support and gives

voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little power in society. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU also supports opportunities for advocacy through training in assertiveness, decision-making and civil rights. CAU currently serves more than 5,000 individuals and families, with the number served growing each year.

For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908-354-3040, online at [caunj.org](http://caunj.org) or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



(above) El-Amin Jumuah (second from right), founder of the apparel business Passionate Rebel, poses with CAU members Romance Morrison and Cassandra Jeffers, along with the Passionate Rebel mascot.

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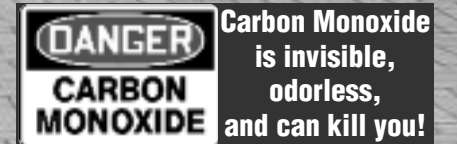



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## “FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND”

The Union Township Historical Society will host *Four Centuries in a Weekend* at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union, on October 19th and 20th, 2019 (12 noon-5 p.m. both days). Refreshments will be served.

Refreshments will be served.

Admission is free.

Rev. James Caldwell, portrayed by Meridoc Burkhardt, will greet visitors to the museum. His appearance is made possible in part through a HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from Union County. Students from the Kawameeh Middle School National Junior Honor Society and the Union High School History Club will serve as historical interpreters (aka docents).

Members of Girl Scout Troop 40024 will assist with colonial doll-making and colonial games.

### VISITORS CAN ENJOY:

- Wearing colonial bonnets and tricorne hats and faux colonial children's outfits for photos for social media;

- Collecting Union County's Hannah Caldwell, James Caldwell, and Battle of Connecticut Farms trading cards;
- Having their National Park Service Passports and/or Union County Passport booklets stamped--the Parsonage, part of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, is an official National Park Service cancellation site;
- History of Union, an original video produced by the UHS History Club and partly taken from a drone, showing notable sites in Union;
- A new historic Union map exhibit created for the weekend--36" x 48" reproductions of the 1860 Union farm map will be available for purchase;
- A new exhibit on long-time Township Clerk, Mary Miller, a descendant of the Miller family, who lived in Connecticut Farms (aka Union) at least since 1730; and
- An exhibit of historic household conveniences; farm implements; old TV's, radios, and office equipment in the Tool Museum in the carriage house (aka barn).

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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

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### Weekly/Regular 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 during this fun drop-in program!

#### Alphabet Soup (Storytime)

**Mondays at 4:30 p.m.**

Ages 4 - 6 | Registration required

We explore phonics, letter recognition & numbers all while reading fun stories, singing songs, doing crafts & making new friends!

#### Tiny Tots (Storytime)

**Wednesdays 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.

The October 9 session will be a music & movement class led by Boogie Woogie Babies.

#### Toddler Tales (Storytime)

**Fridays at 10:30 a.m.**

18 months - 3 years | No registration necessary

Enjoy stories, singing, and movement, following a different theme each week!

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

#### Tween Tabletoppers

**Wednesday, October 2 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required

Explore the world of tabletop gaming with us!

Beginners & veteran tabletop gamers.

#### Kidoodlers

**Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 6 - 12 | Registration required

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

#### W.H.O. (We Help Others) Club

**Friday, October 4 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 5 - 12 | Registration required

Making our community a better place!

#### Karate Workshop

**Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 p.m.**

(Ages 3-6) or 2:00 p.m.

(Ages 7+) | Registration required

Sensei Andrew Crescenzo from USA Karate & Fitness will be leading a karate sampler class.

#### Homeschool Hangout

**Wednesday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m.**

Ages 5+ | Registration required

Meet, learn, and engage with other local homeschooling families.

#### Teen AV Club

**Wednesday, October 9 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 13+ | Registration required

Join us for a special hands-on audio/visual workshop project!

#### Teen W.H.O. (We Help Others)

**Friday, October 11 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 13+ | Registration required

Making our community a better place!

#### Saturday Stories

**Saturday, October 12 at 11:00 a.m.**

All Ages | No registration necessary

Spend your Saturday morning listening to some fun stories, singing songs, and more!

#### Kids in the Kitchen

**Saturday, October 12 at 1:00 p.m.**

Ages 6 - 12 | Registration required

Prepare a recipe in advance from our featured cookbook 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 or online through Hoopla.

Miss Emily will also lead a cooking demo during this program. Please inform staff of food allergies when registering, if necessary.

#### Jacqueline Woodson's Reading

**= Hope x Change | Ages 8 - 12**

**Wednesday, October 16**

Registration required

Join us for a special viewing of this program by Jacqueline Woodson, Library of Congress

National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, followed by a craft.

#### Kidoodlers

**Thursday, October 17 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 6 - 12 | Registration required

Stop by after school for a fun art activity!

#### Teen Wii U & Board Games

**Friday, October 18 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 13+ | Registration required

We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of board games.

#### Masterpiece Studio

**Saturday, October 19 at 12:00 p.m.**

Ages 5+ | Registration required

Learn about a well-known artist, then paint your own masterpiece based on their style.

#### Sew It! Workshop

**Monday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m.**

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required

Miss Ellen from Sew It!

Will teach us how to make an oven mitt.

#### Tween Wii U & Board Games

**Wednesday, October 23 at 1:00 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!

#### ShopRite Teen Cuisine

**Wednesday, October 23 at 4:00 p.m.**

Ages 13+ | Registration required

Learn more about healthy eating and prepare some delicious snacks!

#### SciFri (Science Friday)

**Friday, October 25 at 3:30 p.m.**

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration required

Join us as we conduct awesome experiments & other science-based activities.

#### VolunTEENS

**Saturday, October 26 at 12:00 p.m.**

Ages 13+ | Registration required

Earn community service hours and help us make the library a better place! E-mail [teens@uplnj.org](mailto:teens@uplnj.org) if you have any questions.

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## UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE OFFERS INFORMATION ON FREE ENGLISH CLASSES

Union Public Library will offer free English Classes for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) to all interested New Jersey Residents. The public is invited to hear about the program at an Open House at the Main Library on Tues., October 1, 2019.

Funding for the program is made possible through the Community Library Adult Literacy & Career Pathway Grant Program and UPL in partnership with the NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development.

To learn more about the program or the Open House, please call 908-851-5450 x2. Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ.

## NEW CHILD SAFETY WEB SERIES

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) recently launched, "Into the Cloud," a brand new online safety product for children in grades K-5. This includes an animated web series and video game. Using data from actual NCMEC CyberTipline reports, each episode focuses on a different element of online safety, from strategies for handling cyberbullying to recognizing and reporting unsafe/inappropriate interactions and content. Additional episodes will be available throughout the year.

"Into the Cloud" presents important safety information in an age-appropriate and entertaining manner! All the resources are free!

The episodes are available at [www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/videos](http://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/videos).

## UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY - VAUXHALL

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

Visit us at [www.uniontownship.com/379/Union-Public-Library](http://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

### WEEKLY/REGULAR PROGRAMS

#### Toddler & Pre-K Time

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Ages 2 - 5 | Registration required

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

**Story & Craft: Farm Animals - October 1**

**Interactive Learning Time - October 8**

**Toddler & Pre-K Tae Kwon Do - October 15**

**STEM Story & Activity - October 22**

**Interactive Learning - October 29**

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

#### Club Teen: Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 2 at 5:00 p.m.

Ages 14 + | 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: Vision Boards

Wednesday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Ages 14 + | Registration required

Visualize your dreams, aspirations, and goals with this Vision Board craft.

#### Tween Game Time

Thursday, October 3 at 3:00p.m.

All ages | No registration required

Join us for an afternoon 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 'Make it at Your Library'

Thursday October 10 at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

Join us for a special DIY craft!

Materials will be provided.

#### Club Teen: Silent Library

Wednesday, October 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Ages 14+ | Registration required

Play rounds of silly game challenge all while staying quiet.

#### Tween STEM Builder

Thursday October 17 at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 9 - 13 | Registration required

Play with LEGO and 3-D magnetic tiles to create amazing shapes & structures.

#### In Stitches Sewing Workshop

Thursday October 24 and October 31

at 3:00 p.m.

Ages 8 - 12 | Registration Required

In Stitches workshops are a great way to spend the afternoon!! Come join us for a fun project and see what fun sewing holds for you! This will be a two (2) week workshop, in order to complete the project students must attend Session 1 on October 24 and Session 2 on October 31. No previous sewing experience necessary.

#### HESAA Financial Aid Night for Parents of High School Students & College Students

Wednesday, October 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Ages 14+ | Registration required

This one-hour information session will overview the financial aid process and answer questions about grants, scholarships, and loans offered by the State of New Jersey.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE - OCT. 12

The Union Township Fire Department will be hosting a Fire Prevention Week Open House event on Saturday, October 12, 2019. The fun-filled, educational event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Union Fire Headquarters 1, located on Bond Dr.

During National Fire Prevention Week, a week dedicated to informing the public on the importance of fire prevention, the Union Fire Department hopes to promote prevention and awareness through fun, innovation and community. Some of the day's activities are set to include:

- An obstacle course for kids
- Firehouse tours
- Seminars on basic first aid and CPR
- Extrication demos
- Meet and greet with local firemen
- Light refreshments

For more information on the Open House event, contact the Township of Union Office of Public Information at (908) 851-5096 or via email at [publicinfo@uniontownship.com](mailto:publicinfo@uniontownship.com).

**UNION ELKS LODGE 1583** **SUN** **OCTOBER 13TH**  
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<b>Lunch 11am - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm</b>
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Kids 7-10.....\$6.29	Kids 7-10.....\$7.79
Kids 3-6.....\$4.29	Kids 3-6.....\$6.29
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

### FRIDAY - SATURDAY

<b>Lunch 11am - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm</b>
Adult .....\$8.59	Adult .....\$12.59
Kids 7-10.....\$6.29	Kids 7-10.....\$7.79
Kids 3-6.....\$4.29	Kids 3-6.....\$6.29
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

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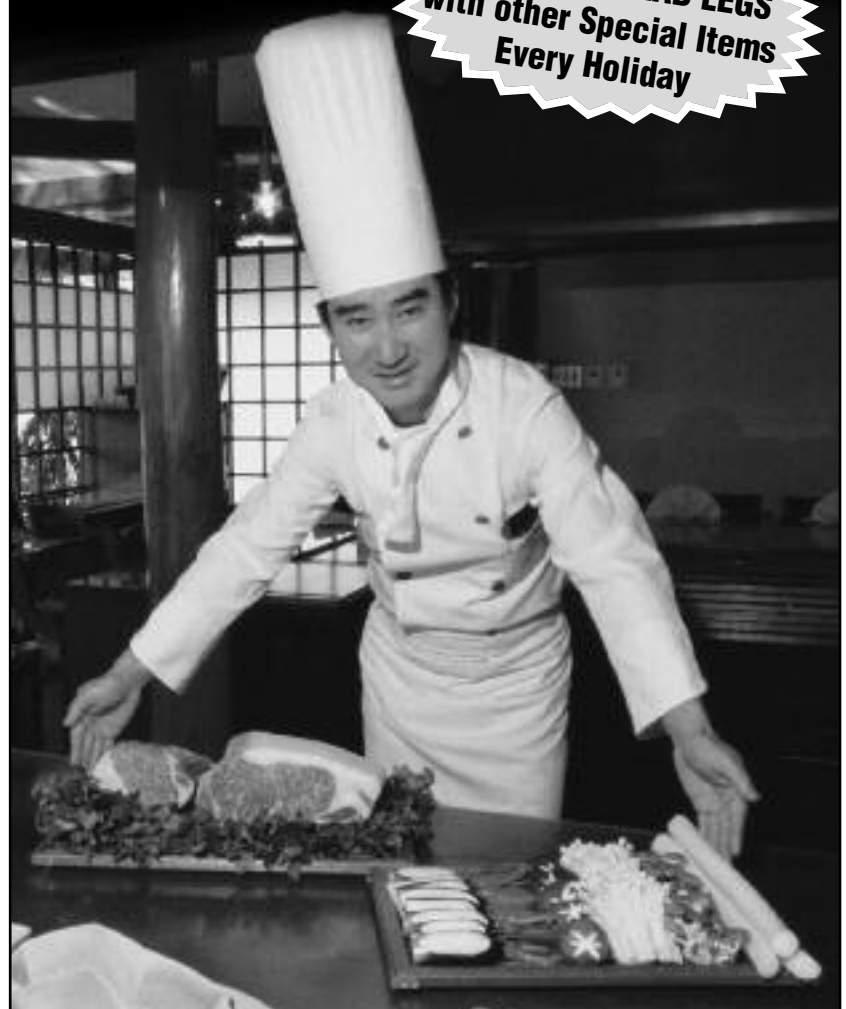
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# ARC CELEBRATES 70 YEARS OF SERVICE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Submitted by Ellen de Havilland

The Arc of Union County was founded in 1949 when a group of concerned parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities gathered by the collective desire for their children to lead fulfilling lives and thrive in their communities, instead of being subject to institutions with harsh living conditions. Seven decades ago, there was much to learn about intellectual and developmental disabilities (then

referred to as ‘mental retardation’), the people, their families and the causes. There were virtually no programs or services to assist people with disabilities in the community or to support their families. It was a common occurrence for doctors to tell parents that the best place for their child was in an institution. This group of parents was granted a temporary charter by the “New Jersey Parents’ Group for Retarded Children”, and what is now known as The Arc of Union County was designated the Union County Unit of that Organization. Seventy years later, The Arc has become a local pioneer within Union County and its surrounding areas.

To commemorate this major milestone, The Arc of Union County will hold their landmark event, "Celebrating 70 Years: Autumn & The Arc," on October 3, 2019 from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Stage House Tavern located at 1099 Route 22, Mountainside, NJ. The event will feature three hours of unlimited food, wine and beer, live music, and high value raffle items, including a cruise to Bermuda. Over 100 community partners and supporters are anticipated to join The Arc in their celebration of 70 years of service. All proceeds of this event will benefit the continuation of programs and services provided by The Arc. For tickets and more information, or to donate/sponsor, please contact aoliver@arcunion.org or 973-315-0009 or visit arcunion.org.

“Our 70th Anniversary has been a record-setting year for the agency,” said Frank Caragher, Executive Director of The Arc of Union County.

“We have a proud history of changing with the times. While the agency has been undergoing exciting new developments and an expansion of services, its core principles have remained constant. As we work to achieve our vision of creating productive and enhanced lives for people with disabilities, their families, and the community, we’re taking a moment to reflect on our past while also embracing our future.”

Since its founding, The Arc of Union County has played a major role within the community by providing a lifespan of programs and care to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through quality services and by advocacy efforts to fight the stigma of disabilities, The Arc has a longstanding profound reputation for making change happen.

“As we celebrate our 70th Anniversary, we must anticipate the next 70 years. We must continue to grow, taking what has been positive about our history, and use it to improve what we do and how we do it. The more we work together, the stronger we will get, and the better we will be for our consumers and their families,” said Frank X. Caragher.

## ABOUT THE ARC OF UNION COUNTY

The Arc of Union County is a non-profit, 501c(3) organization headquartered in Springfield, NJ, dedicated to enriching the lives of individuals of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc of Union County serves more than 1,000 families throughout Union County. To learn more contact 973-315-0000 or visit arcunion.org.



(above) The Arc Kohler School (formerly Harry Kohler Day Care Center) in Winfield Park, NJ is where The Arc of Union County's roots were started, providing services for children and adults with disabilities, including transportation.

Photos courtesy of The Arc of Union County

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# Atlantic Health System

# RAY POWERS & FRIENDS TO PERFORM AT NORTHERN NEW JERSEY'S MOST INTIMATE COFFEEHOUSE

The Salem Roadhouse Cafe proudly presents Ray Powers & Friends, performing on Saturday, October 12, 2019.

Ray Powers, who was one of the first performers at the inaugural Roadhouse Show, returns as he has every year for his 12th exciting, energetic performance at the Roadhouse Cafe. The usual band will accompany him, along with a list of special musical guests. Ray and the band will perform crowd favorites, and as always will have special guests join in at times for great music and fun.

Ray also has been hosting the The Ray Powers Hour on New Visions Radio, the online "radio station."

His show is syndicated worldwide and reaches 200 countries. He is now the Program Director at New Visions Radio and he just announced an album release in January 2019: 'Ray Powers - The Singles And More.'

Opening for Ray will be Professional Smart Aleck Carla Ulbrich. Carla is a comical singer-songwriter and guitarist whose biggest musical influences were (and still are) Sesame Street, camp songs, and cat food commercials. She has a love of the absurdities of ordinary life, a somewhat twisted viewpoint, and a way with words.

Fans won't want to miss this live, up front and personal show. Artwork and photography will be on display at the Roadhouse Gallery Of Fine Arts.

All ages are welcome. It's a wholesome show, so bring the entire family!

Doors open 7:00 p.m.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$20.00.

Plan now for an evening of great music in Northern New Jersey's Most Intimate Coffeehouse™.

Proceeds will help Groundwork Elizabeth.

## ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

Dedication best defines the Salem Roadhouse Café: dedication to excellent music and dedication to the community. In its tenth year, The Salem Roadhouse Café reaffirms its commitment to both.

Started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth, the Roadhouse Café continues to operate as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That may be its social mission... but the Roadhouse Café is and has been a solid performance venue beloved by the musicians who play there because of its special intimacy with the audience.

## CHURCH MUSIC, IT'S NOT

The Roadhouse Café has always offered its stage to local and independent main stream musicians. It's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music, in a world of clubs and bars. Jazz, rock, folk and other groups have performed. During the past ten years well over 100 different entertainers have appeared. Local fine artists also display their works.

## COMMUNITY ORIENTATION

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.

The musicians who play the Roadhouse often ask to return as soon as possible. The Roadhouse has given them a place with a beautiful stage, good acoustics, a live, attentive audience, and a sound system that is first class.

Now in its eleventh year of operation, the Salem Roadhouse Café features many of the performers who have graced the stage in the past, as well as bring talent that is new to the Café stage. The current season is benefitting Groundwork Elizabeth – Changing Places, Changing Lives

**ADMISSION INCLUDES THE SHOW, SNACKS, BEVERAGES AND DESSERT.**

Union 34TV records the shows for broadcast – so check out past shows on cable TV34. See the Roadhouse on Union TV Channel 34's "Union After Dark" nightly music series.

Salem Roadhouse Cafe is located at 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ. Visit online at roadhousecafe.org or facebook.com/roadhousecafe. Reach by phone at phone 1-908-687-1028 (leave a message and a return number).

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# CELEBRATING EMPOWERMENT: 99 YEARS ON A MISSION

Submitted by Shannon Myre

The YWCA Union County announces our Fall Cocktail Reception, Celebrating Empowerment: 99 Years on a Mission. This is our signature event celebrating nearly a century of serving our community and empowering survivors of domestic violence. This event will be held Thursday, October 10, 2019 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Westwood in Garwood and is a major fundraiser for our domestic violence programs.

The 2019 Honorees are Kean University, The Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth, and Westfield United Fund.

The YWCA's Mission is eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. In 1978, our organization dedicated its mission to an urgent need in our communities – domestic violence. 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 3 women and 1 in 7 men will be affected by domestic violence in their 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 dollars 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.

The YWCA's Celebrating Empowerment: 99

Years on a Mission will be held during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The program will include delicious food, refreshments, an online silent auction, a 50/50 raffle, and much more. Proceeds of the event will benefit the YWCA Union County's Domestic Violence Programs. For more information or tickets, contact Shannon Myre by email at [smyre@ywcaunioncounty.org](mailto:smyre@ywcaunioncounty.org).

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

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