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## YMCA IS OFFERING SUMMER CAMP OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

The Gateway Family YMCA is gearing up for a summer of fun with the theme, "Ready, Set, Summer", and is inviting the community to learn more about summer day camp at an open house this spring. Summer Day Camp and Power Scholars Academy Open House dates are scheduled for March 25 6-8 p.m., April 18 12-3 p.m. and May 20 6-8 p.m. Summer day camp is available at the Five Points Branch 201 Tucker Avenue, Union, and Wellness Center Branch, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union.

The Gateway Family YMCA summer camp programs offer fun and unique experiences for preschool, youth and teens, with an opportunity to explore the outdoors, meet lifelong friends, discover new experiences and create lasting memories. Attending an open house is a first step in selecting a summer camp experience that complements a child and their individual interests and personality. Optional specialty camp experiences include sports camps, arts camp, dance camp and swim camp along with the Power Scholars Academy to meet a child's unique skills and interests.

"Attending summer camp is beneficial to every child's personal development. The experience teaches essential leadership and social skills and helps youth develop confidence and independence," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO of The Gateway Family YMCA. "Summer camp fosters peer friendships and adult mentoring relationships that have positive youth development effects, build resiliency and encourage healthy decision making. We provide caring role models in a safe environment where children can develop character and discover their potential."

The Gateway Family YMCA serves the local communities surrounding Eastern Union County and Northern Middlesex County and offers summer day camp experiences for preschool through grade 11 and specialty camps for varying ages. To ensure that all children have the chance to experience camp, The Gateway Family YMCA offers financial assistance to those in need, as well as a multi-sibling rate for families.

"We encourage parents to give their kids the



experience of summer camp and provide financial assistance so that every child can benefit from the unique and beneficial activities," added Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO. "Through our YMCA Annual Support Campaign, our volunteers work to ensure our Y receives the donations required to provide financial assistance for programs and services throughout our community."

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore the world around them. Unfortunately, for some kids summer means no access to recreational and educational activities to help them learn, grow and thrive during out-of-school time. As a result, some kids can experience summer learning loss and gain weight twice as fast than during the school year. A leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of youth, the Y has been a leader in providing summer camp for nearly 130 years. Through summer camp, The Gateway Family YMCA is helping to combat childhood obesity, summer learning loss and food insecurity.

The Gateway Family YMCA is a leading 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to strengthening community by connecting all people to their potential, purpose and each other. With a focus on empowering young people, improving health and well-being, and inspiring action in and across the local community, the Y brings together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, to ensure that all have access to the opportunities, relationships and resources necessary to learn, grow and thrive. The Y doesn't just strengthen bodies – it strengthens people, families and communities.

For more information, visit [tgfymca.org/day-camp](http://tgfymca.org/day-camp) or contact The Gateway Family YMCA Five Points Branch 908-688-9622 or Wellness Center Branch 908-349-9622.

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## UNION ANNOUNCES 2020 EULACE PEACOCK UNsung HERO AWARD RECIPIENT

It is with great pleasure that the Township of Union has announced Paul Hayes Sr., Vauxhall resident, as the 2020 Eulace Peacock Unsung Hero Award recipient. The Eulace Peacock Award recognizes those who humbly, diligently, and passionately seek change and progression within our community without looking for credit or recognition. Unsung Heroes inspire and impact others without regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, gender, disability, or national origin.

“Without a doubt, Mr. Hayes exemplifies the qualities of the Unsung Hero Award” noted Mayor Michele Delisfort, “I’m thrilled that every year we are able to recognize a remarkable person who devotes their time and compassion to help our youth and community.”

Paul Robert Hayes Sr., married to Hattie Mae Prior Hayes for 62 years, is the father of three children, Paul R. Hayes Jr., Tione V. Hayes (deceased), and Shanna D. Hayes. Hayes attended Winston Salem State University from 1954 to 1958, where he majored in Social Studies and Elementary Education. In 1972, he later attended Newark State College in 1972 with a major in English and Winston Salem State University with a degree in Elementary Education followed by a degree in Industrial Counseling- Graduate Courses at Montclair State College in 1974. From 1958 to 1961, Mr. Hayes returned to New Jersey to work with Lewis Spicers Construction Company. In 1961 he became employed by the Essex County Youth House in Newark as a counselor for boys waiting to be scheduled to appear in the Essex County Juvenile Court. From 1962 to 1964, he was employed as a substitute teacher with the Township of Union Board of Education.

Since 2017, the Township of Union has annually awarded an individual with the Eulace Peacock Unsung Hero Award who has made a substantive yet unrecognized contribution to the Township of Union, be it through athletics, public service, mentorship or social activism.



*(above) Paul Hayes Sr., Vauxhall resident, was recognized as the 2020 Eulace Peacock Unsung Hero Award recipient.*

The award will be presented to Hayes at the upcoming Black History Month “Harriet Tubman” Film Screening on Saturday, February 29 at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free, but tickets are required due to limited seating. Tickets are available for pick up at the Administration office at Town Hall, 1976 Morris Ave.

For more details on the Black History Month “Harriet Tubman” Film Screening, visit [uniontownship.com](http://uniontownship.com), call 908-851-5096, or email [publicinfo@uniontownship.com](mailto:publicinfo@uniontownship.com).

### ABOUT EULACE PEACOCK:

Eulace Peacock was a 1933 graduate of Union High School and a member of the Union High School Athletic Hall of Fame inaugural class. He was one of the world’s leading sprinters and long jumpers in the decade before World War II and is most known for being Jesse Owens’s major rival.

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## CASA INVITES PUBLIC TO WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON MARCH 11

*Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan*

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County will host its second annual Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11 — the heart of Women's History Month — to highlight two Union County women whose contributions positively impact their community.

Among them is Tina Renna, Cranford resident and owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including the Spirit of Union.

Renna, who coordinates content for more than 135,000-issues circulated to towns in Union, Somerset and Morris counties, uses her writing, editing and photography, she says, "to tell the stories of ordinary people who do extraordinary things, big or small, that inspire others and their communities."



*(above) Tina Renna, owner of Renna Media, publisher of 21 community newspapers including Spirit of Union, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon.*



*(above) Sue Adler, Summit resident and CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham, will be recognized by CASA at their Women's Leadership Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11.*

Whether reporting news from town departments, schools and libraries, giving voice to local organizations raising awareness, or highlighting accomplishments of businesses, residents and all those who share a community — no matter strength or size — I strive to make a positive impact on each town's well-being and economic development."

Also being honored is Summit's Sue Adler, CEO of The Sue Adler Team of Keller Williams in Chatham. Currently ranked 10 worldwide out of 175,000 Keller Williams agents, Adler focuses on the community's train line towns and incorporates an in-house, team-treatment approach for clients.

Ilyse DiChiara, owner of Green Healthy Living and certified integrative nutrition, health and wellness coach, will provide the keynote address. Prior to switching professional course, DiChiara ran her nationwide trial consulting business, Litigation Support Solutions, for more than 20 years. Other participants include Summit Mayor Nora Radest and Westfield Councilwoman Joann Neylan.

Tickets are available now for the luncheon, which begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Summit Hotel. Seats are \$65; tables of 10 and sponsorships are available.

To purchase, log on to [casaleadershipluncheon.eventbrite.com](https://casaleadershipluncheon.eventbrite.com). For luncheon details, contact Alexis at [aslade@casaoofunioncounty.org](mailto:aslade@casaoofunioncounty.org).

CASA of Union County recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned children placed in foster homes or residential facilities. There are more than 500 Union County youth, from birth to age 21, in foster care. With court-ordered access to a foster child and all parties in their life, volunteer advocates report findings to the judge so as to ensure best interests remain a priority, needs are met, and already experienced trauma is not exacerbated.

Contact Courtney at [cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org](mailto:cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org) or 908-293-8136 to learn more about CASA of Union County.

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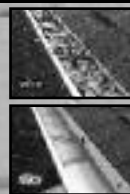
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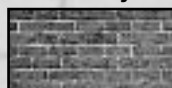
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## UNION TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS LINDA BARTH, “ALICE PAUL: CHAMPION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE”

Linda Barth will present “Alice Paul: Champion of Women's Suffrage,” based on her new book of the same name at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, on Sunday, March 8, at 2 p.m. The program will be hosted by the Union Township Historical Society to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, which gave women the right to vote throughout the country. Coincidentally, March 8 is International Women's Day.

Ms. Barth will explain why it took so long for women's suffrage to be achieved in the U. S. and how that finally came about. She'll speak about the struggle and the role of New Jersey suffragist Alice Paul in getting the 19th Amendment ratified in 1920. Ms. Barth worked with a statewide committee planning events to observe and celebrate this centennial.

Reservations are not required for the event. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free. For more information visit [unionnjhistory.com](http://unionnjhistory.com) or call 908-591-4377.

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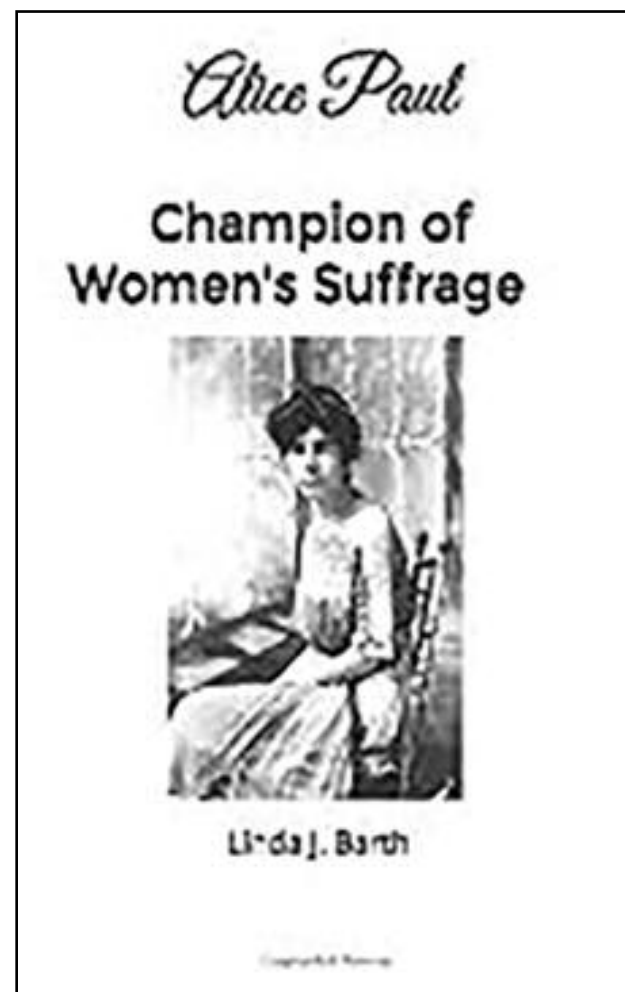
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(above) Linda Barth will present “Alice Paul: Champion of Women's Suffrage,” based on her new book of the same name on Sunday, March 8, at 2 p.m., International Women's Day.

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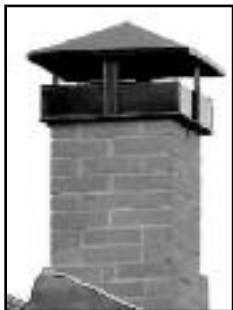
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## THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO OPEN HOUSE MARCH 27-30

The Gateway Family YMCA branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union will celebrate healthy families with a Membership Madness Open House March 27 – March 30. The Y will be hosting activities that are open to the community including family exercise programs, healthy recipe and nutrition tips, art activities, family swimming and basketball. In addition, the Y will waive the joiner fee for all new members during the open house in person and online at [www.tgfymca.org](http://www.tgfymca.org).

Participating locations of The Gateway Family YMCA include the Elizabeth Branch - 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, Five Points Branch - 201 Tucker Avenue, Union, Rahway Branch - 1564 Irving Street, Rahway and Wellness Center Branch - 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union. For branch specific schedules of free events, seminars

and classes, visit [www.tgfymca.org](http://www.tgfymca.org). Visits at the WISE Center YMCA Branch, 2095B Berwyn Street, Union are by appointment only at 908-687-2995 and visits at the Youth Development Branch, 16-20 Jefferson Avenue, Elizabeth are by appointment only at 908-355-3061.

“This spring our message to the community is that getting healthy as a family can be fun and that the YMCA is for all! We know that everyone is busy, but health and family need to come first. The Y is the perfect place to share health with those you love,” stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. “Not only do parents and caretakers need to remain healthy in order to help their family, but we want to share that healthy lifestyle with the entire family. At the Y we provide healthy activities for all members of the family, and feel that families have the

ability to bond over fun, healthy activities such as a family yoga class or family fun nights.”

During the month of March, The Gateway Family YMCA will be highlighting healthy family tips, nutritious recipes and simple exercises on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and The Gateway Family YMCA’s Mobile App. “We strive to remain connected to our members and community wherever they are, partnering with them as they work to build a healthy family lifestyle in today’s busy society,” stated Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO. “Social media has allowed us to become a part of the community in a way that isn’t restricted to those who walk into our facilities and programs. It has allowed us to grow a community online and include those who we do not see every day.” To connect with the Y on social media, visit [www.tgfymca.org](http://www.tgfymca.org).



*(above) Participate in The Gateway Family YMCA’s Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Program to improve your health.*

## THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA TO OFFER NEW BLOOD PRESSURE SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM

The Gateway Family YMCA is offering a new session of the YMCA’s Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Program throughout 2020, designed to help participants with hypertension lower their blood pressure by following an evidence-based program that combines blood pressure self-monitoring, nutrition education seminars and personalized support. This program will be offered at The Gateway Family YMCA – Wellness Center Branch, 1000 Galloping Hill Road, Union, NJ. The program is also being offered at the Rahway Branch, 1654 Irving Street, Rahway and the Elizabeth Branch, 135 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, as well as in collaboration with local community groups.

The Y developed this program to help individuals better manage hypertension and improve their overall health. According to the American Heart Association, more than 80 million Americans have high blood pressure, but less than half have it under control. Research shows that the simple process of checking and recording blood pressure at least twice a month over four months may lower blood pressure in some people with hypertension. In addition, evidence shows that proper nutrition, particularly with a reduction in sodium intake, may help reduce both systolic and diastolic blood pressures.

“The Gateway Family YMCA is proud to continue to support the Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring program,” said Krystal R. Canady, CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. “The Y is the leading community-based organization dedicated to improving the nation’s health and this program is a great example of putting that commitment into action.”

As part of the Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring program, participants will measure their blood

pressure at least two times a month for four consecutive months—a minimum of eight times—and record their blood pressure readings in a self-selected tracking tool. A nutrition education component will encourage the participants to practice healthier eating habits, including reducing sodium in their diet.

The program is facilitated by Healthy Heart Ambassadors, appointed and trained by the Y, who will show participants how to use a blood pressure monitor, encourage self-monitoring and facilitate monthly nutrition education seminars.

The Gateway Family YMCA is looking for adults with high blood pressure who could benefit from participating in this program. Benefits include: simple, evidence-based program that may lower blood pressure; personalized support from a Y Healthy Heart Ambassador; tips for maintaining cardiovascular health; easy-to-use, portable self-tracking tool; and heart healthy nutrition education seminars.

Participants must meet the following criteria to participate in the program: must be at least 18 years old; must be diagnosed with high blood pressure; must not have experienced a recent cardiac event; must not have atrial fibrillation or other arrhythmias; and must not be at risk for lymphedema.

There is a small fee for the Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring program and financial assistance is available to those who qualify. In addition to the program, The Gateway Family YMCA will be providing weekly Nutritional Seminars that are free open to the community.

For more information contact Mike Johnson at [BPSM@tgfymca.org](mailto:BPSM@tgfymca.org) or 908-249-4809. To register for the program, visit [tgfymca.org](http://tgfymca.org) or The Gateway Family YMCA branches in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union.

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# UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY YOUTH PROGRAMS

1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. Tel: 908-851-5450 • Visit us at [www.uniontownship.com/379/Union-Public-Library](http://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

## WEEKLY/REGULAR PROGRAMS

### Construction Zone

**Mondays, 3:30 p.m.**

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

### Alphabet Soup (Storytime)

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

| Ages 3 - 6 | Registration required  
We explore phonics, letter recognition & numbers all while reading fun stories, singing songs, doing crafts & making new friends!

\*Please note: Program will not take place on March 2, due to our annual Read Across America Celebration.

### Tiny Tots (Storytime)

**Wednesdays, 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.

\*Please note: Program will not take place on March 4, due to a staff training event.

### Toddler Tales (Storytime)

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

| 18 months - age 3 | No registration necessary  
Enjoy stories, singing, and movement, following a different theme each week!

## ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

### Read Across America Celebration

**Monday, March 2, 4:30 p.m.**

| Ages 3+ | Registration required

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday with this very special storytime! This program will feature special guest readers, a very fun craft, and more!

### Kidoodlers

**Thursday, March 5, 3:30 p.m.**

| Ages 5 - 13 | Registration required  
Stop by after school and join us for a fun art activity! All materials will be provided.

### Teen DIY

**Friday, March 6, 2:00 p.m.**

| Ages 14 and up | Registration required  
Join us for a fun DIY craft! We'll be making our own picture frames using washi tape! Feel free to bring in your own 5x7 photo to include in your frame.

### Saturday Stories

**Saturday, March 7, 11:00 a.m.**

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

### Homeschool Hangout

**Wednesday, March 11, 1:00 p.m.**

| Ages 5 and up | Registration required  
Meet, learn, and engage with other local homeschooling families through a variety of fun and interactive activities! Registered Dietician, Kelsey Pezzuti of ShopRite will be showing us how to make some healthy and tasty snacks!

### Bedtime Storytime

**Thursday March 12, 6:30 p.m.**

| Ages 3 and up | Registration required  
Join us around the campfire for a special bedtime storytime and craft! Don't forget to wear your coziest PJs!

### SciFri (Science Friday)

**Friday, March 13, 3:30 p.m.**

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required  
Celebrate Pi ( $\pi$ ) Day with some fun activities that combine math and art!

### Teen Masterpiece Studio

**Wednesday, March 18, 1:00 p.m.**

| Ages 14 and up | Registration required  
Learn about a well-known artist, then paint your own masterpiece based on their unique style. All materials will be provided.

### Kidoodlers

**Thursday, March 19, 3:30 p.m.**

| Ages 6 - 13 | Registration required  
Stop by after school and join us for a fun art activity! All materials will be provided.

### NJ Makers Day Celebration

**Friday, March 20, 3:30 p.m.**

| Ages 5 and up | Registration required  
Join us for a special after-school program to celebrate NJ Makers Day!

### VolunTEENS

**Saturday, March 21, 2:00 p.m.**

| Ages 14 and up | 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.

### Tween Craft Night

**Monday, March 23, 6:00 p.m.**

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required  
Relax with your friends and let your imagination take over as you design your own pixelated perler bead creation! All materials will be provided.

### ShopRite Kids Cuisine

**Wednesday, March 25, 4:00 p.m.**

| Ages 6 - 13 | Registration required  
Learn more about healthy eating and prepare some delicious snacks! Presented by Kelsey Pezzuti, Registered Dietitian from ShopRite.

### Tween Game Time

**Friday, March 27, 3:30 p.m.**

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required  
Join us for an afternoon of friendly competition. We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of board games. Bring your own games too!

### VolunTEENS

**Saturday, March 27, 3:30 p.m.**

| Ages 14 and up | 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.

### Kids' Masterpiece Studio

**Saturday, March 28, 12:00 p.m.**

| Ages 5 - 13 | Registration required  
Learn about a well-known artist, then paint your own masterpiece based on their unique style. All materials will be provided.

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### WEEKLY/REGULAR PROGRAMS

#### Toddler & Pre-K Time

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m.

| 18 months - age 5 | Registration required  
Interactive storytimes, crafts, and more for young children and their parents/guardians.

#### Story & Craft: Read Across America

March 3

#### Music & Movement with Boogie Woogie Babies

March 10

#### Interactive Learning Time

March 17

#### STEM Story & Activity: Spring

March 24

#### Interactive Learning Time

March 31

### ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

#### Club Teen's Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 5:00 p.m.

| Ages 14 and up | Registration required  
Help us make UPL the place for you! Let us know which 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!

#### Memory Game Night with Club Teen

Wednesday, March 4, 6:00 p.m.

| Ages 14 and up | Registration required  
Test your memory skills with fun and entertaining games to boost your brain!

#### Family Prize Bingo

Saturday, March 7, 3:00 p.m.

| All ages | Registration required  
The whole family is invited to play bingo for a chance to win some cool prizes!

#### Homeschool Hangout

Thursday, March 12, 11:00 AM

| Ages 10 and up | Registration required  
Meet, learn, and engage with other local homeschooling families through a variety of fun and interactive activities!

#### Tween Game Time

Thursday, March 12, 3:00 p.m.

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required  
We're breaking out the Wii U and our collection of board games. Bring your own games too!

#### No-Bake Desserts with Club Teen

Wednesday, March 18, 6:00 p.m.

| Ages 14 and up | Registration required  
No oven? No problem! Join teens as they make their favorite desserts in a bake-off challenge

#### Tween STEM Builders Club

Thursday, March 19, 3:00 p.m.

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required  
Play with LEGO and 3-D magnetic tiles to create amazing shapes & structures.

#### NJ Makers Day Drop-in Craft

Saturday March 21, 3:00-4:00p.m.

| All ages | No registration required  
Spend your Saturday afternoon working on a fun arts & crafts project during this special NJ Makers Day program!

#### Tween 'Make it at Your Library'

Thursday, March 26, 3:00 p.m.

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required  
Display your art proudly on a button or magnet. We'll be using our button maker to make some cool DIY crafts during the Make It session!

#### Family Game Time

Saturday, March 28, 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. Feel free to bring your friends and family!

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## CARRIE JACKSON & THE JAZZIN' ALL STARS TO PERFORM AT NORTHERN NEW JERSEY'S MOST INTIMATE COFFEEHOUSE

The Salem Roadhouse Café proudly presents Carrie Jackson, performing on Saturday, March 14, 2020.

Ms. Jackson is a New York/New Jersey based jazz vocal stylist who performs worldwide for festivals, clubs, concert tours and clinics, both as a soloist or with her Jazzin' All Star Band. It's been said of their work, "A true ensemble performance...every tune is a musical collaboration...effortless, natural and unscripted." Carrie is considered one of the most consistently interesting singers in the metropolitan area, and is one of the top jazz artists around today providing classical performances in jazz favorites, soulful sultry pop, blues and poignant mellow gospel. She combines jazz originals, standards, pop/blues tunes, and open improvisation in an adventurous, genre-bending style that's inspirational and original; a singer with a Sound! Carrie Jackson & Her Jazzin' All Star Ensemble swing and perform the music of "Duke" Ellington, Count Basie, Lionel Hampton, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, and musical selections songs from the Great American Song Book. Carrie has performed often at the Salem Roadhouse Café, bringing a loyal, appreciative audience with her every time.

Original artwork will be on display for all to enjoy and purchase.

Fans won't want to miss this live, up front and personal show.

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

Doors open 7:30 p.m. The show starts at 8:00 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 YWCA Union County Domestic Violence PALS Program, Peace-A Learned Solution, helping children who are

victims of domestic violence through arts therapy.

### ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ

Dedication best defines the Salem Roadhouse Café: dedication to excellent music and dedication to the community. Now in its twelfth 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 eleven years well over 120 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. Live, active stage lighting enhances the shows.

The Salem Roadhouse Café often features many of the performers who have graced the stage in the past, as well as brings talent that is new to the Café stage. The current season is benefitting Family Promise Union County – Building Communities-Strengthening 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.

The Salem Roadhouse Café is located at 829 Salem Road, Union, NJ. Visit online at [roadhousecafe.org](http://roadhousecafe.org) or [facebook.com/roadhousecafe](https://facebook.com/roadhousecafe).

Phone: 1-908-687-1028 (leave a message and a return number).



**SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ**

*This Month - JAZZ featuring....*

**CARRIE JACKSON**

**& THE JAZZIN' ALL-STARS**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 8:00 PM**

**DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM ADMISSION: \$20.00 STUDENTS \$15.00**

## UNION MUNICIPAL BAND WINTER CONCERT - MARCH 9

The Union Municipal Band, under the direction of Howard Toplansky will present a free concert on Monday evening, March 9, 2020. 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.

The program will include marches, waltzes, overtures, Broadway selections, patriotic melodies, and many fine musical classics.

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.



# HOMELESSNESS KNOWS NO SEASON IN UNION COUNTY

What do the world's religions tell us about the homeless and the needy?

Leaders of different faiths shared prevailing teachings on charity, generosity and poverty at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rahway on December 19. The memorial vigil honored the lives of people who have died due to homelessness in Union County.

The 4th annual vigil was held just before the longest night of the year, the winter solstice, to symbolize the struggle of those who are homeless and who often live out their lives on cold streets or in dangerous abandoned buildings. The Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council organized the event with local agencies involved in the fight against homelessness: Community Access Unlimited (CAU) and The Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless. 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 city of Elizabeth is losing federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding in 2020 for homelessness-related services under the Emergency Solutions Grant initiative.

"The fact that we have lost this money in Elizabeth will increase demand for county funds that will be spread thinner," said Carolee Marano, assistant executive director of development at CAU, which will lose \$40,000 in grant funding. "The cuts in HUD funding decrease our budget for homeless prevention programs and we are concerned about a rise in homelessness in the county. We are also concerned about a rise in homelessness among youth."

CAU operates the only youth-only shelter in Union County and runs services to support their health and future independence. In addition to the County youth shelter, CAU also operates 3

federal programs under the federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Act: one shelter, a transitional living program for females, and one for males. CAU also provides rent assistance to prevent homelessness.

Linda Flores-Tober, executive director of the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, reflected on circumstances that can push a person or family into homelessness.

"There's more to the story than 'I couldn't find a job,'" Flores-Tober said. "What we see are a lot of people who didn't get engaged in the Division of Developmental Disabilities system and now the parents are not able to take care of them."

Flores-Tober attributed 5 deaths in Elizabeth to homelessness in 2019.

Faith speakers quoted teachings that the faithful are called by God to relieve the less fortunate of their trials or difficulties. Father Sebastian Obando of St. Michael's Church in Cranford acknowledged that Jesus Christ would fit the modern description of homelessness.

"It's really a service of remembrance, because frankly if we didn't remember them, nobody would," said Rev. Carmine Pernini of Zion Church.

Parishioners at his church took people in this winter as part of Operation Warm Heart – an emergency winter sheltering program run by the Elizabeth Coalition.

"It's lifesaving work – not very many people are willing to open their doors, so people of faith come together to do it," Pernini said.

Attendees sang and lit candles for 45 people who have died due to homelessness.

Pernini and Flores-Tober acknowledged a strong correlation between funding for homelessness services and saving people from the cold.

On the night of January 22, 2019, a total of 438 people were experiencing homelessness in Union County, according to the 2019 Point-In-Time Count. A total of 39 persons were unsheltered on the night of the count, and 375 of the total homeless persons were in Elizabeth.

Rev. Ron Thompson of Townley Presbyterian Church in Union spoke about the universal responsibility to care for people in need.

"All faiths agree on the dignity of people," he said.

## **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) Attendees hold candles in memory of people who have died who were homeless at a vigil at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rahway on December 19, 2019.*

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## UNION CHAMBER'S MARCH NETWORKING EVENT TO FEATURE "RANSOMWARE AND CYBERSECURITY"

The Union Township Chamber of Commerce invites the business community to its March Networking Event featuring the very timely topic of how to successfully protect your business and computer networks from cyberattacks.

The event will take place on Thursday, March 19, from 8:30 – 10 a.m. at the Hilton Gardens Inn on 304 Route 22 West in Springfield, with John Lucich, CEO of Network Security Group of Union as the presenter. He recently published a

book entitled Ransomware and Network Intrusions, which provides business owners with a blueprint to prevent and/or repair such attacks.

Admission is \$10 for Chamber members and \$15 for guests. Pre-registration is required by contacting the Union Chamber of Commerce at 908-688-2777 or by emailing [executivedirector@unionchamber.com](mailto:executivedirector@unionchamber.com).

"Ransomware and cyberattacks are sadly the newest threat that we face as business owners,"

said Chamber Executive James Masterson. "This program will provide our members and guests with your IT networks, saving precious time and money. We are grateful to the Hilton Garden Inn for hosting this important event."

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.

## TOWNSHIP OF UNION GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Township of Union Garden Club will hold their Wednesday, March 4 meeting at 7:00 p.m. upstairs in the Bonnel Room of Town Hall, 1976 Morris Avenue. Our guest speaker is Peter Axelrod of Wild Birds Unltd. He will speak on "Who is at my feeder?" Visitors are welcome. Annual dues are only \$10. Refreshments served.

For any questions, please call our President, Veronica at 908-447-1991.

Like us on [Facebook.com/SpiritOfUnion](https://www.facebook.com/SpiritOfUnion)

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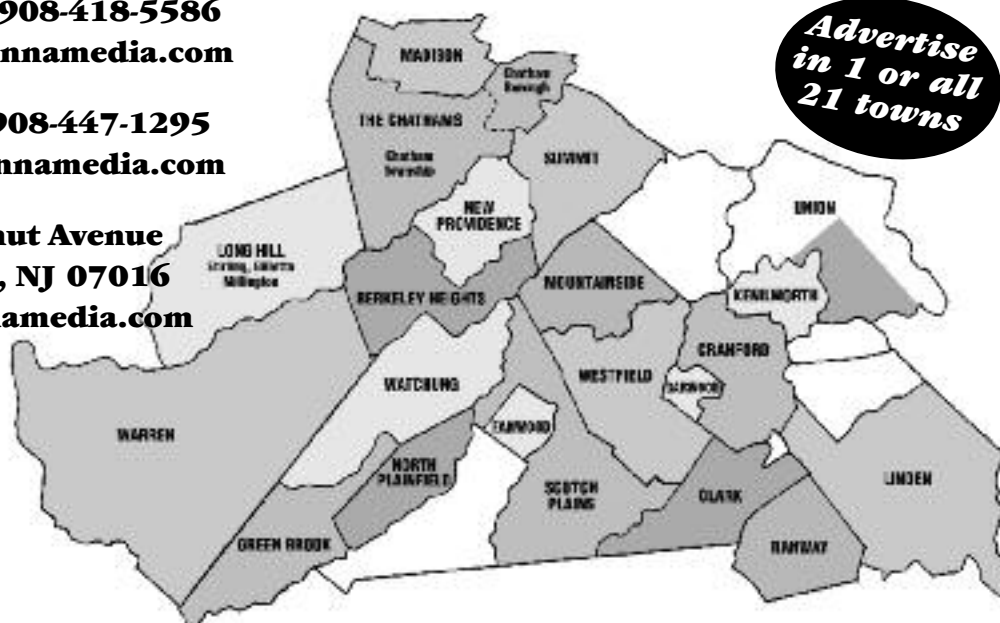
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# UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY LAUNCHES LIVE, ONLINE TUTORING FOR PATRONS FROM TUTOR.COM ONLINE, ON-DEMAND HELP FOR K-COLLEGE STUDENTS AND ADULT LEARNERS AND CAREER SEEKERS

*Submitted by Karen Jason*

Union Public Library is pleased to announce the launch of a new service, Tutor.com, for K-12th and early college students, career seekers and adult learners. This service connects students for academic tutoring, homework help and test preparation with one of more than 3,000 expert tutors. Tutors are available in over 60 subjects and test prep areas from 3-10 p.m., seven days a week. Many resources, including the writing lab, are available 24/7. Tutors are fully vetted by and have passed an extensive background check.

## RESOURCES INCLUDE:

**Academic Tutoring:** Students of all ages can get help with homework, test preparation, skills and concepts they are learning in class as well as Advanced Placement® test preparation and college entrance exams. Subjects include math,

science, writing, English, Spanish, social studies, ACT®/SAT®, and Microsoft® Office.

**WriteTutor™ Reviews:** Students on essays, book reports, short stories and college/scholarship application essays have two ways of getting work reviewed by TutorATL's live, on-demand tutoring in an interactive, online classroom or through the 24/7 Drop-Off Review service.

**ACT and SAT preparation from The Princeton Review:** Students preparing for college entrance exams can take practice ACT and SAT tests, receive a full score report that includes suggested areas of focus, view video lessons on tested concepts and use The Princeton Review's practice drills to help reach their target scores.

**Graduate School Entrance Exam Practice:** Adults preparing to apply to graduate or

professional degree programs can use The Princeton Review's practice tests for GRE®, GMAT®, LSAT®, and MCAT® to focus their study-time on areas in most need of improvement.

**Practice Quizzes:** Students preparing for an end-of-chapter test, a final exam or standardized test can use Tutor.com's Practice Quizzes to assess their knowledge on over 100 areas in math, science and social studies. Practice quizzes for the ASVAB are also available.

**Videos lessons:** Students can access video lessons for Advanced Placement® courses as well as math and English lessons area available 24/7 to help students review or learn new concepts.

**Adult Job Seekers:** Work one-on-one with professional tutors in a supportive and encouraging

environment for help with job searching, resume writing, interview preparation and much more.

The Tutor.com Career Center also includes 24/7 access to resources such as resume templates, cover letter samples, and online job search tools.

To access the service please visit [uplnj.org](http://uplnj.org) or [tutor.com/unionpl](http://tutor.com/unionpl) and enter your Union Public Library barcode and pin number. Please note that this service is only available to Union Public Library cardholders. If you have questions or need help getting started, just call the library at 908-851-5450 x3 to get started.

## ABOUT TUTOR.COM

Tutor.com—a service of The Princeton Review—helps learners realize and reach their full potential. Our 3,000+ online tutors connect with students at their precise moment of need, so they receive the support and encouragement needed to feel confident in their work, persist through their educational journey and achieve success. We partner with public libraries, K-12 schools, colleges and universities, corporations and non-profit organizations around the world to help equalize access to highly effective educational support. We provide learning students love, partnerships organizations love and outcomes everyone loves. Tutor.com was founded in 1998 and has served over 17.5 million one-to-one, online tutoring sessions.

Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083, with a Vauxhall Branch located at 123 Hilton Avenue, Vauxhall, NJ 07088. For more information, please contact the Main Library at 908-851-5450 or visit our website at [uplnj.org](http://uplnj.org).

## Online Marketing Made Easy

**RENNA  
MEDIA  
.COM**

**NJLocalInfo.com**

### AD WEB PAGE: \$30

**Block of 20 ads \$300** (\$15 per ad)

Ad gets its own indexed web page on NJLocalInfo.com

Searchable through search engines and shared on our Facebook network.

### CALENDAR EVENT: \$20

**Block of 20 events \$200** (\$10 per event)

Events get posted on RennaMedia.com calendar

and included in weekly newsletter shared on our Facebook network

### ONLINE PRESS RELEASE: \$130

**Block of 20 PRs \$1,200** (\$60 per PR)

Ad gets its own indexed web pages on NJLocalInfo.com and RennaMedia.com

Searchable through search engines and shared on our Facebook network.

### DISPLAY ADS (12 months)

**Banner Ad** (500 x 100 pixels) **\$240** on RennaMedia.com

**Column Ad** (300 x 200 pixels) **\$960**

Column ad appears on all pages of on RennaMedia.com and NJLocalInfo.com

### WEBSITE / SEO SERVICES

- **Website Audit/Analysis and recommendation plan: \$250**
- **Website creation/update: \$2,400** (Cost for average website: 12 pages, contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design)
- **Website Hosting: \$300 per year**  
Includes website hosting, software updates, monthly website content updates
- **SEO Services - average cost \$1,000 - \$2,000 per month**  
Custom tailored solutions: Google Ranking, Local SEO, Social Marketing
- **Blast your online ad or press release to a targeted market \$100**
- **National Press Release Distribution to 300 to 500 news outlets.**  
Budget choice from \$300 to \$500.

**CONTACT JOE FOR DETAILS 908-447-1295**

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111 Prospect Street 3D, Westfield  
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351 Raccoon Hollow, Mountainside  
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Offered at \$450,000



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3 & 5 Heritage Lane, Scotch Plains  
Offered at \$650,000 & \$550,000

## Frank D. Isoldi

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