Union's Hometown Newspaper

Issue 113 • May 2020

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#### **UNIONTV34 OPENS ITS DOORS TO KEANTV STUDENTS**

Over the years UnionTV34 has welcomed visitors, students, and boy and girl scouts of all ages to tour their studio and control room while getting a look at the current TV technology and view the achievements of the channel over the years. On Thursday, February 27, 2020, for the first time, Kean University students, part of KeanTV, stopped by for a two hour tour with their professor.

"I am so grateful to UnionTV34 for all the support they've given to our students," stated Kean University Professor Gina Gili. "We have been provided with an opportunity to give our students a firsthand view of a professional television studio, steps away from their classroom. The feedback and the opportunities to provide weekly programming has been truly

invaluable to our students."

During their visit at UnionTV34, they learned the ins and outs of how the channel runs, helped produce the weekly "Spotlight on Union" show hosted by Edess Damis, and tried their hand in hosting "Union Minute," a weekly one minute spotlight of events throughout town posted on the Township's social media platforms @TWPUnionNJ.

"I believe this was a great opportunity not only for the Kean students to grasp real-life experiences but for the Township to be able to expand their partnership with Kean University," mentioned Sal Terrezza.

The tour ended with a Q&A with the Station Manager, Sal Terrezza.



(above) Kean University students, part of KeanTV, stopped by the UnionTV34 studio and control room for a two hour tour with their professor.

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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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#### **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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Email: editor@rennamedia.com

# THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR BATTLES ALMOST IN YOUR BACKYARD

The Union Township Historical Society will host "Revolutionary War Battles Almost in Your Backyard," a presentation by John Keiser and David Seigfried, at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, May 31, at 2 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

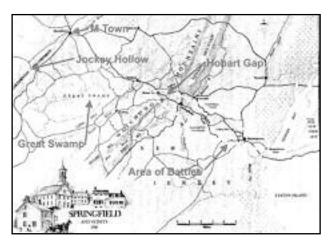
Messrs. Keiser and Sigried--Sons of the American Revolution and founding members of the Forgotten Victory Trail Committee--will discuss the battles of Elizabeth, Connecticut Farms (now Union), and Springfield. They will include important, forgotten aspects of these battles and why they had such a significant impact on the outcome of the American Revolution. In addition, they will introduce their project of the Forgotten Victory Trail, which commemorates those important Revolutionary War victories, and is a preparation for the upcoming celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of the U. S. in 2026. Tom Beisler, a UTHS trustee, is also a member of the FVT Committee.

At press time the understanding was that public buildings may open on May 15. However, the church may still be closed.

Please call 908-591-4377 closer to the date if in doubt.

Timeline Relevant to Battles of Elizabeth, Connecticut Farms, and Springfield

- Winter 1779-Spring 1780: Continental Army encamped in Morristown
- Early June 1780: British occupation of NYC
- June 7, 1780: British and Hessians land in Elizabeth from Staten Island
- 1st Battle at Connecticut Farms (now Union)
- Shooting death of Hannah Caldwell (wife of Rev. James Caldwell) at Parsonage
- Fighting in Elizabeth between battles
- June 23, 1780: 2nd Battle at Connecticut Farms and Battle at Springfield
- Fighting at Vauxhall Road and Millburn Avenue (now Millburn)



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#### SIX UNION RESIDENTS AMONG TRINITAS NURSING SCHOOL GRADUATES

nursing diplomas at the Trinitas School of Nursing 161st Convocation Ceremony held recently at St. Michael's Church in Cranford. Including Union residents Isabel D. Alba, Toni Marie Collazo, Lamoi S. Lawson, Diana Louise S. Lenon, Danielle R. McKenith, and Edline Thermitus.

Surrounded by family, friends, and staff that supported their efforts every step of the way, 99 women and 10 men proudly accepted their pins and became eligible to sit for the registered nurse licensing exam.

"The Trinitas School of Nursing is so proud of the 109 graduates- the first graduating class of the new decade, the Class of January 2020," said Dr. Rose Santee, Dean of the Trinitas School of Nursing, a collaborative nursing program with Union County College. "The graduates receive a diploma in nursing from Trinitas School of Nursing that will authorize them to sit for the

One hundred and nine students received their RN licensing exam and Union County College awards the graduates with the Associate in Science degree. Their determination and hard work has paid off. It's exciting for the administration, faculty, staff members, and their families when our students graduate. We will miss them, but more, we are full of the satisfaction that we have guided yet another group of capable nurses who are now ready to join the nursing workforce."

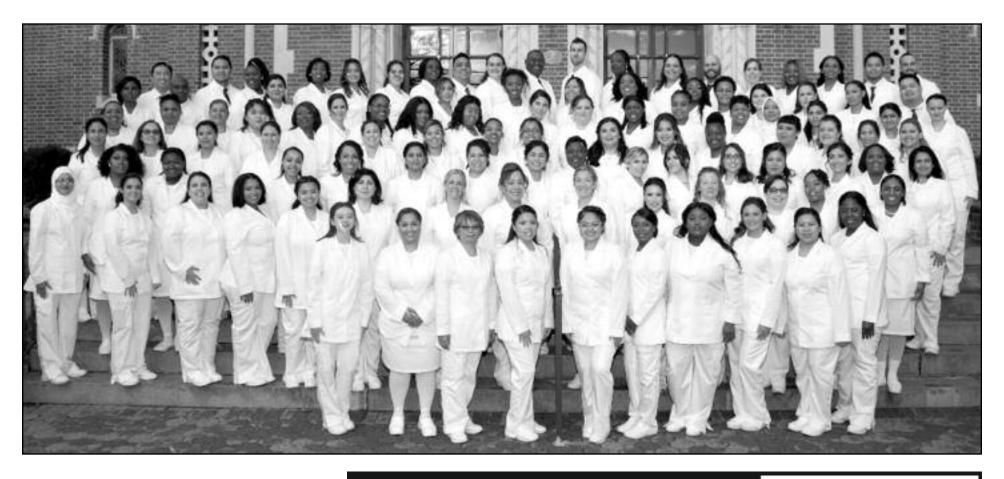
> Trinitas School of Nursing, operated jointly by Trinitas Regional Medical Center and Union County College, currently holds full accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), and the New Jersey State Board of Nursing. The National League for Nursing has awarded the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

and Professional Development. The School also holds a 20-year, 40-class national licensing examination (NCLEX) passage rate of 86.30% on first writing.

#### **ABOUT TRINITAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER:**

Trinitas Regional Medical Center (TRMC), a major center for comprehensive health services for those who live and work in Central New Jersey, is a Catholic teaching medical center sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in partnership with Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation. With 12 Centers of Excellence across the continuum of care, Trinitas has distinguished itself in cardiology, cancer care, behavioral health, renal care, nursing education, diabetes management, maternity, wound healing and sleep medicine.

For more information on Trinitas Regional Medical Center, visit: www.TrinitasRMC.org or call (908) 994-5138.



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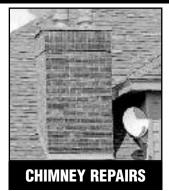
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#### **UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY - MAY 2019 VIRTUAL YOUTH PROGRAMS**

Program details subject to change. Please contact the library to confirm. To register for programs, email childrensdepartment@uplnj.org.

#### **WEEKLY PROGRAMS**

#### **Virtual Storytime**

Mondays, 4:30 PM

| All ages | No registration required Spend this special time listening to a story and singing songs & rhymes, broadcast on Facebook Live and Instagram!

#### Virtual Biographical Storytime

Tuesdays, 7:00 PM

| All ages | No registration required Learn all about important figures from the past and present, broadcast on Facebook Live and Instagram!

#### Virtual Storytime

Wednesdays, 10:30AM

| All ages | No registration required Spend this special time listening to a story and singing songs & rhymes, broadcast on Facebook Live and Instagram!

#### **Virtual Bedtime Storytime**

Thursdays, 7:00 PM

| All ages | No registration required Get ready for bedtime with a great story, broadcast on Facebook Live and Instagram.

#### **Virtual Storytime**

Fridays, 10:30AM

| All ages | No registration required Spend this special time listening to a story and singing songs & rhymes, broadcast on Facebook Live and Instagram!

#### **ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS**

**Virtual Family Trivia** 

Friday 5/1, 3:00 PM

| All ages | Registration required Test your knowledge about different subjects in a fun, online setting!

#### Construction Zone Virtual Challenge Monday 5/4, 3:30 PM

| All ages | Registration required Challenge yourself to design new creations with your own Legos and blocks! We'll set the challenge and a timer, and you'll put your building skills to the test!

#### **Homeschool Hangout**

Wednesday 5/6, 12:00 PM

| Ages 5 and up | Registration required Reunite with fellow homeschoolers over Zoom, where we'll be working on a Mother's Day craft project!

#### Virtual Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday 5/6, 5:45 PM

| Ages 14 - 18 | Registration required 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 participating in TAB meetings! To sign up, email us at teens@uplnj.org.

#### **Club Teen Virtual Check-In**

Wednesday 5/6, 6:00 PM

| Ages 14 - 18 | Registration required Catch up with your pals at Club Teen without leaving the house! For high school-aged teens. To sign up, email us at teens@uplnj.org.

#### **Kidoodlers**

Thursday 5/7, 3:00 PM

| Ages 5 - 13 | Registration required Join us on Zoom to make a fun craft using household items, perfect for Mother's Day!

#### **Tween Virtual Hangout**

Friday 5/8, 3:00 PM

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required Catch up with your friends and friendly UPL Youth Services librarians on Zoom, and share what you've been up to!

#### Storytime Family Hangout

Saturday 5/9, 11:00 AM

| All ages | Registration required We'll spend the first 15 minutes of mingling with fellow parents and caregivers, then enjoy a music & movement class!

#### Virtual Kids in the Kitchen

Monday 5/11, 6:00 PM

| Ages 6 - 13 | No registration required Follow along with Miss Emily as she makes delicious two-ingredient fudge in her own kitchen! This tutorial will be available on Facebook and Instagram.

#### **Masterpiece Studio Paint-Along**

Wednesday 5/13, 4:00 PM

l Ages 5 - 13 l No registration required Paint or draw along with Mr. Kristian as we celebrate Leonardo DaVinci's birthday with a recreation of one of his most famous works! This paint-along will be available on Facebook and Instagram.

#### **Construction Zone Virtual Challenge**

Monday 5/18, 3:30 PM

| All ages | Registration required Challenge yourself to design new creations with your own Legos and blocks! We'll set the challenge and a timer, and you'll put your building skills to the test!

#### **Minecraft Party**

Wednesday 5/20, 4:00 PM

| Ages 8 - 13 | Registration required Hang out with fellow gamers as we chat and build our own world in Classic Minecraft. No downloads necessary, all you need is a web browser!

#### **Club Teen Virtual Check-In**

Wednesday 5/20, 6:00 PM

| Ages 14 - 18 | Registration required Catch up with your pals at Club Teen without leaving the house! For high school-aged teens. To sign up, email us at teens@uplnj.org.

#### Virtual ShopRite Kids Cuisine

Friday 5/22, 4:00PM

| Ages 6 - 13 | Registration required Learn about healthy eating and prepare a delicious recipe with food you can find right in your fridge! Please register to get the ingredients list ahead of time! Presented by Kelsey Pezzuti, RD from ShopRite of Union.

#### **Teen Masterpiece Studio Paint-Along**Wednesday 5/27, 4:00 PM

l Ages 14 - 18 l No registration required Paint or draw along with Mr. Kristian as we celebrate Leonardo DaVinci's birthday with a recreation of one of his most famous works! This paint-along will be available on Facebook and Instagram. To sign up, email us at teens@uplnj.org.





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#### CALLING ALL GEEKS, NERDS, AND GAWKERS

Renna Media is putting a call out to the Geeks among us to appear on thier podcast Mind Your Own Local Business. The show will showcase local businesses and people who are starting or growing a business, especially those in creative fields or doing something they have a passion for. Owner, Joe Renna, started his business in 1984 as a graphic designer that grew his studio into a marketing and adverting company. Now, along with his wife Tina, publishes 21 community monthly newspapers mailing out 135,000 to every home and business.

Joe says "I started my business right out of college and thought I would get a job if it didn't work out. Its been thirty five years and I never looked back. I thank all those who mentored me along the way, experienced business owners who were generous with thier time and taught me best practices in running a businesses and the pitfalls to look out for."

As a way of paying it forward, Joe offers business and advertising advice to local business. This service is the focus of a new YouTube show. Joe Renna's Hyper Local Network is the YouTube Channel of Renna Media. Mind Your Own Local Business is the prime show. Its first episode will feature Katya Stec of Clark, New Jersey who launched her production company All Ages of Geek. Katya has teamed up with Renna Media made her platform, with over 100,000 subscribers, available to Renna Media advertisers and organizations.

Renna Media is recruiting businesses to participate, If your a Geek or just Geek curious, a variety of advertising opportunities exist, from product placement to fully customized shows. All online advertisers will also be featured in the Mind Your Own Local Business column in 135,000 newspapers!

To learn more call Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 or email him at joerenna@rennamedia.com.



#### KATYA STEC LAUNCHES ALL AGES OF GEEK

Geek culture knows no bounds. It crosses every social barrier and unites an eclectic group of people who share specific interests. The label, which usually is thrust upon a person, is now worn with pride. Geeks who historically existed at the fringes of the pop culture are now main stream. Their ranks are filled with regular folks. And the nerds of the baby boomer generation have joined the ranks.

The internet has given rise to a secret society. The image of a nerd playing video games in his parents' basement has been shattered. Geeks are among the masses, living, working, and playing next to regular folk. All Ages of Geek is a multimedia production company that speaks to them.

Katya Stec is a self-proclaimed geek from Clark, New Jersey who formed All Ages of Geek in 2019, with the core focus of producing content in tandem with the geek culture. She has been creating videos for eight years and has over 700 episodes posted on her website and on YouTube. She now has over 100,000 subscribers clocking over 20 million views!

Katya, who is a talented voice over artist and writer, is a product of home schooling where she was able to cultivated her interests. Now, at 26 years old, she has a career, doing what she loves.

Throughout 2020 All Ages of Geek will be traveling to several geek culture events, conventions, and expos. They aim at making some of the best high-quality content. At the same time, mass awareness and promotion campaigns would be in swing to set the base for their big launch in January 2021.

Katya has built a team of talented, creative fans who work together in producing podcasts and shows. All Ages of Geek has an article section on their website titled "This Just In." Their writers, who are from all parts of the world, submit weekly articles covering geek culture events, topics and all forms of creativity.

Currently, they are also producing several video series and podcasts. The company is hopeful of churning out some of the best content and gathering a good base of loyal fans that would engage with the whole community and keep sharing their content to help them amass even more views, exposure, and popularity.

Katya says "Geek culture is what brings the world together. Despite our differences in race, religion, sexuality, and background. One thing is certain about geek culture, it unites us. All Ages of Geek's mission isn't just to entertain; it's to unite the geeks of all ages as part of an interactive community."

The company has a strong interactive community on YouTube and Twitch. The sense of community is both important and powerful and it does wonders when it comes to promoting the firm in the long run.

Their content spans different genres and caters to kids and adults alike. No doubt, if their vision manages to take the due shape, they are likely to become a massive hit among people, especially anime, video games and Dungeons and Dragons fans alike who would finally feel like they too truly belong.

All Ages of Geek has plenty of free content but viewers can access a lot more features by becoming paid members on Patreon or Twicth. They have over 300 members to date with a goal of 1,000 by 2021. They offer advertising opportunities, and their production team can produce original content for businesses and organizations.

To learn more about All Ages of Geek visit: allagesofgeek.com/

Email-id: pr@allagesofgeek.com Website: https://allagesofgeek.com





(above) Katya Stec on set in her home studio in Clark, New Jersey, where she produces shows for her All Ages of Geek broadcasts. Photo by Tatiana Szewczuk.



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#### **DOCUMENTING THE IMPACT OF THE VIRUS AND QUARANTINE**

The Union Public Library and the Union Union residents and those who work in Union to document the impact of COVID-19 and the resulting quarantine.

Participants are asked to share in 1500 words or less (and/or include a captioned photo) their personal experiences in response to one or more of these questions:

- When COVID-19 was first diagnosed in our country, were you alarmed, or were you relatively confident that we could contain it?
- What changes in people's behavior have you observed because of their concerns over the virus?
- What's surprised you most as the quarantine unfolded?
- What's been an unexpected, positive impact of the quarantine?
- What's been the most difficult part of the quarantine for your?
- What are your hopes for the future when it's all over?

Every submission\* must be accompanied by Township Historical Society request the input of respondent's first and last names, age, and any other optional information, such as occupation, school/grade, etc. Submission should be sent as attachment email via COVID19NOTES@uplnj.org or via USPS to: Union Public Library, Attention: COVID19 Notes, 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083.

> The UPL and the UTHS will create an archive to be used for historical research by students, authors, and documentary-makers in the future. It will contain Unionites' thoughts and feelings in a historical record of life in the community in spring 2020; it will detail what is happening and how people of all ages are reacting,

> Members of the UTHS will curate the responses for ease of access by future historians.

> Topics may include: Challenges for Health Providers, Children's View of the Quarantine, Perspective of Those Who Became

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Cranford, NI 07016 info@ rennamedia.com Unemployed, Considerations of Retirees. The UTHS will put the collected texts and images into context, which will require perspective that comes with the passage of time; therefore, this is envisioned as an on-going project. There will be follow-up with some of the respondents to request video interviews to be preserved as oral history. It is hoped that a compilation of the responses will be published in a book, as well.

The project will include a follow-up several months post-quarantine, and the collection will be made available to the public soon after.

\* Only send this work if in agreement that the Union Public Library and the Union Township Historical Society have permission to share the words and pictures with the public as part of the historical record and no benefit, financial or otherwise, is given or implied for the submitted material.



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Qty: 2,800 Mailed to every home and busine



Qty: 11,800 Mailed to every home and business Zip: 07069 Zip: 07090

Ration	VSPAPER AD J are per manth. Answerk supers are black on what	included in	price.	Size	BAITS FOR ANY 1 NEWSPAPER	ANY 3	RYTE FOR ANY 6 AEWSPAPERS		ANY 12		ANY 18 SEWSPAPERS	
1	Unit (Business	card)	3.25*	x 2"	\$60	\$150	\$250	8350	\$400	\$450	8500	\$550
2	Units	6.5° a 2° o	r 3.25°	$X = \hat{4}^{\circ}$	8100	\$250	\$400	8500	\$600	\$700	8800	\$900
4	Units 3	.25" x 8" o	r 6.5*	X 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	8900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700
6	Units 6.5	* x 6.25* o	r 10°	x 4"	8240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000
9	HALF PAGE	651 x 91 o	r 10°	x 7"	8320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400
12	Units		10*	x 81	5360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700
18	FULL PAGE		10*	x 14°	5400	51000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000
2 P/	AGE SPREAD		21°	x 14°	\$700							

#### PREPAY FOR 6 MONTHS AND GET 1 FREE

Make Checks payable to Renna Media, 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016

Visit RennaMedia.com for online publications. Photo albums, video and advertising opportunities.

#### LATEST "MIND YOUR OWN LOCAL BUSINESS" SHOWS

on Joe Renna's Hyper Local Network on YouTube













#### RENNA Stay Strong...Stay Healthy A Little Help for Businesses Going Through a Tough Time.

**PLACE AN AD FOR FREE ON** NJLOCALINFO.COM



Businesses are suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus crisis. Many have to change the way they do business. This is an open invite to post a FREE ad or press release on NJLOCALINFO.COM.

#### This is an easy, DO-IT-YOURSELF website.

Register one time for free in three easy steps, and post your ads.

- 1) Hit like to "Create Account" in nav bar in NJLOCALINFO.COM
- 2) Enter a "User Name" (one word) and Email address
- 3) Create password as per instructions

Use "Post an Ad" link and use the user interface to create an ad page. Follow four steps to upload text and images.

#### Use discount code "RELIEF" at checkout for zero charge. Classified ad options include:

- Up to 500 words
- Up to 10 key words
- Sharable web page
- Upload up to five images, up to 500KB each
- Links to YouTube videos and other websites
- Choose start and end date
   Choose from dozens of search classifications.
  - Add Google Maps link
- Each ad includes a unique email address keeping your address private Live Tracking!

Each ad has a live view counter showing daily and total visits.



#### INCREASED VISIBILITY.

We help people find your ad by cross-posting to several social media sites and by indexing in search engines. facebook.com/NJLocalinfo • facebook.com/RennaMedia

#### SITE / SEO SERVI

- 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

joerenna@rennamedia.com Visit RennaMedia.com or NJLocalInfo.com See how businesses and organizations are getting by during the COVID-19 crisis on Joe Renna's Hyper Local Network on YouTube.

#### **RENNA MEDIA COLLABORATES WITH ALL AGES OF GEEK**

Katya Stec reached out to Joe Renna of Renna Media when she was a teen exploring opportunities to express her creativity in his newspapers. Renna Media publishes twenty-one community newspapers and has an active web presence and social media network. Through the years, Katya has developed her own online media production platform and made her service available to Renna Media's readership and advertisers.

Renna Media has been in business since 1984. The focus of its publications is to promote community service organizations to a hyperlocal market. Joe and his wife Tina deliver marketing, advertising and publishing services to local businesses and organizations, in-print and on line. They have joined forces with NJlocalinfo.com to offer website, SEO and social media services. By collaborating with All Ages of Geek they are able to offer video production and hosting.

Joe admits he has Geeky tendencies and shared "I have many Geeks among the folks I deal with on a day to day basis. The Geek culture is prevalent and is revealed when you get to know collogues on a personal level. It would be fun to showcase businesses and people in my newspaper and in video. It is a great marketing tool and an ice breaker to connect businesses to like-minded customers."

Renna Media and All Ages of Geek has developed a simple inexpensive menu of production services for businesses to make a foray into online marketing. The all inclusive packages are:

- Product placement \$250
- 30 second commercial \$500
- 3 minute spot \$1,000
- 30 minute show \$1,500
- 3 hour shoot \$2,000

All videos will also be blasted though the an extensive social media network and the business will be featured in the newspapers, driving readers to the websites. The approach follows the model of Renna Media's newspapers: Delivering hometown community service news to a hyper-local audience, at affordable rates.

Businesses or organizations who would like more information or help with their marketing plans can call Joe Renna at 908-447-1295.

Email joerenna@rennamedia.com

Visit: RennaMedia.com

NJlocalinfo.com

AllAgesofGeek.com

or find and like us on FaceBook.com

558 Rahway Avenue
Union NJ 07083
(908) 688-8884
www.cozycorner.net
www.caterers.net
Debit, Visa, &
Mastercard Accepted



Monday thru Friday 6Am - 4Pm Saturday 6:30 Am - 2PM CALL US AND WE'LL HAVE YOUR ORDER READY FOR PICKUP

LET US HELP YOU GET THRU THESE TRYING TIMES

#### CHEESE

# American \$6.99/lb \$8.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb \$7.99/lb

#### BREAD & ROLLS

Kaiser Roll	\$0.75 each
Sub Roll	\$0.85 each
Sliced White Bread	\$3.75/loaf
Sliced Wheat Bread	\$3.95/loaf
Sliced Rye Bread	\$3.95/loaf
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#### THUMANN'S MEATS

Turkey	\$9.99/16
Ham	\$9.99/16
Salami	\$9.99/16
Bologna	\$6.99/16
Liverwarst	\$6.99/16
Pepperoni	\$8.99/16
Corned Beef	\$11.99/16
Pastrami	\$11.99/16
Capicola	\$8.99/16
Honey Turkey	\$10.95/lb
Smoked Turkey	\$10.95/lb
Roast Beef	\$10.95/lb

#### STORE MADE SALADS

Potato	\$4.75/lb
Macaroni	\$4.75/16
Pasta	\$5.25/16
Cole Slaw	\$4.75/16
Tuna	\$9.95/16
Chicken	\$9.95/16
Egg	\$7.95/16
Tomato Cucc Mozz	\$6.75/16
Tuna Macaroni	\$7.25/16
Fruit Salad	\$6.75/16





#### EGGS & JUICE

XL Eggs



\$3.99 doz

12 Gallon OJ \$4.95 each

#### MILK

Gallon
1/2 Gallon
Pints
Half & Half



\$4.35 each \$3.05 each \$1.35 each \$3.05/at