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## NINE RESIDENTS GRADUATE TRINITAS SCHOOL OF NURSING

Seventy-nine students including Union residents Elijah M. Alviola, Micol J. Clarke, Vannaelle Decius, Jo-Arabelle Dysico Flores, Shyane M. Howe, Kathrina Kuzin, Mariel F. Loaiza, Abigail Samonte, and Tyeesha R. White, received their nursing diplomas from the Trinitas School of Nursing for what would have been the 162nd Convocation Ceremony on May 28, 2020. Although a typical ceremony was not held, 68 women and 11 men became eligible to sit for the registered nurse licensing exam.

“The Trinitas School of Nursing is so proud of the second graduating class of the new decade, Class of May 2020,” said Rose Santee, Dean of the Trinitas School of Nursing, which is affiliated with Union County College, and also awards Associates in Science Degrees to the graduates. “We are very proud of our students, our faculty and staff, and our photographer, Grace Photography, for doing this professional


work during a very challenging situation and practicing all precautions including screening, social distancing, hand-washing, and masking (except for graduates at actual photo taking but still socially distant).”

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.



Trinitas School of Nursing Class of 2020

Graduate photos were taken individually by Grace Photography and graphic design magic was made to create the class photo.



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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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## UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SEEKS NOMINATIONS OF GOODDOERS

*Submitted by James Masterson*

We have all witnessed and experienced a historical event – the COVID-19 Pandemic of 2020.

These have been tough times, but so many businesses and individuals rose to the occasion and demonstrated tremendous examples of humanity. The Union Township Chamber of Commerce wants to hear from you about them!

Do you know a person or business who stood out during the pandemic by their deeds? People helping people, businesses donating meals, and front line workers sacrificing their own safety to help others are some examples. Tell us about them so that we may recognize them.

Nominate a business, organization or individual within the Township of Union by sending an email to [executivedirector@unionchamber.com](mailto:executivedirector@unionchamber.com). Include your name and email address. Write up the name

of the person/business you are nominating plus a brief paragraph describing why you are making the nomination. You may make more than one nomination. If the person/business is from Union, they do not have to be Chamber members to be nominated.

Businesses outside of the Township are eligible if they are Chamber members.

All those selected will be publicly recognized at a future Chamber event and will receive a certificate of honor. Additionally, a special "Honor Roll" will be created and permanently mounted in the Parsonage (home of the Union Township Historical Society) with the names of all those chosen. This will remain displayed so that future generations may see the good things that came during bad times.

Become a part of history. Send your nomination by July 15, 2020.

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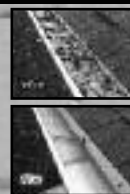
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## DOCUMENTING HISTORY: COVID-19 NOTES

All of us are living through - and creating - history. It's important that we leave a legacy to those who come after us so that they can learn from our experiences.

The Union Township and Vauxhall Historical Societies are partnering with the Union Public Library to document the impact of the pandemic on the residents of Union and on those who work in our town. The project includes soliciting responses in the form of writings, drawings, photographs, and videos to these questions:

- What will you remember most about this time?
- What has surprised you most about the quarantine?
- What has been an unexpected, positive effect of the quarantine?
- What do you most look forward to when schools/businesses reopen?
- What are your hopes for the future when this ends?

Individuals and families can upload their submissions at [uniontownship.com/379/Union-Public-Library](http://uniontownship.com/379/Union-Public-Library).

The trustees of both organizations are grateful to Karen O'Malley, the Director of the Union Public Library, for inviting them to participate in this project. Karen Jason, Library Manager of the UPL, is coordinating the efforts of the UTHS and the VHSH.

Both a digital archive and a print record will be curated from the responses for future generations to use as resources for insights into this historic era.

## UNION ANNOUNCES THE REOPENING OF THE CENTER DOWNTOWN & BUSINESS DISTRICTS

Home to dozens of mom and pop shops, the Township of Union was eager to get back to business with the reopening of its bustling downtown and business districts.

"Many restaurants and businesses throughout the state, county, and township have struggled to stay afloat," said Mayor Michele Delisfort. "Our local businesses have gotten creative during this pandemic; however, the community needs to continue supporting them as we all adjust in the weeks ahead."

The Township of Union will kick off its reopening on Thursday, June 18th, in the Union Center Special Improvement District by offering its local restaurants temporary extended outdoor communal spaces adjacent to parking lots, streets, and sidewalks. A wellness component will also be added, bringing socially distanced yoga and zumba classes in the street, free breakfast sampling from local bakeries, activities for children, and musical entertainment. These activities will continue to be available throughout

the week, starting at 10am on Thursday, June 25th until Saturday, June 27th, 2020. For a full schedule of activities and promotions, visit [unioncentersid.com](http://unioncentersid.com).

"Despite new procedures in place, our community's enthusiasm has been contagious, and I can't help but smile seeing the continued support for local businesses," stated Fatimah Raymond, Economic Development & Union Center SID Director. "With the summer days ahead we know that our business will thrive and inspire patrons to continue supporting their local businesses."

Most recently, the Union Center SID launched a GoFundMe Campaign titled "Union Stands Together," to help with economic relief to our small businesses. Any donation of \$50 or more will receive a Local Love t-shirt from the SID who will also match dollar to dollar up to \$25,000. Show some local love and donate to the campaign by visiting [www.gofundme.com/f/union-stands-together](http://www.gofundme.com/f/union-stands-together).

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\*Dr Naik is certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties.

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## CANCER SURVIVORS AND CAREGIVERS NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Submitted by Ruthanne Brown, American  
Cancer Society (Northeast Division)  
Media & Publicity Senior Volunteer

I'm a volunteer for the American Cancer Society, writing on behalf of cancer survivors and their caregivers. I write out of concern for this sector of the population because of the effect Covid-19 has had on them. Eleven percent of New Jersey's Covid fatalities have been individuals who were already battling cancer, then later contracted the virus. This pandemic has caused a myriad of obstacles for cancer patients who've been recently diagnosed or who require continued long-term care.

87% of cancer patients are experiencing disruptions in treatment and testing regimens. This crisis has made it difficult to maintain contact with health care providers, all of whom are overwhelmed and overworked at this point in time. Regular access to treatment is difficult to come by, which increases the probability for cancer cells to spread or even return in some patients. A number of research studies have been temporarily suspended; not a good thing when time is of the essence. All of this, plus the financial burden of paying health insurance premiums and medical co-pays is causing widespread anxiety for patients and caregivers alike.

We collectively, must stand together to protect our most vulnerable members of society. We must make this a priority.

I implore readers to make a contribution to the American Cancer Society. Over the past three months, gifts from donors have decreased dramatically. Many ACS fundraising events have been postponed or cancelled. However, please know we are ALWAYS here for you with cancer help and information when you need it. Call us ANYTIME day or night at 1-800-227-2345 or visit us on the web [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

We at the American Cancer Society are optimistically looking toward the future. Our dedicated volunteers are working on a safe social distancing plan so we may host community events soon. We are especially excited about "Bark For Life of Central NJ", our statewide Dog-Walk & Festival to raise funds and awareness in the fight against cancer. Visit our webpage [www.RelayForLife.org/BarkCentralNJ](http://www.RelayForLife.org/BarkCentralNJ) to make your donation to the American Cancer Society. Check back often for event updates and cancer related information.

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## I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER! ARE YOU?

*Submitted by Michael Boll*

A few years ago, I was approached by a friend and co-worker of mine who expressed how extremely depressed he was and that he wanted to take his own life. Initially, I was completely shocked because this guy always seemed to be upbeat and happy all the time. Immediately, I asked him to come with me to a private office so we could talk about his awful situation. This was the first time in my life that I had a friend talk to me about suicide, and I knew I had to really do my best to help him get through this horrible ordeal. We spoke for a few hours and I listened closely to everything he said. I was able to convince him to immediately get some help and we went to the hospital. I stayed with him at the hospital and met with him when he was released. I did everything to show my friend that I had his back and because of this he is alive today. This awful situation inspired me to do whatever I possibly can to help others in need and shortly after we created our mobile outreach program.

In today's day and age, most of you have known a veteran or first responder that has taken their own life. Every day we lose nearly twenty-two veterans and approximately three hundred first responders every year to suicide. Even with all the awareness and new anti-suicide programs available, this number has not changed and, in some cases, has increased. The Veteran Hospitals' PTSD and mental health programs are packed with patients and unfortunately, they

continue to grow. More of our first responders are also seeking help and utilizing some of the state programs being offered. So many people want to help and put an end to this crisis but sadly there isn't a foolproof program available that will stop this ever-growing crisis from destroying our uniformed heroes and their family's lives.

For the last two years our team has been working tirelessly with other charities to come up with a better solution to help prevent this epidemic from continuing. Personally, we believe our "Mobile Outreach Team" is really making a difference and everyday it helps our uniformed heroes live a better way of life.

The first thing we learned is to lose your "EGO" and seek out other groups and organizations that are looking to save lives. Then we find the right volunteers who are committed and dedicated with being a mentor to a person in crisis. Volunteers are extremely valuable because they want to be there, and they usually care more than the people who get paid for their services.

To date, we have been able to change and save countless lives because of the incredible commitment from the volunteers and other supporting groups.

Our approach is to aggressively seek out and contact a veteran or first responder in crisis. Our goal is to immediately work on building trust by being completely honest with the person in crisis. Using our network is wonderful, but it's more important to show the person in need that we are

there for them and won't give up. Usually, we go out and meet with those in crisis and spend whatever time is needed to help them get in a better frame of mind. Bottom line "Human Contact" and "Friendship" is the key to saving a life.

Our Mobile Outreach Team is unique because it consists of mentors from all over the state that are willing to do whatever it takes to save and change a life.

If you are interested in joining our team please feel free to contact me at (973)-332-1556 or email [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net). To learn more visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).

### **ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK**

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our team is raising awareness of our veterans needs by organizing public speaking engagements, meeting with business and political leaders across the state and sponsoring fundraising events. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. To ensure that EVERY single one of our veterans, who have sacrificed so much for this great country, receives the resources that they require and deserve. If you are interested in joining our team, would like us to speak at your event, or contributing to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email [mdbollio@optonline.net](mailto:mdbollio@optonline.net). To learn more visit [njvn.org](http://njvn.org).



*(above) Operation Rebound is one of the outreach programs of the New Jersey Veterans Network. It is a mobile outreach team of mentors who help at-risk veterans and first responders to live a better life. The 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.*



# UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY JULY 2020 VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Whether looking to join our fun Summer Reading Program or learn how to relax through meditation, Union Public Library (UPL) has something for you that you can access and enjoy virtually. Here's what happening for adults. All programs are free and open to the public.

## Adult Summer Reading Program

Summer reading is not just for kids. Join our online adult Summer Reading program and be eligible to win prizes, just by reading.

Registration sign up on Read Squared [uplnj.readsquared.com/](http://uplnj.readsquared.com/) Log your hours weekly through August 28 to be eligible for drawings, and a grand prize at the end of August.

## Hilton Readers Discussion Group

**Monday, July 27 6:00pm-7:00pm**

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group members will discuss some of their favorite books and authors! New members welcome.

## Virtual Meditation

**Thurs., July 23, 30 from 11:30am-12:30pm**

Join instructor Bindu Bhatt for a virtual meditation session. No experience necessary.

## Virtual Beginner Flow Yoga

**Thur. July 9, 16, 23, 30 from 6:00-6:30 pm**

This class will lead you through the foundations of yoga postures, body awareness and alignment, relaxation of the mind and a connection with the breath. You will learn how to improve muscle strength, promote flexibility, and build your own yoga program specific for your mind and body.

To register, email [UPLLive@uplnj.org](mailto:UPLLive@uplnj.org).

## Community Resources for People in Crisis

**Tues., July 7, from 2:00-3:00pm**

Presented by Juanita Ayala Vargas, VP, Programs and Operations / United Way of Greater Union County. Find out how to get financial and other help and support ranging from money to food.

## Altered Channels: A Life in TV

**Thurs., July 9, at 11:00am**

Steven Capsuto, author of *Alternate Channels: Queer Images on 20th-Century TV*, began collecting recordings of LGBTQ-themed radio and TV shows when he was a student in the 1980s. By the time the 20th-anniversary edition of *Alternate Channels* came out this year, he had amassed thousands of such recordings, dating from the 1950s to 2020s. Steven will discuss how he got involved in this topic, will show rare video clips of LGBTQ portrayals from the past, and share some of his conclusions about their impact.

## Stained Glass Candle Votives Craft

**Fri., July 7, 4:30-5:00pm**

Led by UPL Librarian Kiana Kirby  
Learn how to make Stained Glass Votive Candle Holders using colored tissue paper. They look like stained glass, especially with a candle flickering inside them!

## The History of Union

**Wed., July 7, 11:00am**

Presented by Union Township Historical Society Vice President David Arminio.

## Off the Shelf Book Club

**Thurs., July 7, 7:00-8:00pm**

Off the Shelf Book Club members will discuss a different title from Hoopla each month! Titles are available for free download with your library card on Hoopla! New members are always welcome.

## Inventions: Yours and Others

**Thurs., July 7, 11:00am**

Learn how to access UPL resources to learn a new language, watch your favorite movie, read a best seller or the latest magazine, and so much more. Please bring your mobile device and Union Public Library card.

## Wartime Letters from a NJ Doughboy 1918-1919

**Tues., July 7, 11:00am**

Presented by Marilyn Pfaltz. A collection of letters saved for over 100 years describe a young man's front seat view of history from the battlefields of France.

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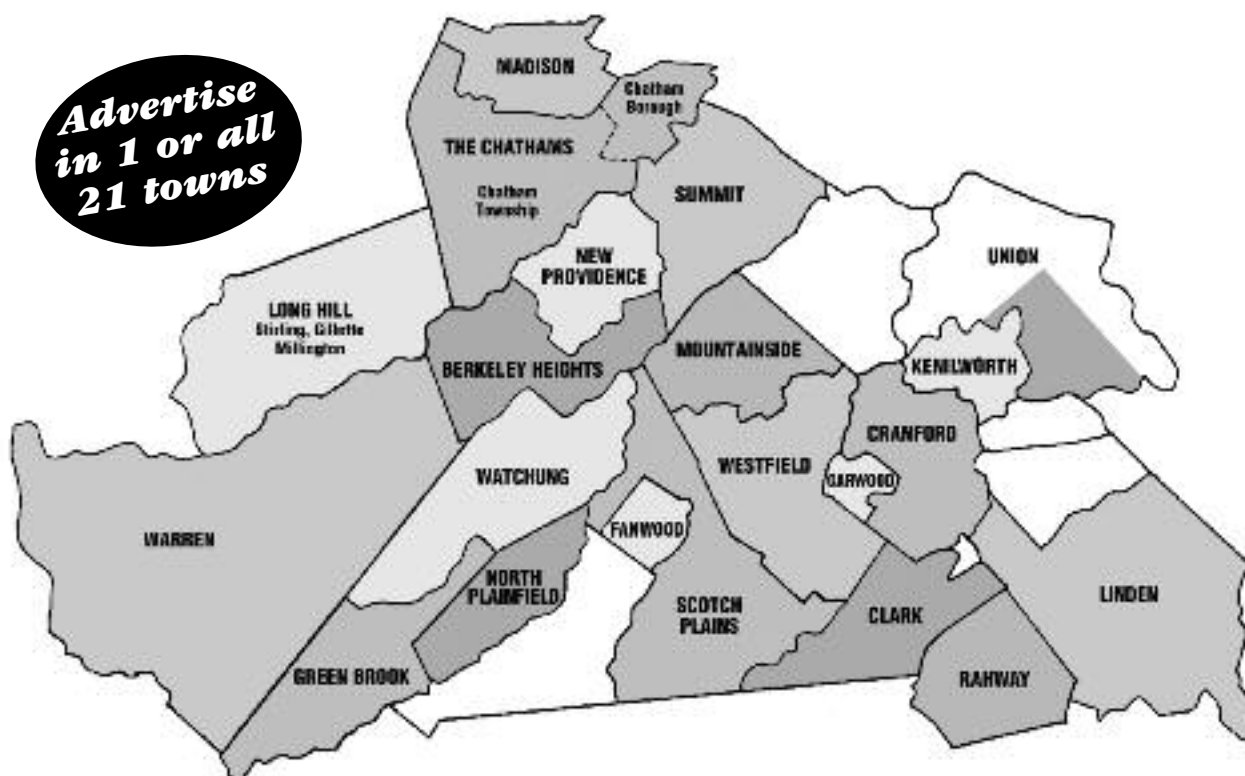
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# Howdy Partners!

## Online Marketing is like the Wild West

Too many carpetbaggers are exploiting business owners, making empty promises that don't materialize.

Too many businesses are stuck in contracts with no return on investments, no way to check if the work is getting done, and needing to invest more to make things right.

The following is a guide to Renna Media services and costs that you can compare to your present provider.

I highly recommend doing an independent audit of your website!

Contact Walter Watson at [walter@www-online-enterprises.com](mailto:walter@www-online-enterprises.com)

He does a great job analysing and making recommendations.

It is only \$250 and can save you time, money and headaches.

Thank you. - Joe Renna

## Full Service Online Marketing



### Online Marketing Items

- Website ads and Social Media Posts, Classified ads .....\$20 per item  
- Special bulk price.....Block of 20 items \$100  
Including: Press releases / Classified Ads  
Web Page / Calendar Event / Monthly Banner ads

#### Extra Boost:

- 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.

### 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

### Video advertising

#### Production:

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

**Do not commit to a service unless you have a solid marketing plan and budget.**

Your plan should work on paper before you spend dime one. Don't waste money just trying something. There is no magic bullet.  
**Call Joe for a free consultation.**

**Call Joe Renna 908-447-1295**  
**Email: [JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)**

Check out Joe Renna's Hyper Local Network on YouTube. Call 908-447-1295 if you want your business featured online and in print. See sample show below.



## BOB MARKEY - SAVE THE TREES OF RAHWAY

During the past 20 years, over 2000 of Rahway's street trees have died or were removed and never replaced. Resident Bob Markey is producing a three-episode video which provides viewers with a sobering look into this serious crisis affecting Rahway's trees. The video also provides a toolbox to fix the tree problems and to rebuild Rahway's urban forest. There is a plan to accomplish it, but the effort needs help and support.

Markey states, "This crisis didn't happen overnight, nor is it the fault of any individual, city department or elected official. Over the years mistakes and oversights have been made."

The Arbor Day Foundation certified Rahway as a Tree City USA Community in 1997 with two primary requirements: Form a Tree Board and Enact a Tree Ordinance.

The video is to raise awareness and solicit help in the effort to rebuild, restock and restore Rahway's urban forest.

Folks can help by sending an email to [Help@SaveTheTreesofRahway.org](mailto:Help@SaveTheTreesofRahway.org), and by subscribing to Save The Trees of Rahway YouTube Channel, and by following the group on Facebook.

**SCAN QR CODE TO OPEN  
OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL**



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- Pipe

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Brown Dyed.....\$30

Red Dyed.....\$32

Hardwood.....\$24

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Stone Dust.....\$34

QP .....\$36

## DECORATIVE STONE

3/8 Red Stone .....\$74

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3/4 Goose Egg .....\$94

1 1/2-3 Goose Egg.....\$98

3/4 Arctic White.....\$94

3/8 Riverbed / Pea Gravel.....\$60

1 Riverbed .....\$68

1 1/2-3 Riverbed.....\$76

Prices subject to change without notice.

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