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OSTAL PATRON JNION, NJ 07083 Submitted by Gretchen M. Boger-O'Bryan A recent Friday morning had special meaning to five Union County foster youth celebrating an end to living in foster care as adoptions into their forever families became finalized. Union County's Family Court celebrated National Adoption Day on Friday, Nov. 20, ahead of the

national Saturday Nov. 21 festivities, as five youth ranging from two to 11 years old, along with their foster families, met on Zoom with Judges Marc R. Brown and James Hely to make official what each already felt – they were home.

Although COVID-19 required the day be different than prior years, the excitement was as palpable as ever. A car parade included judiciary staff, CASA of Union County staff and interns, fire trucks, police cars and a band of superheroes from Heroes 4 Heroes, a volunteer organization of corrections officers that don superhero costumes and visit children facing adversities. The parade included stops at each adoptive home – Cranford, Elizabeth, Linden, Newark and Union – with sirens blaring, horns honking and rounds of applause.

Each family received a gift basket from CASA of Union County, with collaboration from David Brearley Middle and High School, Live or Tie Dye, Two Park Princesses, Kappa Alpha Theta of Westfield, Division of Child Protection and Permanency and Catholic Charities, Girl Scout Troop 40042 of Cranford, and Scotch Plains Girl Scout Lauren Cunningham, Union County Bar Association, and many generous community members who heeded the call for donations. Each family fun-themed basket contained board and card games, puzzles, fleece blankets, teddy bear for each adoptee, themed picture frame for the first official family photo, jars of popping corn, movie candy, Delice Macarons, ShopRite and WalMart gift cards and a welcome mat declaring, "There's No Place Like Home." Adoptees and siblings received tie-dye sweatshirts from Live or Tie Dye and books handpicked by Kappa Alpha Theta's Westfield chapter. At each parade stop, Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan, Development and Communications Manager at CASA of Union County, took photographs of each family as they



(above) The Pennicook Family of Union with Superheroes

emerged from their homes and were greeted by superheroes, the symphony of honking horns and applause, and received balloon bouquets from A Birthday Wish. A hot breakfast – sponsored by Union County Surrogate James LaCorte – was delivered to each family by DCPP staff and Cranford resident Robin Johnstone.

Adoption Day began 20 years ago when a coalition of The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, Alliance for Children's Rights and Children's Action Network encouraged nine cities to open courts the Saturday before Thanksgiving to allow adoptions to be finalized and celebrated. Today, more than 120,000 nationwide need a permanent home, with an average wait in foster care of four years. Each year, 23,000 youth age out of the system without a family or safety net in place.

ABOUT CASA OF UNION COUNTY

Since 2005, Court Appointed Special Advocates of Union County has been recruiting, training, supervising and supporting community volunteers to advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned children placed in foster homes or residential facilities. CASA volunteers ensure children's best interests remain the priority while working toward establishing a safe, stable and permanent home for each child served.

For details on CASA of Union County and becoming an advocate for a foster youth, contact Walia at wworrill@casaofunioncounty.org or log on to www.casaofunioncounty.org.



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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!

Call: 908-418-5586 Email: editor@rennamedia.com

SCHEDULE YOUR COVID VACCINATION

registration system at ucnjvaccine.org for those eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

Please note the registration system will only log those who are eligible to receive the vaccination. Those who are ineligible to receive vaccinations will not be allowed to pre-register, and must wait until they are eligible.

Those who are eligible to receive the vaccine include paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and long-term care residents and staff, and also sworn law enforcement personnel and

The County of Union opened an online fire professionals. Residents 65 and older are also eligible to receive the vaccinations, as are those between the ages of 16-64 with medical conditions, as defined by the CDC, that increase the risk of severe illness from the virus.

> The county is offering the Moderna vaccine. The vaccination clinic is located at Downs Hall at Kean University in Union, and is currently open five days a week from 3-7 p.m. Once more vaccines are available, the county is planning to offer the COVID-19 vaccine in different areas of the county.

> To secure an appointment for the COVID vaccination visit ucnjvaccine.org.

NAMI UNION COUNTY "CIRCLE OF FRIENDS"

Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) invites area residents to join its Zoom "Circle of Friends" for a free informal evening of discussion on Feb. 23, from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

The format will be a panel discussion with Joyce Benz, LCSW, Director of Intensive Family Support Services of the Mental Health Assoc. in NJ as moderator along with other NAMI members. The panel will explore various topics affecting persons with mental

The Union County chapter of the National illness and offer insight from their own experiences in dealing with these problems. Join us and bring your questions and concerns. This is an opportunity for information sharing with others who have a common interest.

Please register for this evening at naminj.org/support/affiliates/union/Upcoming Event. Click on the "Register Here" link which will not be available until a few days before the event.

ANNOUNCING THE NEW OFFICE OF DR. EDWARD SOMMA IN BERKELEY HEIGHTS "Providing exceptional comprehensive health care with unrivaled compassion and personalized attention for more than 2 decades"



Edward Anthony Somma, MD Internal Medicine



After graduating from medical school, Dr Somma served his internship in Internal Medicine at Trinitas Regional Medical Center. He then completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Seton Hall Post Graduate School of Medicine, where he was elected Chief Resident of Internal Medicine in his final year.

Dr. Somma has been in practice in Union and Middlesex counties for over 20 years, with an emphasis on excellence and compassion for his patients. He has served as the physician for the Elizabeth Fire Department, the Board of Health of Hillside and has served the Board of Education for Woodbridge NJ. He was granted the Humanitarian of the Year Award by Trinitas Health Foundation in May 2014, for his dedication to the community and his outstanding service to the goals of the Foundation.

Dr. Somma has special interests in various fields of Internal Medicine, including diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular diseases and arthritis/rheumatology. He has represented to major pharmaceutical companies, such as Schering-Plough and Pfizer, in a consulting and educational role for his peers. Dr. Somma has been a clinical educator for Seton Hall's Physician Assistant Program as an Associate Professor of Medicine for their Internal Medicine program.

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- Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and many more. Please call if you do not see your insurance plan listed.

OPEN HOUSE AT CALDWELL PARSONAGE

host open houses at the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union, on Sundays, February 7, and Sunday, February 21, from 2 to 5 p.m. Admission is free. To maintain social distancing, reservations are required by calling 908-591-4377.

For Black History Month, two exhibits will be displayed:

The Veterans of Vauxhall, curated by Jon Rosser, Treasurer of the Vauxhall Historical Society, Inc.; and Memorabilia of Eulace Peacock, a UHS track and field star, who beat Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens.

Visitors can:

Collect Union County's Hannah Caldwell, James Caldwell, and Battle of Connecticut Farms trading cards; Receive Union County Passport booklets and have them stamped--the Parsonage, part of the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, is

The Union Township Historical Society will an official National Park Service cancellation site; View a new exhibit of 10 historic Union documents archivally preserved, partially through a grant from the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs; and Enjoy the exhibit of historic household conveniences; farm implements; old TV's, radios, and office equipment in the Tool Museum in the carriage house.

> The following protocols will be observed: masks required; social distancing; sign in with email address; and hand-sanitizer will be available.

> The UTHS had to cancel tours in March, July, and August and programs in April, May, September, November, and December. Each of those would have produced much needed revenue for the centuries-old house. It's hoped that members of the community would consider an in-person contribution or an on-line donation at unionnjhistory.com

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	 WHO HAVE BEEN IN AUTO ACCIDENTS We help patients with insurance applications Offer referrals to medical specialists Supply Free legal medical reports to attorneys Give Free expert testimony at trials One moment everything may seem fine, when suddenly you're involved in a serious collision. Most people have one thing on their mind after a car accidenttheir car! However, it's important to remember that you and your injuries come first. A visit to a chiropractor should

SEA SCOUT SHIP 228 VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Are you interested in boating, sailing, or mechanics? Come check out Sea Scouting and let the adventure at sea begin! The crew of Ship 228 will be hosting a virtual open house, taking place over Zoom on Saturday, March 13 at 4:00 p.m. and featuring various activities that are bound to pique a young adult's interest in scouting.

Sea Scouting is open to both male and



(above) Whether you're steering the vessel from the wheelhouse, learning engine room repair, or visiting a new location on one of the many trips, there's something you'll enjoy in Sea Scouting.

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

Ship 228 is proud to host the virtual open house. The event will include a tour of the ship's main vessel (the 65' Sea Dart II, one of the largest Sea Scout vessels on the east coast), an introduction to the Sea Scout program, appearances from current Sea Scouts, a lively Q&A, and more.

To register, please provide your name, email address, and phone number (which is optional) in an email to Ship228.SeaDart@gmail.com.

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



(above) Sea Scouts from Ship 228 operate the 65' vessel Sea Dart II, one of the largest Sea Scout vessels on the east coast, along with a fleet of smaller vessels (including sailboats) from their base located in Linden, NJ.



(above) Adult volunteers with maritime experience or captain's licenses are needed too. Visit our website for more information ship228.com, or email Ship228.SeaDart@gmail.com.

DECREASING BACK PAIN BY INCREASING TREATMENT OPTIONS

If you've been living with back pain, it's time to discover the innovative treatment options at the Center for Back Pain at Hackensack Meridian JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute.

Our board certified doctors, who are also certified in pain and sports medicine, use the treatment to best address your pain, including image-guided injection treatments, physical therapy and, when necessary, minimally invasive surgery.

You will get a treatment plan to help you ease pain and regain strength and functionality—safely and quickly.

To find a doctor, visit HackensackMeridianHealth.org/BackRehab or call 732-897-BACK (2225).



Hackensack Meridian JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute



NJ CAREER NETWORK -**HELP FOR JOB SEEKERS**

Are you a New Jersey resident and looking for work? Do you want to be part of a community of job seekers and volunteer coaches who want to support and encourage each other along the way? If so, consider joining the NJ Career Network Job Seeker Community today!

What is the NJ Career Network Job Seeker Community? A free online community to help you in your job search and to connect you with other people who are looking for jobs and with our volunteer coaches. This community offers a supportive network so you know where to turn with your questions and concerns. Volunteer experts and your peers will be here to help you navigate your job search and cope with all aspects of searching for work.

Why should you join? The job seeker community will share resources, facilitate conversations, and welcome questions about looking for a job. You will gain access to exclusive community member-only events when you join. We also understand that your job search will not be successful unless you are okay, both physically and mentally. That's why the community will be a place for you to share challenges that get in the way of or discourage your job search.

WHAT THIS COMMUNITY IS:

- A safe space to ask questions and share your concerns.
- A chance to connect with your peers.
- A place to participate in conversations and events.
- A place to share and contribute your knowledge and expertise to your fellow community members.
- A place to figure out solutions to problems.
- A network to offer support for your overall well-being.
- An opportunity to help yourself and others looking for employment.

What this community is not: A job board or other impersonal networking. Networking that ignores the rest of your life. A place to just get information without participating.

Please visit nj-career-network-jobseekercommunity.mn.co and join us! One of our coaches or moderators will reach out to answer any questions you may have and to help you get started! We are using the Mighty Networks online platform to host the NJ Career Network Job Seeker Community. When you join the online community, any references to Mighty Networks are in regard to the community's hosting platform service.



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COMMUNITY HOPE CONNECTS VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH HOUSING, SERVICES

CALL THE REFERRAL HOTLINE FOR ELIGIBILITY

Veterans and their families who are hotline experiencing a housing crisis may be eligible for emergency assistance such as motel/hotel stays, security deposits, rent, rental arrears, groceries and utilities through Community Hope.

Community Hope's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is currently providing Urgent assistance remotely. community-based services such as critical supplies and veteran wellness-checks are provided in person.

The increase in support services to veterans and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic is possible thanks to funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

To make a referral, please call the referral at 1-855-483-8466 or email SSVF@communityhope-nj.org, or email Gema Diaz at gdiaz@communityhope-nj.org.

Community Hope is a nonprofit that helps individuals, including veterans, and their families, overcome mental illness, addiction, homelessness and poverty. Learn more at communityhope-nj.org.



ROGER, FOR NEW JERSEY VETERAN COMMUNITY TO FIND SUPPORT

ROGER, a search platform for New Jersey veteran is a good fit for them. veterans, launched on November 9th, just ahead of Veterans Day 2020. The platform was created by Backpacks For Life founders Brett D'Alessandro and Alexa Modero. After serving the Veteran community for 6 years, they found many inefficiencies and convoluted systems that prevented veterans from getting the care they need in a quick and efficient way. From lengthy intake processes to outdated information on organizations' websites, the Backpacks For Life team knew there was a better way to get veterans the care they needed.

ROGER allows veterans and their family members to search for programs, resources and care by a variety of factors such as zip code, branch of service, discharge status and income. With these customizable search features, veterans will see only the programs that they qualify for. This helps mitigate time wasted for not only veterans searching for programs that fit their needs, but also the service providers to ensure the

"Navigating through resources is hard...we get it. As a veteran myself, I was often running around in circles trying to find programs that I was eligible for and that fit my needs. When we're working with veterans, every minute matters and with ROGER we can work more quickly to get veterans what they need. We're excited to bring ROGER to the NJ veteran community." - Sgt. Brett D'Alessandro, Retired US Marine & President of Backpacks For Life

To explore ROGER, visit www.roger.vet or ROGER contact the team at roger@backpacksforlife.org

Backpacks For Life is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization that serves the homeless and at-risk veteran community. By regularly distributing backpacks filled with essentials to veterans on the streets and providing mentorship to at-risk veterans and their families, Backpacks For Life aims to bridge the gap between veterans and the resources available to them.



BICYCLE COLLECTION FOR COUNTRIES IN NEED

Submitted by Larry Holt

In August 2020, Renna Media reported that Faith Lutheran Church collected and repaired 170 used bikes from residents of New Providence, Berkeley Heights and neighboring towns. The collection was conducted on behalf of Pedals for Progress, an organization which recycles bikes for persons in developing countries. Faith contributed \$1,700 toward the shipping bikes.

In the United States daily transportation occurs conveniently with little or no forethought. This is not the case in developing countries, where a village may not have one car. The mode of transportation for commuting to work, going to market and receiving medical care is frequently a pedal bike.

Later this year, Faith will again be asking persons to donate bikes for Faith to process through Pedals for Progress. A person may ask Faith to pick up the bike from his/her house or deliver the bike to Faith. If one wishes to donate a bike before the request, one may place the bike by the shed at the back of Faith's parking lot located at 524 South Street, New Providence, NJ. If you would like a bike picked up call 908-464-5177.

Since 2002 Faith has been participating in the Pedals for Progress program. For the past five years, Casey Walsh has chaired the ministry.

The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. Visit online at famfaith.org, or reach by phone at 908-464-5177.

(right) This picture, sent to Faith by Pedals for Progress, demonstrates how completely and creatively the recipients use their bikes.





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MICHAEL NAYA PRESERVES THE HISTORIES OF WWII VETERANS

Submitted by Margaret McCorry

Michael Naya hopes to be a history professor one day. While the Kean University freshman pursues that professional dream, he is doing the work of a historian, recording the military experiences of World War II veterans from around the country.

Since the age of 14, Naya has interviewed more than 100 World War II veterans to capture their oral histories of the war and one day preserve them in a book. Now 18, the history major from Kenilworth is a founding member of the Young Historians Program through the group D-Day Squadron.

"I want you all to remember the thousands and millions of people who served in World War II. These were the quiet heroes," Naya said. "Every Memorial Day, we honor those who died, and their stories are often widely known, but we very rarely remember those who came back from the war and built our communities."

Naya said getting a book about the Titanic in first grade ignited his interest in history. Then, when he was 14, he watched a video about two World War II veterans reuniting after 70 years.

"I looked over at my mom and said, "Mom, I want to interview these veterans," he said.

His mother connected him with a family friend, John Rembish, who served in World War II, and Naya's passion for interviewing veterans from the Greatest Generation flourished. By reaching out to veteran-related associations, he has talked with veterans across the country.

One of them is 95-year-old Chuck Brown of SeaTac, Washington, who saw combat with the 12th Armored Division in Alsace, France, and helped liberate concentration camps during his three years in the army. He calls Naya a "close friend."

"I think the world of him. He is 18 years old and in his first year of college. I am 95 years old, but we talk on equal terms. For me, it is a wonderful experience. I can't get enough of the guy. There is no age difference when we speak," he said.

Brown, who was drafted at 18, shared with Naya his recollections of the fear, the "terrible cold" and the lack of sleep that dominated his time in the war.

"The only reason that a guy like myself served was for the 12 guys in the squad. You weren't serving for some Hollywood reason," he said. "You were scared to death, and the only thing that meant anything to you were the guys next to you. You would do anything for them."

Through the D-Day Squadron, a group of owners and operators of Douglas DC-3 vintage aircraft and World War II veteran airplanes, Naya is developing the Young Historians Program.

"They want to educate young children, teenagers and young adults on World War II through peer outreach, and I find that to be a great idea," Naya said. "It's our job as the next generation to carry on the torch of preserving that memory."

Lyndse Costabile, director of corporate relations, communications and marketing at the D-Day Squadron, said Naya brings experience, innate talent and a passion for history to the Young Historians Program. professor, Naya said he chose Kean because of its outstanding reputation for educating teachers.

"He's very persistent and passionate. That persistence is what sparked our interest in him. He is very charismatic, just a genuine, goodhearted person with a great soul, and those are the types of people we like to surround ourselves with and involve in our efforts," she said.

Naya hopes more Kean students will get involved in the project, something that Adjunct Professor John Lestrange, who has Naya in his World of History class, endorses.

"I absolutely wish that more students were involved in projects like this. Oral histories like what Michael is conducting are very important primary sources, and there are so many historic events that we can record this way," he said.

With plans to become a high school history teacher and, ultimately, a college history

professor, Naya said he chose Kean because of its outstanding reputation for educating teachers. While he hasn't yet set foot on campus this semester as he learns remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic, Naya said he is having a great experience. "I absolutely love it," he said.

Right now, Naya is focused on finding and interviewing survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor, which launched the U.S. into the war.

"There are still so many men and women out there in our own communities who've never told their stories. They never wanted to talk about it. They came home. They put their duffel bags away. They folded up their uniforms, and they put the war behind them," he said. "I'm glad that I'm able to keep in touch with these eyewitnesses. How many people my age get to say they spoke to a World War II vet? I think it's a privilege and an honor I get to do work like this."



(above) Kean University freshman Michael Naya of Kenilworth poses with veterans of World War II and the Korean War. Naya has interviewed more than 100 World War II veterans about their military experiences.

Photo by Kean Univeristy



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COVID-19 VACCINES ARE IN THE PIPELINE. SCAMMERS WON'T BE FAR BEHIND.

Division of Consumer and Business Education, FTC

The release of COVID-19 vaccines plans for distribution are still being worked out.

While we wait for a timeline and more information, there's no doubt scammers will be scheming. Here's what you need to know to avoid a vaccine-related scam:

- You likely will not need to pay anything out of pocket to get the vaccine during this public health emergency.
- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get early access to the vaccine.
- No one from a vaccine distribution site or health care payer, like a private insurance company, will call you asking for your Social Security number or your credit card or bank

account information to sign you up to get the vaccine.

• Beware of providers offering other products, treatments, or medicines to prevent the virus. Check with your health care provider before paying for or receiving any COVID-19-related treatment.

If you get a call, text, email - or even someone knocking on your door — claiming they can get you early access to the vaccine, STOP. That's a scam. Don't pay for a promise of vaccine access or share personal information. Instead, report it to the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov or file a complaint with your state or territory attorney general through consumerresources.org, the consumer website of the National Association of Attorneys General.

Display: Three Ways to Avoid COVID-19 Vaccine Scams infographic (ftc.gov)



GET COZY AND DINE TO DONATE FOR TUEF

The Township of Union Education Foundation is pleased to announce Cozy Corner, 558 Rahway Avenue, Union is participating in a Dining to Donate event from January 24 to February 7. Mention "Ed Foundation" or "TUEF" and 5% of your total purchase is donated to the Education Foundation. Cozy Corner is known for their delicious breakfasts, lunches, sandwiches and catering. The menu for Cozy Corner can be viewed online at cozycornerdeli.net.

The Education Foundation raises funds used to award grants that support creative and innovative educational programs throughout the Union school district. In light of the pandemic and diminishing funds for schools, the grants issued from the Foundation are more important than ever. All funds raised go directly to grants for classroom use or to supplement virtual

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UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY FERBUARY VIRTUAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. • Phone: 908-851-5450 •Email unionpl@uplnj.org • https://uplnj.org/ Curbside Pickup Available: Monday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Saturday - Sunday: Closed

Library & Chill

UPL's new Winter Reading Program: This sixweek program for all ages will run throughout February. Virtually explore all the library has to offer this winter and have a chance to win

prizes! Visit uplnj.org for more information.

Virtual Volunteering for Teens

Starting Monday, 2/1 UPL will offer virtual volunteering opportunities for teens. More information coming soon! Email teens@uplnj.org if you're

interested. WEEKLY PROGRAMS Take-Home Craft Kits

We offer different take-home projects each week. Pick up a project kit at the library and follow along with our instructional video to create a cool craft from home! Instructional videos available to view on Facebook and Instagram. Call 908-851-5450 ext. 4 to schedule a pickup appointment. Project kits available while supplies last.

Virtual Biographical Storytime Tuesdays at 7:00 PM

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

Virtual Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:30 AM | All ages | No registration necessary Spend this special time listening to a story and singing songs & rhymes, broadcast on Facebook Live and subsequently available on Instagram! NOTE: The 2/10 and 2/17 storytimes will be presented by special guests. More information under 'Additional Programs'.

Virtual Storytime

Fridays at 10:30 AM |All ages | No registration necessary Spend this special time listening to a story and singing songs & rhymes, broadcast on Facebook Live and subsequently available on Instagram!

2/5: STEM Storytime
2/12: Lunar New Year Storytime
2/19: STEM Storytime
2/26: Fairy Tale Day Storytime

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS Digital Photography Hacks for Tweens and Teens

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Wednesday, 2/3 at 4:00 PM |Ages 8 - 18 | Registration required Rafael Miranda from LFC Consulting will show you different ways to edit and customize pictures on your phone or tablet, along with other fun digital photography tricks! This program will take place on Zoom.

Club Teen Virtual Check-In

Wednesday, 2/3 at 6:00 PM | Ages 14 - 18 | Registration required Catch up with your pals at Club Teen without leaving the house! This program will take place on Zoom.

Construction Zone Virtual Challenge

Monday, 2/8 at 4:00 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! Program on Zoom.

Virtual Music & Movement with Boogie Woogie Babies

Wednesday, 2/10 at 10:30 AM | All ages | No registration necessary Enjoy a virtual music & movement class led by Boogie Woogie Babies! This program will be broadcast on Facebook Live and subsequently available on-demand for one month.

Kids' Paint-Along

Wednesday, 2/10 at 4:00 PM | Ages 5 - 13 | Registration required Grab some art supplies and join us for this month's virtual paint-along! Program on Zoom.

Bendy Bookworm Yoga Storytime

Wednesday, 2/17 at 10:30 AM | All ages | No registration necessary Bendy Bookworm uses books and yoga to teach children cognitive, social, and emotional skills! This program will be broadcast on Facebook Live and subsequently available on-demand for one week.

Club Teen Virtual Check-In

Wednesday, 2/17 at 6:00 PM | Ages 14 - 18 | Registration required Catch up with your pals at Club Teen without leaving the house! Program on Zoom.

Virtual Bedtime Storytime

Thursday, 2/18 at 7:00 PM | All ages | No registration necessary Get ready for bedtime with a great story, broadcast on UPL's Facebook Live and subsequently available on UPL's Instagram! Don't forget to wear your coziest PJs!

DIY Beatmaking for Tweens and Teens Friday, 2/26 at 4:00 PM

Ages 10 - 18 | Registration required Learn the basics of digital music production and start making your own beats without leaving your bedroom! This program will be presented by celebrated club DJ/producer Ase Manual, and will use a free trial of the Ableton Live music-making software. This class will take place on Zoom. Limited to 10 participants. **On the Outside, Looking In: Race Relations in**

the History of Union County Tues., Feb. 2. @ 7:00pm

Dr. Walter Greason of Monmouth University will discuss the relationships among nativeborn populations, African-American migrants, and the range of ethnic immigrants in Union County. He is the author of 6 books, including The Path to Freedom: Black Families in New

Jersey, Suburban Erasure: How Suburbanization Ended the Civil Rights Movement in New Jersey, and, The Encyclopedia of Black Comics. Cosponsored by the Union Township, Union County and Vauxhall Historical Societies.

Costume Designer for the Met and Broadway

Thurs, Feb. 4 @ 2:00pm Mitchell Bloom is a costume designer with a résumé that includes the Metropolitan Opera,

Broadway, and movies. Join him to hear backstage stories and anecdotes about many well-known performers including Glenn Close, Matt Damon, Helen Mirren, Nicole Kidman, Renee Zellweger, Joaquin Phoenix, Bernadette Peters, and more.

The Enduring Legacy of Frank Sinatra

Thurs., Feb. 11 at 7:00pm Why is Frank Sinatra's music and personality still so iconic? Discover why from Chuck Granata, record producer of Frank Sinatra in Hollywood (and others), author of Sessions with Sinatra: Frank Sinatra and the Art of Recording (and others), and producer and occasional co-host of Nancy Sinatra's weekly Nancy for Frank show on Siriusly Sinatra.

History of Negro Baseball Leagues and Hinchliffe Stadium Tues., Feb. 16 @ 6:30pm

Did you know that one of the few surviving stadiums in the country associated with Negro League baseball is in our own backyard? Learn about the League's history and Paterson's own Hinchliffe Stadium. Brian LoPinto is president

of the Friends of Hinchliffe Stadium.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group Mon., Feb. 22 @ 6:00pm

New members are always welcome. February's title: Can't Nothing Bring Me Down: Chasing Myself in the Race Against Time by Ida

Keeling WCEC Presents Starting a Busines in New Jersey

Tues., Feb. 23 @ 3:00pm

Starting a business can be complicated, especially now. Let us help! We're partnering with the Women's Center for Entrepreneurship Corporation (WCEC) to talk about everything funding, legal concerns, business plan, etc.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Access to an extensive collection of fiction, non-fiction eAudiobooks and ebooks.

•HOOPLA

Borrow movies, music, audio books, eBooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, phone or TV.

•FREEGAL MUSIC

Get three hours of ad-free music per day from a vast catalog.

•RBDIGITAL MAGAZINES

Access to more than 60 current issues.

•**TUTOR.COM** Tutoring and career service resources available 24/7.

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Information on careers, skills and interest assessments and tools to look for a job.

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