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EULACE PEACOCK UNSUNG HERO AWARD RECIPIENT

Township of Union

It is with great pleasure that the Township of Union has announced Jackie Carter, Vauxhall resident, as the 2022 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.

"It was an emotional experience stopping by the Carter residence to surprise and award Jackie," noted Mayor Manuel Figueiredo, "Without a doubt, Jackie has made meaningful contributions to the Black Community and has a long history of helping children; throughout Union and Vauxhall."

Jackie Carter, married to Kurt Carter for 47 years, is the mother of two children, Erika and Kurt Jr, grandmother to Elijah, Kylee, Avery, and great-grandmother to Aubree. Jackie is the proud owner and director of the "All Because of Christ Day Care Center" in Vauxhall, which opened its doors in December 1990. Jackie is also an active member of the Aenon Baptist Church. She took on various roles throughout the years, such as secretary, nursery class assistant teacher,

administrative assistant, while also serving her community as the first African-American woman appointed to serve as a Mayor's Aide. Jackie is currently a Union Library Board of Directors Trustee and a member of the Township of Union Board of Health.

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 through athletics, public service, mentorship, or social activism.

The award was presented to Carter in a surprise by Mayor Figueiredo at her home while local access channel, UnionTV34 interviewed Jackie and her family for a Black History Month Showcase. The interview will premiere on the Township's Facebook page @twpunionnj on Friday, February 25 at 3 pm.

ABOUT EULACE PEACOCK:

Eulace Peacock was a 1933 graduate of Union High School and a 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 primary rival.

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Spirit of Union

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“TRANSIT TO TRAILS” APP OFFERS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS TO PARKS

NJ Transit recently launched its “Transit to Trails” initiative, an interactive and user-friendly web application that easily identifies great parks and green spaces in New Jersey that are accessible by public transportation.

The “Transit to Trails” website, found at njtransit.com/trails, has links to NJ Transit service details and park information for 62 national, state and county parks throughout New Jersey. Results will feature bus, rail and light rail options within two miles of the desired park throughout all 21 New Jersey counties.

While using NJ Transit’s “Transit to Trails” map, users will be able to search for their prospective destinations by park name or view a virtual map of the state with different park locations. Each destination has clickable access points comprised of park entranceways, parking

lots or meeting areas. Service options for each of these individual areas, managing agency information and directions will be accessible from a pop up that appears at each access point.

The ease and convenience of being able to efficiently plan for leisurely visits to outdoor recreation and community destinations encourages residents and visitors to utilize available public transportation as opposed to their personal vehicles when planning a trip. NJ Transit’s “Transit to Trails” application planning tool will help decrease road congestion, help the environment and ensure equitable access to New Jersey’s parks for those who depend on public transportation for all their travel needs.

For more information on NJ Transit to Trails please visit njtransit.com/trails.

HELP! I FOUND A WILD BIRD

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)3 organization that provides free medical care to thousands of Injured and orphaned wild birds each year.

Located at 1390 White Bridge Road, Millington, NJ The Raptor Trust's outdoor aviary trail is open to the public Daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no charge and no reservation necessary for general admission.

Donations are always appreciated.

The Raptor Trust is also offering private guided tours, virtual school programs, and outdoor field trips and scout programs through the winter months.

You can email education@theraptortrust.org with any booking questions or find more information on our website at TheRaptorTrust.org.

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UNION ROTARY CLUB GRANTS SWEET DREAMS

Submitted by Kathy Arminio

Members of the Union Rotary Club worked together to grant sweet dreams to needy children and adults in the area. Each month, the Rotarians conduct a drive to assist residents in the area. Recently, the members donated new pajamas and collected a total of 15 sets, two pants, and one pair of shorts.

Sharon Brangman, Geralanne Maglione, and Kylie Nemeth at Hillmann Consulting collected and sorted the donations. Cecil Cates delivered the pajamas to the Elizabeth Corp of the Salvation Army, where they were distributed to needy adults and children.

During 2021, the members of the Union Rotary Club held a Family Fitness Festival and all funds raised were donated to two families affected by COVID or Hurricane Ida. Members also held a personal hygiene kit drive and dropped off 40 bags full of hygiene essentials to Bianca F.L.O.W.E.R.S. in Plainfield. Rotary also joined with Hillmann Consulting and held a food drive for the Union Township Food Pantry

resulting in a HUGE donation. Union Rotarians believe in service above self and 2021 proved it.

The Union Rotary Club welcomes any member of the community who might like to join our group in putting "Service above Self". Meetings are held every Thursday at the Suburban Country Club at 12:15 p.m. For more information about Rotary, please contact Membership Chair, Sharon Patel at 908-964-6422 or visit us online at unionrotary.org.



(above) Rotary joined with Hillmann Consulting and held a food drive for the Union Township Food Pantry.

MOUNTAINSIDE COMMUNITY POOL ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIPS

Who's ready to enjoy the summer like it was 2019!!!

Located conveniently off Route 22 at 1005 Mountain Ave., Mountainside Community Pool memberships are currently available for this private gem of a facility for residents and non-residents.

Featuring three pools (50 meter, Dive/slide tank, and a zero-depth), picnic grove, snack bar, and two newly paved basketball courts, there are plenty of options for families of all sizes.

We offer swim lessons, swim team, have events throughout the year, and run a 13 & under triathlon. And all new members will receive a free 2022 tennis badge which gives you access to our six tennis courts in town.

There's no better place to escape and relax this summer!

**For membership information please call the
Mountainside Recreation Office @ 908-232-0015
or email kbandics@mountainside-nj.com.**



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GRANT TO ASSIST WITH CHILD CARE SERVICES

The Gateway Family YMCA

The Gateway Family YMCA was awarded a \$5,000 grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro to assist with YMCA Child Care services. The grant includes classroom supplies and equipment promoting diversity and inclusion in learning activities, early interest in STEM and language skills, and



(above) Children learn through play at The Gateway Family YMCA's Child Care program.

Photos by The Gateway Family YMCA



(above) The \$5K grant recently received from Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro will boost services given by The Gateway Family YMCA's Child Care program.

furniture that adheres to COVID-19 best practices in child care.

"We are so proud to support the invaluable resources that The Gateway Family YMCA provides for our community," said Matt Campo, CEO, Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro. "We are eager to see the meaningful impact they continue to make in the lives of the children they serve," he continued.

"During the global pandemic there has been an increased need for child care for essential workers," stated Krystal R. Canady, CEO. "The Gateway Family YMCA has served the community for over 121 years and we thank Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro for their support. As a charity, having community partners allows us to continue to serve the community."

The Gateway Family YMCA provides child care for approximately 800 children each year and summer day camp for 1,300. Child Care and

early learning programs at the Y focus on comprehensively nurturing child development by building foundational skills, fostering healthy relationships, and boosting self-reliance—all in a safe and supportive environment.

"During these challenging times, the Y has remained a constant, steady partner for our working families," said Melynda A. Mileski, EVP/COO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "Children attending YMCA child care relied on the safety, consistency, and learning provided through our Child Development Centers and caring staff."

The Gateway Family YMCA is a leading 501(c)(3) non-profit, health and community service organization committed to strengthening community by connecting all people to their potential, purpose, and each other. For more information about The Gateway Family YMCA or YMCA Child Care programs, visit www.tgfyymca.org or contact 908-688-9622.

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Celebrate Women's History, Start a Business, Ace an Interview, and more!

The transition from winter to spring can be the perfect time to try something new. We have plenty of programs to choose from and hope you will join us for at least one of them. Please note that all events are virtual through Zoom. Unless otherwise noted, register for all events at uplnj.org/events/list/. To keep fully informed of what's new at the library, sign up for our newsletter at uplnj.org/subscribe-to-our-newsletter/.

MAIN LIBRARY IS NOW OPEN

The Board of Trustees and staff of the Union Public Library are excited to announce the re-opening of the Main Library, located at 1060 Stuyvesant Avenue, as of January 31, 2022. There is a parking lot right next to the building!

At the Main Library, you can browse and check out new fiction books, new non-fiction books, new DVDs, magazines, newspapers, and video games. Plus, you can borrow museum passes and Chromebooks with hotspots. The Main Library houses the children's and young adult collections in their entirety, so be sure to bring the kids! Computers and limited study space are available for all ages, and you can print, copy, and scan, on-site.

This location will serve as a temporary space until the completion of our brand-new, 21st-century library at the former site on Morris Avenue. Construction is expected to take about two years.

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2022:

The Main Library,
at 1060 Stuyvesant Avenue, will be open:
Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays
from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays
from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Vauxhall Branch, at 123 Hilton Avenue,
will be open:

Mondays and Wednesdays
from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fridays Closed

Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Beginners Flow Yoga with Bindu Bhatt

Thurs., March. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
at 6:00 p.m.

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 a yoga program specifically for yourself.

Shake It Up with Michael Yakubov

Thurs., March 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Join this personalized career development and interview training session for career-minded professionals. Take control by learning key strategies, insights, and skills to wow your interviewer and showcase your value.

Starting a Business in NJ (WCEC)

Tues., March 15 at 12:00 p.m.

Reviews entrepreneurship basics including business plans, financing, registration, certifications, and available resources in NJ.

Led by Bertha Robinson of Star One Professional Services.

Poetry Reading

Tues., March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy the work of some of NJ's best poets and share a poem of your own. This is a hybrid event with Kean University. You may attend in person at Kean or through Zoom. Please check the website for more information.

Off The Shelf Book Club

Thurs., March 17 at 7:00 p.m.

New members are always welcome. This month's title is *Libertie* by Kaitlyn Greenidge, available on Hoopla with your Union Public Library card.

Houdini Revealed with Roger Dreyer

Tues., March 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Learn how Harry Houdini, The King of Handcuffs, created a persona so dynamic his name is still spoken daily despite passing almost 100 years ago. Houdini's compelling story as a young immigrant, from being unknown to a world wonder, is filled with remarkable lessons about business and personal growth. Roger Dreyer, CEO of Fantasma Magic and *Houdini Revealed*, shares the secrets behind Houdini's magical success.

HESAA Financial Aid Information Session

Wed., March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

An overview of the college financial aid process and answers to your questions about grants, scholarships, and loans offered by the State of New Jersey. Leave with an understanding of how to apply for federal and state financial aid.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group

Monday, March 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Members discuss their favorite books and authors. New members are always welcome.

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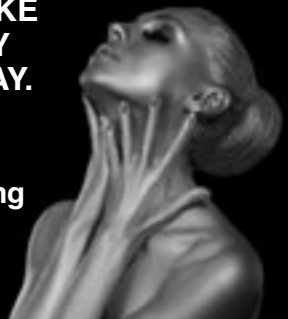
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DRIVE FOR AUTISM FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES GRANTS

Submitted by Thomas Trezza

The Drive for Autism Foundation is pleased to announce the distribution of \$42,500 in the form of nine grants to school-based programs providing education and training to individuals with autism spectrum disorders. 2021 was a rebound year for the foundation and they are pleased with the support they received this year. The foundation can't thank their participants, sponsors, and supporters enough! They are a special group of people and the foundation is blessed that they support their mission and foundation.

The Drive for Autism foundation held its 20th annual Golf Event in 2020 with 122 participants, as well as several other smaller fund-raising events throughout the year. The Drive for Autism

Golf Outing, which has been held since 2002, has raised and distributed \$819,000 to local school programs. The grants in 2021 were awarded to: Morris Union Jointure Commission, Salt Brook School, AW Roberts School, Union County Educational Services Foundation/Crossroads School, Educational Partnership for Instructing Children, ECLC, Eden II Programs, Spectrum360 formerly The Children's Institute,, and Seton Foundation for Learning.

Grant recipients use money to fund a multitude of items including Health and Fitness Programs, Social Skills Programs, assessment tools, educational curriculum and teacher training, a van for community trips and transportation to job training centers, laptop computers, computer touch screens, SMART Boards, iPads, video

projectors, as well as educational toys and games. The foundation aims to fund items that are not included in the programs' regular budget so it makes it extra special that they can help provide funding for items on different schools' "wish lists".

DRIVE FOR AUTISM GOLF OUTING 2022:

The Drive for Autism XXI is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2022 at Royce Brook Golf Club in Hillsborough, New Jersey. The event consists of a morning round of golf followed by lunch. Special events include golf contests, raffles, and a silent auction of sports memorabilia, game tickets, and golf trips.

For additional information, please visit their website at DriveForAutism.org or driveforautism@comcast.net.

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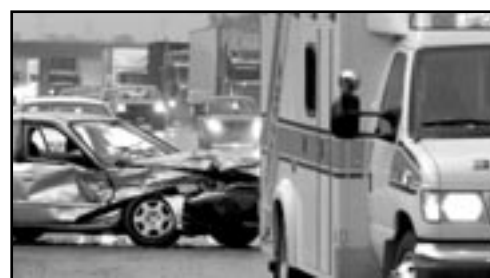
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One moment everything may seem fine, when suddenly you're involved in a serious collision. Most people have one thing on their mind after a car accident--their car! However, it's important to remember that you and your injuries come first. A visit to a chiropractor should always follow an auto injury, as chiropractors are specialists in damage to soft and hard tissue.



CHECK FOR SPOTTED LANTERNFLY EGGS

NJ Department of Agriculture

The weather is warming up, check your trees for Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) egg masses. When you find them crush them. Use an old bank card, small rolling pin or putty knife.

Citizens are advised to destroy the Spotted Lanternfly in all its forms.

SLF is a serious invasive pest with a healthy appetite for our plants and it can be a significant nuisance, affecting the quality of life and enjoyment of the outdoors. The spotted lanternfly uses its piercing-sucking mouthpart to feed on sap from over 70 different plant species. It has a strong preference for economically important plants and the feeding damage significantly stresses the plants which can lead to decreased health and potentially death.

As SLF feeds, the insect excretes honeydew (a sugary substance) which can attract bees, wasps, and other insects. The honeydew also builds up and promotes the growth for sooty mold (fungi), which can cover the plant, forest understories, patio furniture, cars, and anything else found below SLF feeding.



(above) The weather is warming up, check your trees for Spotted Lanternfly egg masses. When you find them crush them. Use an old bank card, small rolling pin or putty knife.

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straight again
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ADVOCATES TAKE OATH TO SERVE LOCAL FOSTER YOUTH

Submitted by Gretchen Boger-O'Bryan

Nine Union County residents ranging from age 22 to 63 make up the newest class of volunteer child advocates for CASA of Union County, the only nonprofit advocating for the best interests of Union County youth removed from home due to abuse or neglect, and placed in foster care.

Superior Court Judge Marc R. Brown presided over the recent swearing-in ceremony via Zoom; advocates will now be matched to a foster youth or siblings and begin putting their 30 hours of training into practice. The class includes both non-parents and parents, and such backgrounds as teaching, freelance, law and homemaking. They are Jacqui Lenner and Nicole Sandstedt of Westfield, Laurie Litterio of Cranford, Rebecca Muston and Amy Saunders of Summit, Sue Pangis of Berkeley Heights, Tamara Parraga-Sez of Newark, Lydia Pernia of Linden, and Jackie Rodriguez of Clark.

Prior to administering the oath, the judge shared, "I find the value of CASA volunteers immeasurable. Although I practiced family law for decades, it involved pieces related to a family, like divorce. In these cases, everything we do is attuned to the entire family and it's the most rewarding in my career. I didn't previously realize the extent of need out there – from poverty, substance use, mental health, and the guidance needed, all of it. CASA is so significant; I always make a point of hearing from the CASA volunteer during the hearing." Acknowledging that COVID-19 requires the swearing-in and court hearings remain virtual for now, he added, "I so look forward to being able to shake your

hand and congratulate you. The assistance you will provide is, again, immeasurable. Thank you for doing this."

Currently, the organization serves just over 80 percent of all Union County foster youth in care. With a goal to provide an advocate for every youth that needs one, the organization has remained steadfast – despite the pandemic – in efforts to ensure its work continues. To that end, a fully online training and recruiting infrastructure was put into place, and protocols implemented to ensure advocates remained both connected to their youth and able to report to judges, and staff continued recruiting and training volunteers to help meet the need for youth still awaiting an advocate.

Executive Director Mariel S. Hufnagel noted,

"In the face of the challenging life circumstances we are all facing due to the COVID-19 global health pandemic, this tremendous group of women still made a decision to give of their time and energy, and train virtually to become advocates. I am so proud to welcome them to the CASA family and can't wait to see all of the ways in which they positively impact the youth to whom they will be assigned."

Upon being court-ordered to a case, CASA volunteers have access to the youth as well as foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists and teachers in order to identify concerns and unmet needs, and protect best interests. For details on upcoming trainings and how you can Change a Child's Story, contact Walia at wworrill@casaoofunioncounty.org.



(above) CASA volunteers for foster youth who were recently sworn in during a ceremony held via Zoom. For details on upcoming classes and how you can Change a Child's Story, contact Walia at wworrill@casaoofunioncounty.org.

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BLOOD DONATIONS ARE CRITICALLY NEEDED

The American Red Cross is facing a national blood crisis – its worst blood shortage in more than a decade. Dangerously low blood supply levels are posing a concerning risk to patient care and forcing doctors to make difficult decisions about who receives blood transfusions and who will need to wait until more products become available.

Blood and platelet donations are critically needed to help prevent further delays in vital medical treatments, and donors of all blood types – especially type O – are urged to donate.

In recent weeks, the Red Cross had less than a one-day supply of critical blood types and has had to limit blood product distributions to hospitals. At times, as much as one-quarter of hospital blood needs are not being met.

The Red Cross continues to confront relentless challenges due to COVID-19, including about a 10% overall decline in the number of people donating blood as well as ongoing blood drive cancellations and staffing limitations. Additionally, the pandemic has contributed to a 62% drop in blood drives at schools and colleges.

“Winter weather across the country and the recent surge of COVID-19 cases are compounding the already-dire situation facing the blood supply,” said Dr. Baia Lasky, medical director for the Red Cross. “Please, if you are eligible, make an appointment to give blood or platelets in the days and weeks ahead to ensure no patient is forced to wait for critical care.”

The Red Cross urges donors to support patient care by making an appointment to give blood or platelets now for the weeks ahead. To schedule

an appointment, use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including face masks for donors and staff, regardless of vaccination status – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive.

To donate blood, individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

In addition to blood donors, the Red Cross also needs the help of volunteers to support critical blood collections across the country. Blood drive volunteers play an important role by greeting, registering, answering questions and providing information to blood donors throughout the donation process. Blood transportation specialists – another volunteer opportunity – provide a critical link between blood donors and blood recipients by delivering blood to hospitals in communities across the country. To volunteer to support Red Cross blood collections, visit redcross.org/volunteertoday.

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FLINTLOCKS CELEBRATE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MEMBER

Dr. D. Michael Hart

Not many centenarians get to celebrate their 100th birthday surrounded by friends. On Thursday, February 17, the Flintlocks celebrated Fanwood resident Joe Schott's 100th birthday. Joe has been active in this volunteer group for 33 years since retiring from Bells Labs. He recruited many of his friends to join, and even a few relatives. Joe has a wry sense of humor, so they presented him with a parking plaque which reads: "Reserved Parking Only for Flintlocks Over 100 Years Old."

The Flintlocks are a group of retired scouts who devote every Thursday all year round to helping the Scout Camps. They build cabins,

make picnic tables, paint the dining hall, do maintenance and build craft kits for the Scout shops. The Flintlocks represent a wide range of skills, including: two electricians, a millwright, carpenters, plumbers, diesel mechanics, police officers, heavy equipment operators, but also many professionals such as a dentist, two college professors, computer experts, financial advisors, salesmen, etc.

The most popular craft kits sold at the Cedar Knolls and Mountainside Scout Shops are the bird houses, bird feeders, benches and handy boxes. The men also volunteer at many of the Patriot Path Council activities for the scouts. Since they are a 501c3, they do not need to pay

sales tax, and they provide skilled labor for free. The Council has 3 camps and the volunteers are important to keep things running smoothly. Many of the scouts had children or have grandchildren in the scouts. More than half of the volunteers have been awarded the Silver Beaver Award, which is the highest National Honor offered by the Boy Scouts of America. They are an outstanding group of volunteers.

The Flintlocks meet every Thursday from 8 am to 2 pm at Camp Winnebago in Rockaway. Guests are always welcome. For information, contact Secretary Dr. D. Michael Hart by email drmhart@yahoo.com.



(above) Joe Schott seated to the immediate right of the parking sign, behind the cake, in a flannel shirt; celebrating his 100th birthday with his 24 Flintlock friends around him.

VFW DISTRICT 5 COMEDY NIGHT

Supporting Jay Boxwell for
VFW State Commander

MARCH 25, 2022

7:30 p.m.

KENILWORTH VFW

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'ELEPHANT TOOTHPASTE'

Mrs. Wisniewski's High School Chemistry Club of Union resumed their weekly meetings in the New Year. Their first activity was to find the concentration of an acid by titrating with a base of known concentration.

After finding the equivalence point, the acid concentration was calculated. The students topped off their meeting with a mini explosive chemical reaction called 'elephant toothpaste'.

For more information,
visit unionchemclub.webs.com.



(above, l-r) Students Priscilla Shepard, Jaden Rivera, Joshua Giorgio, and Jaron Thompson

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE AFTER PARTY

March 12 Event to Benefit Scholarship Fund

The Union County Emerald Society is hosting an Irish party on Saturday, March 12 from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Kenilworth Veterans Center following the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Jack Casey Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Irish entertainment will be provided by Brian Kennedy.

Tickets are \$25 and include food, beer, wine and soda.

The Union County Emerald Society, a fraternal organization of law enforcement officers and firefighters of Irish descent, has deep roots in the communities of Union County and strives to celebrate Irish heritage and culture while also supporting important causes including Project Children and the Union County Baseball League.

For tickets and more information please call 908-447-3675. Tickets are also available at the door.

The Kenilworth Veterans Center is located at 33 South 21st Street in Kenilworth, NJ 07033.




A CHORUS LINE COMING TO CDC THEATRE IN CRANFORD

Come be part of Broadway's most legendary musical audition. After having been postponed from its 101st season, A Chorus Line will run at CDC Theatre in Cranford from March 11 through March 26, 2022. This stunning concept musical captures the spirit and tension of a Broadway chorus audition and explores the inner lives and

bittersweet ambitions of professional Broadway performers. Winner of nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the show features one powerhouse number after another. Michael Kidney leads the talented cast as director and choreographer. Visit cdctheatre.org for ticketing information.




(above) Cast of A Chorus Line. Visit cdctheatre.org for ticketing information.

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Scouts can register online at <https://scoutingevent.com/999999>
Non-scouts (under 18 only) can register by calling Joe Renna at 908-447-1295.
For questions or information, contact Victoria Moran at victoria.moran@scouting.org or 973-765-9322 ext 250.


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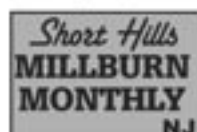
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UNION TOWNSHIP HOLDS FIRST-EVER WINTER OLYMPICS

Union Township held the first-ever Winter Olympics at the Union Sports Arena on Saturday, February 12, 2022. Participants were able to compete in a variety of family-friendly Olympic themed games, events, and performances.

The day began with skate lessons in the big rink, followed by a hockey clinic, and open skate for all visitors. Viewers also enjoyed figure skating performances and a visit from New

Jersey Devils alumni Bruce Driver, Grant Marshall, and the Devils Mascot. After hitting the ice, contestants made their way to the soccer field for curling, penalty shots, and cornhole. Food trucks, music from DJ James, colorful stilt walkers, and a 360 photo booth were also available. The event was a big success with many members of the community coming out to support!



RENNA MEDIA LAUNCHES THREE NEW NEWSPAPERS

Beginning in March three new towns have joined Renna Media's growing family of newspapers: Florham Park Press, Millburn Short Hills Monthly, and Elmora Hills Elizabeth. Renna Media is now mailing 160,000, town-specific newspapers, to 24 towns each month.

The newspapers' goal is to be a positive influence on the economic development and overall well-being of the town. Our publications exist to share community service news and the good things that are happening in the community.

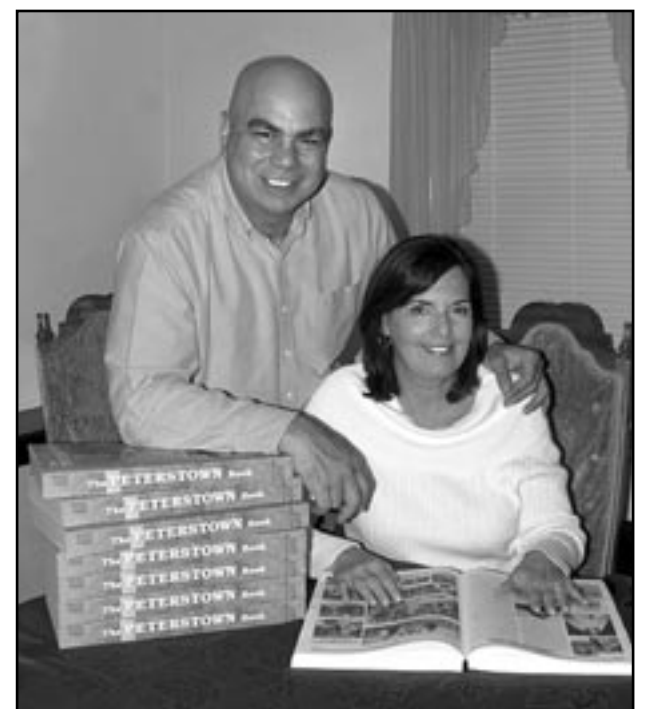
Renna Media is a Cranford, NJ based business owned and operated by husband and wife team of Joe and Tina Renna. Renna Media's family of 24 community newspapers are published in Morris, Essex, Union and Somerset counties, with a total circulation of 160,000. The publications are "hyperlocal" in nature in that they contain information focused on each individual town, and are direct mailed within those towns.

The concept of being hyper-local is to give local businesses a venue to promote services. Reaching local customers gives you the highest return for your advertising dollars. The newspapers are designed (black ink on newsprint) to keep the cost of an advertisement to as low as \$60. Regional businesses can take advantage of one low rate for advertising in multiple towns.

Renna Media also prints full-color flyers that get mailed along with the newspapers. A cost effective alternative to mailing postcards.

For more information about Renna Media publications, please visit rennamedia.com.

You can contact Tina Renna regarding advertising, or to submit news, via email info@rennamedia.com; or call 908-418-5586.



(above) Joe and Tina Renna, owners of Renna Media, LLC, publish 24 direct-mailed community newspapers with a total circulation of 160,000. They have been publishing community newspapers since 1998. For more information, please visit rennamedia.com.

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on Spirit of Union page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com). Feel free to "Like," "Tag," and "Share."

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