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Issue 148 • March 2023

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ROSELLE PARK PARTNERSHIP JOINS UP WITH THE GREATER UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce (GUCC) Board of Directors formally welcomed the Borough of Roselle Park as a new addition to its association at a ceremony recently held at Meridia on Westfield Luxury Apartments in the Borough. Officials from both Union and Roselle Park were in attendance to mark the occasion.

"Although our Chamber has always welcomed businesses from outside the Union area to its membership roster, this is the first formal expansion of our organization that will bring the Roselle Park community under our auspices so that they may avail themselves of our member benefits and to have our Chamber represent and promote Borough businesses, said Union Chamber CEO James Masterson. "We warmly welcome them and will do all that we can to assist each business."

Roselle Park Mayor Joseph Signorello said, "We are

excited to become a part of this growing and active Chamber. We will do all that we can to encourage our local businesses to make the most of this special opportunity."

Greater Union Chamber Board President Marie Maguire added, "Roselle Park businesses who join the Chamber will find more than 50 member benefits to help them succeed in these challenging times and we are thrilled to include them in all that we do."

The Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce is an association of almost 400 businesses. Its mission is to promote, unite, represent and strengthen its members through networking opportunities, special events and a variety of economic initiatives.

For more info, or to join the Chamber of Commerce, visit: unionchamber.com/benefits-of-membership, or contact (908) 688-2777, executivedirector@unionchamber.com.



(above) On Thursday January 26, 2023, officials of the Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce and the Borough of Roselle Park gathered at Meridia on Westfield to announce their new partnership to support the local Roselle Park business community. The "Meet and Greet" style event included Roselle Park Mayor Joseph Signorello III, members of Borough Council, several Roselle Park small business owners, the Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce Executive Director/CEO James Masterson, and various Chamber of Commerce officials. Courtesy photo

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SUPPORTING CHILDREN COPING WITH LOSS WEBINAR, MARCH 21

Children will experience different losses in life: divorce, moving, friendships ending, sports injuries or the death of a friend or family member. Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss is working to create grief informed communities where children will be surrounded by adults who are able to provide support as they cope with these losses.

On Tuesday, March 21st from 7:00–8:30 p.m., Imagine will offer a webinar on Supporting Children Coping with Loss for anyone who wants to learn how to support a child who is grieving. While loss due to death will be the primary focus of this webinar, the concepts that will be presented are applicable to all types of loss. It is especially important for parents and grandparents, guardians, teachers, members of community organizations, coaches, therapists, counselors, and social workers to attend this program. The webinar will be offered in both English and Spanish.

THOSE WHO ATTEND WILL BE ABLE TO:

- 1. Define the terms "loss," "grief," and "mourning"
- 2. Understand the different types of loss and the impact of those losses
- 3. Identify similarities and differences on how children, teens, and adults experience their grief
- 4. Learn how to support someone who is grieving

CEUs are available for social workers with a \$30 registration fee. For those who do not need CEUs, a \$30 donation is appreciated, but not required.

Those interested in the Spanish-speaking webinar do not need to register, but may contact Imagine's Training and Education Director, Veronica Ortiz at veronica@imaginenj.org to receive the link to join the webinar.

Please join Imagine in our effort to create supportive communities for children who are grieving. To register for the English-speaking webinar, please scan the QR code below or visit imaginenj.org.



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SHINING STARS GALA SET FOR MARCH 14TH

Shining Stars Network, a non profit organization that creates opportunities in the performing arts for the special needs community, kicks off their 11th year with their 2nd "Reach for the Stars" Gala, set for Tuesday, March 14th at the elegant Park Chateau Estate & Gardens in East Brunswick.

The evening, which will begin at 6:00 p.m., will feature a five-star cocktail hour, open bar, dinner and dessert. Highlights of the evening include performances by the Shining Stars cast and buddies, live and silent auctions and a 50/50. Special guest will be celebrity chef and restaurateur David Burke, of Iron Chef America,



who will auction off dinner experiences at his famous New Jersey eateries, including a personalized dinner for four.

"Our first gala in 2019 was a great success and we can't wait for what will be another magical evening," noted Shining Stars Network President and co-founder Mike Curci. "Park Chateau is one of the finest venues in the country, and we're excited for our Shining Stars families, friends and supporters to enjoy this special night together."

Individual tickets are \$175 and a table of 10 can be purchased for \$1500 (a savings of \$250). request Email your ShiningStarsNetwork@gmail.com. Please mention "gala tickets" in the subject line. Venmo, checks and credit cards are gladly accepted. Sponsorship opportunities and journal ads are also available.

The Gala will start a big year for the Shining Stars, who will take to the stage for their "Evening of Shining Stars Talent Show" on Saturday May 13th at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway.

On Saturday August 5th, history will be made when the Shining Stars make their Paper Mill

special needs show to perform a full production on that iconic venue. Tickets for "The Greatest Show" — which will feature songs from Broadway and movies — will go on sale in late spring.

"We're honored and thrilled to be coproducing a show with the esteemed Paper Mill team," added Curci. "Our brookside cabaret at Paper Mill last September was an overwhelming success and to see our stars on the main stage this August will be a dream come true."

The Camp Shine Summer Workshop will take place in late August, and the Stars will cap off the year with their annual "Christmas Spectacular" on Friday, December 1st.

"Shining Stars is all about being inclusive and giving our performers a chance to shine on stage while creating lasting memories," noted cofounder and show director Sally Curci. "These opportunities build all-important self-esteem and self-confidence. Through the journey, our cast members and their high school buddies create bonds and friendships that they'll always remember."

For more information on the organization or Playhouse main stage debut, becoming the first events, please visit ShiningStarsNetwork.org.

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SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

The First Congregational Church of Westfield Board of Outreach Ministries is currently seeking nominations for the annual Marc Wesley Hardy Human Rights Award for 2023. Candidates for this scholarship must be young adults between the ages of 16-22, living in Westfield or the greater Union County area, who have distinguished themselves in the area of human rights. The selected individual will have

(above) Marc Wesley Hardy
Courtesy photo

FREE COURSE ON MENTAL ILLNESS

The NAMI Family-to-Family Education Course will be offered by the Union County Chapter of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). The course will start on Thursday evening, March 9, 2023 and meet each Thursday over a consecutive 9-week period. It is free-of-charge, with all necessary materials furnished at no cost.

The course is offered specifically to the parents, siblings, spouses, teen-age and adult children, and significant others of individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. The program is not appropriate for individuals who, themselves, suffer from one of the major mental disorders. This course is taught by NAMI members who have completed intensive training.

Curriculum topics include: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder (manic depression), clinical depression, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, etc., the clinical treatment of these illnesses, and how caregivers can learn to cope more effectively. Attendees will learn about new research, medications, skills needed to successfully communicate with a relative, and how to deal with critical periods.

Capacity is limited. To register, or if you have any questions, please contact Pat Roman at (732) 397-8123, or via email at: patroman2@aol.com. Please include F2F Course in the subject line. A F2F instructor will contact you with the details.

demonstrated the following:

openness and friendliness to persons of all races, creeds and nationalities; involvement and leadership in organizations and activities committed to improving human relations; extraordinary personal dignity;

the willingness to risk for what he or she believes is right; absolute acceptance of others; respect for diversity;

great personal integrity; deep caring and willingness to listen; the strength and ability to lead by example.

The award is named in honor of Marc Wesley Hardy, a talented and promising student and a member of First Congregational Church of Westfield, who was tragically killed in a car accident in 1990 shortly before his graduation from Westfield High School. Marc was a national merit scholar, a gifted singer and actor, and was

exceptionally active in the preservation of human rights. Because of his dedication and commitment to social justice, this award was established in his memory.

Nominees for the award may be either selfnominated or nominated by a teacher, school official, or another individual not in the nominee's immediate family, who is familiar with the nominee's background and qualities that exemplify Marc Hardy's commitment to human rights. To nominate an individual for the Award, original documents of the following must be submitted:

For full information, please visit: fccofwestfield.org/marc-hardy-human-rights-award.

The deadline for submitting nominations is April 21, 2023. The award will be presented later this spring.



ISAAC LIMA OF ROSELLE PARK NAMED 2023 CHAMPION CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS

Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) is two lengthy emergency surgeries, Isaac was proud to announce the 2023 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) New Jersey Champion, Isaac Lima of Roselle Park, NJ.

Each year, participating hospitals identify a "Champion" in each of their communities to serve as the face for children treated at their local children's hospital. These ambassadors spend the year advocating for the charitable needs of children's hospitals across North America. Isaac will be representing Children's Specialized Hospital, central and northern New Jersey's local Children's Miracle Network hospital.

Isaac was a happy, active teenage boy until he experienced a tragic accident at cheer practice that caused a C4 complete spinal cord injury leaving him paralyzed from the neck down. After

transferred to CSH and began therapies, including extensive physical rehabilitation to help him regain some mobility and psychiatry to help him process the severity of his injury and acclimate to life in a wheelchair.

Immediately after his accident, Isaac had shut down emotionally and was experiencing extreme bouts of anger and depression. At CSH he found hope and his energetic, kindhearted, and fearless spirit began to shine once again. His goal now is to spread awareness about mental health in children of different abilities.

"We are so excited to have Isaac as our champion in 2023," said Keely Davenport, Associate Director of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at CSH. "Isaac's story of perseverance and his infectious spirit makes him the perfect ambassador for our hospital. He will honorably represent the thousands of patients that are treated at CSH each year."

When you see Isaac's photo at your local Costco, Walmart, Sams Club or other CMNH retail partner, 100% of your donation at checkout will support the 35,000 children who receive lifechanging care at CSH each year. To learn more about Isaac and make a donation to CSH Foundation in his honor visit bit.ly/isaaccmnh.



(above) Isaac Lima, 2023 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals New Jersey Champion.





UNION MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT

The Union Municipal Band, under the direction of Howard Toplansky will present a free concert on Monday evening, March 13, 2023. The concert will be held at Hannah Caldwell School Auditorium, 1120 Commerce Avenue, Union, NJ at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free and the public is cordially invited to attend.

This winter concert will feature music from Broadway, traditional band music, marches, waltzes and a variety of concert classics. The concert will include the following selections: "Seascape Overture", "Highlander Suite", "Solid Men to the Front March", "Night and Day", "Let Me Call You Sweetheart", selections from Guys and Dolls and other favorites.

The band would like to invite musicians, including High School students, from Union and the surrounding communities to join the group. If you are interested please call the Recreation Department at 908-686-4200.

AUTHOR TALK UNION TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Sunday, March 26, at 2 p.m. at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue, Joanne Rajoppi will present "20th Century Women," based on her new book of the same name. In her talk Ms. Rajoppi will trace the course women traveled toward equality in society and opportunity in education and employment during times of changing cultural values. Her non-fiction work focuses on six women, all members of the Hamilton family, and recounts their journeys to independence.

Joanne, also a historian, is the author of three other books, two of which focus on the Civil War and its aftermath. In addition, she's a contributor to the Crossroads of the American Revolution's Meet Your Revolutionary Neighbors. Joanne serves as President of the Union County Historical Society and is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She chaired the 150th anniversary commemoration of the Union County Courthouse and its Civil War exhibit. Admission to the talk is free. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 908-591-4377.

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UNION TOWNSHIP CHAMBER PLANS 66TH ANNUAL GALA

"Get Your Kicks at the Chamber's 66th." This is the theme of the Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce's 66th Annual Gala, scheduled for Thursday evening, May 4, at the Galloping Hill Caterers in Union.

The event will feature a number of awards to be given to various business and community groups.

"Since its last Gala, the Chamber has made remarkable strides in its growth and success, such as welcoming the Roselle Park business community under its auspices, providing health insurance plans for small businesses and other achievements," said Chamber CEO James Masterson. "We are grateful to our Board of Directors, members and local officials for their support, we also salute all our honorees for their dedication to our business and civic communities."

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In addition, the following individuals will be reinstalled as officers for the coming year: President – Marie Maguire, BCB Community Bank; Senior Vice President – Claudia Schiavone, Northfield Bank; Immediate Past President – David Arminio, Friends of the Union Library; Vice President of Programming – Sharon Patel, Patel Printing Plus; Vice President, Finance - Julie D'Aloia, Connect One Bank; Vice President Membership – Joseph Stampone, Major Printing Company; and Vice President of Business Support and Engagement – Jeff Morton of Shake A Paw Center for Rescue and Adoption.

Masterson added that the Chamber is currently accepting ticket reservations, sponsorships, and door prize donations for the event. To participate, go to unionchamber.com/events or contact him by calling 908-688-2777, or by emailing executivedirector@unionchamber.com.





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MARCH EVENTS AT UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Beginners Flow Yoga (Zoom)

Thursdays @ 6:00 pm This class will lead you through the foundations of yoga postures, body awareness, alignment, mind relaxation, and a connection with the breath. You will learn to improve muscle strength, promote flexibility, and build your own yoga program for your mind and body.

Drop-In and Knit with Beyond Yarn (In-person at Main Library)

Mon., 3/6 @ 6:30 pm & Tues., 3/7 @ 10:30 am

Whether you're an expert knitter or just want to learn how this is your chance to talk with an expert. Bring your own materials and projects and join us. Adults and teens are welcome. This program takes place at the Main Library. Registration is required, as space is limited.

Oscar-Winning Musicals with the Caponegros

Tues., 3/7 at 7:00 pm - ZOOM

Did you know that there are 89 Academy Award-winning songs? Join us and we promise you will leave humming for a week.

Guerrilla Girls: The Art of Behaving Badly

Mon. 3/13 at 7:00 pm - ZOOM

Since 1984, an anonymous group of activist women artists, The Guerrilla Girls, have been fighting to expose biases in the art world. They wear gorilla masks in public and take the names of dead women artists as pseudonyms. Learn how these women have used wit and irony to tackle issues of gender and racial discrimination to celebrate Women's History Month. Cosponsored by the Union Township Historical Society. Presented by Janet Cohen Mandel, art historian.

Neighborhood Stories with David and Kathy Arminio (In- person at Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 3/15 @ 6:30 pm

Get to know a little bit about your neighbors and share your stories with them. The Arminios go back generations, so they have plenty to tell!

Off the Shelf Book Club (Zoom)

Thurs., 3/16 @7:00 pm

New members are always welcome. This month's title is The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson.

Animal Crossing Open Hours (Nintendo Switch) Fri., 3/17 from 3-5pm

Come explore UPL Island! Check out our inclusive virtual library building that serves children, teens, and adults. Discover our Mariothemed maze, shake fruit/money trees, shop at Nooks & Abels, help craft DIYs, and leave a message on the bulletin board. There will be freebies! To visit our island, you must add us as a friend before entering the island. Our UPL Nintendo friend code is SW-4027-1837-6212.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion Group (In-person at the Vauxhall Branch)

Wed. 3/22 at 6:00 pm

Members discuss their favorite books and authors, and new members are always welcome. This month's title is We Are Not Like Them by Christine Pride.

News from Ukraine (Zoom)

Wed., 3/22@ 7:00 pm

Michael Andrec from the Ukrainian History and Education Center discusses recent events in Ukraine related to the Russian invasion and the impact of those events on the societal and cultural landscape in Ukraine. Drawing on his native-level proficiency in Ukrainian, he will present topics that may not have reached English-language media and his knowledge of Ukrainian history and culture.

Adult Watercolor Florals Workshop (In person at Main Library)

Sat., 3/25 @ 10:30 am -12:00 pm

Swetha Swenoy returns to UPL to teach watercolor florals for beginners! All materials will be provided. This activity is part of our NJ Makers Day celebration.

Jump Start Your Job Search (Zoom)

Thurs., 3/30 @ 7:00 pm

Whether you're looking for a job or considering a career change, this workshop offers tips to help you develop your personal brand, grow your network, navigate the modern job search, and update your resume. Presented by AARP.





Sayaka Ganz Reclaimed Creations



The Galleries at Kean University present Sayaka Ganz RECLAIMED CREATIONS, an amazing art exhibition featuring sculptures of animals in motion, utilizing reclaimed plastic objects, rich in color and energy.

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SUPPORTING FOOD SECURITY IN UNION COUNTY

newly formed 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to addressing food security concerns in the County of Union, NJ, recently received a \$3,000 donation from the Springfield-based Atlantic Federal Credit Union to support the Alliance's mission to help community members in need.

"As a community-chartered Credit Union, we succeed when our Members, neighbors and the greater community succeed," stated Atlantic Federal Credit Union Chief Executive Officer Anthony A. Mero. "We are honored to be able to support the SHARE Alliance as the team offers critical resources to put local families on the path to success through food security and education."

The Atlantic Federal Credit Union is a notfor-profit financial cooperative providing banking services to residents and businesses in Union and Essex counties. For more than 85 years, the Atlantic Federal Credit Union has focused on delivering competitive rates on deposit accounts, low fees, and attractive rates on loans. In addition, the Credit Union regularly contributes to the social and economic wellbeing of the communities it serves by volunteering and donating to local charitable organizations.

More information about the Atlantic Federal Credit Union, including membership available to those who live, work, worship, attend school or conduct business in Union or Essex counties, is available at web.atlfedcu.com.

The S.H.A.R.E. (Sowing Hope and Reaping Equity) Alliance is a consortium of several congregations and other interested parties, is dedicated to the proposition that no one should

The SHARE Alliance (the "Alliance"), a go to bed hungry, or wonder where their next meal will come from. Under the sponsorship of the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield, the Alliance seeks to approach the issue of food security in Union County with a three-prong tactic of increasing availability of healthier food, coordinating their distribution, and promoting their right use in the kitchen. These objectives are achieved through the establishment of a Community Pantry and Community Kitchen that will operate from the Parish House, located at 37 Church Mall, Springfield.

> "Recognizing that economic insecurity is a primary driver of nutrition related health issues, and that community members in food insecure settings are forced to make difficult decisions around food on a daily basis, the Alliance has come together to leverage the work of existing organizations and identify innovative solutions to help more people - including children and seniors - with food security and avoiding difficult tradeoffs between necessities like food and medicine," stated Acting Executive Director of the SHARE Alliance Rev. Dr. Roberto Fois. "The generous donation from our neighbors at the Atlantic Federal Credit Union reflects the community spirit that will help us to promote better health and strengthen family cohesion in communities throughout Union County."

> Information about the availability of services from the SHARE Alliance Community Kitchen and Pantry can be found on-line through the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield at springfieldpresbyterian.org. The Alliance can also be reached at info@SHARE-Alliance.net.



(above, l-r) S.H.A.R.E. Alliance: Rev. Dr. Roberto Fois, Andrea Holley-Blair, Russell Hovland, Rev. Reginald Harris, Jim Bover, Carol Kaiser; Atlantic Federal Credit Union: Anthony A. Mero, CEO; and Carla White-Garrett, Community Engagement Representative.

Courtesy photo





908-928-0031

OPEN HOUSE AT THE GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA

The Gateway Family YMCA Offers Membership Madness this March

The Gateway Family YMCA is celebrating Membership Madness March 22-24 with an YMCA Open House and Membership Special open to everyone in the community. Individuals and families are invited to visit and Find Your Passion, Find Your Purpose, Find Your Y. Swimming, Basketball, Pickleball, Soccer, Group Exercise and Water Exercise programs are available, as well as Chronic Disease Management programs like Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring, a Summer Day Camp Open House and Parent Information Session, and a Community Health Fair with program and vaccine information. Located in Elizabeth, Rahway and Union, individual YMCA Branch event schedules and details are available at tgfymca.org/events.

The YMCA provides programs and services with the goal of building community, developing youth and creating a safe experience for all. New members who join The Gateway Family YMCA online at tgfymca.org/join-the-Y or in person at the Y will pay \$0 Joiner Fee with the code SP23 March 22-24!

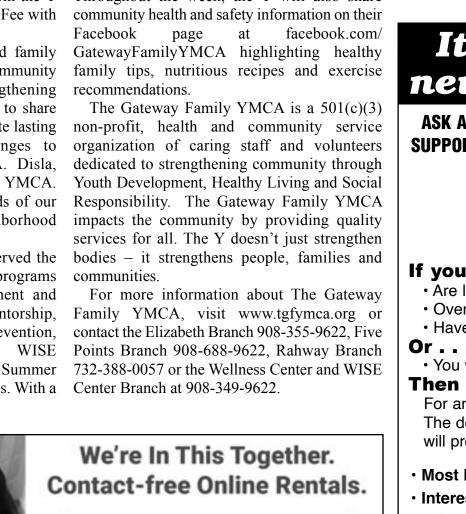
"More than ever before, health and family need to come first. As a nonprofit community organization dedicated to strengthening community, the Y is the perfect place to share healthy activities with loved ones, create lasting memories and make lifestyle changes to increase health," stated Melynda A. Disla, President/CEO, The Gateway Family YMCA. "We are here to meet the unique needs of our community, families, and neighborhood partners, every day."

The Gateway Family YMCA has served the community since 1900, and offers programs including Chronic Disease Management and Wellness, Youth Sports and Mentorship, Swimming Lessons and Drowning Prevention, Arts and Academic Enrichment, WISE Community Services, Child Care and Summer Day Camp, Housing and Social Services. With a

focus on healthy living, youth development and social responsibility, the Y provides a safe and supportive community to inspire everyone to find balance in spirit mind and body, both in person and virtually.

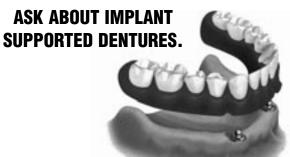
"Through our digital innovation efforts, we have expanded our options and provided the flexibly that is important in our members and community. The ability to provide 24-hour access to recorded content and live virtual group exercise and chronic disease management programs, enables us to serve our community in a unique and innovative way," stated Rodger D. Koerber, EVP, Chief Operating Officer. "At the Y, we are here for all, and making wellness, nutrition, mental health and enrichment programs easy, no matter where you are, is a priority."

As an alternative option for individuals who wish to participate from home, the YMCA is offering a Virtual Group Exercise Open House with registration available online at tgfvmca.org. Throughout the week, the Y will also share Facebook page at









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(above, l-r) Anita DeSimone of Colonia



Kris Adams of Fanwood,

QUILTING CLUB MEETS AT RP LIBRARY

The Quilting Club meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at the Roselle Park Memorial Library from 1 - 3 p.m.

No registration or membership is required.

Participants are from Roselle Park and surrounding towns. Newcomers are always welcomed. You don't need any crafting experience to enjoy the company of other crafters and creative exploration.

Feel free to bring a project to work on, and / or a finished item to show others.



(above) Diane Fleming of Westfield & Nancy Bassman of Scotch Plains



(above) Dianna Roede of Roselle Park

Sharing the Quilts XXXIX

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- Diane Fleming: Featured Quilter
- * In memory of Peg Foy, Coverlet Expert and Miniature Quilter Display
- * Linda Blauvelt: Artist in Residence Oil Paintings
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RETIRED POLICEMEN AND FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION LOCAL 3

Association (NJRPFA) Local 3, is comprised of members from of Union and Somerset counties. Monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW.

The NJRPFA was established in 1987 to promote and develop a friendly spirit among its members, both retired and associate members. There are over 3,000 members of the association in various county Locals in NJ, as well as Local 22 in the State of Florida. These members are retirees from State, County and Local Firefighters, Police, Sheriff, Prosecutors, and Attorney General's Office to name a few. These members reside in NJ, NY, PA, FL, VA, SC and many other states.

If you live in Union County or Somerset County, please consider joining our Local 3 to keep abreast of major issues which may impact on your retirement benefits and issues that may be of value to you. Our yearly dues are \$10. For more information visit: njrpfa.org/local3/

During our careers as police and firemen, we never ignored a call for help from the public, we were always there and always ready, and now, that we are retired, we ask that we be--- not

The Retired Policemen and Firemen's forgotten. We have over 300 members here in Union and Somerset Counties and we keep that comradery, and spirit of friendship by supporting our retired members, their families, and the community when they need help.

> A recent guest speaker at our monthly meeting was Special Agent in Charge of the NYC DEA office, Frank Tarentino. Agent Tarentino spoke to our membership along with officials from Kenilworth's Harding School. The topic of the presentation was Fentanyl Awareness and the dangers of this drug coming into our country.

> Local 3 also presented a check to the Union County Police Chiefs Association. It will go towards the new construction of the "Fallen Officers Memorial" which is located in front the Police Academy in Scotch Plains. Scotch Plains Chief Ted Conley accepted the Check from Chief Kenneth Grady (Ret) President of Local 3.

> Local 3 also participated in the National Red Ribbon week with Harding School officials. Harding School Counselor Kristen Jeans obtained the red ribbons which were handed out at the meeting. National Red Ribbon Week is in tribute to slain DEA Agent Enrique Camarena who was killed in 1985 in Mexico.



(above) Retired Police Chief Kenneth Grady, President of the Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association Local 3 of Union County presented a check in the amount of \$1,000 to Scotch Plains Chief Ted Conley. The donation is to go towards the new construction of the "Fallen Officers Memorial" which is under construction in front of the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.



(above) Members of the Union County Prosecutor's Office with retired Police Chief Kenneth Grady and Special Agent in Charge of the NYC DEA Office Frank Tarentino. Special Agent Tarentino addressed the members of Local 3 on the dangers of fentanyl. Members of Harding School were also invited. The meeting was in support of National Red Ribbon Week.



(above) Active and retired members of Local 3 participating in National Red Ribbon Week, a tribute to slain DEA Agent Enrique Camarena who was killed in 1985 in Mexico.





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