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ROTARY MEMBERS HELP STOCK FOOD PANTRY

The Rotary Club of Union

Members of The Rotary Club of Union and Hillmann Consulting of Union recently held a mini-drive to assist the Union Township Food Pantry. Members donated Stop and Shop gift cards and Hillmann Consulting matched the donation. Employees of Hillmann donated their time to go shopping to get the necessary staples. The donations and gift cards, totaling \$1,000, were delivered to Mayor Manny Figueiredo to supplement the shelves of the food pantry during the summer.

Each month the Rotary Club holds a drive or performs a service meant to positively impact on our community. In the past, drives have resulted in donations of goods or services to the Union food pantry, to Cornell Hall nursing home, and to area shelters. Established in Union in 1941, members of Rotary continue to work for and believe in the principle of Service Above Self.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Union, email info@unionrotary.org or check the website: Rotary Club of Union.

Courtesy photo



(above) The shoppers, Geralanne Maglione, Kylie Nemeth, Sharon Brangman with Kathy Arminio, president of the Rotary Club.



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ANNUAL PATRIOTS' DAY EVENTS

The Township of Union will commemorate the 22nd anniversary of the September 11 attacks with the 3rd Annual Freedom Bike Ride on Sunday, September 10, 2023, with the annual Remembrance Ceremony hosted by the Union Police and Fire Department on Monday, September 11.

The 3rd Annual Freedom Bike Ride will take place on Sunday, September 10, with the UPD & UFD Remembrance Ceremony scheduled for Monday, September 11.

The schedule of events are as follows:

Sunday, September 10 (9:30 a.m.): 3rd Annual Freedom Bike Ride

This rain or shine event will begin in front of the Union Fire Headquarters (1 Bond Drive, Union) and will include a 10-mile round-trip to the Echo Lake Park Memorial Site in Mountainside. Free helmets and other gear will

be distributed, and there will be water stations along the route. Register online at uniontownship.com

Monday, September 11 (8:30 a.m.): UFD & UPD Remembrance Ceremony

This event will be held in front of the Union Fire Headquarters (1 Bond Drive, Union) in order to conduct a single, nationwide salute to fallen firefighters, law enforcement, and civilians. This event will be coordinated to occur at the exact moment the World Trade Center events occurred and will be marked by a series of two bell chimes – one for each of the towers, whose collapse took countless lives, followed by the reading of the names of the service members whose lives were lost that day.

For more information and event updates, visit uniontownship.com or follow @TWPUnionNJ on social media.

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Looking to Make an Impact? Supporting Higher Education is a Life-Changing Investment.

The path to higher education should be free from obstacles and wide enough for all who wish to travel it.



We are in the midst of a great national debate on access to higher education and its cost. Is it fair that many people are saddled with student debt they may never be able to repay? Should the government step in to create affordable access to higher education or forgive loans for millions of graduates? Should employers absorb more of the responsibility for educating their future workforce? While we work toward answers to these questions, one fact is undeniable: Education is the great equalizer.

At Kean University, we see this to a much greater extent than many other institutions in America. Kean serves a significant number of low-income students and those who are the first in their families to attend college. In fact, U.S. News and World Report ranked Kean 46th out of 439 in Top Performers for Social Mobility among national universities. That means we help those who come from disadvantaged backgrounds succeed and graduate. Our students find success regardless of their backgrounds. Each one of them deserves the opportunity Kean offers to improve their own lives and the lives of their families.

The path to higher education should be free from obstacles and wide enough for all who wish to travel it. Without solving the problems of cost and access, it's possible we could live in a country without a robust and diverse higher education sector. Can we really envision the prospect of an America without teaching, research, inventiveness, and social mobility for which American higher education is synonymous?

At the same time, institutions of higher education need to have multiple paths to fund the cost of educating future generations. Education costs money, and we need a full and diverse set of funding resources. Government, private sector support, and individual philanthropic giving are all part of the solution to the challenges students and families face around access and cost of securing a college degree.

Kean University is not unique in that we receive funding from private philanthropy. Over the last five years, more than 9,000 individual donors contributed over \$22,200,000 in support of Kean University. What these donors may not know is that their charitable investments in higher education are not merely a gift to an institution—they are a game changer for future leaders who are pursuing a college degree to level the playing field, to pursue dreams, and to overcome challenges that life has placed in front of them.

As CEO of the Kean University Foundation, I see firsthand the impact higher education has upon those who pursue it. We can all make a difference. America's charities show why even small financial gifts can be part of having a big impact. Time, energy, and talents have tremendous value.

Philanthropy is resilient and, during hard times, Americans respond in extraordinary ways. During the great recession, for instance, the S&P declined by roughly 40%. Over that same time, philanthropic giving dropped by only 7%. When there is a need, and people have the capacity to help, they respond generously.

Every gift — large and small — empowers our colleges and universities to further leverage their impact across the country and around the world. Each and every donor, volunteer, and advocate makes an influential difference in strengthening educational leadership, advancing research initiatives, shaping policy decisions, and helping students (regardless of their economic backgrounds). One of our wonderful students at Kean says it best:

"To my parents who never gave up on me, thank you for instilling in me the importance of education. Obtaining this scholarship was the highlight of my college education. This scholarship was able to assist us financially especially after moving due to unforeseen circumstances and having to pay medical bills for my mom's surgery. It was hard and not thinking about having to pay out of pocket for school was such a reliever. So, I thank everyone who helped me to achieve this huge accomplishment. You have no idea how much it helped."

— Michelle Gomez
Recipient of the Uma Dharapuram Scholarship for Women's Studies

I would be remiss if I did not mention that acts of charity are also an investment in ourselves. Philanthropy can be life-changing for the donor(s). Arthur C. Brooks, one of the country's leading policy experts and the president of the American Enterprise Institute, reminds us that "it is a fact that givers are happier people than non-givers."

Of course, philanthropy is about so much more than financial resources. Independent Sector reminds us that volunteers are critical assets to civil society and all of our communities, especially in light of COVID-19. In its newest Value of Volunteer Time report, Independent Sector, with the Do Good Institute, announced that the value of a volunteer hour is now estimated to be \$31.80 — a six percent (6.2%) increase compared to 2021. Estimated from data collected in 2022, the figure illustrates the valuable and significant contributions volunteers make every day to support our communities and nation. At Kean University, Board members, committee members, and community volunteers contribute in so many ways.

In many respects, our charitable actions are simply reminding us what makes us human: taking care of each other and doing it as a group to create a bigger impact. By making a philanthropic gift to a college or university — whether it be your time, talent, treasure, or willingness to introduce new friends to an institution, you are positively changing lives.

It has been said that philanthropy is an act of optimism. The act is an investment in a student, a member of the faculty, a vision, an organization. Philanthropy can help fortify the American higher education system by continuing to provide opportunities to our students, who will ultimately do the same for the next generation or create a better world for all of us.

Sincerely,
Bill Miller
Chief Executive Officer, Kean University Foundation



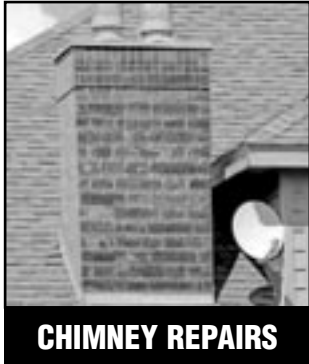
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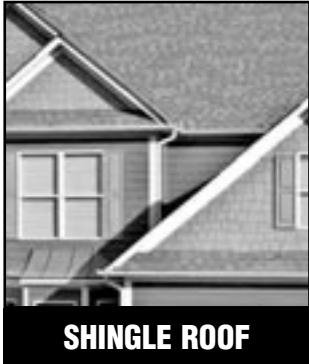
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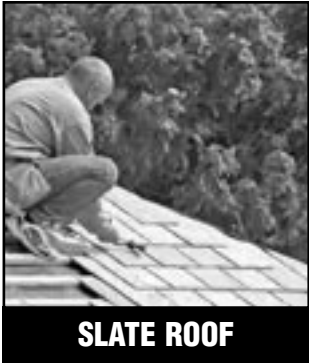
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Carol Mullen, "Monarch," collage, 18x3x5 in.
Melissa Stern, "Deflated," 2020, sculpture, 43x18x17 in.
Lisa Ficarelli-Halpern, "Joy, after Reynolds," 2023, oil on canvas, 62x38 in.

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TOWN-WIDE BLOCK PARTY

A great time was had at the Annual Union Township Education Association - UTEA Town-Wide Block Party. From the bouncy houses and carnival games, to the face painting, balloon art, and local restaurants, it was a great opportunity for the community to come together. Optical

Academy also sponsored a health fair, where residents had the opportunity to receive an eye exam on-site.

Follow Union Township Education Association - UTEA on Facebook

Photos by Township of Union



IMAGINE OFFERING WEBINAR ON GRIEF

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month in September, Imagine will be offering a free community webinar on Grief in the Latinx Community on September 21st from 7 - 8:30 p.m. There will be two webinars held simultaneously with one being presented in English and the other in Spanish.

Those who attend the webinar will be able to:

- Gain awareness of intersectionality and grief as it applies to the Latinx Community
- Learn traditional cultural values within the Latinx Community
- Identify different types of grief and loss that pertain to the Latinx Community

Registration for the English speaking webinar is available through Imagine's website at imaginenj.org.

Those interested in attending the Spanish speaking webinar do not need to register and can contact Sonia Nunez at sonia@imaginenj.org for more information. Imagine's staff hope to see you at the upcoming webinar!

Imagine is a 501c3 nonprofit that offers free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and guardians of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. Imagine also offers grief and loss education and training to the community. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org.

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TWELFTH ANNUAL MAYOR'S DAY 5K RUN

Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce
Runners and walkers of all levels are invited to join the Union Township Chamber of Commerce again this year at its 12th Annual Mayor's Day 5K Run on Sunday, September 24. A committee is actively working over the summer to plan and expand this year's event.

Held rain or shine, the race will start and end at Union High School on Cooke Drive, following a course certified by USA Track and Field. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with the actual race commencing at 9:00 a.m.

"This year marks the 12th anniversary of this popular community event, and we are working to make this year our best ever, as we are helping two local families," said Chamber CEO James Masterson. "We are grateful to the Township of Union Board of Education for generously hosting this event, and we hope for great participation again this for 2022. It is always an enjoyable day for the community!"

Prizes will be awarded for various age categories, and t-shirts and gift bags will be distributed to the first 300 registrants.

To register, go online to runsignup.com, and enter Mayor's Day 5K. Further information is available by contacting the Chamber directly at 908-688-2777, visiting unionchamber.com

or emailing the Chamber at executivedirector@unionchamber.com.

Businesses wishing to become a sponsor may contact Masterson at executivedirector@unionchamber.com

for a listing of the various levels of support. All sponsorships include a table at the event for

businesses to highlight their companies, as well as a listing and/or logo on the 5K t-shirt.

A portion of the proceeds will go to help defray the medical expenses Camryn Dudek a seven-year-old student entering third grade at Washington School and Marciano Rosa, a nine-year old entering fourth grade at Washington School, as well. Both students are battling cancer.



(above) Camryn Dudek

Camryn Dudek is a seven-year-old identical twin entering 3rd Grade at Washington School in Union (the youngest of four children). Camy was diagnosed at the age of 6 (just shy of 7) with Anaplastic Pleomorphic Xanthroastrocytoma. Since June 2022, she has undergone seven brain surgeries, with another brain surgery scheduled for the beginning of 2024. In the past year, her parents and family have spent more than 60 days in the hospital, countless hours driving to and from doctors' appointments, radiation, specialists, etc. She has completed her radiation treatment plan which was from December 2022 - February 2023. Camy started chemo in March, and she has a minimum of 24 cycles of chemo, each cycle being one month long. She will have to stop chemo for a total of 8 weeks before her implant surgery and 8 weeks after, leaving us with another minimum of 2 years of treatment. This treatment plan means that Camy needs MRIs of the brain every four weeks, plus a four-hour MRI of the spine every 12 weeks. Since her tumor is rare (less than 1%), there is not enough

research on her treatments as they are still in clinical trial. She is currently on cycle 5 of chemo and tolerating everything well. She will also need monitoring for the rest of her life, due to having hydrocephalus as a result of her brain surgeries. Despite all her challenges, she is truly a warrior and continues to smile. She does not let any of this hold her back, and she continues to show us and everyone else what is truly important in life. Your support of the Greater Union Township Chamber of Commerce Mayor's Day 5k Run will help Camy and her family defray some of the medical expenses they face.

Courtesy photos



(above) Marciano Rosa

Marciano Rosa is an ambitious young boy entering the fourth grade this September at Washington School in Union. He was diagnosed with T-cell leukemia back in November and recently completed frontline chemotherapy with the most severe complications from it occurring in July 2023, where he developed a severe colon infection. Once recovered, he will continue his chemotherapy treatments through March and April of 2025. Marciano is a sweet, kind-hearted, smart and funny boy who has a smile that can light up any room. As his mom recently expressed to use, "I wish this journey on no kid – and most definitely – for no parent to witness."

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The Union Elks Lodge #1583 of the East Central District presented a donation to the Union Little League on June 17, 2023. The check in the

amount of \$2,500, contributed towards the purchase of two defibrillators. The proceeds are from Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant.



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(above) Hank Bedlivy, NJ State Elks Association District Vice President; Audrey Smith, Exalted Ruler; Greg Pavick, President of the Union Little League and Vince Ditta, District Deputy.

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SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ - A JAZZ EVENING WITH DAVID BRAHAM TRIO

The Salem Roadhouse Café presents Carrie Jackson and the Jazzin' All Stars, Saturday, September 9, 2023. The doors open at 7:30 p.m., the show starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$20 and includes show, snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and dessert. The venue is located in the basement of Townley Presbyterian Church, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. The performance will be held upstairs in the church sanctuary.

Pianist/Organist Dave Braham has played with and/or recorded with many of the top names in jazz, including Etta Jones, Houston Person, Lou Donaldson, Al Grey, David "Fathead" Newman, Arthur Prysock and Irene Reid. He has two recordings as a leader – "To Be Free" on the RandomAct record label and "Blue Gardenia" on BlueJay records. He has also taught music in NJ public schools, including Union Public Schools. Dave will be backed up with bass and drums by two of the area's finest musicians, creating a musical treat for all who come to this exciting all-acoustic show in a great listening environment.

Bassist Belden Bullock has quickly become one of the most sought-after jazz bassists in the greater NYC area. He has travelled extensively with jazz piano giants Ahmad Jamal, South African pianist Abdullah Ibrahim as well as the Harlem Blues and Jazz Band. Belden lives in a very talented household. His wife, Audrey, is a very busy professional singer. Their two sons are

actors/dancers. Drummer Willie Martinez is well known in the tri-state area as one of the most versatile percussionists around. He has played and recorded with a wide variety of artists – jazz musicians such as Benny Powell, Mulgrew Miller and George Cables; Cuban bandleader Chico O'Farrill; even pop singer Faith Hill. In addition to drum set, Willie is a master of the timbales and other Latin percussion instruments. Willie can also be seen leading his own Latin Jazz sextet, La Familia.

All ages are welcome. **ABOUT SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ** It's not "church music." It's music music. Folks who've come to the Salem Roadhouse Café know that it's a clean, safe place for people who enjoy listening to live music — in a world otherwise filled with clubs and bars. The Roadhouse has always offered its stage to local and independent mainstream musicians. Jazz, rock, folk, and other groups have performed. What's the common thread? They're all great musicians playing the kind of music people like to hear. There's no message, just music.

The Roadhouse started in 2008 by members of Townley Presbyterian Church with a grant from the Presbytery of Elizabeth. Hey — that's why we're located where we are, 829 Salem Rd, Union, NJ. The Roadhouse operates as a non-profit that raises funds for several carefully chosen local charities. That's its mission.

But the many musicians who've played the Salem Roadhouse Café see it as a solid performance venue. They love it because of its special intimacy and great audiences. They say people here "really listen." Ask any of the musicians you meet here — they love to play the Roadhouse, and they want to come back often.

The Salem Roadhouse Café has raised funds for many carefully chosen charities. They include: The Presbytery of Elizabeth E-port Center, Center For Hope Hospice, Community Food Bank, Monarch Housing, Angel Paws Animal Rescue, National MS Society, Haiti Disaster Relief, Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief, The Union County YWCA Domestic Violence Program, Making It Possible To End Homelessness, Camp Johnsonburg, The Music Institute, and others. Many thousands of dollars have been raised for these deserving charities.



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6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700	\$3000
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Animal Crossing Open Hours (Nintendo Switch)
Fri., 9/1 @ 3:00 pm

Explore UPL Island! Check out our inclusive virtual library building. 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. All ages are welcome.

Walk-in Wednesdays (Vauxhall Branch)
Wed., 9/6 @ 12:30-2:00 pm

Learn to navigate HOOPLA, Freegal, and Kanopy to download and enjoy eBooks and audiobooks, music and movies, and much more.

Union County Department of Aging (Main Library)

Thurs. 9/7 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Visit the Aging Services Kiosk to get answers to your questions about Pharmaceuticals, Home Energy/USE, Cooling Assistance, Home Care, Home Delivery, Congregate Meals, Medicaid Eligibility, Social Security, Caregiver Relief Programs, and Transportation.

Chair Yoga (Main Library)

Thurs., 9/7 @ 10:30 am

Take a deep breath with friends and stretch those winter muscles! For Beginners to pros.

Meditation (Virtual on Zoom)

Thursdays @ 11:30 am

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

Friends of the Library Meeting (Main Library)
Thurs. 9/7 @ 6:00 pm

Support your library! New members welcome.
Collard Greens, Black Eyed Peas, and Mac & Cheese: Connecting Families through African American Culture (Vauxhall Branch)

Sat., 9/9 @ 1:00 pm

Author/editor/professor Denise Lewis Patrick will guide participants on to record family highlights into a booklet.

Learn About Respiratory Illnesses (Vauxhall Branch)

Mon., 9/11 @ 1:00 pm

Learn what makes RSV, the flu, and COVID symptoms similar and different.

Adult Fall and Spooky Origami (Main Library)
Mon., 9/11 @ 6:00 pm

Join us for an origami class. Learn to make fall-themed and spooky origami for the season. Registration will be limited and opens Sept. 1st.

Balance Class (Main Library)

Wed., 9/13 @ 10:30 am

Through gentle strength exercises and stepping strategies, keep your body balanced.

Walk-in Wednesdays (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 9/13 @ 12:30 -2:00 pm

Do you need help navigating the many resources our Library offers?

Community Resource Fair (Main Library)

Thurs., 9/14 @ 4 -7:00 pm

Representatives from community organizations covering health, education, ESOL, scholarships.

Practice Your English! (Main Library)

Mon., 9/18 @ 6:00 pm

Now's your chance to practice English and have fun. (Must be able to speak basic English).

Salsa Dancing for Beginners (Vauxhall Branch)

Mon., 9/18 @ 6:00 pm

Learn basic steps and improve your moves with an award-winning dance instructor. All levels are welcome.

Learn About Cancer Clinical Trials (Virtual on Zoom)

Tues., 9/19 @ 1:30 pm

Find out how cancer clinical trials work, and learn the health ethics of research, agencies that protect the patients participating, types of clinical trials, and benefits and risks.

Unlock Your Career Potential at the American Job Center! (Virtual on Zoom)

Tues., 9/19 @ 6:30 pm

Are you ready to take your career to the next level? Discover your path, elevate your skills, and connect with opportunities.

Learn About Diabetes (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 9/20 @ 1:00 pm

Learn how to recognize prediabetes and diabetes, how to prevent it from getting worse, and what you can do to manage it.

How to Organize Your Life into One Notebook with Jamie Novak (Virtual on Zoom)

Wed., 9/20 @ 7:00 pm

Find out how to remember things, prioritize tasks, and stop misplacing important information. Be sure to bring a spiral, three-ring, journal, or other notebook.

Off the Shelf Book Club (Main Library)

Thurs., 9/21 @ 6:30 pm

New members welcome. This month's title is The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett.

Celebrating Unity through Community Arts: A Day of Performances, Poetry Workshops, and Readings

Sat., 9/23, from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

10 am to 1 pm @ Main Library and

1:30- 4:30 pm @ Vauxhall Branch

Celebrating Unity through Community Arts is a full-day literary workshop of performance poetry and literature.

The Enemy Harassed: Washington's New Jersey Campaign of 1777

Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union

Tues., 9/26, at 7:00 pm

Author Jim Stempel reports on one of the most violent, courageous, yet virtually forgotten periods of the Revolutionary War. Reserve seats, call or text to (908) 591-4377.

Learn About Breast Cancer (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 9/27 @ 10:00 am

One in eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. Learn how to prevent and manage the disease.

Practice Your English Conversation (Main Library)

Wed., 9/27 @ 10:00 am

Join this informal conversation group to practice your English and have fun. Join us! (Must be able to speak basic English).

Walk-in Wednesdays (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 9/27 @ 12:30 -2:00 pm

Do you need help navigating the many resources our Library offers?

Hilton Readers Book Club (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed. 5/24 @6: 00 pm

New members are always welcome.

Please call 908-851-5451 for the title.

The Wide World of Spices (Main Library)

Thurs., 9/28 @ 6:15 pm

Kerri Goad-Berrios shares info on emerging trends in spices, how to use them, endless possibilities, and their commitment to our community.

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