

Published by Renna Media, LLC. On-line at RennaMedia.com

Issue 158 · January 2024

PROJECT AT PHIL RIZZUTO PARK COMPLETED

GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place your ad

in this space and be in 6,800 mailboxes! CALL FOR DETAIL

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE	BRIDGEPORT CT PERMIT NO.390	ECRWSS
---------------------------	--------------------------------	--------

08-418-5586

Groundwork Elizabeth

Union, N.J. Within the park the Trotters Branch of the Elizabeth River is an example of the result of decades of flooding and erosion. Sediments from an eroding tributary of • Stabilization of the streambank erosion underneath the river hampered water from flowing freely into the main Elizabeth River as it makes its way to the NJ coastline, upsetting the fragile balance of natural plant and animal life and putting those who live nearby at risk.

There are ways to mitigate these challenges. Groundwork • Enhance fish and macroinvertebrate habitat while also Elizabeth is an Elizabeth based nonprofit which has as its mission to build more sustainable communities, fostering everyone's right to a healthy environment. Youth volunteers from the Groundwork program became enamored with the natural landscape of a woodland/wetland within Phil Rizzuto Park as far back as 2014 and wanted to maintain its vitality. Their continued passion for the site encouraged the 501c • Replace where invasive species were removed with organization to take the next steps to helping to restore and preserve it.

A number of funders and agencies stepped up to lend support for a restoration program that would help reduce flooding and foster native coastal watershed wildlife. Phillips 66 Bayway Refinery led the way followed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (Impact Directed Environmental Accounts and Five Star programs), the Natural Resource Conservation Service of the USDA, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Friends of the Great Swamp, the NJ Conservation Foundation, the NJ Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership and the Environmental Endowment for NJ. November and is now open to the public. For more details Together they assisted the Elizabeth based nonprofit in its mission to restore and conserve the wetland.

- Some of the improvements to the park include: Phil Rizzuto Park, is located on the corner of Elizabeth and • Improvement of the ecological functions as well as the streambank condition by the placement of large rock deflectors and plantings along the streambed
 - pedestrian bridge.
 - Improvement of .4 acres of stream habitat, stream channel to enhance water flow and quality, beginning at the site nearest North Avenue for 150 feet.
 - improving sediment transport and overall stream health.
 - Reestablishment of the thalweg (the line or curve of lowest elevation within a valley or watercourse) by creating/enhancing point bars.
 - Addition of rock riffles installed and pools deepened to further restore and enhance the health of river
 - plantings that help improve water quality and offer a better habitat for native plants, birds, salamanders, turtles, etc
 - Introduction of permanent certified native grasses, native trees, legumes and /or forbs along with wildflowers and perennial plants that reduce sheet flow and provide habitats for native birds, butterflies, honeybees, and other native species.
 - Construction of rain garden to complement area plantings to reduce runoff and provide habitat for native wildlife. A simple overlook for the public is at the site.

The park was closed for work from July through midabout this project and more information on Groundwork, visit groundworkelizabeth.org.



(above) Groundwork Team joined by Phillips 66 team members at Trotters Branch of the Elizabeth River site. Courtesv photos



Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 - email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com





S



Renna Media LLC, Publishers 202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016 Spirit of Union is published by Renna Media. 6,800 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Union Township, NJ. Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

©2023 Contents of this newspaper cannot be reproduced without written consent from Renna Media LLC.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

Do you have a community service that you need help publicizing? Did you or someone you know accomplish something amazing? We are interested in hearing about your latest achievement (honor, award, etc.), send us your news! Email: editor@rennamedia.com

ADVERTISING Joe Renna: 908-447-1295 joerenna@rennamedia.com



Find us on online: rennamedia.com facebook.com/ Spirit of Union

ALL HAD FUN AT WEBBY'S FUN FEST

Fest on November 17 at St. Genevieve's Church. Hosted by Boy Scout Troop 23 and Cub Scout Pack 23, this event provided fun for children of all ages.

Webby, the Webfoot Duck, has been the mascot of Troop 23 since 1967. Activities at Webby's Fun Fest included cornhole, mini-golf, ring toss, Connect 4, Jenga, lawn dice, checkers, chess, Battleship, and dominoes. On the lawn outside the church hall, there was a campfire with marshmallow roasting. And the evening ended with participants enjoying an ice cream sundae!

The Scouting program instills character, good citizenship and physical fitness in youth through outdoor activities such as campouts and hikes, involvement in community activities, and just plain FUN! If you have a son or daughter,

Over 40 people participated in Webby's Fun nephew or niece, grandson or granddaughter, or neighbor who is anywhere between a Kindergartener and a high school senior, please suggest they consider getting in on the fun of Scouting.

> Cub Scout Pack 23 and Boy Scout Troop 23 have been serving the youth of Elizabeth and the surrounding area for over 60 years. These units have earned hundreds of awards on the local and national level, have produced 80 Eagle Scouts, and have leaders who are well-known and widely respected by other Scout leaders across the country.

> New members (regardless of religious affiliation) are welcome at any time, all year round. For more details, please contact Dan Bernier, Scoutmaster, at (908) 451-1948 or webfoottroop@gmail.com.



(above) Boy Scout Troop 23 and Cub Scout Pack 23 hosted Webby's Fun Fest in St. Genevieve's Church hall.



(above) Scouts and their guests roasted marshmallows on an outdoor campfire at Webby's Fun Fest.





Janice Van Der Veken Realtor-Associate **RE/MAX** Select Cell: 908-577-0824

JaniceVanDerVekenRealtor@gmail.com



Mary Rittenhouse Realtor-Associate **RE/MAX Select** Cell: 908-477-4486 Mary.Ritt@hotmail.com

THINKING ABOUT RELOCATING? ATTEND OUR EXCLUSIVE REAL ESTATE EVENT.



The Nation's Largest Real Estate Exhibition

Discover the best places to live. View top lifestyle communities at one convenient location.

Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Delaware, Georgia New this year: Portugal and Greece

JANUARY 13-14 HILTON PARSIPPANY

One Hilton Court, Parsippany, NJ

Sat: 10am-4pm & Sun: 11am-3pm

EXHIBITS, SEMINARS, DISCOVERY TRAVEL AND MORE!

AT THE SHOW, YOU CAN...

- View community exhibits, talk personally with area representatives & home builders.
- Compare many of the best places to relocate, or retire, all at one convenient location near you.
- Discover top destinations that afford a high quality of life, yet very low taxes.
- Explore lifestyle communities: active adult, golf, gated, 55+, coastal, waterfront, boating & more.

Attend Updated Presentations:

- How to Choose Your Ideal Place
- The Martini Theory with Doug Terhune
- Selling Your Home in Today's Market
- · Live Your International Lifestyle



ideal-living.com/RM

Questions: 800-736-0321

COME SING WITH US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE AT SHRINE OF ST JOSEPH

Hickory Tree Chorus

Put some music in your life in 2024! Join the Hickory Tree Chorus for an Open House at Shrine of St Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ, which will include a meet-and-greet, movement warm-ups and, of course, some wonderful singing. Dates are January 10 and 17, 2024, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m. The chorus sings a

songs, Broadway, Disney, Beatles, and more in a fun, supportive community. Come sing with us and share the joy of music together! Stay for the friendship and fun!

Hickory Tree is an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style. We are passionate about

variety of music, including old-fashioned love music, performance, fun & friendship. We believe every voice counts and encourage women singers of all ages, colors, ethnicities, and orientations to visit us and share our joy of music.

> Please contact the Chorus for the Open House by email at info@hickorytreechorus.org.

Find more information at hickorytreechorus.org.



(above) The Hickory Tree Chorus invites the public to sing with them at an Open House, on January 10 and 17, from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m.

It Pays to Go Ultra

Ultra Checking 4.20%Annual Percentage

on the first \$10,000¹

Ultra Savings Annual Percentage Yield

on balances from \$100,000 - \$1,000,000²

Rates current as of December 15, 2023. Rates are subject to change without notice. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. 1) Ultra Checking is a blended rate tiered account with dividends paid on portions of your balance falling within designated tiers: \$0.00 - \$1,000.00: 4.20% Annual Percentage Yield (APY); \$1,000.01 - \$5,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$5,000.01 - \$10,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$10,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$10,000.01 - \$15,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$15,000.01 - \$25,000.00: 2.78% - 1.67% APY; \$25,000.01 - \$50,000.00: 1.67% - 0.84% APY; \$50,000.01 and above: 0.84% -0.02% APY. \$1,000 minimum balance to open. There is a \$1,000 minimum daily balance requirement to avoid a \$15 monthly maintenance fee. The monthly maintenance fee can also be avoided based on a direct deposit of \$750 or greater into the Ultra Checking account during the statement cycle. Limit of one Ultra Checking account per tax identification number. Ultra Savings is a blended rate tiered account with dividends paid on portions of your balance falling within designated tiers: \$0.00 - \$100,000.00: 5.25% APY; \$100,000.01 - \$250,000.00: 5.25% APY; \$1,000,000 - \$2,000.0 \$500.000.01 \$1,000 0.00 APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04% - 0.52% APY. \$100,000 minimum balance to open. There is a \$100,000 minimum daily balance requirement to avoid a \$100 monthly maintenance fee. Limit of one Ultra Savings account per tax identification number.



Get started at TheAtlanticFCU.com, call us at 908-245-1750 or visit us at our branches in Union and West Orange.

Federally Insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender.

HEARTWARMING SUCCESS FOR SOCKTOBER DRIVE

Rotary Club of Union

The Interact Club at Union High School, under the direction of Dr. Ed Boffa, is a club of students dedicated to active service for the good of the school and community. The Socktober drive began in 2019 when the UHS Interact Club decided to hold a sock drive for a homeless shelter in Orange. That year, students collected 633 pairs of socks. In 2021, after Covid, they collected 1,099 pairs of socks.

In 2022, the Union Rotary Club heard about the Socktober drive. Since Interact is a branch of the Rotary Youth Programs, the Union Rotary Club joined their drive. The YMCA also joined in, and the total rose to 1,665 pairs which were donated to the YMCA shelter in Elizabeth.

This year, the bar was raised even higher. Members of the community realized that socks are one of the most requested items for people who turn to shelters for assistance. A call went out to try to reach the goal of 2,023 pairs for 2023. That call was quickly answered. Members of the YMCA donated 305 pairs and employees at Hillmann Consulting brought in 274 more. The Interact students realized a total of 1,724 pairs. Elementary school students at Livingston School, as well as the UTEA, joined in the drive. Rotary members, family and friends joined in to heed the call and help others while a member of the Rotary, Dennis Laronga, donated an entire pallet



(above) Union High School Interact Club

of socks which was 2,052!

The grand total for the 2023 Socktober drive was 4,885 pairs of socks donated! The results of this drive will help hundreds of people!

Jodi Pelano of the Wellness Center, Gateway Family YMCA, said, "People are overwhelmed with the generosity of all the donations, especially in light of the cold weather approaching." When the thousands of pairs of socks were dropped off at the YMCA Housing, Laura Margeotes, Director, said this holiday season more than 300 individuals, families, veterans, and others will be serviced. The socks should last through the next 5 months and help hundreds of people feel warm and dry through the winter months.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF UNION

Rotary provides service to others, contributes to community, and world goodwill and charities, through fellowship of business, professional and community leaders. Our motto is "Do good in the world. Service above self. " We are residents or business owners in Union who are dedicated to helping our community as we continue to grow and thrive. Our lunch meetings host speakers who make us aware of needs in the town, state and world.

The Rotary Club of Union meets two Thursdays a month at noon. Please check the speaker schedule and calendar for location, day, and times. For more information visit: portal.clubrunner.ca/6622



HOUSE PAINTERS & CARPENTRY

REPAIRS & RENOVATIONS

Custom Cabinets / Built-Ins and Closets Woodwork and Millwork of All Kinds Windows & Doors Replacement Gutter Replacement / Repair

Decks / Railings / Fences

973-951-0606

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

- ✓ Pressure Washing
- Power Sanding / Stripping Wood
- Caulking / Glazing / Skim Coating
- Deck Preparation, Sealing & Staining
- Spackling/Drywall / Plaster Repair
- Wallpaper Removal & Sizing
- Floor Refinishing / Installation

FULLY INSURED • LIC: 13VH12858300 • 1980 Springfield Ave 9A, Maplewood NJ

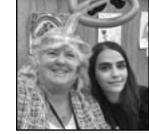
Xhrishomeimprovements.com

FOSTER YOUTH JOIN FOREVER FAMILIES AT ADOPTION DAY

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties On a recent fall morning, five youth ranging from three to 10 years old entered the courtrooms of Superior Court Judges Gavin Handwerker, Paul Nieves and Chanel Hudson as foster youth and, shortly after, emerged as official members of their new families.

Adoption Day is eagerly anticipated by many at Union County's Family Court, as ample smiles fill the courthouse – a juxtaposition to the daily navigation of complex issues fraught with loss or discord. This year, county dignitaries presented





(above, right) Event included a balloon artist; cupcakes; ice cream, face painting, and bracelets.



(left) Each family received a basket made possible by CASA of Passaic and Union Counties & the David Brearley Middle High School Bears That Care Program.



(above) Sheriff's officers dressed as superheroes, and maned a Batmobile outside the courthouse.

Courtesy photo



families with proclamations and certificates, and festivities included performances by 30 high school students from Elizabeth's Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy A Cappella Choir; a former foster youth sharing her personal journey and adoption story; a roaming balloon artist; sheriff's officers dressed as superheroes and a Batmobile outside for visiting; furry greetings from Kenilworth's David Brearley Middle High School mascot bear; personalized cupcakes; and ice cream, face painting, and friendship-bracelet making stations.

CASA of Passaic and Union Counties presented family fun-themed gift baskets made possible in part from donations by David Brearley Bears That Care program and the Union County Bar Association. Baskets were given to all those finalizing on Adoption Day, as well as several families who adopted earlier in the year.

Cynthia Evans of Scotch Plains was among the CASA volunteers to attend the ceremonies for their assigned children. "The day was a long time

coming for these sisters, and it was amazing," she said. "I've been their advocate since 2020. Between their adoptive families and all involved, embraces and cheers were aplenty. My time as their CASA volunteer was both rewarding and challenging. I'm thankful I could help ensure their needs were met and services were provided while in care."

Adoption Day is a national movement to raise awareness of children in foster care. Since its inception 23 years ago, nearly 60,000 children have found permanency. More than 437,000 youth in the United States are currently in the child welfare system awaiting a permanent home, and the average wait is four years. For more than 23,000 youth, that doesn't happen, and they age out of the system, facing life on their own.

For details on CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, becoming an advocate for foster children or other opportunities to support the organization's work, log on to www.casapassaicunion.org.



www.teamlaw.com

SCENIC UNION COUNTY ART EXHIBIT

Kenilworth Public Library, will present a collection of photographs captured by fine art photographer Jacki Dickert titled "Scenic Union County", January thru April 2024.

Dickert is a participating member of the New Jersey photography community, serving as an artist, teacher and judge. A prolific artist, her images have been exhibited in numerous galleries around the state as well as being published on book covers, in textbooks and in magazines including Backpacker and The Sun. She has served as judge for the Union County Teen Arts Festival, NJ Federation of Camera Clubs, among others.

Dickert won first place in the Ansel Adams photography contest held by the Fenimore Art Museum in New York, and also had work accepted into the Newark Liberty International

The Gallery-on-the-Boulevard, located in the Airport New Terminal A exhibit - NJ: Journey of lightdance.org. All artwork is available for Surprises. She is a salon level member of the Camera naturalist Photo Club and a popular speaker with the NJ Federation of Camera Clubs.

> Since retiring from teaching elementary school, she now teaches private photography classes, does workshops for all ages, and leads group photowalks.

> Speaking of her work, she states. "I feel great wonder and joy in the world around me. In awe of what I find in nature, I love the land, plants, patterns, and little corners of the world that I discover in my frequent wanderings there. I would like the viewing of my photographs to be a rich experience, evoking emotion and stimulating the imagination. Ultimately, I hope that my work allows viewers to be touched by the magic and beauty that is always around

> us."Dickert's portfolio and blog may be found at

purchase by contacting the artist.

The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular library hours. For more information call 908-276-2451.



(above) Stormy Spring Skies-Nomahegan Park



Chicken Marsala or Francese With yellow rice and green been almondine Served with salad & bread

Baked Ziti with Chicken Parmigiani Served with salad & bread

\$39.99 (Feeds 2) / \$69.99 (Feeds 4) No Substitutions

Mini Triple Decker Sloppy Joe Sandwich Tray (Feeds 5-6) \$40.99

Mini Assorted Sandwich Platter (Feeds 5) \$39.99

Mini Finger Sub Platter (Feeds 4) \$34.99

Mini Wrap Platter (Feeds 5) \$41.99

Mini Triple Decker Club Sandwich Tray (Feeds 5) \$40.99

For other options (chicken wings, antipasto platter, mozzarella sticks etc.) please see our menu online @ cozycornerdeli.net



558 Rahway Avenue Union NJ 07083 Phone (908) 688-8884 Debit, Visa, & Mastercard Accepted





#SMS STRONG Registrations for the 2024-2025 academic year are now being accepted

- Faith-based environment
- Early Childhood Program Pre K3 & Pre K4 (Full & Half Day)
- Full Day academically based Kindergarten
- Primary, Elementary, and Middle School curriculums
- Controlled class size
- Average 16:1 student-teacher ratio
- Chromebooks for grades 2-8
- Before and after care programs are available daily on site
- Member of the National Catholic **Education Association (NCEA)**
- Accredited by the Middle States Association Commission on Elementary Schools

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Thursday, January 25, 2024 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Sunday, January 28, 2024 11:30 pm - 2:00 pm PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (908) 276-9425 100 Alden Street, Cranford, NJ www.smscranford.com

E-Mail: saint.michael@verizon.net

ATLANTIC FEDERAL GIVES RECOVERY GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFITS

Atlantic") distributed \$50,000 in grant funding to five local nonprofit organizations through the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York Small Business Recovery Grant Program ("SBRG"). The SBRG is designed to support the financial security and health of organizations that have faced economic challenges due to the rate environment, inflation, supply-chain constraints, and/or rising energy costs.

The SBRG began in 2017 in response to hurricanes in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Program relaunched in 2020 and was made available again in 2021 to aid small businesses and nonprofit organizations facing

The Atlantic Federal Credit Union ("The challenges due to the Coronavirus pandemic. By participating in the SBRG this year, The Atlantic was able to grant \$10,000 each to Bianca F.L.O.W.E.R.S. Inc. in Plainfield, Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey, Mobile Meals of Westfield, St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth, and SHARE Alliance in Springfield.

> "Thank you to the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York for their partnership and the opportunity to extend recovery grants within the communities we serve," shared The Atlantic Federal Credit Union Chief Executive Officer Anthony Mero. "The SBRG funding will help our deserving recipients continue their selfless work throughout Essex and Union counties -

ensuring community members in need have access to food, clothing, social services and other crucial resources through the holiday season and beyond."

ABOUT THE ATLANTIC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

The Atlantic Federal Credit Union was founded in 1935 as a not-for-profit financial cooperative to meet the savings and borrowing needs of Members. Today, The Atlantic Federal Credit Union exclusively serves Essex and Union counties in New Jersey with financial wellness resources, competitive rates and technologydriven solutions for personal and business banking. For full eligibility criteria and more information, visit TheAtlanticFCU.com.



(above) Check Presentation Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey: The mission of Jewish Family Service of Central NJ, a nonsectarian health and social service agency, is to strengthen family life and encourage personal growth by providing specialized quality services to individuals and families in need in Union County. The Agency is a licensed mental health outpatient agency and a licensed and accredited homecare agency. A diverse staff who speak 11 languages provides a full range of services from mental health counseling, to Kosher Meals On Wheels, to an active Food Pantry and Urban Community Garden. Learn more at jfscentralnj.org.

(above, l-r) Adam Cadmus, Chief Experience Officer at The Atlantic; Carla White-Garrett, Community Engagement Representative at The Atlantic; Peter Jacob, Director of Housing Services at Jewish Family Service of Central NJ; Anthony Mero, Chief Executive Officer at The Atlantic; Tom Beck, Executive Director at Jewish Family Service of Central NJ; and Janine Grieco, Director of Member Engagement and Delivery at The Atlantic.



(above) Check Presentation St. Joseph Social Service Center: Since 1983, St. Joseph Social Service Center has served the materially poor and homeless community of greater Elizabeth, New Jersey, by providing basic human needs such as food, clothing and medications, as well as a wide range of services and programs to help them acquire the material goods and social services they need to live with dignity. St. Joseph Social Service Center's range of services include a food pantry, health and wellness programs, mental health counseling, an Adult Learning Center, access to clothing and household items, and more. Learn more at sjeliz.org.

(above, 1-r) Mary Phillips, Development Director at St. Joseph Social Service Center; Bernadette Murphy, Executive Director at St. Joseph Social Service Center; Tama Hampton, Volunteer Coordinator at St. Joseph Social Service Center; Carla White-Garrett, Community Engagement Representative at The Atlantic; Anthony Mero, Chief Executive Officer at The Atlantic; and Adam Cadmus, Chief Experience Officer at The Atlantic.

Kenilworth Dry Cleaners

Free pick-up and delivery services

• Wash n Fold • Dry Cleaning • Laundry • Leather & Suede Cleaning • UGG's & Sneaker **Restoration • Wedding Gown Preservation** Meticulous Alterations and Custom Work.

Call 908-259-1960 Kenilworth-dry-cleaners.com

Your satisfaction is our priority.

RESTORING AND PRESERVING YOUR GARMENTS TO KEEP THEM FROM THE LANDFILL!

Download the CleanCloud app and select Kenilworth Dry Cleaners. 빝



We're In This Together. Contact-free Online Rentals.

SKIP THE COUNTER

(908) 259-1020 750 Boulevard

Kenilworth, NJ 07033

\$1 Pays Your First Month's Rent.

\$24 Admin Fee Waived When You Complete Your Rental Online Or Over The Phone.

FREE Lock & Key.

Taxes & fees may apply. Subject to availability. Offer valid for new customers only.

www.AccessSelfStorage.com



ROTARY FOOD DRIVE DONATION

The Rotary Club of Union, following the motto of Service Above Self, holds monthly drives. During November, Club members held a food drive to benefit the Union Food Pantry. Rotary members collected food at their places of business or sent it to Hillmann Consulting, who also supports Rotary drives. A generous Rotarian donated \$500 so that 50 ShopRite gift cards could be purchased. So much food was donated that the bags filled a pick-up truck!

The Rotary Club of Union meets 2 Thursdays of the month at 12:15 p.m.. Rotary provides service to others, contributes to community, and world goodwill and charities, through fellowship of business, professional and community leaders. The motto is "Do good in the world. Service above self." We are residents or business owners in Union who are dedicated to helping our community as we continue to grow and thrive. Our activities include speakers who make us aware of needs in the town, state and world and

The Rotary Club of Union, following the involvement in charities and services. For more otto of Service Above Self, holds monthly information visit: portal.clubrunner.ca/6622



(above) The food collected by the Union Rotary Club was delivered to Nicole Leavey and Mary Fox, at the Clerk's Office at Union Township Town Hall for distribution to township residents who are in need during the cold winter months.

SPANISH INTO ENGLISH ADULT PROGRAM

Want to practice or learn more English? Come to the Kenilworth Public Library for a free one hour session of intensive listening and speaking on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. This program is geared towards adults 18 and up. If you have any questions, please contact Krisstonia at 973-309-6971





Organized by the American Museum of Natural History (amnh.org).

Marketing Toolbox

Renna Media offers a full range of marketing services, in print and online, hyperlocal to regional, for every budget and market size.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTS

We mail 160,000 newspapers to every home and business in 24 towns. You can advertise in any number of towns. Ads start at \$60.

FULL COLOR PRINTING

We print flyers and menus, full color, two sided, on coated stock for only \$45 per thousand.

DIRECT MAIL

Insert your flyer into the newspapers and get it mailed to every home and business for \$60 per thousand and as low as \$30 per thousand for higher quantities.

ONLINE MARKETING

Online ads and press releases designed and placed to drive traffic to your website and get your phone ringing.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We can design and/or manage your social media campaign from passive to aggressive plans customized to work within your budget.

WEBSITE AND SEO SERVICES

Start with an audit/analysis of your website giving you a report and recommendations for \$250.

It is highly recommended to have a marketing plan and budget before spending.

CALL JOE RENNA FOR A FREE CONSULTATION. 908-447-1295

RENNA MEDIA NEWSPAPER RATE SHEET WE MAIL 160,000 NEWSPAPERS MONTHLY! Tina Renna 908-418-5586 • tinarenna@rennamedia.com

Joe Renna 908-447-1295 • joerenna@rennamedia.com 202 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016



UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY JANUARY PROGRAMS

1060 Stuyvesant Ave, Union • 123 Hilton Ave, Vauxhall, NJ 07088 • 908-851-5450 • Email unionpl@uplnj.org • https://uplnj.org/ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9 AM - 8 PM; Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 9 AM - 5 PM; Sunday: Closed

Bring your New Year's resolutions to Union Public Library for advice, programs, and inspiration.

Walk-in Wednesdays **One-on-One Library Technology Assistance** (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24 & 1/31 from 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Get help with library resources, including downloading e-books from Libby and Hoopla, using the library catalog and resources, using mobile print, and using the photocopier and scanner. Reservations not required.

Sign up for Affordable Health Care Insurance (Vauxhall Branch)

Thurs. 1/4 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm New Jersey Citizen Action provides free assistance with health care enrollment through GetCoveredNJ and NJFamilyCare, free tax preparation, HUD-certified first-time housing counseling, financial coaching, fair housing testing and education, financial education, discounted oil heat to renters and homeowners, and more. Services are provided in English and

Spanish. **Meditation (on Zoom)**

Thursdays @ 11:30-12PM Join Bindu Bhatt for a virtual meditation session. No experience necessary. Bindu has practiced meditation for over 30 years and would like to share her insight with you.

Friends of the Library Meeting

Thurs. 1/4 @ 6:00 pm Join the Friends of the Library at their monthly meeting. New members are always welcome. Come and support your library.

How to Quit Smoking (Main Library) Mon., 1/8 @ 6:00 pm

Smoking harms nearly every organ of the body, causing many diseases and affecting the health of smokers in general. Quitting smoking has immediate and long-term benefits for you and your loved ones. Presented by Union County's

Office of Health Management

History of the Civil Rights Movement (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 1/10 @ 6:00 pm

The civil rights movement was a struggle by African Americans in the mid-1950s to late 1960s to achieve equal civil rights for whites. No social or political movement of the twentieth century has had as profound an effect on the legal and political institutions of the

United States. Please join us for a lecture full of researched information, pictures, and music from the era.

Chair Yoga (Main Library)

Thurs., 1/11 10:00 am Take a deep breath with friends and stretch! For beginners to professionals. Presented by the

Gateway Family YMCA.

Adult Chess (Main Library)

Thurs, 1/11 @ 1:00 pm Do you like to play? Do you like to play with others? Drop by!

Sign up for Affordable Health Care Insurance (Main Library)

Thurs.1/11 from 3-7:00 pm New Jersey Citizen Action provides free assistance with health care enrollment through GetCoveredNJ and NJFamilyCare. Services are

provided in English and Spanish. **Practice Your English (Main Library)**

Thurs, 1/11 @ 6:00 pm Now's your chance to practice your English and

have fun. (Must be able to speak basic English). Not a formal class.

Build Your Balance (Main Library) Tues., 1/16 @ 10:30 am

It's more important than ever to avoid the risks of falling as we age. Learning to balance your body in different situations through gentle strength exercises and stepping strategies. Give this popular class a try!

Off the Shelf Book Club (Main Library)

Thur., 1/18 @ 6:30 pm This month, we are reading Stone Blind by Natalie Haynes. Great way to make friends!

Saturday Music Trivia: 80s Music (Vauxhall Branch)

Sat., 1/20 @ 1:00pm Are you wearing a Tears for Fears shirt and listening to Prince on your tape player? If you are, dust off those acid-wash jeans and play 1980's Music Trivia for fun and prizes.

Practice Your English (Main Library)

Mon.,1/22 @ 6:00 pm Now's your chance to practice your English and have fun. (Must be able to speak basic English). Not a formal class.

Hilton Readers Book Discussion (Vauxhall Branch)

Wed., 1/24 @ 6pm January's book selection is The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman.

How Spices Can Improve Your Health (Main Library)

Sat., 1/27 2:00 pm

Did you know that the spice rack in the kitchen may also hold secret weapons against arthritis, diabetes, heart disease, memory decline, cancer, and other chronic diseases? They can even

brighten your day. See how and get information on how to use them and take home samples.

Presented by Union's own Kalustyan.

Plant Forward Cooking (on Zoom) Mon., 1/29 @ 6:00 pm

Plant-forward dishes are nutritious and delicious and allow plants to take center stage. Vanessa Young of Thirsty Radish shows you how to incorporate more vegetables, beans, fruits, whole grains, and other plants into your meals through recipes, preparation, and lifestyle strategies. Young is a cooking instructor, writer, and educator.

Vauxhall Movie Nights (Vauxhall Branch) Wed., 1/31 @ 6:00 pm

Join us for a relaxing night at the movies! The featured movie for January follows a new father who struggles to raise his daughter after the sudden death of his wife. The movie was released in 2021



Meet new people & explore faith together. Alpha is a place to connect with other people who are open to exploring life, faith, and

meaning. Each session includes a time to connect with others (often over a free meal), hear a short talk on an element of the Christian faith, and then a chance for each person to share their own questions with the group. We'd love to hear your perspective!

Alpha Winter/Spring 2024 Season begins LIVE Monday February 5th 7:00 pm @ The Nazareth Center



If you have questions about Alpha, please contact the Nazareth Center Office at 908-889-2100 or send an email to office@ihmparish.net

access our sign up page at <u>www.ihmparish.net/alpha</u>



The Gateway Family YMCA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening community.



VIRTUAL MEETINGS ALSO AVAILABLE

Interior & Exterior Remodeling | Family Owned & Operated

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | 30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

NJDCA 13VH07755300

🔯 MagnoliaHomeRemodeling.com