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VOL. 05 NO. 05

New Union ambulance



— See Page 2

SID brings foot traffic



— See Page 6

Marching for justice



— See Page 12

Town celebrates Hannah Caldwell Day with historical society tours

By EmilyAnn Jackman
Staff Writer

The pandemic has placed much on hold, but as New Jersey begins to reopen, many businesses and organizations are welcoming back the community. The Union Township Historical Society is among the organizations ready to reopen to the public in the near future.

Despite not having reopened yet, UTHS held socially distant tours of Caldwell Parsonage in Union on June 7 to celebrate Hannah Caldwell Day. “We haven’t ‘opened back up,’” UTHS President Barbara La Mort said on June 5, prior to the tours. “This Sunday’s event is a one-off. We’re hosting it to commemorate the 240th anniversary of the Battle of Connecticut Farms — that was Union’s name until 1808 — which was a turning point in the American Revolution. As the British retreated from that battle, Hannah Caldwell, the wife of Rev. James Caldwell, was killed by a British soldier. That’s why June 7 is Hannah Caldwell Day.”

Similar to La Mort, UTHS Vice President David Arminio was thrilled for the society to begin to offer tours again.

“Being excited to continue the tours of the Caldwell Parsonage after the coronavirus outbreak is an understatement. I would use the word ecstatic,” Arminio said on June 7. “Not only do we get to fulfill our mission to once again bring the local history to the people of Union and guests to Union, but the ability to do so is an indication that the threat to us is nearing an end. Maybe one day, we can have no restrictions within the parsonage.”

Before the pandemic began, UTHS would lead approximately 20 visitors at a time on tours of the Caldwell Parsonage. But the pandemic put a stop to the tours, as groups of 20 were no longer allowed to gather.

“The UTHS had to cancel tours because of COVID-19,” La Mort said. “Certain social-distancing guidelines have been put in place for this Sunday’s event on June 7. An individual or a couple or a family may tour the house one at a time for a 10-minute self-guided tour. Gloves will be provided, but guests are requested to bring and wear their own masks. Guests waiting to enter must stand at least 6 feet apart. The rooms will be sanitized with a portable UV light between the self-guided tours.”

Despite the many negatives, Arminio looked to the bright side of the coronavirus response.

“I can relate two positive outcomes to the isolation during the pandemic,” Arminio said. “One of them is that I was able to prepare a Zoom presentation to the members of the Rotary Club of Union about the history of Union using older and longer presentations. I had the time to modify, shorten and tighten up the PowerPoint and narrative to present to the Rotary membership. The other is that, because of the lockdown, Kathy, my wife, and I were able to go to the empty parsonage and paint walls, stairs, railings and floors and rearrange a display that otherwise may have been put off for quite some time. The pandemic was challenging because some of the projects that were in the planning stages had to be postponed. To replan their completion with the different contractors may be difficult.”

La Mort also found some positive aspects to the community’s response to the pandemic.

“This experience with the pandemic has been a challenging



Photo Courtesy of Barbara La Mort

Ron Le Carl and Meridoc Burkhardt, portraying Rev. James Caldwell, pose for a picture together at Hannah Caldwell Day.

one because of the cancellation of UTHS events, loss of revenue and putting curating projects on hold. Some positive outcomes are working together with the Union Public Library and the Vauxhall Historical Society Inc. on a ‘Documenting History’ project about the pandemic, as well as surprise donations from Union residents,” she said.

Speaking of donations, UTHS has set a goal for contributions. “Our goal is \$11,300,” La Mort said. “That money is for the installation of two additional air-conditioning units for the comfort of our volunteers and visitors, as well as the preservation of our artifacts that can be affected by heat and humidity. We accept checks payable to the UTHS and mailed to 909 Caldwell Ave., Union, NJ 07083.”

According to the society’s website, the tours and programs that were scheduled for March, April and May were canceled because of the coronavirus. Those events would have produced much-needed revenue for the centuries-old house.

“The original Caldwell Parsonage, which was built in 1730, was burned to its foundation by the British after the Battle of Connecticut Farms,” La Mort said. “The parishioners of Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church completed the rebuilding of the parsonage around 1783. The home is significant in American history because Hannah’s death at the site became a rallying cry for men to enlist in the New Jersey militia and help defeat the British 16 days later at the Battle of Springfield, which was the last major battle of the war that was fought in the North. Hannah’s death is depicted on the seal of the county of Union.”

Union EMU kicks off summer with new ambulance

By EmilyAnn Jackman
Staff Writer

The Union Emergency Medical Unit answers more than 5,600 emergency calls a year in this and the surrounding communities, making it one of the busiest EMS agencies in the county. With the current housing boom and anticipated added population in the township, the number of 911 calls is expected to grow even higher. With that in mind, the unit decided to purchase a gently used ambulance from the Summit Volunteer Ambulance Squad.

Good timing. With the added pressures of the COVID-19 outbreak, there are even more calls, putting more strain on Union EMU's ambulance fleet.

"Union EMU answers an average of 15 calls for a service day; that number was closer to 30 at the height of the pandemic," Union EMU Capt. David Bialas said on May 29. "Those numbers, plus the size and weight of the ambulances, put a lot of wear and tear on the apparatus."

"We now have seven ambulances that get rotated in and out of service for maintenance, inventory and/or decontamination," Bialas continued. "This allows us to spread the mileage and hours among the fleet so the ambulances can serve us for a longer number of years. We operate two ambulances 24/7, but during high call volume, fires, mass casualty incidents, severe weather or special events, like the Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade or Union Township Memorial Day Parade, we have the ability to place more ambulances in service."

Due to the agency's budget constraints, the purchase of a new ambulance was not feasible.

"We rely on the revenue from transport billing and donations, no tax dollars, and that amount fluctuates every year, while operating costs rise every year with our call volume," Bialas said, adding that the unit had seen an average increase of 500 calls per year in the last five



EMS-7 received a paint job from Union Collision in Union EMU's customary orange, blue and white.

years. "We were dealing with large expenditures remounting an ambulance, facing major repairs on another ambulance, and were forced to decommission another ambulance. Coupling that with the time it takes for a manufacturer to produce an ambulance, the design, purchase, and building of an ambulance — the process was not going to meet our immediate needs."

Soon after, a solution came by way of Summit.

"One of our per diem EMTs, Kari Phair, is the EMS chief of the Summit Volunteer Ambulance Squad and mentioned to our operations staff that Summit was looking to sell their gently used ambulance," Bialas said. "Lt. Matthew Steitz, our fleet maintenance officer, and our maintenance vendors inspected the ambulance, and it was determined that it was a sound purchase that could help us serve our community. Lt. Steitz put together a proposal, planned and then retrofitted the ambulance to match our fleet."

The gently used 2006 Braun slope-side, long-body ambulance had fewer than 50,000 miles and 6,200 hours on it; it had reliably served the city of Summit until it was replaced. In the fall, the membership of Union Emergency Medical Unit approved the purchase of the ambulance and three Ferno 35x stretchers for \$15,000.

Many members clocked countless hours stripping, retrofitting and upgrading the ambulance under the guidance of Steitz, but one problem remained: The ambulance's colors were Summit's blue-and-white paint scheme, rather than Union EMU's customary orange, blue and white.

Ready to help in any capacity, Kenny Barbera of Union Collision provided the solution. Barbera donated labor and materials to Union Emergency Medical Unit to paint the ambulance. The donation was valued at nearly \$15,000, based on estimates the agency obtained from other body shops. Steitz, along with Barbera's two sons, worked to design, prep and paint the ambulance in February.

"Finding a solution for the color scheme was pretty easy," Barbera said on June 1. "Our painters had photos of other ambulances and copied their color scheme and design. The EMU squad provided us with paint codes. All departments were involved with this project. The vehicle was initially sent to the body shop, where all moldings and lights were removed, and all dings and dents were repaired. It was then sent to the prep department, where it was sanded and masked again. Then the vehicle was sent to our refinishing department, where it was refinished, and, finally, to our detail department, where it was reassembled and prepped for delivery."

For Barbera, the only challenge was balancing his business with his charity.

"The work took place at our shop at 640 Rahway Ave. in Union," Barbera said. "The only challenge we had was

See **LOCAL BUSINESS**, Page 10

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Kean U. celebrates nearly 4,000 graduates virtually

The first Kean University class to graduate in a virtual commencement celebrated May 29 in a ceremony complete with a tassel turn and personalized videos and speeches from special guests, including Whoopi Goldberg.

Nearly 4,000 undergraduate and graduate students earning degrees in dozens of fields marked the joyous day in living rooms, backyards and chat rooms during the online event.

Goldberg, U.S. Sen. Cory Booker and Martin Luther King III, as well as student and academic leaders, addressed the graduates and their families as thousands shared their congratulations with the class over social media.

"I know it hasn't been easy, but you have done an amazing job. I am so proud of what you have achieved," said Kean President Dawood Farahi as he conferred bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees upon his final Kean graduating class after serving 17 years as president.

A total of 3,248 undergraduates and 690 graduate students received degrees.

Valedictorian Ariella Askew, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in science and technology/molecular biology, spoke of her classmates' strength in overcoming the obstacles of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This could easily have been an insurmountable challenge. But did we give up? No. Did we crumble under pressure? No," she said. "We, the Class of 2020, will have our chance, and we will bring the light back into the world."

In his remarks, Booker also spoke of the circumstances facing the 2020 graduates and said that, "We get to choose our response."

"That's your power," he said. "Bring your power, your power of love. That's what this world needs right now. Don't underestimate your power. Use it every day to make a difference in this world that so needs you."

The virtual commencement included a YouTube video with all the traditional elements of the ceremony, plus an online platform for individual graduate profiles that included a reading of each graduate's name. An interactive board displayed live social media content.

Throughout the online event, graduates and their family, friends and supporters sent emoji-filled congratulations and individual shout-outs to the Class of 2020.

The commencement program will remain available on the website for viewing and sharing through June 15.

Kean board of trustees Chairwoman Ada Morell noted that many in the Kean family have worked on the front



line of the COVID-19 pandemic, or have struggled with illness or lost loved ones. She called for a moment of silence to honor them.

"Together we have faced some unprecedented challenges," she said. "With every challenge comes opportunity and reflection."

Goldberg, the award-winning actress, also spoke of the pandemic, praising the graduates' resilience and strength during the past few months.

"Nothing could prepare you for adulthood more than this pandemic," she said in her address. "Don't let anyone tell you 2020 was a bad year. This is the year of you. This is the year when you decide who you're going to be ... and you implement it."

Tyshiana Johnson, of Rahway, who earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in communication and public relations, watched her commencement ceremony with a gathering of aunts and uncles, and her mom and brothers, in her aunt's living room. When they saw her name appear on the screen, she said, they all began screaming in excitement.

"It felt good once you see your name," she said. "It's the accomplishment — the virtual doesn't matter so much."

Natasha Rosario, of Old Bridge, who also received her Bachelor of Arts degree in communication and public

relations, celebrated with her mother, brother, grandparents and boyfriend.

"I actually really enjoyed the virtual commencement. It was really nice to sit at home with my family and enjoy this special moment together," she said.

Emely Hernandez, of Union City, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, with minors in management and women and gender studies. She celebrated with her mom, sister, brother-in-law and others.

"I thought the ceremony was really nice. All the speeches were beautiful and relevant. It was obvious it was for us and no one else," she said.

Also speaking via video to the graduates was human rights activist Martin Luther King III. He gave a Distinguished Lecture address at Kean in February, following in the footsteps of his late father, Martin Luther King Jr., who had also spoken at the university.

"You rose to the challenge with admirable commitment," King III said. "Now you begin another journey. Yes, it will be hard. Yes, it will be a changed world. But don't be discouraged."

"Keep your faith, keep your integrity and keep your eyes on the prize. Our world urgently needs you and your vision and your compassion," he continued. "Whatever path you choose, take it with love and you'll be alright. You got this."



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Union High School graduates Class of 2020

The following members from the Class of 2020 at Union High School are set to graduate July 8:

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Haytham Abounaja
Duaa Abusharea
Adrianna Acosta
Temilade Adanlawo
Joseph Addo
Adewonuola Adefowaju
Oluwatomiwa Adegboye
Dylan Adekoya
Renee Adu-Gyamfi
Anita Afonne
Aisha Agboola
Nicholas Agnone
Oluwasewafunmi Akinola
Naya Akridge
Daniel Aladeniyi
Victor Alfaro Moreira
Fahad Ali
Fabian Almeida
Brandon Almonte
Julia Almosa
Daniela Alvarado Andrade
Daniel Alvarez
Isaiah Alviola
Andres Amador
Chessa Amanor
Kofi Ansah
Jaane Antoine
Stainley Antoine
Michael Anurum Anyanwu
Chiemena Anyanwu
Elizabeth Arias
Thomas Ashie
Adrian Aska
Giselle Avetria
Demilade Badejo
Michael Baisden
Autumn Baptist-Hardman
Catherine Barbosa
Maria Barbosa
Jabari Basden-Slue
Jamari Basden-Slue
Kristian Bastien
Tania Bataille
Jeremy Batista
Andy Beauzil
Mikal-Sadiyq Belcher
Vivian Bitencourt
Joshua Bonilla
Marquise Booker
Carlos Borges
Jordan Bowles
Deahra Bowman
Briana Boykins
Dylan Bradley
Jordon Brady
Isaiah Bristol
Elijah Brooks
Mya-Nicole Brooks
Claudia Brown
Elijah Brown
Jason Brown
Shamir Brown
Kelvin Bruce
Ana Brun
Isaiah Bryant
Melissa Bueno
Nahasia Burgess
Joanna Caceres-Quizhpi

Jocelyn Caceres-Quizhpi
Angeline Cadichon
Erika Calle
Shanel Calle
Kassandra Campbell
Shakeem Campbell
Bryan Cando
Iyanna Canty
Stephen Capers
Elijah Carey
Joseph Carrillo
Jordan Carvajal
Maria Casadiego Hernandez
Ricardo Casas
Sara Casqueira
Lorenzo Castellar
Sara Castro
Branden Cebien
Jeanice Cenescar
Cheram Cenoble
Jessica Chamberlin
Kiya Danielle Charles
Zacharee Charles
Zoe Charles
Urbain Charles-Saint
Naomi Chaves
Pranav Chawla
Nathan Chery
Samia Chin
Kimberlie Clervil
Swiyyah Cobb
Lucas Coelho
Stephen Colandro
Max Collucci
Sabrina Colmenares
Zoe Colon
Nicholas Comia
Jason Cooley
Gerald Cordero Alpizar
Vanessa Correia
Kevin Couto
Joshua Crespo
Jenmaris Cruz
Cristopher Curillo
Anthony Da Silva
Bayyan Dallas
Darshan Danak
Emma DaSilva
Matthew DaSilva
Aniya Davis
Christopher De Oliveira
Megan De Oliveira
Malcolm Deane
Kyle DeGuzman
Tatiana Delvalle
Abigail Deronet
Marc Desrivieres
Samuel Destine
Tristan Desvarieux
Kayla Dieujuste
Abigail Dieuveuille
Jayda Dizon
Phillip-Henry Dizon
Anthony Dominguez Marte
Oliver Dorelien
Wiliana Dornelus
Ragel Douglas
Sophia Duenas
Kesna Dufrene

Jared Durand
Nathan Dutra
Jacques Gerald Dutreuil
Jalen Early
Marshaan Ebuenga-Smith
Jamal Edghill
Peter Ekhaguere
Brian Elbanna
Donia Elbanna
Dahlia Elie
Xavier Endara
Victoria Enoghama
Jonathan Ero
Izabella Ecurra
Ethan Latrell Espino
Dieudeline Estiverne
Stephanie Estiverne
Jason Estrada-Escobar
D'Shawn Etienne
Shellbie Etienne
Jean Daniel Eugene
Nathalie Eustache
Benjie Exavier
Raul Falar
Joveyl Hersy Fang
Tanaisha Farrell
Quamek Fearon
Eric Joshua Fernandez
Gabriel Fernandez
Roxanne Fernandez
Alexander Ferreira
Arthur Ferreira
Mariana Ferreira
David Flanagan
Jorge Flores
Endy Florestal
Elizabeth Foley
Juliana Fonseca
Nicole Fortes
Sierra Foster
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Shanell Goines
Diego Gomez
Natalie Gomez
David Goncalves
Hailey Goncalves
Kayla Goncalves
Olinda Goncalves
Zachary Goncalves
Elthon Gonzalez
Justin Gonzalez
Delano Gooden
Julianna Gore
Vanessa Gouveia
Elijah Graham
Liam Grahl
Amber Grant
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Werveland Jean-Baptiste
Freud Jeantilus
Jefferson Jerez
Ronald Jerez Calle
Paulisha Jeudy
Patricia Joaquin-Flores
Isaiah Jones
Joshua Jones
Cyndie Joseph
Edris Joseph
Eniah Joseph
Justin Joseph
Maranane Jules
Verline Julien
Anthony Junio
Noemi Kallai
Kelvin Kam
Quincy Kelsick
Barakat Keshiro
Dean Khalil
Justin Koomson
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Stuyvesant Ave. closes to cars to rekindle business

By **Amanda Valentovic**
Staff Writer

The Union Special Improvement District is finally showing signs of life again.

Most of the businesses on Stuyvesant Avenue were forced to close their doors when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, causing those that could to go virtual and restaurants to pivot to curbside and take-out options only. But now that outdoor gatherings of up to 500 people are allowed, the SID is shutting down sections of the main street in Union to coax residents out of their quarantine.

“We want to get people reacclimated to the town,” SID Director and Director of Economic Development Fatimah Raymond said in an interview with LocalSource on June 20. “It really helps us reconnect the community.”

Stuyvesant Avenue was closed to traffic daily from June 18 through June 20 to

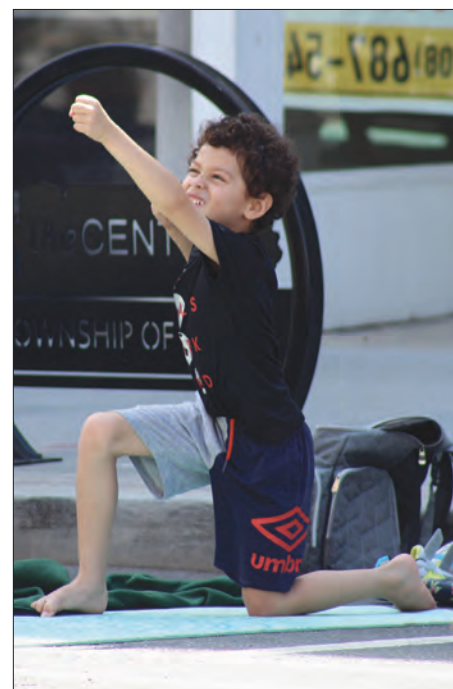
allow residents to walk around the street, sample food from the bakeries and restaurants, and be social again. Jowell Domingo from Crow and the Coconut Yoga taught a yoga class in the street, and Princess Gibbs led a Zumba class a couple of blocks away.

“As things progress and we know what we can and can’t do, we’ll figure it out,” Raymond said. “But right now we’re focusing on calm and wellness. We want people to know it’s accessible. It’s a very walkable town, and the people are great. We can’t go inside these places, so we’re bringing it out to the people.”

Outdoor seating and fitness classes will return to Stuyvesant Avenue from June 25 through June 27 as well, and there will be entertainment at Columbus Park on June 25 from 3 to 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.uniontownship.com/967/center-reopening.



Above, SID visitors meditate. Below left, women learn a yoga pose. Below right, Joaquin Arevalo does yoga.



Photos by Amanda Valentovic

Princess Gibbs leads a Zumba class on Stuyvesant Avenue on June 20.



Above, residents do yoga. Enjoying the public space are, at right, above, Jean Fortin and Terri Suess, and at right, below, Ana Rodrigues and Tara Baker.

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IN MEMORIAM

- **AZZARELLO** – Russell, of Union; June 11. Butcher at A&P/Acme in Kenilworth for 44 years. U.S. Army veteran. Father, uncle, 75.
- **BELLSIANO** – John J. Jr., of Barnegat, formerly of Union; June 15. Worked for Toyota Logistics in Port Newark. Retired crossing guard. Husband, brother, 72.
- **BERRY** – Verdell, of Union; May 11. Mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 82.
- **CARNIVALE** – Alma A., of Cortland, Ohio, formerly of Union; May 28. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 95.
- **CAVALLO** – Anthony “Tony,” of Union, formerly of Newark; June 7. Retired from family business. Widower, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, 94.
- **DECESARE** – Tessie, of Union, formerly of Raritan, Elizabeth; May 31. Crossing guard, police matron. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 92.
- **EASSE** – Walter James, of Union, formerly of Linden; May 23. National Guard member. Director, business owner. Husband, father, brother, grandfather, 81.
- **HELLER** – David P., of Canal Walk, Somerset, formerly of Hillside and Union; June 10. National Guard veteran, CPA. Husband, father, grandfather, 82.
- **JONES** – Michael, of Purcellville, Va., formerly of Union; June 10. Marine vet. Retired from Fannie Mae as network engineer. Husband, father, grandfather, 63.
- **MILLER** – Josephine Stella, of West Milford, formerly of Union; May 24. Member of Women’s Club of Maplewood. Widow, aunt, great-great-aunt, 94.
- **SBLENDORIO** – Angela, of East Hanover, formerly of Brooklyn, N.Y., Union; June 4. Insurance underwriter. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 90.
- **SHALLCROSS** – Doris Mewes, of Berkeley Heights, formerly of New York City and Union; June 6. Widow, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, 91.
- **SWAJKOWSKI** – Matthew Joseph, of Union; June 19. Vietnam War Army veteran. Chemistry teacher at Carteret and Belleville HS, husband, father, 73.
- **TABORELL** – Arthur, of Union; June 15. World War II Army tech sergeant. Printer in supervisory role. Widower, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, 98.

In Memoriam is a weekly feature compiled by the news staff from various sources. We also provide the opportunity for families and funeral directors to publish a more extensive, special notice about their loved one called an obituary. These notices are published on our website immediately and then in the next edition of this newspaper. To place a paid obituary send an email to obits@thelocalsource.com or fax to 908-688-0401. Family and friends’ submissions must include sender’s name, address, phone and the name of the funeral home. Call 908-686-7850 for assistance.

STUDENT UPDATE

LMU graduates Patel

Meha Patel, of Union, graduated from Lincoln Memorial University at the end of the spring 2020 semester. Patel earned a Master of Science in anatomical sciences degree. LMU is located in Harrogate, Tenn.

Excellence at Northeastern

Union’s Michael Soria, who is majoring in electrical and computer engineering, was named to the dean’s list at Northeastern University for the spring 2020 semester.

To achieve the dean’s list distinction, students must carry a full program of at least four courses, have a quality-point average of 3.5 or greater out of a possible 4.0 and carry no single grade lower than a C- during the course of their college career. Each student receives a letter of commendation and congratulation from their college dean.

Skinner graduates

Joseph Skinner, of Union, graduated magna cum laude, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from College of the Holy Cross, located in Worcester, Mass., during a virtual celebration of the Class of 2020 on May 22.

Bland receives scholarship

Mickeala Bland, of Union, has been chosen to receive a \$500 CashCourse Scholarship. Bland is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Montclair State University.

The CashCourse Scholarship, open to all students at MSU, required students to complete a series of modules about financial literacy. Bland was one of three students randomly chosen to receive the \$500 scholarship, which is added toward their tuition.

USciences dean’s list

Union Township students Muskan Singh and Nicole Tababa have been named to the dean’s list at the University of the Sciences, located in Philadelphia, Pa., for the fall 2019 semester.

Selection for this award is based on completing and passing all assigned courses with no grade below a C and attaining an academic average of at least 3.4 for the semester.

Brown a Pres. Scholar

Nia Brown, of Union, a freshman majoring in biology, was named a Presidential Scholar for the spring 2020 semester at Clarkson University, located in Potsdam, N.Y.

Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum grade-point average of 3.8 and carry at least 14 credit hours.

Young makes dean’s list

East Stroudsburg University, located in East Stroudsburg, Pa., has named Union resident Briana Young to the dean’s list for the spring 2020 semester. Young is majoring in psychology.



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STUDENT UPDATE

New nurses from Trinitas

Seventy-nine students received their nursing diplomas from the Trinitas School of Nursing in Elizabeth for what would have been the 162nd Convocation Ceremony on May 28. Although a typical ceremony was not held, 68 women and 11 men became eligible to sit for the registered nurse licensing exam. Their photos were taken individually by Grace Photography and graphic design magic was made to create a class photo.

Graduates include Union's Elijah M. Alviola, Micol J. Clarke, Vannaelle Decius, Jo-Arabelle Dysico Flores, Shyane M. Howe, Kathrina Kuzin, Mariel F. Loaiza, Abigail Samonte and Tyeesha R. White.

Ng earns degree

Stephanie Ng, of Union, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in biology and a minor in mathematics and studio art from Muhlenberg College, located in Allentown, Pa., on May 17.

Obinnakwelu earns BS

Chibuike Obinnakwelu, of Union, was awarded a Bachelor of Science in exercise science from Youngstown State University, located in Youngstown, Ohio.

High GPAs at Adelphi

Kaylana Lee Chow, of Union, was named to the dean's list at Adelphi University, located in Garden City, N.Y., for the spring 2020 semester.



Recent graduates from the Trinitas School of Nursing in Elizabeth include Union's Elijah M. Alviola, Micol J. Clarke, Vannaelle Decius, Jo-Arabelle Dysico Flores, Shyane M. Howe, Kathrina Kuzin, Mariel F. Loaiza, Abigail Samonte and Tyeesha R. White.

The dean's list includes full-time students registered for 12 or more credits who have achieved a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or better.

Acclaim in Ohio

Ohio University, located in Athens, Ohio, graduated the following students from Union this spring: Jorroys Reyes Moton, of Vauxhall, with a Master of Business Administration degree, and Joseph Witkowski, of Union, with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Witkowski has also been named to the

dean's list for the spring 2020 semester. Students must earn a grade-point average of at least 3.5 for the semester, with a schedule of classes totaling at least 15 hours, 12 of which were taken for letter grades, to achieve this distinction.

York College honors

Laura Roberts, of Union, has been named to the dean's list at York College of Pennsylvania for the spring 2020 semester. To be eligible for this honor, a student must be registered for at least 12 academic credit hours and earn a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

Dean's list at Ithaca

The following Union students were named to the dean's list at Ithaca College, located in Ithaca, N.Y., for the spring 2020 semester: Alyssa Carbonell, majoring in clinical health studies; and Jaclyn Yoselevich, in legal studies.

Scholar-athletes inducted

Stephanie Ng, of Union, was inducted into Chi Alpha Sigma, the first national scholar-athlete society to honor collegiate student-athletes who have excelled in the classroom and in competition. Ng is a member of the Class of 2020 at Muhlenberg College, located in Allentown, Pa.

To be inducted, a student must achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.5 at the time of the selection process and have been on the dean's list

for at least two semesters; earn one letter in a varsity intercollegiate sport; have endorsements from their head coach; and be of good moral character as determined by their endorsers and the dean of students.

Neri earns acclaim

Elisa Neri, of Union, was named to the dean's list as Susquehanna University, located in Selinsgrove, Pa., for the spring 2020 semester. Neri is majoring in luxury brand marketing and management, and communications.

The dean's list recognizes students who achieve a grade-point average of 3.4 or higher out of a possible 4.0 for the semester. To qualify, students must complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Yoselevich graduates

Jaclyn Yoselevich, of Union, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in legal studies from Ithaca College, located in Ithaca, N.Y., in May.

Dean's list in Conn.

Diana Vazquez, of Union, was named to the dean's list at the University of New Haven, located in West Haven, Conn., for the spring 2020 semester. Vazquez is majoring in psychology.

Full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade-point average of 3.5 or better in a semester are appointed to the dean's list for that semester.



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Union High seniors prepare for their bright futures

(Continued from Page 4)

Filip Przekaz
Minny Qiu
Mike Racine
Emma Radler
Zachary Radler
Salissa Rajigadoo
Natalie Ramos
Sean Ramsey
Harris Rana
Nidgie Raphael
Dishawn Rashid
Tiffani Reese
Matthew Reis-Dematos
Samuel Reym
Jeffrey Rendon
Christopher Resende
Andres Restrepo
Miguel Reyes
Michael Ribeiro
Paola Riccio Pena
Mark Riley
Jayden Rincon
Matthew Rios

Brianna Rivera
Uzziah Rivers
Jada Robertson
Ahmirr Robinson
JaQuan Robinson
Yvette Rocha
Angel Rodriguez
Christian Rodriguez
Liliana Rodriguez
Zachary Rodriguez
Thomas Rogan
Peterlens Romain
Isaiah Romero
Sheila Romero Ganay
Ashley Saavedra
Chelsea Sackey
Ibn-Husain Salaam
Catherine Salcedo
Layla Sally
Andrew Sanborn
Brandon Sanchez
Steven Sanchez
Shaday Sanelus
Luna Santi

Eddie Santiago
Sophia Santos
Nicholas Saraceno
Sabriyah Satterfield-Ali
Jonathan Schulz
Amir Scott
Nathaniel Scott
Olivia Sedasey
Kelly Severini
Arthanious Shafik
Brittanni Shaw
Alia Silva
Emily Silva
Sofia Silva
Terrell Simmons
Victoria Simmons
James Simms
Bruna Simoes
Masara Simpson
Deepkamel Singh
Jaspreet Singh
Aliya Smith
Joi Smith
Destiny Smithson

Khia Snead
Gianmarco Solano
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Airon Tuazon
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Ebenezer Umeizu
Kaitlyn Urena
Chiagoziem Uzoma-Ubanii
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Kevin Valentin
Emily Van Auken
Maria Vanegas
Cesario Varajao
Blanca Vargas
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Maureen Waweru
Anthony Weeks
Nala Welch
Sydney Whitaker-Lake
Kibir Wiggins
Jordan Wilburn
Thierry William
Chantel Williams
Emuary Wilson
Jonathan Wilson
Zariyah Wilson
Jackson Winick
Jaleel Wright
Lasana Wright
Christopher Yan
Juliana Yanto
Marayam Yasharalah
Gary Zarro
Giovanni Zuen
Isaiah Zukasky

Local business provides free paint job to Union EMU

(Continued from Page 2)

to do our normal daily work for scheduled customers and repair and refinish the ambulance both in a timely manner. This was accomplished with overtime. We were glad to help out the EMU team. They volunteer so much of their time for so many years and work from donations. This was my way of giving back to them and the community.”

The agency’s plan was to debut the ambulance as EMS-7 at the Union County St. Patrick’s Day Parade in March, but those plans were derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic, which prompted the parade’s cancellation.

Union EMU brought the ambulance to Trenton to be inspected and certified by the New Jersey Office of EMS in preparation for the pandemic, but unfortunately its use was hampered by the immense call volume related to the pandemic and social-distancing limitations that prevented in-service training.

The organization again hoped to debut EMS-7, this time at the annual Memorial Day parade, but that too was derailed by the pandemic. So Barbera and Union Collision orchestrated “Cruising for a Cause,” a dual-route rolling car show that benefited front-line workers

through FLAG of Union and boosted the morale of Union EMU’s members and the community.

Bialas expressed gratitude to Barbera, Union Collision and everyone else who helped come up with an affordable solution to an expensive problem.

“Personally, I am happy with the purchase and retrofit of the ambulance, because it is going to be valuable to us and our community,” Bialas said. “However, there are going to be growing pains. My responsibility to the organization to ensure our continued operations is different from our members’ who ride on the ambulances daily. The ambulance is not configured exactly to what our members are used to, and that has produced some reservations.

“However, with a return to some normalcy during the pandemic, we will be working on in-service training to overcome these challenges,” he continued. “This ambulance was a small investment on our part that was made possible by Kenny Barbera and Union Collision. It is serving as a stopgap, as we plan to purchase a new ambulance in the future, and I think it will serve our community for many years.”



Above is EMS-7 after ‘Cruising for a Cause’ with Kenny Barbera and family at Union Collision.

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Protest in Union draws large crowd to Town Hall

Area residents gathered for a protest in Union Township on Monday, June 8, marching for change in the wake of the many recent police killings of unarmed black people.

Arriving at Town Hall, protesters stood in silence for nearly nine minutes, honoring the length of time George Floyd, who was killed by Minneapolis police officers in late May, was held down with a knee to the neck until he was asphyxiated. The event featured many speakers from the community who cried out for change, especially in law enforcement agencies, where systemic racism can lead to fatal encounters for people of color.



Photos by EmilyAnn Jackman and Emani Jackman

Above, arriving at Town Hall, protesters listen as Deacon Daryn Martin speaks.

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