

# The Borough of Union Beach

# Newsletter

"The Best Little Town in New Jersey"

Winter 2024

Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza

Council President Albin J. Wicki  
Councilman Louis Andreuzzi  
Councilman Albert Lewandowski

Councilman Louis Riccardi  
Councilwoman Cherlanne Roche  
Councilwoman Eileen Woodruff

**Happy New Year!**

**Please join us at the Annual  
Union Beach Reorganization Meeting  
Friday, January 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.  
Borough Hall, 650 Poole Avenue**

### **Christmas Tree Pick-Up**

Christmas Tree pick-up will begin January 2, 2024, following the same schedule as used for leaf pick-up. Section A will be picked up on Wednesdays; Section B will be picked-up on Tuesdays through the end of the month. Final pick-ups will take place on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 and Wednesday, January 31, 2024. We ask that you please understand if weather prevents us from picking up trees.

### **Clean Communities Day**

While our Clean Communities Day on September 23 was rained out, five dedicated groups of volunteers did individual clean-ups in the following weeks. Thirty-three people collected 60 pounds of garbage and three tires, for a total of 135 pounds. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Another big thank you to Wawa Store #8417 for their contribution of bottled water for our volunteers. It was, once again, greatly appreciated. Mini-grants were distributed at the November 20 Borough Council Meeting to the five groups that participated. They were: Blackbaud, Girl Scout Troop 6217, Girl Scout Troop 60003, Grace United Methodist Church, and the Raritan Bay Lacrosse Club.

### **Keyport Ministerium Food Pantry**

The Keyport Food Pantry is located at 42 Elizabeth Street in Keyport (732-888-1986). We are open for food distribution on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Follow us on Facebook: Keyport Ministerium Food Pantry.

We are always in need of non-perishable food items such as peanut butter, jelly, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, vegetables, canned fruit, and soup. Drop donations in the bins in front of the pantry on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and on Tuesday and Thursday between 12 and 4 p.m.

To sign up to receive food, bring a photo ID, with your address listed, on Tuesday or Thursday between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. To all those who have helped us out, thank you! Without you, we couldn't do what we do! Wishing you a Happy, Healthy, New Year!

\*\*\* This Newsletter is intended for the residents of Union Beach **only**. Information regarding curbside pick-ups pertains only to Union Beach. The Union Beach Recycling Center does NOT accept any type of materials from residents outside of Union Beach. \*\*\*

## Borough Meetings and Events

### January

- 1 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — New Year's Day  
1 (Monday) No Garbage Pick-Up in Section B  
2 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library  
2 (Tuesday) Christmas Tree pick-up begins in Section B  
3 (Wednesday) Christmas Tree pick-up begins in Section A  
8 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
10 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
11 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
15 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Martin Luther King's Birthday  
18 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
22 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
30 (Tuesday) Last Day for Christmas Tree pick-up in Section B  
31 (Wednesday) Last Day for Christmas Tree pick-up in Section A  
31 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall

### February

- 6 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library  
8 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
12 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Lincoln's Birthday  
12 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
14 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
15 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
19 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Presidents' Day  
23 (Friday) Deadline for Submission to 2024 Spring Newsletter  
26 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
28 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall

### March

- 5 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library  
13 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
14 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
18 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
21 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall  
25 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
27 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall  
29 (Friday) Borough Offices Closed — Good Friday

\*\* More information on many of these events can be found throughout this Newsletter.

\*\* Please check the Borough's web site, [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net), as well as the web sites and social media pages of each separate organization for updates regarding cancellations.

## Dumpster/Storage Container Permits

**EVERY** dumpster and container used in the Borough of Union Beach **MUST** have a proper permit. All dumpsters/containers **MUST** be placed on property. Special permission to use the street may be given in extreme cases only. Permits cost \$30 and are good for thirty (30) days. For more information, please call Code Enforcement at 732-526-8686.

## Borough Phone Numbers

<b>FIRE</b>	911
<b>FIRST AID</b>	911
<b>POLICE</b>	(732) 264-0313
Chief Michael Woodrow	
<b>MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR</b>	(732) 264-3026
Robert M. Howard, Jr.	
<b>HEALTH OFFICE</b>	(732) 264-2365
<b>SPCA of MONMOUTH CNTY</b>	(732) 383-1090
<b>SEWER DEPARTMENT</b>	(732) 264-5657
Alice Ostervich	
<b>FINANCE DEPARTMENT</b>	(732) 264-9029
Michael Pennell	
<b>BOROUGH CLERK</b>	(732) 264-2277
Anne Marie Friscia	
Carol Seney	
<b>TAX ASSESSOR</b>	(732) 264-2360
Michael DelRe	
<b>COURT ADMINISTRATOR</b>	(732) 264-9098
Sharon Devaney	
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b>	(732) 264-5662
Desiree Durkin	
<b>PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. &amp; RECYCLING CENTER</b>	(732) 264-1133
Ronald Burkhardt	
Mary E. Mancini	
<b>PLANNING/ZONING BOARD</b>	(732) 739-1503
Laurette Wade	
<b>CODE ENFORCER</b>	(732) 526-8686
Amado Bencosme, Jr.	
<b>CONSTRUCTION DEPT.</b>	(732) 526-8687
Timothy Davis	
<b>RECREATION</b>	Search "Union Beach Recreation" on Facebook (732) 264-3792
<b>LIBRARY</b>	(732) 264-3133
<b>BOARD OF EDUCATION</b>	(732) 264-5400
<b>MEMORIAL SCHOOL</b>	(732) 671-6400
<b>T&amp;M ASSOCIATES</b>	(732) 850-6103
<b>O.E.M.</b>	(732) 850-6103
Michael DeRupo	

### **NJ AMERICAN WATER COMPANY**

1-800-652-6987

### **NJ NATURAL GAS COMPANY**

1-800-GAS LEAK

JCP&L

1-800-662-3115

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Please do **NOT** blow/sweep cut grass or leaves into the road, or into the catch basins.

### Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the 2024 Spring Issue of the Borough of Union Beach Newsletter are due by February 23. All submissions should be sent in writing to Mary Mancini, Department of Public Works by emailing [memancini@unionbeachnj.gov](mailto:memancini@unionbeachnj.gov) or faxing 732-264-5829.

## **Snow Removal/Deicing Policies and Procedures from the Department of Public Works**

The removal of snow, and deicing of Borough roads, is performed by the Department of Public Works. All snow equipment is deployed by the Director, as needed, after reviewing current conditions and forecasts made available by electronic media and in working closely with the Police, Fire, and First Aid Departments, the School Superintendent, and the Office of Emergency Management by two-way radio communication and cell phones to ensure that our road system is made as safe as possible in a timely, cost effective, and efficient manner for the residents we serve.

It is during these times that our roads are prioritized to always allow Emergency Services (Fire, First Aid and OEM) safe travel to help residents during a situation requiring the transportation to a local hospital, a household fire or other emergency where the Office of Emergency Management is needed.

First priority roads would include roads that directly connect to County and State roads such as Poole, Park, Morningside, Front, etc. with secondary roads being Central, Center, Lorillard, and so on. We also assist with the County roads that run through the Borough, as needed, to improve conditions for our residents.

Following these additional guidelines will also help us in serving the residents in a more effective manner during any snow or ice emergency:

- Please do not pass our snow plows during any emergency snow operations.
- Please park all vehicles off the street whenever snow is in the forecast.
- Basketball hoops should be removed from the street in front of your house.
- As you stand in front of your house looking at it, please shovel or plow any snow you remove from your driveway to the left side so when one of our snowplows comes down your street, the snow you have shoveled is taken away from your driveway, not put back in it.
- After any plowable snowfall we receive, please keep your garbage and recycling cans out of the street.

**Please do not shovel/plow/blow snow back into the street.**

## **A Message from the Chief of Police, Michael J. Woodrow**

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Union Beach Police Department, we hope you had a wonderful Holiday season: “Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! Happy Kwanzaa! And a Happy New Year!” Many great community events take place in our gorgeous town throughout the year, all are encouraged and welcome to attend! We recommend you follow our official social media pages [Facebook, Instagram, web site, etc.] to keep abreast of the various community events and general police news.

As always, please contact us directly at 732-264-0313 if you have any questions, concerns, or emergencies. With the change of seasons comes roadway challenges. Just a reminder from the UPBD — Traffic Safety Bureau to keep roadways clear of obstacles (i.e.; portable basketball hoops, hockey nets, garbage cans, etc.) so as our hard working UBDPW team can safely and efficiently keep the roadways free and clear in the event of inclement weather (snow). The UBDPW covers over 25.60 miles of roadway in our two (2) square mile area.

Please also continue to use due caution at Memorial Elementary School especially during drop-off and pick-up times; in the event you observe careless driving, please advise a police officer so as to address the issue immediately.

The UBPD handles nearly 12,000 calls for service per annum. Our dedicated, professional, and devoted police officers are equipped and trained to handle any given situation that presents itself; no job is too big or too small. Although UBPD has been recognized internationally for “policing excellence” it is the accolades we receive from our residents on a daily basis that are the most important. Union Beach truly is the best place to reside any where, not only due to the gorgeous ecosystem we inhabit, but once again, due to the people that reside here.

Respectfully, Chief of Police, Michael J. Woodrow [NJ State Accredited Chief Executive #2019-0047] — “Servire et Tueri in Aeternum!”

**Check out our web site ubnj.net front page.**

**New easy to use icons for the following:**

**Tenant Landlord Registration**—is required to be renewed on an annual basis. All Union Beach rental property owners MUST be registered through the Borough's web site on [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net) front page icon at "Tenant Landlord Registration" or in person at Borough Hall. The annual registration is \$50.00, and must be completed by February 15, 2024. Call 732-264-2277 with any questions.

**Business/Rental Insurance**—is required to be renewed on an annual basis. All Union Beach rental property owners, and any business with any on-site visitors, MUST be registered through the Borough's web site [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net) front page icon at "Business/Rental Insurance" or in person at Borough Hall. The annual registration is \$25.00, and must be completed by March 1, 2024. Reminder: Submit a copy of proof of insurance any time the policy expires. Call 732-264-2277 with any questions.

**Dog License**—is required to be renewed on an annual basis. All Union Beach dogs MUST be registered through the Borough's web site [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net) front page icon at "Dog License" or in person at Borough Hall. The cost is \$7.00 for neutered/spayed and \$10.00 for non-neutered/sprayed by January 31, 2024. If payment is made by credit card, the processing company charges a fee of \$2.00 per transaction.

**Preschool and Kindergarten Registration for the the 2024/2025 School Year**

Union Beach Preschool and Kindergarten registration will be open during the month of **February**. **Beginning February 1**, please visit Memorial School's web site at <https://www.unionbeachschools.org/> to register your child. You will find the registration link under the School tab. When registering, please choose the **2024/2025** school year in the drop down menu. Preschool hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., **no half day option**.

The following documents are mandatory and are required at the time of registration: Immunization record & recent physical; birth certificate; proof of residency (2 utility bills & lease, deed or mortgage statement).

**\*\*\*IF YOU CHILD IS ALREADY A STUDENT AT MEMORIAL SCHOOL, YOU DO NOT NEED TO RE-REGISTER FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR\*\*\***

Any questions, please call the school nurse, Mrs. Cammarato at 732-264-5420 or the main office.

**Inscripción para preescolar y kínder para el año escolar 2024/2025**

Las inscripciones para preescolar y Kinder de Union Beach estarán abiertas durante el mes de febrero. **A partir del 1 de febrero, visite el sitio web de la Escuela Memorial en <https://www.unionbeachschools.org> para registrar a su hijo.** Encontrará el enlace de registro en la parte del menú que dice Escuela (School). Al registrarse, elija el año escolar **2024/2025** en el menú desplegable. El horario de preescolar es de 8:30 hasta 3:00, **sin opción de medio día**.

Los siguientes documentos son obligatorios y se requieren en el momento de la inscripción (hay que cargar copias de estos documentos en la computadora): Registro de vacunas y examen físico reciente; Certificado de nacimiento; Prueba de residencia (2 facturas de servicios públicos y contrato de arrendamiento, escritura o declaración de hipoteca)

**\*\*\* SI SU HIJO YA ES UN ESTUDIANTE EN LA ESCUELA MEMORIAL, NO NECESITA REGISTRARSE PARA EL PRÓXIMO AÑO ESCOLAR\*\*\***

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la enfermera de al escuela, la Sra. Cammarato al 732-264-5420 o a la oficina principal.

**Tax and Sewer Payments**

Starting for the 2024 billing cycles, AUTOPAY will be available. You can register at the Borough's web site [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net) front page at "Online Payments."

## 2024 STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE

April 1 - November 1  
(weather permitting)

First Monday	First Tuesday	First Thursday	First Friday
Florence (#100-1400) Front Dock Locust Second Third Fourth Beach Vista Shores Gateway	Union Brook Shore (#100-899) Prospect (#700-899) Bayview (#600-999) Lorillard (#500-999)	Spruce (#400-800) Center Kathleen Fifth Sixth Seventh Eighth Ninth Oak Prospect (#300-499)	Park (#500-899) Beachview Central (#500-999) Seaview /Private Columbia (#500-799) Ocean (from Columbia To Bayview)
Second Monday	Second Tuesday	Second Thursday	Second Friday
Park (#100-499) Maple Central (#100-499) Ellison Pine Lorillard (#100-499) Bayview (#200-499)	Jersey Rose Harris Asbury High Willow Isabelle Wesley Patterson	Tenth St. James Floyd Edmunds Bay Raritan Campbell (#100-299) Herbert Henry Chingarora	Ocean (Rt 36 to Jersey) Cambridge Sydney (#500-899) Clark Aumack Washington Sullivan Fr. Fitzpatrick Seagate Shore (#900-1499)
Third Monday	Third Tuesday	Third Thursday	Third Friday
Poole (#100-599) Victoria St. Johns State (#90-199) Campbell (#400-499)	Sydney (#100-199) Morningside Spruce (#900-1000) Wilson Scholer Chomic Anderson Haug Heckelmann Donnelly Dibling Stone (#600-1000)	Broadway Johnson (#1-25) Ash State (#200-399) West Aspen	Poole (#600-699) Stone (#100-599) Newark Orange Harrison Arlington Johnson (#300-499) Branch Bank Florence (#1400-1799)

Please remove all vehicles, trash cans, and basketball hoops from the street on your scheduled day. Thank you for your cooperation.

# 2024 RECYCLING AND TRASH COLLECTION CALENDAR

Please check the street listing below to see if your address is located in Section A or Section B. Then follow the calendar to locate your trash, recycling, and bulk pick-up days. If you have any questions, please call 732-264-1133. **ALWAYS PLACE TRASH, RECYCLING, AND BULK AT THE CURB THE NIGHT BEFORE A SCHEDULED PICK-UP.**

<u>Section A</u>		<u>Section B</u>	
2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, Ash, Aspen, Bay, Bayview (#100-499), Beach, Broadway, Campbell, Center, Central (#100-499), Chingarora, Dock, Edmunds, Ellison, Florence (#100-#1400), Floyd, Front, Gateway, Herbert, Henry, Johnson (#1-99), Kathleen, Locust, Lorillard (#100-499), Maple, Oak, Pine, Park (#100-499), Poole (#100-599), Prospect (#100-499), Raritan, State, St. James, St. Johns, Spruce (#400-799), Victoria, Vista Shores, West		Anderson, Arlington, Asbury, Aumack, Bank, Bayview (#600-999), Beachview, Branch, Brook, Cambridge, Central (#500-999), Chomic, Clark, Columbia, Dibling, Donnelly, Fr. Fitzpatrick, Florence (#1500-1799), Harris, Harrison, Haug, Heckelmann, High, Isabelle, Jersey, Johnson (#300-499), Lorillard (#500-999), Morningside, Newark, Ocean, Orange, Park (#500-999), Patterson, Poole (#600-699), Private, Prospect (#500-899), Rose, Route 36, Seagate, Seaview, Scholer, Shore, Spruce (#900-1000), Stone, Sullivan, Sydney, Union, Washington, Wesley, Willow, Wilson.	
Regular trash pick-up is scheduled for <b>Tuesdays</b> and <b>Fridays</b> . You may place up to 3 cans/bags at the curb the night before a pick-up. Each can/bag may not exceed 50 pounds.		Regular trash pick-up is scheduled for <b>Mondays</b> and <b>Thursdays</b> . You may place up to 3 cans/bags at the curb the night before a pick-up. Each can/bag may not exceed 50 pounds. There will be no pick-up on Monday, January 1 and Thursday, November 28.	
<u>Section A — Recycling</u>	<u>Section A — Bulk</u>	<u>Section B — Recycling</u>	<u>Section B — Bulk</u>
Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays:  January 3, 17 & 31 February 14 & 28 March 13 & 27 April 10 & 24 May 8 & 22 June 5 & 19 July 3, 17 & 31 August 14 & 28 September 11 & 25 October 9 & 23 November 6 & 20 December 4 & 18	Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays:  January 10 & 24 February 7 & 21 March 6 & 20 April 3 & 17 May 1, 15 & 29 June 12 & 26 July 10 & 24 August 7 & 21 September 4 & 18 October 2, 16 & 30 November 13 & 27 December 11	Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays:  January 10 & 24 February 7 & 21 March 6 & 20 April 3 & 17 May 1, 15 & 29 June 12 & 26 July 10 & 24 August 7 & 21 September 4 & 18 October 2, 16 & 30 November 13 & 27 December 11 & TBD	Pick-up is scheduled on the following Wednesdays:  January 3, 17 & 31 February 14 & 28 March 13 & 27 April 10 & 24 May 8 & 22 June 5 & 19 July 3, 17 & 31 August 14 & 28 September 11 & 25 October 9 & 23 November 6 & 20 December 4 & 18
Includes cans & bottles, bundled cardboard, bundled newspaper-NO PLASTIC BAGS	Includes wooden furniture, mattresses, couches, other plastics (3 items per pick-up)	Includes cans & bottles, bundled cardboard, bundled newspaper-NO PLASTIC BAGS	Includes wooden furniture, mattresses, couches, other plastics (3 items per pick-up)

Leaves will be picked up curbside in the Fall — Section B on Tuesdays/Section A on Wednesdays. Please use paper bags only. Do **NOT** mix in other types of debris, including branches. Branches/brush will be taken with regular garbage but **ONLY** when properly bundled. Appliances, electronics and metals will be picked up curbside by appointment only. Please call 732-264-1133 for information regarding any of this. If you are putting out a refrigerator, all doors must be removed.

### **Message from the Code Enforcement Office**

The Code Enforcement Officer would like to thank all those residents that are helping to keep our town looking clean and beautiful.

We are asking for help with the following items during this winter season:

1. Please be sure not to pump or direct water onto the street, as this can create hazardous conditions. Please run it into your yard first.
2. For all properties that have sidewalks, please be sure to clean all snow and ice within 48 hours.
3. All homes and empty lots must be identified with an address number. This information should be in a conspicuous location that is visible from the street.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep our town safe and beautiful during these next few months.

### **Message from the Fire Marshall**

#### **HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS LATELY?**

#### **Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors save lives.**

- Your family is not safe if they can't hear the smoke alarms.
- Test your alarms. Push the test button. You will hear a loud noise. If you don't hear the noise, you need a new battery or a new alarm. Fix this immediately.
- Make sure the alarm always has a good battery. Put a new battery in the alarm every year.
- Smoke alarms with long-life batteries will work for up to 10 years. You do not change the battery.
- **Alarm devices do not last forever. Get new smoke alarms every 10 years and carbon monoxide detectors every 7 year.**

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO BE FIRE SAFE! KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE!**

### **Grace United Methodist Church**

Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church, 115 St. James Avenue. Our weekly Sunday services start at 9 a.m., led by Pastor Gene Chamberlin. Scott Woolley, Certified Lay Speaker, and Donna Bondi, Lay Servant, assist during our services. Our Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. All are welcome! Our service is live-streamed on our Facebook page.

Our community outreach programs include N/A groups that meet every Sunday and Monday and a yoga group that meets on Wednesdays. We also have a bereavement group for those that have lost a child. This group meets on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. If you would like further information, please contact our church and we will arrange for someone to get in touch with you.

We hold various fundraisers throughout the year. Watch our Facebook page for information!

We are still accepting gently used clothing, shoes, and towels/sheets/linens, which will be shipped to countries in need. Donations may be placed in a plastic bag and dropped off in front of the garage located at 122 Floyd Avenue, next to the church parking lot.

We are planning for our 100 year anniversary in 2025. If anyone has any information on the history of Grace, including pictures, please contact the church.

If you are in need of prayers for yourself or anyone else, please contact the church and we will add your request to our prayer list. Pastor Gene will be happy to speak to anyone in need. You can contact the church at 732-264-0916 to leave your information, and someone will return your call. Our email address is [GraceUnitedMeth@optonline.net](mailto:GraceUnitedMeth@optonline.net). Please follow us on Facebook at Grace UMC Union Beach.

As always, we ask for God's Blessings on all who are reading this, your families and friends, our first responders, and our men and women serving in our Armed Forces. We keep all of our children in our prayers, and we pray for protection and guidance as our children and young adults return to school and college. We ask that He cover all of us with peace, love and protection. We pray for peace on earth! May God bless everyone in 2024! Happy New Year!

## **Memorial School — Amanda Lewert**

Happy New Year!

Please check our web site at [www.unionbeachschools.org](http://www.unionbeachschools.org) for current information about our school district.

Preschool registration will begin on February 1, 2024. To register your child, please use our online registration process at [www.unionbeachschools.org](http://www.unionbeachschools.org) or call Mrs. Cammarato for more information at 732-264-5420. We will also be hosting an in-person registration event on February 8, 2024 from 1 to 3 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Media Center.

We continue to deal with the S2 budget cuts which have been so devastating to our school district. As discussed in the last Newsletter, the S2 law implemented by the NJDOE has cut \$2.9M in funding from Union Beach and reallocated that funding to other districts. Because of these cuts, we anticipate a deficit going into our next budget. We need the State to stop the state aid cuts, refund the money that was lost, and put measures in place so that we can adequately finance our district budget. If that does not happen, our taxpayers will be faced with a decision regarding the funding of our school district.

We will not stop advocating for our district. Please help us advocate on behalf of our community by reaching out to our legislators. Letter templates can be found on the district web site (see above).

Governor Phil Murphy — Phone: 609-292-6000 or Text: 732-605-5455

Email Link: <https://nj.gov/governor/contact/all/>

Senator Vin Gopal (Chair of the Senate Education Committee) — Phone: 732-695-3371

Email: [SenGopal@njleg.org](mailto:SenGopal@njleg.org)

Senator Declan O'Scanlon — Phone: 732-444-1838

Email: [SenOScanlon@njleg.org](mailto:SenOScanlon@njleg.org)

Assembly Members: Gerard Scharfenberger & Vicky Flynn — Phone: 732-856-9294

Email: [AsmScharfenberger@njleg.org](mailto:AsmScharfenberger@njleg.org) & [AswFlynn@njleg.org](mailto:AswFlynn@njleg.org)

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am always available via email at [alewert@unionbeachschools.org](mailto:alewert@unionbeachschools.org) or via telephone at 732-264-5405.

## **Fall Leaf Collection Program**

We would like to thank all the residents of Union Beach who continued to help make our Fall Leaf Collection Program a huge success once again! Leaves were collected, in brown biodegradable bags only, curbside on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In addition, many residents brought leaves to the Recycling Center and deposited them directly into the dumpster which we made available. This greatly helped us in complying with NJDEP Regulations. All leaves were properly recycled.

We will be collecting leaves curbside again, in biodegradable bags only, next Fall from the end of October to the end of December. The dumpster at the Recycling Center will be available to residents on a year-round basis. You may bring leaves in any type of container and empty them directly into the dumpster. Biodegradable bags are available at the Public Works Department located at 1400 Florence Avenue, while supplies last.

## **Union Beach Library**

Happy 2024! The Library has made some improvements this past year. We have a new roof, the main section of the Library has been repainted, and we have a new "Reading Corner" dedicated to Tim Kelly, Jr. The Library is excited about the improvements for the upcoming year; brightening up the children's area, and minor repairs to other parts of the Library.

We thank everyone who has supported us in our endeavors. The Union Beach Memorial Library exists for you, the residents. We have activities every Monday at 3:30 p.m. Check us out at [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net) or on our Facebook page. Our Association meets the first Tuesday of the month; the meeting is open to everyone.

Happy New Year and please drop by and see us!!!



## **Engineer's Corner**

Borough Engineer, Edward Broberg, P.E., provided the following information concerning the status of ongoing construction projects:

***Rehabilitation of the Basketball Courts at Scholer Park*** — The Borough recently completed the rehabilitation of the existing basketball courts at Scholer Park with the exception of minor punch list items. The improvements include the milling, resurfacing, and painting of the existing pavement surface. The existing basketball court was removed, and a new pavement surface course installed.

***Firefighters Park Improvements*** — The Borough recently completed Improvements to Firefighters Park. The existing paved surface was removed, and the new pavement surface course installed. The project also included the installation of a new gazebo.

***Roadway Improvements Park Avenue—Phase I*** — The Borough recently completed roadway improvements to Park Avenue from Poole Avenue to Pine Street. The project was funded in part through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Grant Program in the amount of \$301,710. The project included the installation of drainage, replacement of certain sections of damaged or deteriorated existing concrete curbs and sidewalks, installation of new ADA compliant curb ramps at the intersections, and the milling and repaving of the roadway surface course.

***2023 Roadway Improvements Program*** — The Borough recently completed Roadway Improvements to the 600 block of Cambridge Avenue; 700 block of Aumack Avenue; and Center Street from Florence Avenue to Pine Street as part of the 2023 Roadway Improvement Program. The improvements include installation of drainage on certain roadways, replacement of certain sections of damaged or deteriorating existing concrete curbs and sidewalks, installation of ADA compliant sidewalk ramps at the intersections, and the milling and resurfacing of the existing roadways.

***FY 2023 Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program*** — The Borough recently received a grant in the amount of \$125,00 for Scholer Park Improvements Phase IX. The improvements include the installation of a lighted walking trail with added security cameras around the perimeter of the existing ball fields. We anticipate the construction to begin Spring of 2024.

***Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Project*** — The construction contract of Phase I of the multi-phased shore protection project is near completion. The project included the construction of an easterly and westerly terminal stone groin, the installation of approximately 600,000 cy of sand extending from the westerly stone groin to the easterly stone groin at Flat Creek. The Corps continues with the design plans for the remaining phases of the project. Weekly status updates can be found on the Borough's web site.

***2024 New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid*** — The Borough was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Grant Program in the amount of \$314,292 for the Roadway and Drainage Improvements along Park Avenue from Pine Street to the Flat Creek Bridge. The improvements will include the installation of drainage, replacement of certain sections of concrete curbs and sidewalks, installation of ADA compliant sidewalk ramps at the intersections, elevating the low area near the bridge to minimize nuisance flooding, and the milling and resurfacing of the existing roadway. We anticipate the project to be part of the 2024 Roadway Improvement Program.

***2024 Turf Maintenance Program*** — The Borough will be advertising for bids for a three-year maintenance contract in 2024 for the Turf Maintenance Program for all ball fields, parks, and open space areas throughout the Borough. The Turf Maintenance Program includes the fertilization and treatment of all athletic fields and common grassed areas within the Borough.

## **Union Beach Board of Health**

January is "Dog Licensing Month." It is a state law that all dogs be licensed. Registration for a dog license is now available on our web site at [ubnj.net](http://ubnj.net), or in person at Borough Hall. To register your dog, the rabies vaccination must be up to date. The vaccine is not valid if it expires between January and October of 2024. The cost is \$7.00 for neutered/spayed or \$10.00 for non-neutered/spayed dogs. There is a late fee of \$15.00 per dog beginning February 1, 2024

If you no longer have your dog, please advise the Board of Health.

Be a good neighbor — please keep your dog's barking to a minimum.

For critter issues, please call the SPCA at 732-383-1090.

## A Message from Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza

Dear Friends,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and memorable Holiday Season with friends and family.

Our annual Reorganization Meeting will take place on Friday, January 5th at 6:30 p.m. at Borough Hall. At that time, we will be administering the oath of office to our volunteers and professional staff, as well as our Re-elected Council members Lou Andreuzzi, Cheri Roche and our newly elected Councilman Lou Riccardi. This meeting is open to all who wish to attend.

As many of us do in our personal lives, as we begin the New Year, I would like to look back on the accomplishments of the past year and some of the plans we have in store for 2024.

### Highlights of 2023:

- Phase One of the Army Corps of Engineers Flood Protection Project began and is scheduled to be completed early Spring
- Concrete Repair, Drainage Upgrades and Repaving of Park Avenue from Poole Ave to Pine Street (NJDOT grant)
- Reconstruction of Center Street between Florence Ave and Pine Street
- Concrete Repair and Paving of Cambridge Ave between Union Ave & Ocean Ave
- Concrete Repair and Paving of Aumack Ave between Shore Rd & Union Ave
- Replaced the hard surface area at Firefighters Park and added a new gazebo made of treated materials to better withstand the weather elements
- Resurfaced the basketball courts at Scholer Park and replaced the backboards and rims

### Plans for 2024:

- Completion of Phase One of the Army Corps of Engineers Flood Protection Project
- Upgrades to Scholer Park by including a walking path with lighting, benches and some minor amenities around the baseball, T-Ball and softball fields utilizing a Monmouth County Open Space Grant
- Concrete Repair and Repaving of Park Ave (Phase II) from Pine St to the bridge over Flat creek including raising the road way between Spruce Street & the bridge deck to minimize/eliminate closing the roadway during coastal flooding events (NJDOT grant)
- Reconstruction of Eighth St between Florence Ave & Pine St
- Continued upgrades to Borough Hall facility to better serve our community
- Renewed commitment to maintenance and facility improvement upgrades at all of our parks and beachfront

Finally, remember that this is the time to make your preparations for bad weather. Despite our hope for a mild winter, we are sure to get a few snow events. Avoid the last-minute rush once snow is in the forecast.

I want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to all of our volunteers, first responders, borough employees, administrative and professional staff and Borough Council members for their hard work and dedication each and every day to make Union Beach the Best Little Town in New Jersey!

God Bless and Be Safe!

Charlie

**There will be NO garbage pick-up on January 1, 2024 (New Year's Day).**

**BOROUGH OF UNION BEACH  
650 POOLE AVENUE  
UNION BEACH, NJ 07735**

**ECRWSS EDDM  
POSTAL PATRON  
UNION BEACH,  
NEW JERSEY 07735**

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**The Borough of Union Beach Winter 2024 Newsletter**