

The Borough of Union Beach

Newsletter

“The Best Little Town in New Jersey”

Autumn 2023

Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza

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

Councilman Louis Riccardi
Councilwoman Cherlanne Roche
Councilwoman Eileen Woodruff

Election Information

General Election day is November 7. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

October 17: Voter Registration Deadline for General Election. **October 28 to November 5:** Early Voting Period (Starts on the 10th calendar day before a general election and end on the second calendar day before that general election.) **October 31:** Deadline to apply for a Mail-in Ballot by Mail for General Election.

November 6 (by 3 p.m.): Deadline for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Applications for General Election (up to 3 p.m. on the day before election). **November 7:** General Election (Tuesday after first Monday in November). **November 7:** Deadline for Post Office Receipt of Mail-In Ballots from the General Election. **November 7:** Deadline for In-Person Submission of General Election Mail-In Ballots to County Board of Election and to Authorized Ballot Drop Boxes.

Go to: <https://www.monmouthcountyvotes.com/elections/general-election/> (the Monmouth County web site) for more information.

Color the World Orange — November 6, 2023

As proclaimed by Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza, November 6, 2023 is “Color the World Orange Day” in the Borough of Union Beach. This day is being celebrated throughout the United States and many other countries to bring awareness of, and in support of those with, the severe chronic pain condition called Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), also known as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD). Wear orange on November 6 to show your support! To learn more visit: www.colortheworldorangeday.com.

Clean Communities Day

We would like to thank all the volunteers who came out to our Clean Communities Day on Saturday, September 23. Details of the day will follow in the next Newsletter.

Union Beach Traffic Safety Unit

The Union Beach Traffic Safety Unit is happy to announce that we will have another day that our officers will be on site at the Police Station to install child car seats and booster seats for our residents. If you need assistance, please come see us on Saturday, October 28 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All are welcome!

*** 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

October

- 7 (Saturday) Fall Festival from 1 to 4 p.m. at Scholer Park/Rain Date: 10/14
9 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Columbus Day
10 (Tuesday) Free Flu Vaccine Clinic at 12 p.m. at Borough Hall
10 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library
11 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
12 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
13 (Friday) Annual Tax Sale
16 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
17 (Tuesday) Deadline for Voter Registration for General Election
19 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
23 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
24 (Tuesday) Leaf pick-up begins in Section B — paper bags only
25 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
25 (Wednesday) Leaf pick-up begins in Section A — paper bags only
28 (Saturday) Car Seat Installation at 10 a.m. at Police Department

November

- 6 (Monday) Color the World Orange for CRPS/RSD Awareness
6 (Monday) Deadline for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Application for Gen. Election
7 (Tuesday) General Election Day (Polls open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.)
7 (Tuesday) Borough Offices Closed — Election Day
8 (Wednesday) Community Alliance Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
9 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Agenda Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
10 (Friday) Borough Offices Closed — Veterans' Day
11 (Saturday) Free Rabies Clinic at 10 a.m. at 1400 Florence Avenue (DPW)
14 (Tuesday) Library Association Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Library
20 (Monday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
20 (Monday) Board of Health Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
23 (Thursday) Borough Offices Closed — Thanksgiving Day (No Garbage Pick-Up)
24 (Friday) Borough Offices Closed — Day After Thanksgiving
27 (Monday) Deadline for Submission to 2024 Winter Newsletter
27 (Monday) Recreation Commission Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
29 (Wednesday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall

December

- 3 (Saturday) Christmas Tree Lighting at 6 p.m. at Scholer Park /Rain Date: 12/10
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
18 (Monday) Planning Board Meeting at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall
21 (Thursday) Mayor & Council Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall
25 (Monday) Borough Offices Closed — Christmas Day (No Garbage Pick-Up)
26 (Tuesday) Last day for leaf pick-up in Section B
27 (Wednesday) Last day for leaf pick-up in Section A

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

** Please check the Borough's web site, ubnj.net, as well as the web sites and social media pages of each separate organization for updates regarding cancellations.

Borough Phone Numbers

FIRE	911
FIRST AID	911
POLICE	(732) 264-0313
Chief Michael Woodrow	
MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR	(732) 264-3026
Robert M. Howard, Jr.	
HEALTH OFFICE	(732) 264-2365
SPCA of MONMOUTH CNTY	(732) 383-1090
SEWER DEPARTMENT	(732) 264-5657
Alice Ostervich	
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	(732) 264-9029
Michael Pennell	
BOROUGH CLERK	(732) 264-2277
Anne Marie Friscia	
Carol Seney	
TAX ASSESSOR	(732) 264-2360
Michael DelRe	
COURT ADMINISTRATOR	(732) 264-9098
Sharon Devaney	
TAX COLLECTOR	(732) 264-5662
Desiree Durkin	
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. & RECYCLING CENTER	(732) 264-1133
Ronald Burkhardt	
Mary E. Mancini	
PLANNING/ZONING BOARD	(732) 739-1503
Laurette Wade	
CODE ENFORCER	(732) 526-8686
Amado Bencosme, Jr.	
CONSTRUCTION DEPT.	(732) 526-8687
Timothy Davis	
RECREATION	Search "Union Beach Recreation" on Facebook (732) 264-3792
LIBRARY	(732) 264-3133
BOARD OF EDUCATION	(732) 264-5400
MEMORIAL SCHOOL	(732) 671-6400
T&M ASSOCIATES	(732) 850-6103
O.E.M.	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 Winter Issue of the Borough of Union Beach Newsletter are due by November 27. All submissions should be sent in writing to Mary Mancini, Department of Public Works by emailing memancini@unionbeachnj.gov or faxing 732-264-5829.

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

Greetings Union Beach! We hope you enjoyed the great outdoors over the wonderful summer; it truly was a busy and exciting one! Once again, our police officers and I met many residents that were quite astonished and overly appreciative by the level of community outreach from the UBPD as compared to their former places of residence. Yes, we do it all here! — “no job is too big or small!” The daily visits to our Headquarters and “job well-done!” messages by our residents are always very much appreciated.

That said, school is in session, which equates to an exponential increase in pedestrian and vehicle traffic. As always, please remain extra vigilant while driving. We work very closely with our school administration and support staff to ensure the safest environment possible — as we are directly involved in the traffic and security plan with our school partners.

In case of an emergency, or if you simply have a concern, please call us at 732-264-0313. The UBPD handles, on average, 12,000 calls for service per annum; all are handled with the same amount of care and due diligence.

Please follow us as well on our social media site(s) to stay informed — Facebook, Instagram, web site, etc. As I’ve said before, we truly live in the best community in the State, not just due to the scenic beauty and atmosphere, but most importantly due to the residents!

Respectfully, Chief of Police, Michael J. Woodrow [NJ State Chief’s of Police “Advanced” Accredited Executive]

Union Beach Board of Health

Monmouth County Health Department is hosting a Free Flu Vaccine Clinic at the Borough Hall on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 from 12 to 2 p.m. Please see the Borough’s web site for further details.

Union Beach Free Rabies Clinic will be held at the Department of Public Works (1400 Florence Avenue) on Saturday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. All dogs must be on leashes and all cats must be in carriers. Please bring your most recent rabies certificate.

January is “Dog Licensing Month.” Dog registration for 2024 begins November 15. Do not register earlier as this will re-register your dog for 2023. The rabies vaccination is not valid if it expires between January and October of 2024.

Trapping of animals is prohibited November through April. For critter issues, please call the SPCA Animal Control at 732-383-1090.

TAX SALE for 2022

This year’s annual Tax Sale will be held on **Friday, October 13**, and will be for the **2022** delinquencies. This is an on-line auction and all the information can be viewed free of charge online at <https://unionbeach.newjerseytaxsale.com> or can be obtained at the Tax Collector’s office or requested at ubtax@unionbeachnj.gov. *If you have 2022 delinquencies, please remit your certified payment no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, October 12. NO 2022 PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE 13th.*

Bayshore Sports and Recreation (BSAREC)

The Bayshore Sharks are ready for the 2023-24 basketball season this winter! We look forward to new and old players coming together to learn some new skills and have fun. Registration will open in early October and practices/clinics will start November/December. Basketball takes place at Memorial School with practices during the week and games on Saturdays. Space will be limited per division so make sure you register early!

Bayshore Sports and Recreation is always looking for new volunteers to help throughout the year. We currently run baseball and softball in the Spring and basketball in the Winter. Please contact George goutcalt@bsarec.com if you are interested in helping in any way. The more help we have, the better our programs will be!

Follow Bayshore Sports and Recreation (BSAREC) on Facebook and our web site www.bsarec.com to get upcoming registration information and find out about volunteer opportunities.

Leaf Collection Program

Curbside leaf pick-up will begin on October 24, 2023. Please adhere to the following schedule for leaf pick-up. If you are in Section A with a Tuesday and Friday garbage pick-up, leaves will be collected on Wednesdays. If you are in Section B with a Monday and Thursday garbage pick-up, leaves will be collected on Tuesdays. The last pick-ups will take place on Tuesday, December 26 and Wednesday, December 27, 2023. We ask that you please understand if weather prevents us from picking up leaves.

Please do not place leaves in plastic bags, as they will **NOT** be picked up. Paper leaf bags may be purchased at hardware-type stores, or picked up (while supplies last) at the Department of Public Works located at 1400 Florence Avenue. As always, leaves may be brought directly to the Recycling Center located at 1400 Florence Avenue; however, residents will be expected to empty any bags, other than paper, on site. All bags with leaves must contain leaves **ONLY** — any other type of debris is unacceptable, including grass, twigs, and branches.

All services of the Union Beach Department of Public Works/Recycling Center are available to Union Beach residents **only**. Please come to the office and be prepared to show your identification before dropping off any type of recyclables.

Keyport Ministerium Food Pantry

We continue to be very busy at the pantry. During the summer months we distribute more food to families because children are home on summer vacation.

If you would like to make a food donation, the following is a list of what we are in need of most: pasta, pasta sauce, canned vegetables, tuna fish, peanut butter, jelly, and cereal.

With the ban on plastic bags, we are always in need of reusable bags (new or gently used) for the food that the clients receive.

All donations can be dropped off at 42 Elizabeth Street, Keyport. Donations are accepted Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 to 5 p.m. There are metal bins for non-perishable food outside of the pantry. If you would like to donate perishable food items, please call 732-888-1986 to make arrangements. Ask for Natalie.

If you are in need of assistance, contact us at 732-888-1986, or message us on our Facebook page, Keyport Ministerium Food Pantry.

Disposal of Branches/Brush/Grass Clippings

Our garbage contractor will accept branches/brush along with your regular garbage pick-up — on the second pick-up of the week (either Thursday or Friday). Branches **MUST** be bundled. Bundles **CANNOT** be more than 4 feet in length and **CANNOT** weigh more than 50 pounds. Anything larger than 3 inches in diameter **MUST** be cut up. If branches are too small to bundle, they should be placed in a can, the weight of which should **NOT** exceed 50 pounds. The contractor will accept only **THREE** bundles or cans at a time. **PLEASE NOTE:** The garbage contractor does not accept grass clippings; neither does the Department of Public Works. We recommend that you leave cut grass on your lawn, as it is actually good for your lawn.

Union Beach Library

Thank you to all who donated to the building fund! Debbie Vincent and Al Manochio each received a \$50 Rita's Ice gift card in August! Thanks to Rita's for donating the gift cards. Bob B. received the \$100 gift card to Shop Rite in September; thanks to Al Manochio for donating the gift card. The October gift card is \$100 to the GOAT and the November gift card is a \$100 gas card. Your donations are truly appreciated.

The Winter Wonderland Christmas Tree lot will be back this year and the Library will be selling grave blankets for \$35. All proceeds from the grave blankets will go to the Building Fund. Check out our link on the ubnj.net web site or Facebook UbLibraryMemorial for current information. Thank you.

Christmas Tree Pick-Up

Christmas Tree pick-up will begin on January 2, 2023, 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-up will take place on Tuesday, January 30, 2023 and Wednesday, January 31, 2023. We ask that you please understand if weather prevents us from picking up trees.

Message from the Code Enforcement Office

The Code Enforcement Office would like to thank all those residents who are helping to keep our town looking beautiful.

With the cold weather approaching, we are asking for help with the following items:

1. Please be sure not to pump or direct water immediately on to Borough streets. Please be sure to run the water into your yard first.
2. All empty lots must be identified with either the address, or the block and lot of the property, on a board that is large enough and located in an area where it is visible from the street.
3. Please ensure that during this Fall season, all leaves are being picked up and properly discarded.
4. For all homes that have sidewalks, please be sure to clean all snow and ice off those sidewalks within 48 hours.

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

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 an NA group that meets every Monday and a yoga group that meets on Wednesdays. WIC is here on the first Monday of every month.

We hold various fundraisers throughout the year. Watch our Facebook page for information on our Vendor/Craft Fair that will be held on November 18, and our wreath sale that will begin in October. We are having a Boscov's fundraiser on October 18. For a \$5 donation, you will receive a 25% off coupon on anything you spend that day in the store.

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 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. 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! God Bless!

Union Beach Recreation

Movies in the Park:

Check our Facebook and Instagram pages for upcoming Movies in the Park this September and October. Have a movie suggestion? Message us!

Third-Annual Fall Festival (Saturday, October 7):

Fall is here and we are ready to CELEBRATE! Union Beach Recreation is proud to announce our third-annual Fall Festival from 1 to 4 p.m. at Scholer Park. Shop a wide array of local craft and merchandise vendors and get a bite to eat at a food truck! Children are invited to pick a pumpkin to decorate and enjoy other festive offerings. Bring the whole family to help kick off the Fall Season! For more information, please head to the Union Beach Recreation Facebook or Instagram [@UnionBeachRecreation](#).
Rain Date: October 14.

Interested in becoming a food or merchandise vendor? Email UBRec@unionbeachnj.gov.

Second-Annual Halloween House Decorating Contest:

Does your haunted Halloween home have what it takes to be reigning champion of our second-annual Halloween Decorating Contest? Break out your skeletons, cobwebs, and pumpkins to compete in our town-wide Halloween Decorating Contest! Entering is a SCREAM: Head to our social media accounts and fill out the Google Form with your information to be entered. Don't decorate for Halloween? Enter a neighbor who is deserving! Members of the Union Beach Recreation Commission will judge homes the week before Halloween and winners will be announced on our social media accounts. Three winners will be selected for a chance at First, Second, and Third Place! May the most SPOOKTACULAR home win!

Annual Tree Lighting and Visit from SANTA (Sunday, December 3):

Join UBRC for the most magical time of the year as we light the town Christmas Tree and welcome in the season with the big man himself: SANTA! The fun begins at 6 p.m. at Scholer Park. Ring in the Holiday Season by lighting the tree and getting a picture with Santa Claus after he rides in on his fire truck! For more information, head to the Union Beach Recreation Facebook or Instagram [UnionBeachRecreation](#).
Rain Date: Sunday, December 10.

Annual Holiday House Decorating Contest:

Does your house rival Clark Griswold's? Put your lighting skills to the test with the Annual Union Beach Recreation Commission House Decorating Contest! Enter a town-wide Holiday Decorating Contest for a chance to win prizes! Entering is easy: Head to our social media accounts and fill out the Google Form with your information to be entered. Don't decorate for Christmas? Enter a neighbor who is deserving! Members of the Union Beach Recreation Commission will judge homes throughout December and winners will be announced on our social media accounts and honored at the Union Beach Reorganization Meeting in January. Three winners will be selected for a chance at First, Second, and Third Place! May the most festive home win!

Stay up to date with all our upcoming events! Make sure to LIKE us on Facebook: Union Beach Recreation and FOLLOW us on Instagram [@UnionBeachRecreation](#). Questions or concerns? Email us: UBRec@unionbeachnj.gov.

**Dumpster Permits are now being issued by
the Construction/Code Enforcement Office.**

Memorial School — Amanda Lewert

Happy Fall! We are excited to have school back in session. Please be reminded that we have free, full-day preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds which is fully funded through New Jersey's PEA program. If you are new to the community and would like to register your preschool through 8th grade student, please visit the district web site at www.unionbeachschools.org. New residents wishing to enroll their child in high school can call 732-264-5404 for more information.

Below please find information about the budget cuts due to the School Funding Reform Act known as S2 and an explanation of the school tax levy and 2% cap:

S2 and the School Tax Levy

The school tax levy generates revenue to help fund the local school district. As a community, the Union Beach School Tax Levy is \$7.85 million. State law limits the district's ability to increase the tax levy beyond 2%. Districts are permitted to go beyond the 2% cap in special circumstances for certain items such as a substantial increase in healthcare rates. Union Beach's current school tax levy of \$7.85 million means the 2% cap increase is projected to be \$156,909 for the entire Borough. The cost of tuition increases, salary increases, healthcare increases, and general cost of living rises far beyond the tax increase we are permitted to take. This is why the S2 Law has been so detrimental to our district. It has cut over \$2.9 million so far, and the current system in place does not allow us to recover that money with the 2% cap in place.

What is the District Doing About S2 Cuts?

In addition to the Borough Newsletter, we will continue to inform our community about S2 updates through the web site and S2 Committee. The purpose of the S2 Committee is to inform stakeholders about S2 and advocate for our district against these budget cuts.

For those community members wishing to be a part of the S2 Committee, please reach out to the Superintendent, Amanda Lewert, at alewert@unionbeachschools.org or call 732-264-5405. Please check the web site regularly for updates: www.unionbeachschools.org.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am always available via email or telephone.

988 Suicide and Crisis Line Number

New Jersey residents are now able to use 988 to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. 988 will be available for call, text, or chat to those experiencing a mental health-related or suicidal crisis, or those looking to help a loved one through a crisis. The existing Lifeline number, 1-800-273-8255, will continue to be available, as well.

Dumpster/Storage Container Permits

Dumpster Permits are now being issued by the Construction/Code Enforcement Office. **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.

FIRE WON'T WAIT — PLAN YOUR ESCAPE!

Protect your loved ones. Plan your home fire escape!

Know two ways out of every room.

Have a clear path to your exits.

Have an outside meeting place.

More information can be found at fpw.org

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 awarded a construction contract to Diamond Construction for the rehabilitation of the existing basketball courts at Scholer Park. The improvements include the milling, resurfacing, and painting of the existing pavement surface. The existing basketball court has been removed and a new pavement surface course installed. We anticipate the color coating of the new surface to begin the week of September 4, 2023, weather permitting.

Firefighters' Park Improvements — The Borough recently awarded a construction contract to Diamond Construction for the certain Improvements to Firefighters' Park. The existing paved surface has been removed and the new pavement surface course installed. We anticipate the new pavement surface to be repainted and the installation of a new gazebo to be completed by mid-October, 2023, weather permitting.

Roadway Improvements Park Avenue; Phase 1 — The Borough recently awarded a construction contract to Black Rock Enterprises for the 2023 Roadway Improvement Program. The program includes the certain roadway improvements to Park Avenue from Poole Avenue to Pine Street. The project is funded in part through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Grant Program in the amount of \$301,710. The construction is now underway with 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. We anticipate the construction to be completed late September/early October, 2023, weather permitting.

2023 Roadway Improvements Program — The Borough recently awarded a construction contract to Black Rock Enterprises for the 2023 Roadway Improvement Program. The program is now underway with the certain roadway improvements to the 600 block of Cambridge Avenue; 700 block of Aumack Avenue; and Center Street from Florence Avenue to Pine Street. 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. We anticipate construction to be completed late September/early October, 2023, weather permitting.

FY 2023 Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program — The Borough recently received a grant in the amount of \$125,000 for Scholer Park Improvements Phase IX. The improvements include the installation of a lighted walking trail with additional security cameras around the perimeter of the existing ballfields. We anticipate the construction to begin early Fall of 2023.

2023 Monmouth County Community Development Grant Application — The Borough recently submitted a grant application to the Monmouth County Community Development Grant Program for the Reconstruction of Eighth Street from Florence Avenue to Pine Street. The improvements will include the installation of drainage, new concrete curbs, and a total reconstruction of the existing roadway. If successful, we anticipate construction to be part of the 2024 Roadway Improvement Program.

Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Project — The construction contract of Phase I of the multi-phased shore protection project is now underway. We anticipate the construction of the easterly terminal stone groin will be completed the week of August 28, 2023, followed by beginning construction of the westerly terminal groin. Phase I of the project consists of the beach fill element of the project extending from the westerly most end of the shorefront (the point) to Flat Creek. The Corps anticipates the beach fill construction to be completed by December of 2023. Weekly status updates can be found on the Borough's web site.

A Message from Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza (continued from last page)

While these projects are taking place, there are also several projects ongoing throughout the Borough by outside entities

- Replacing (upgrading) many waterline mains by NJ American Water throughout various sections of town
- Bridge replacement & raising of roadway on Florence Ave by Monmouth County
- Phase 1 of the U.S. Army Corps Flood Protection Project along our beachfront with the installation of two groins (jetties), 607 thousand cubic yards of sand placement which includes a sand dune to protect our community from future storms.

We would like to extend our appreciation and say Thank you to the Monmouth County Board of Commissioners, NJ American Water, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and NJ DEP for all their continued support and commitment to Union Beach.

There are many Fall events taking place in the Borough this year and I encourage all to check out the Borough's website for details as they get close. www.ubnj.net

Our community is very fortunate to have dedicated First Responders, employees, professional staff, volunteers and residents who make our town the best it can be. Myself and Council wish to extend our sincere appreciation and say Thank you to all of you!

May God bless our First Responders and keep them safe. God bless all of you and your families.

Be safe!!
Charlie

Engineer's Corner (continued from previous page)

2024 New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Grant — The Borough recently submitted a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation Municipal Aid Grant Program for the milling and repaving of Park Avenue Phase II from Pine Street to the Flat Creek Bridge. The improvements will include the installation of certain drainage, installation of certain sections of new concrete curbs and sidewalks and milling and resurfacing of the existing roadway. If successful, we anticipate construction to be part of the 2024 Roadway Improvement Program.

2023 Turf Maintenance Program — The Borough awarded a three-year contract in 2021 for the Turf Maintenance Program of all ball fields, parks, and open space areas throughout the Borough. The 2023 Turf Maintenance Program is the third year of the three-year contract and includes the fertilization and treatment of all athletic fields and common grassed areas within the Borough. The Fall treatment is now underway.

FY 2024 Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program — The Borough recently submitted a grant application to the Monmouth County Open Space Grant Program for the continued improvements at Scholer Park. The improvements include the installation of sports lighting at the Little League field and Girl's softball field. If successful, we anticipate the construction to begin early Fall of 2024.

A Message from Mayor Charles W. Cocuzza

Dear Friends,

With the summer months behind us, I hope everyone is looking forward to the cooler days ahead and the upcoming holiday season.

As our children have returned to school, we remind everyone to please drive carefully for the safety of the students while they travel back and forth.

As you may have noticed, a great deal of construction projects took place this summer around the Borough. While these projects may have caused a temporary inconvenience (Thank you for your patience and understanding), we believe this aggressive approach to improving our parks and playgrounds, infrastructure and beachfront will prove to be worthwhile enhancements for many years to come.

The Borough's 2023 capital improvement program is nearing completion with this year's ambitious list of projects:

- Concrete repair, additional drainage and paving of Park Avenue from Poole Ave to Pine Street
- Concrete repairs, milling and paving of Center Street between Florence Avenue & Pine Street
- Various concrete and roadway repairs, namely, the 600 block of Cambridge Avenue and 700 block of Aumack Avenue along with curb and sidewalk repairs on Union Avenue
- Installation of sod and turf repairs at Helen Hayes soccer fields
- Milling, repaving & repainting of the basketball courts at Scholer Park along with new backboard & rims anticipated
- Milling and paving of the hard surface at Firefighters Park along with the replacement of the gazebo with a material that will better withstand the elements of its location

(continued on previous page)

**There will be NO garbage pick-ups on November 23 (Thanksgiving Day),
December 25 (Christmas Day), and January 1, 2024 (New Year's Day).**

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

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

STANDARD RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 482
RED BANK,
NEW JERSEY
07701

The Borough of Union Beach Autumn 2023 Newsletter