



# Union Aid Society Matters

*neighbors helping neighbors since 1898*

The Union Aid Society exists to serve those in need who reside within the eleven boroughs of the Quaker Valley School District.

## Finally! The Elevator Is Going Up.

The Union Aid Society Board members, tenants and friends participated in the groundbreaking ceremony at 511 Centennial Avenue in Sewickley kicking off a project that will add much needed improvements to the apartment buildings for senior citizens.

With the generous support of the community the organization's "Safety Net" capital campaign raised more than one million dollars to provide the necessary funding.



*Seated on ground: Ivan Adzima (Project Manager), David Selleck (Project Manager) Seated in chairs: Flo Chirumbolo (Resident), June Cowan (Resident), Eleanor Friedman (UAS Board Member), Dorothy Jadowiec (Resident)*  
*Standing: Bob Brown (Maintenance - Friend of Union Aid), David Cook (Resident), Jean Harvey (Resident), Helen Rondenelli (Resident), Vike Rideout (UAS Board Member), Hanley Cox (UAS Board Member), Mary Ann Klussmann (UAS Board Member), Lynn Cunningham (UAS Board Member), Charlotte Hamilton (UAS Board Member), Gretchen Burnham (UAS Board Member), Patricia Small (UAS Board Member), Susan Jones (UAS Board Member), Sharon Patterson (UAS Board Member), Sherri Leifman (UAS Executive Director), Charlene Wells (UAS Board Member), Sue Harvey (UAS Board Member), Bob Welch (Resident)*

# Union Aid Society Campaign Soars Over Goal!



The Board of the Union Aid Society has announced that the "Safety-Net" Capital Campaign has concluded with a total of \$1,136,340. This represents gifts from 267 donors, including \$327,000 from the Union Aid Society and Board commitments of \$108,000.

These funds will be used to construct a Commons Room at 511 Centennial Avenue for activities and programs for our 22 residents. The building will also have a much needed elevator to access all floors in the apartment buildings. Two new subsidized apartments will be added to the top story of the building. Funds will also be provided for on-going building maintenance and to support the many other programs that Union Aid offers.

The Board has committed two years to telling the compelling story of the Union Aid Society. Beginning with the initial zoning hearings, information events, several mailings, individual teas, lunches and talks-in-your-living room...we are pleased that the community has responded so generously.

Union Aid Society invites the community to stop by 511 Centennial Avenue to see the progress of our project. A grand ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place in Fall 2008. Thank you to every single person who has made this dream come true!

Eleanor H. Friedman, Capital Campaign Chair

"I wanted to let you know my mom is doing fine, but misses her apartment and all of her neighbors at 511 Centennial Avenue.

Thank you so much for the help you've given her over the past several years."

*Former Resident's Daughter*

"The Borough of Sewickley thanks the Union Aid Society for its continued commitment to provide quality housing in the Sewickley area and for the quality of life enhancements to the existing facility."

*Bob Hague, President of Council*

## Pie in the Sky



In the Spring of 2005 several Union Aid board members were walking to a meeting talking about the need for elevators for the apartments we subsidize for seniors. As we chatted, the "Pie In The Sky" dream began to take shape. Now, three years later our dream has become a reality. It has been an adventure and learning experience.

We are well under way, thanks to Craig Collins our architect, DeeJay Oshry our fund raising guru and David Selleck, project manager. We have become well versed in zoning issues, fund raising, grant applications, state and county funding opportunities and other pertinent building details.

This project has brought the Union Aid Society into the forefront of the Quaker Valley, educating the community about all we do in hopes of reaching all of our neighbors in need. What we have learned is that dreams do come true with a lot of help from our friends.

Hanley Cox, Capital Campaign Co-Chair

# Capital Campaign Donors

- \$347,000**  
Union Aid Society
- \$250,000**  
Richard P. Simmons Family Foundation
- \$100,000**  
Valley Care Association
- \$20,000 - \$50,000**  
The Cahouet Charitable Trust  
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- \$10,000 - \$19,999**  
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# The community's **VISIBLE** safety net



This past year has been unique for the Union Aid Society because of the important project we have undertaken to upgrade our subsidized apartment buildings for seniors. The Capital Campaign, having raised the required funds, has been a big success because of the generosity of our community. With donations to our annual appeal we have also been able to maintain the critical programming which serves the needy of the Quaker Valley School District. This year our donors have really stepped up not only to sustain our ongoing work but to help improve our apartments. We appreciate your continued support. Our work would not be possible without you!

This will be my last opportunity to provide the President's message as my two-year term comes to an end this spring. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of this position and I look forward to new opportunities ahead to serve the community as a part of the Union Aid Society Board of Directors.

*Charlene V. Wells*

Charlene V. Wells  
President of the Board of Directors

## Check out our **NEW Website!** [www.UnionAidSociety.org](http://www.UnionAidSociety.org)



With a generous grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation, the Union Aid Society launched its first website in December 2007!

Board member Susan Aleshire worked with McGraphics, LLC to design and develop the interactive site.

“We are now able to reach more people with information about our services and other important community resources,” says Sherri Leifman, UAS Executive Director.

The site provides a history of the 108 year old agency, highlighting current programs and services. It is updated regularly and includes an extensive listing of resources. “Now anyone can have access to important information, those who need help as well as those who want to help others,” says Sherri.

Inquiries can be made directly from the website and donations may also be made online.

# Union Aid Society Helps Fill the Gap



After a lengthy hospital stay Mr. Williams\* came to the Union Aid office the same day he was discharged.

Because he does not have health insurance, he was unable to fill the five prescription medications he needed to treat his diabetes, high blood pressure and other illnesses. Union Aid was able to facilitate his application for medical assistance and subsidized prescription coverage. Union Aid also purchased his medication until he was approved to participate in these programs.

Because so many people do not have medical insurance their health often suffers and their conditions worsen. The Union Aid Society is able to fill the gap and help people get the medication and health services they need.

*\*Name has been changed*

# “Friend Raiser” for Union Aid

The Union Aid Society would like to thank everyone who helped make the October 27th Shopping Day in the Village a great success. We are especially grateful to Kathy Shields and Chico’s for their sponsorship and to all of the Village merchants who supported this effort with their generous donations.

This event not only helped raise funds to support the programs of the Union Aid Society, but also raised awareness about our services so that we can reach out to all of our neighbors in need. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and support.



*Union Aid Society Board Member Lynn Cunningham and Executive Director Sherri Leifman selling raffle tickets for donated merchandise from village merchants.*

*Thank you to our sponsor:*

**Chico’s**

*and the merchants who participated:*

- |                       |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Acacia                | McFadden Chiropractic             | Sewickley Traditions   |
| Bruegger’s            | Monday’s Child                    | SoHo of Sewickley      |
| Cheers Gifts          | Monte Cello’s Pizza               | Spoiled Chics          |
| China Palace          | of Sewickley                      | St. Michele Fine Linen |
| Craig Allen Salon     | Moxie                             | Starbucks              |
| Creative Hair Studio  | Papier                            | Sunlife                |
| Cuttings              | Party Ants                        | Talbots                |
| Elan Gallery          | Pendleton                         | Tapas                  |
| EM Jewelers           | Pizza Roma                        | Travelwares            |
| Gift Corner           | Precious Pets                     | Twice Treasured        |
| Green Chef Deli       | Que Sera Sera Art Gallery         | Van Salon              |
| Kistler’s Barber Shop | Quiznos                           | Village Candy          |
| Le Chateau            | Safran’s Supermarket              | Yarns Unlimited        |
| Martin’s Salon        | Sewickley Bead Co.                |                        |
|                       | Sewickley Gallery &<br>Frame Shop |                        |

Please help us make a  
**real and lasting  
difference**  
in the lives of others.

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Enclosed is my gift in the amount of:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my

VISA

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Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

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To increase my support I have enclosed my employer’s matching gift form

Name of company \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to make my gift:**

in honor of

in memory of

Acknowledgement to be sent to:

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City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to have our gift listed as “anonymous”

**Send your gift to:**

The Union Aid Society  
601 Thorn Street  
Sewickley, Pa 15143

For more information call us at 412-741- 9240 or email us at [info@unionaidsociety.org](mailto:info@unionaidsociety.org)

# Message FROM OUR Executive Director



As I look back over the year and provide my report “by the numbers” it is apparent that much has been done to help the most vulnerable members of our community. None of this could have been accomplished without so many dedicated friends and supporters of Union Aid. However, given the current economy with the rising cost of fuel and utilities and cut backs in many social services, our community will continue to need our help. In the last year, 38 new families came to the Union Aid Society for emergency assistance increasing the number of our clients to over 125 families. This is in addition to our ongoing projects:

- **Back to School** shopping cards for 84 school age children were supported by a generous grant from the Thomas Marshall Foundation.
- **Thanksgiving Food Baskets** provided a holiday meal for 78 families with 161 children, in partnership with the Sewickley YMCA.
- **“Gifts for Kids”** made the holiday sparkle for 125 children with the generous participation of local churches, community members and businesses.

Union Aid was chosen to participate in the “Compassion Allegheny” program administered by North Hills Community Outreach and funded by the Department of Health and Human Services. This demonstration project focused on increasing the capacity of community-based organizations.

As I look ahead to new challenges in the upcoming year, I have no doubt that with the support of our community the Union Aid Society will be able to make a real and lasting difference in the lives of our neighbors in need.



Sherri Leifman, MSW, LSW

# Union Aid Helps a Neighbor In Need



Susan\* was referred to the Union Aid Society by her minister. She had recently left her abusive husband and she and her five children hoped to find an apartment in the community so the children could remain in the Quaker Valley School District. Though she was able to find an affordable apartment, she was unable to pay the security deposit and first month's rent. Union Aid was able to pay her security deposit and rent as well as provide grocery shopping cards so she could buy food for her family.

We also helped her apply to the subsidized utility programs so that she would not fall behind with her gas and electric bills. With this assistance, Susan was able to provide her children a safer and happier home.\*

*\*Name has been changed*

## Here is how **YOU** can help your neighbors

When giving to United Way specify donor number **703** on your pledge form to designate your gift to the Union Aid Society.

## New Scholarships Available



The Union Aid Society is proud to announce that we have added two new \$20,000 four-year college scholarships this year with support from the Glendorn Foundation. This is in addition to the \$4,000 Union Aid Society/Dods Scholarship awarded each year to a graduating senior living in the Quaker Valley School District. All scholarships are need-based and winners are announced at the Senior Class Day ceremonies.

# Thank You for Your 2007 – 2008 Support to Union Aid

## Donor listing as of April 2008

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Carol, Lauren and Colin Mitchell  
**In honor of June Cowan**  
Joseph and Amy Hoptay

**In honor of Jean Harvey**  
Joseph and Amy Hoptay  
**In honor of the 80th Birthdays of Bud and Sue Harvey**  
Margaret Crook  
Eleanor Friedman  
**In honor of Lance Kirby**  
Mary Ann Klussmann  
**In honor of Sherri Leifman**  
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**In memory of Florence Weber**  
Dale and Bonnie Weber  
**In memory of Emily Wolfe**  
Gerry Armstrong

“ Thank you for spending so much time with me yesterday. I am not sure what meant more to me... the resources, the referrals or the opportunity to vent. I appreciate and thank you for all of those things. ”

*Quaker Valley Parent*

## Looking Ahead...

**June** Three college scholarships to be awarded to high school seniors  
summer camp scholarships & summer school assistance available

**August** Back to School Project

**October** Thanksgiving Project Begins

**November** Thanksgiving Distribution

**December** Holiday Programs

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