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What's New at the Union Aid Society?



511 Centennial Avenue

(Left) Our building project is complete, captured in the pen and ink rendering drawn and donated by Susan Gaca.



Union Aid Society is now on Facebook! Become a fan to stay up to date on all the latest news and events.

Penguin Bookshop

Contribution Token Program

The Penguin Bookshop located at 420 Beaver Street has chosen the Union Aid Society as their June 2010 Contribution Token Program recipient. When a customer does not take a bag with their purchase, a donation will be given to the Union Aid Society.



The Union Aid Society is now a member of the Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Scholarship To Be Awarded



In June 2010 the Union Aid Society will award a college scholarship to a high school senior residing within the Quaker Valley School District. The scholarship is endowed by a grant from Marjorie Saunders in memory of her mother Kathryn Dods and includes matching funds from the Union Aid Society.



Union Aid Society Matters

neighbors helping neighbors since 1898

The Union Aid Society serves as the community safety net for those in need who reside within the Quaker Valley School District.

We couldn't do it without you!



Quaker Valley High School students Travis Everett, Destin LeCornu and Matt Lesondak help residents Dorothy Jadlowiec and Catherine Killins brush up on their computer skills. This was one of several programs arranged by the school's Student Service Learning Center (SSLC) which partners QV students with seniors in the community.



The Union Aid Society placed Holiday Trees with gift tags throughout the community requesting donations for our Children's Holiday Gift Program.

"Raising my teenage granddaughter on just my retirement income is always a challenging stretch. I had no idea how costly the high tech calculators would be. We are both so grateful for the gift card you provided to help us get ready for the new school year." — *Quaker Valley Resident*



Thank you to the students and teachers from the Montessori Children's Community who brought school supply donations for the Union Aid Society's Holiday Store.

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Executive Director

Reflections from the President



As my two-year term as President of Union Aid comes to an end, I am impressed with how much this remarkable organization has accomplished in such a short period of time. We have completed a successful capital campaign and major renovations to our apartment buildings at 511 Centennial Avenue. Our residents are now enjoying the results of those efforts.

During the past two years, a new committee structure has proven to be effective with emphasis this year on Strategic Planning. In the capable hands of Eleanor Friedman, Committee Chairman and Sherri Leifman, Executive Director and with the guidance of the Washington Consulting Group, a new plan was adopted in February 2010 with specific timelines to be met.

Union Aid is moving forward—not resting on past accomplishments. What excites me most about being a part of this organization is that we make decisions thoughtfully, seek outside consultants to help us when needed, listen to what they have to say and then follow through with the tasks at hand.

And so as I look back and reflect, I can't help but be very proud to be a part of such a dynamic and proactive organization.

Hanley B. Cox

Hanley Cox
President of Board of Directors

“We would like to thank you for being there for us when my husband had his stroke. I don't know how we would have paid for his medication if weren't for Union Aid. He is coming along much better now because of people like you.”

— Quaker Valley Resident

Thank You for Your Support

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Why Union Aid Matters



Because of the current difficult economy, many people who never before have had financial problems now find themselves struggling to make ends meet. By the time someone schedules an appointment they have already dealt with many stressful situations. For many it is not easy to ask for help. When a client comes into the Union Aid Society's office, they leave with much more than the assurance that a necessary bill will be paid. We try to help our clients become better informed about the many options available to them. Whether

it is related to a job search, activities for their children, house hunting, or other sources of financial help, Union Aid is there to help. We also hope that by providing a "community safety net" in a caring and supportive atmosphere, our neighbors leave our office with dignity and respect, as well as new skills and tools to navigate these difficult times. We are so fortunate to live in such a generous community where people truly care about their neighbors. **We couldn't do it without you!**

Sherri Leifman

Sherri Leifman, MSW, LSW
Executive Director

It Could Happen To Anyone



Mr. and Mrs. Miller* and their two children came to Union Aid requesting help with their mortgage payment. Mr. Miller had just been laid off from a middle management position at a bank but his unemployment compensation benefit payment had been delayed.

Mrs. Miller planned to return to work as soon as possible, but she was still on maternity leave after the recent birth of their second child. Both were confident that their financial difficulties would soon improve, but they needed some immediate assistance. Mr. Miller had several interviews scheduled and he was very hopeful that he would find another job shortly. Because the Millers had never been in this position before, they were unfamiliar with many community resources available to them. Union Aid was able to make a mortgage payment and provided shopping cards so that they could buy food for their growing family. We also referred them to other appropriate agencies for additional help. After a few months, Mr. Miller called to report that he had secured a new job, Mrs. Miller had returned to work and that the family was doing well.

*not their real name

Friends of the Union Aid Society

"Very few communities are fortunate to have an organization like Union Aid and we are proud to help."

— Lew Safran

Safran's Supermarket, located at 429 Walnut Street, opened its doors in 1975. From the beginning, owners Stan and his son Lew have contributed to the community. The Union Aid Society, as well as many residents and other local organizations have experienced their generosity and the friendliness of their staff. When Union Aid distributed food boxes for Thanksgiving, Safran's helped by donating apples and potatoes. During the holidays we now provide families with grocery gift cards which are generously donated by Safran's. In addition, Safran's continues to support Union Aid by displaying our holiday trees in their store providing their customers the opportunity to purchase and donate gift certificates to Union Aid. The Quaker Valley Community is very grateful for Safran's continued support. Thank you Lew and the entire Safran's staff!



Mark Munizza, Doug James, Richard Bombich, Grant Kraus, Lew Safran and Marjorie Neff



Helen Sharma, Shirley Sye, Marlene Figley and Anne Funkhouser

Creative Ways To Donate



• **Watch Your Garden Grow:** Make your next garden club (or book club or yoga class) more meaningful with a *neighbors helping neighbors* theme. Plant the seeds of hope, ask for food gift cards and harvest the bounty.

• **Hostess with the Mostest:** Gather your friends and family for a cookout or a movie night. In lieu of the traditional bottle of wine or casserole, ask that they bring a grocery gift card for the Union Aid Society.

• **Casual Collection:** Many businesses have adopted a relaxed dress code for Fridays in exchange for a charitable donation. Talk to your supervisor at work — spread the Union Aid Society’s mission, grab your jeans and collect the donations!

• **A Labor of Love:** If you are a plumber, a tutor...if you sell jewelry or make-up...consider designating the profits from an extra Saturday or one annual party for the Union Aid Society.

• **Think Outside the Wedding Favor Box:** Forget the pastel colored almonds! In lieu of traditional favors, couples are making donations in honor of their guests. A donation to the Union Aid Society is a great way for the bride and groom to make a difference...and get a tax break.



• **A Group Effort:** Have a multi family yard sale and not only clear out your basement but donate the proceeds to the Union Aid Society. Alert your customers of your intent with a prominently placed poster, which we will gladly to supply.

• **A Penny for Your Thoughts:** Put that change to good use! Buy a grocery gift card and donate it to the Union Aid Society.

• **Double Your Donation:** Make your gift work twice as hard! Many employers have matching gift programs; please check with your human resources department to obtain the necessary forms.

Help your neighbors



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

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS SINCE 1898

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/our gift in the amount of:
\$ _____

Please charge my/our

VISA

Master Card

Account # _____

Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

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

Name of company _____

I/we would like to make my/our gift:

in honor of

in memory of

Acknowledgement to be sent to:

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

I/we wish to have my/our gift listed as “Anonymous”

Send your gift to:

The Union Aid Society
601 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143
or donate online at
www.UnionAidSociety.org

For more information call us at 412-741-9240
or email us at info@unionaidsociety.org