

Utilities Authority Offers Reward For Rechargeable Ni-Cd Batteries

Union County Utilities Authority Chairman John G. Kulish has announced that the Authority has implemented a program that will reward any Union County resident, school or organization that turns in rechargeable nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) batteries.

"In an effort to recover a significant amount of rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries in the solid waste stream, the Authority is offering a reward of 50 cents a pound for all Ni-Cd batteries turned in to the Authority," said Mr. Kulish.

According to Mr. Kulish, the collection and consolidation of rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries is scheduled at the Union County Resource Recovery Facility in Rahway on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The next drop-off collection event is scheduled for Monday, November 12. Authority staff at the Union County Utilities Authority Resource Recovery Facility will document the weight, provide persons with a receipt and dispose of these batteries in an environmentally sound manner. Schools wishing to obtain battery collection buckets may call the Authority.

Nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries are commonly found in cellular and cordless telephones, camcorders, cordless power tools and appliances, medical equipment, two-way radios, emergency lighting equipment, security devices, children's toys and laptop computers.

Ni-Cd batteries are the most popular rechargeable batteries and once they can no longer be recharged, they can be recycled, said UCUA officials.

"These batteries, which contain both nickel and cadmium, could harm the environment if disposed of improperly. This program provides the opportunity for residents to reduce heavy metals from solid wastestream and save natural resources, by recycling these batteries," said UCUA Executive Director Dr. Joseph A. Spatola.

A voucher for the exact weight of batteries dropped-off will be given to the participant on the collection date and will be tallied at the end of each quarter.

Payment will be made by check on a quarterly basis. Participants will be provided with a schedule of payment dates at the time of drop-off. Proof of Union County residency will be required.

The Union County incinerator is located at 1499 Routes 1 & 9, North, in Rahway. For further information, please call, (732) 382-9400.

Registration to Commence For UCC's Spring Semester

Registration will begin on Monday, November 3, for the spring semester courses at Union County College.

Courses will begin on Wednesday, January 21, and extend through late May during daytime, evening and weekend hours at the college's campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth, Plainfield and Scotch Plains.

Sign-up hours will be from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays, and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

Students may register at either the Cranford, Elizabeth or Plainfield campus, and are not required to sign up at

the specific campus where they wish to study.

During the spring semester, the college will offer credit courses in 47 disciplines, including accounting, architecture, biology and chemistry, communications, computer science, criminal justice, dental assisting and dental hygiene.

Courses in economics, education, engineering, Fine Arts, government, health, language studies, nursing, philosophy, physical education, physics and sociology, among others, will also be offered.

For further information, please call the college's Admissions Office at (908) 709-7500.



RE-ENACTMENT...Union County Freeholders Frank H. Lehr, left, and Henry W. Kurz, right, pose with Patrick Fancera of the Second New Jersey Regiment, in full regalia, for the re-enactment of Revolutionary War battles. Mr. Fancera is head of the Science Department at New Providence High School.

County's 16th Harvest Festival Attracts Crowd of Over 5,600

Demonstrations of Colonial and Native-American life, such as spinning with live sheep, butter-churning, canoe building and beeping along with and the smells and tastes of hot baked potatoes, fresh pressed cider and homemade bread, were recently featured at the Trailside Nature and Science Center's 16th annual Harvest Festival.

The festival, which attracted over 5,600 visitors, was a wonderful opportunity for children to experience days of yore by creating crafts such as wrist bells, garlands and tin sconces; having their faces painted Lenape style; and playing Colonial games, including Trundle the Hoop, Graces and Tug of War.

They also had the chance to see shingle-splitting, log-sawing and corn-grinding, and ride a pony and visit a petting zoo.

The Second New Jersey Regiment, Helm's Company, dressed in authentic period clothing, provided a re-enactment of a Revolutionary War encampment, demonstrating wartime skills and crafts, and "recruited" children for a special drill.

Presented by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Division of Parks and Recreation, the festival also featured Native American storytelling by Kenneth Little Hawk and Native-American social dancing by the Manahatta Dancers.

Heart Walk Draws 350-Plus People to Echo Lake Park

Companies, schools, business and civic leaders, along with other

people from all walks of life from Union County, took part in the Union County Heart Walk on September 27 to fight heart disease and stroke.

The Union County AmeriHealth-American Heart Walk at Echo Lake Park in Westfield attracted more than 350 participants, and helped to raise more than \$47,000.

Union County Heart Walk dollars will help fund American Heart Association cardiovascular education, community programs, research and advocacy.

For more information, please call the local American Heart Association office or call 1-800-AHA-USA1 (1-800-242-8721).

Sewerage Authority Adopts 1998 Budget of \$10.6 Million

The Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority recently adopted its 1998 budget of \$10,610,750, which is \$487,350 lower than last year.

Funding the budget is a combination of revenues including \$7,689,400 from assessments to its member municipalities, \$675,000 from investment income, \$646,000 from other revenues and \$1,600,050 from surplus.

"The 1998 municipal assessment figure is 3 percent lower than last year's comparable amount which results in \$237,700 in savings being passed along to the Authority's member municipalities," said Commissioner Robert G. Luban of Woodbridge, the Authority's Finance Chairman.

"The initiation of cost effective measures such as the replacement of a belt press with a centrifuge system designed to squeeze more water out of treated sludge, will lessen the tonnage on the material slated for disposal.

"Thus, we will realize an estimated annual cost savings of \$390,000 in this area," pointed out Authority Chairman Frank Mazzarella of Clark.

"The portion of the 1998 budget for capital projects is lower than the

comparable amount for 1997, due to the fact that various capital projects funded last year are nearing completion," commented the Authority's Executive Director, Richard Tokarski.

Established in 1951 as an autonomous agency, the Authority's 10 member municipalities share the costs of operating, maintaining, repairing and improving the Authority's 40 million gallon per day wastewater treatment facility through "user charges" based on measured contributions of flow and pollutants (BOD and Total Suspended Solids).

Authority Commissioner Allen Chin of Westfield reported that his municipality's 1998 assessment of \$865,058, which represents 11.25 percent of the total, is down \$29,024 from last year. Mr. Chin is a former Mayor in Westfield.

Authority Commissioner Joan Papan of Scotch Plains, who serves on the Scotch Plains Township Council, reported that her municipality's 1998 assessment of \$462,133, which represents 6.01 percent of the total budget, is down \$4,286 from last year.



ROLLING ALONG...Union County Freeholder Vice Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan, far left, and Freeholder Nicholas Scutari, far right, present resolutions to members of Rolling Thunder, Inc. before the start of their motorcycle run at Warinanco Park, Elizabeth/Roselle, in honor of POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 27. The 4,000 motorcyclists who gathered in the park rode to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Holmdel to pay tribute to the Vietnam veterans from New Jersey. Joining them, from left, are Rolling Thunder members Art Muller, President; Donald Luker, Vice President; Paul Mevo and Tim Messer, Chapter Presidents.

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