

Pat Hieronymus

AMERICA

2001

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Dear Pat
Best Wishes
for the next
100 yrs
JTB

Dear Pat,
Happy Birth!
Barbara
Leigh

THE UNIONDALE STORY

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL YEAR 1976

COMPILED BY

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Bicentennial Commission.

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Dear Pat,
Best wishes for your
100 years
C. Taylor

Happy 100th
Alex E. Ross

UNIONDALE

Uniondale today is an unincorporated village located in the much larger township of Hempstead. The township of Hempstead like other townships on Long Island, is divided up into special districts which provide needed facilities for the people who live in that area.

As an unincorporated area within the township, Uniondale has no exact boundary lines except those lines which are set up for specific purposes; for example, there are specific school district boundary lines, there are other boundary lines for the care of Uniondale's water supply, for the jurisdiction of its Fire Department, etc. The oldest of the Uniondale boundary lines are those established back in 1813 which make up the Uniondale School District. The school district lines go as far north as Old Country Road, take in a portion of Hempstead on the west, almost follows the Southern State Parkway on the south and follows north along a jagged line.

Until 1852, this area was known as Turtle or Turtle Hook for reasons which have long since been forgotten. Turtle Hook was part of the grassy plains of Hempstead, with sheep and cattle happily grazing away. The population of this area was quite small; in fact, according to the LUNG ISLAND ALMANAC AND YEAR BOOK for the year 1929, it had a population of only 500 in that year! As you will realize, the growth of Uniondale to its present population of approximately 33,000 people (or 660 times that of 1929!) has been quite recent.

No one is quite sure why the name of the area was changed in 1852 from Turtle Hook to Uniondale, but records indicate that this is what happened. Some feel that the name may have originated from the fact that units of the Union or Federal Army were stationed in nearby Hempstead. Others claim that a

Labor or Union Hall which formerly stood along Front Street gave its name to that area. However, on May 14, 1853 the following article appeared in the Hempstead Inquirer and L. I. Advertiser, published every Saturday morning in Hempstead.

TURTLE HOOK CHANGES TO UNIONDALE

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the neighborhood now called Turtle Hook, held at the school house in School District No. 2, town of Hempstead, for the purpose of giving a suitable name to the place; J. G. Marten was called to the Chair and J. S. Higbie appointed Secretary.

It was unanimously

Resolved, That as the name Turtle Hook is deemed unsuitable to the locality it be changed to and that it be hereafter called UNION DALE, also,

Resolved, That the road leading from the great plains and leading to the South Oysterbay turnpike road, and known as the Hook road, be hereafter called Union Avenue, Also further

Resolved, That the road leading from Hempstead village to Jerusalem be hereafter called Jerusalem Avenue.

Voted that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Hempstead Inquirer.

The meeting then adjourned.

J. G. Marten, Chairman

J. S. Higbie, Sec'ty.

At one time, part of Roosevelt Field known as Curtiss Field after Glenn Curtiss. He was a pioneer in aviation who made many of his experimental flights in 1910 from this field. It was, as a matter of fact, in the fall of 1911 that aviation and airmail history were made at this same Curtiss Field. This is the year in which the first airmail bags were loaded onto a plane and flown as an experiment to the Mineola County Post office several miles away. Among the many famous fliers who made use of Curtiss Field were Charles A. Lindberg, Clarence A. Chamberlain, Commander Richard E. Byrd and the famous woman pilot, Jacqueline Cochrane.

THE GROWTH OF UNIONDALE

For the most part, the early growth of Uniondale was mainly in large estates with mansion-like homes and substantial areas of ground around them, or else in farms. When the spotlight first became focused upon Long Island as a good place to live in, and particularly upon the attractions of the Hempstead Plains, it was not surprising to find a steady stream of people attracted, year by year, to this area.

Even during the period when Uniondale consisted largely of estates and large-scale farms, here and there one could find houses set on smaller plots and there were even a few acres within the present-day school district boundaries where houses were built in rows, as we find them today. However, this was the exception to the general rule.

Among the best known estates not only of the Hempstead-Uniondale area, but of Long Island itself, was that of Oliver H. P. Belmont, the wealthy New York financier and banker. This estate was located along present-day Front Street. The windmill of the old Belmont Estate (one of many windmills that were built all over Long Island), with its 80-foot

length sails for catching the winds, was a Uniondale landmark for many years before it was torn down. Further to the East along Front Street was land owned by P. T. Barnum, the circus mogul. Also in this area was located the Labor Lyceum which in recent years was torn down to allow the building of the St. Pius Seminary.

By 1936, Uniondale's population and housing had grown to such an extent that a general water distribution system was set up to replace the individual, shallow-dug wells which had been, for many years, the only source of water supply for the residents of the area.

A further indication of our community's growth is shown in the story of how Uniondale got its present branch post office. In the fall of 1947, local residents and civic groups began to campaign for a post office in the rapidly growing area. Until then, the Uniondale mail service was entirely dependent upon that of Hempstead. It was not until two years later that the Federal Post Office department gave the necessary authorization to the Hempstead Post Office to acquire a site for the building of a Uniondale Branch.

Finally, on July 9, 1951 a branch post office, designated by the name Uniondale, was opened up. It was equipped to provide every service offered by a first class post office.

It was, of course, during the last years of World War II (1942-1945), and in the years immediately after the war, and up to the present time that Uniondale experienced the tremendous growth and expansion which has brought it to its present thriving and prosperous state.

CHURCH HISTORY

Religious Institutions and Religious Growth in Uniondale

All the important religious denominations are present in Uniondale, living harmoniously together in the practice of their faith. Back in 1923, there existed in what was then called East Hempstead (now a part of Uniondale according to the Daily Review (November 2, 1923) a "quaint and picturesque little church of no denomination and no pastor"; a kind of community church, of no special denomination, in which all were welcome. Back in the 1850's, this

church was under the jurisdiction of the North East Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but it had apparently been abandoned and was rapidly going to wreck and ruin when, in 1922, the women of East Hempstead community reopened the church as a Sunday school for the benefit of the community's children. The church was completely renovated by voluntary workers; new roof, floor and porch, new bell, painting, etc. Evening prayer meetings were held and, on Sunday, the children took part in a Sunday School program.

The spirit that led to this community activity has since animated the churches of Uniondale.

UNIONDALE METHODIST CHURCH

The Uniondale Methodist Church, which completed its groundbreaking ceremonies on Sunday, March 24, 1957, has a long history in the making. In 1855, Samuel Snedeker and his wife deeded a part of their farm on the main road for the sum of one dollar, on which to build a Methodist Church. This was on the west side of Uniondale Avenue. A church and carriage shed were built and served the community for seventy seven (77) years. Revival meetings were held here, and many people traveled over 60 miles of rough country roads in farm wagons and carriages to attend these meetings.

The interior had wooden benches to form little boxlike rooms for Sunday School classes on the side, and in the center were long benches holding about six persons each. The pulpit was a rough wooden affair with three chairs behind it. A small organ furnished music and a station master heated the stove. The Church stood on eight (8) concrete blocks, and in the winter the cold came up through the floor boards.

After having been closed for some years, a group of Uniondale residents decided to open a Sunday School in the old church. On a Sunday in November 1922, thirty-six (36) persons attended the Sunday School's reopening. Miss Mary Powell, the principal of Uniondale's only school at that time, cooperated by announcing this in the school sessions. By much effort and self-sacrifice the Church was restored to its previous physical condition and then improvements began. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Uniondale was finally organized. Trustees were elected and a regular church was instituted. It grew rapidly and plans were laid for a larger building which was started in 1931. A fine community spirit was shown when the Uniondale Fire Department offered the use of the fire hall for Sunday School and Church services while the old building was being demolished. By March of 1957, the little Sunday School started in 1922 had grown to a full-sized church and is now thirty-five (35) years old.

UNIONDALE WARD CHAPEL - CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS:

This Church was completed on November 28, 1954 and it is here that the Mormons of Uniondale assemble to worship. These families began to build a Meeting House of their own in 1949 at 171 Arcadia Avenue in Uniondale. At that time, the membership in the

Church was 127. Now it is many times that number, and adjoining ground was purchased for future enlargement of the structure. The Big Wind of 1952 blew down the Church steeple, but when it was put up again it went up to stay.

THE UNIONDALE JEWISH CENTER

In May, 1952, the small group of Jewish residents in the Uniondale community joined together to found the Uniondale Jewish Center as a Conservative synagogue. These people first met in private homes and appointed Rabbi Harry Roth of Flushing, Long Island, as their spiritual leader.

Services were first held at the Fire Headquarters, and later in the Hotstra College Little Theatre. By 1954, membership was more than eighty-five (85) families and services were held at the Firehouse. As membership continued to grow, the services were transferred to the Labor Lyceum.

Property along Jerusalem Avenue was purchased. Ground was broken for the present center in 1957 and the building was completed that year. The United Jewish Center maintains a religious school, clubs and classes of different types and is active in all community affairs. *The congregation later merged with another in East*

Meadow and the property was sold to the Town of Hempstead, currently using the building for the Town Housing Authority.
Early in its history, the Uniondale Jewish Center selected Mr. Philip Cosgrove, Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Uniondale, as its "Man of the Year", in recognition of his efforts to help establish the Jewish congregation as an important part of the Uniondale community.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF UNIONDALE

St. Martha's Roman Catholic Church in Uniondale exemplifies the great population growth during post-war years in a former farming community.

Carrie Bates and Genevieve Patterson, aunt of County Executive Holly Patterson.

Originally dedicated as St. Catherine of Sienna, the parish was served by priests from Our Lady of Loretto in Hempstead. The church was first set up in what is now the Town of Hempstead Parking Lot opposite the Public Library. The designation of St. Martha's occurred in 1914.

Following World War II and the tremendous influx of trend-reversing eastward moving "homesteaders," St. Martha's tiny Church and parish began mushrooming. Not incidentally, this growth coincided with the appointment - on September 24, 1949 - of the Reverend Jonn J. Byrne as St. Martha's first pastor.

Old records, verifying the memories of old-time residents, indicate that the school house was sold for use as a Church for about \$150. These same sources are the authority for the conclusion that the building was originally established. Early teachers in the tiny two-room school house included

Within less than three years, marked by intense prayer, work and planning, construction began in June of 1952 on a beautiful brick-Colonial Church on Greengrove Avenue.

Finally in June of 1953 a final Mass was sung in the little white Church on Uniondale Avenue, which, for so many years, had served as the spiritual home for Uniondale's faithful.

THE GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

In the fall of 1945, a survey was conducted in the Uniondale area to prepare for the establishment of a new Lutheran Church. As a result of this survey, in July of 1947 one and one-fourth acres of land was purchased on Uniondale Avenue.

committee chose the name of "The Grace Lutheran Church". By May of that year, officers were elected, the constitution adopted and the church officially established. At the close of 1948, two hundred and twenty seven members made up the Church.

Pastor Russell Helgesen and family arrived from Lansing, Iowa in 1948 to set up a chapel and Sunday School in an old farm house on the property. In April of that year a

In May of 1952 the pastorship transferred from Pastor Helgesen to Pastor Gerhard Lokensgard. In January of 1955 the pastorship was again transferred to Pastor Carl Sheie. The present pastor is Reverend Arnold Nelson.

Since the formal dedication in 1948 a building fund was increasing and on August 1, 1959 a ground breaking service was held. On

January 24, 1960 the cornerstone of the new building was laid and the building completed and dedicated to the glory of Christ on June 5th, 1960.

NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH

The Rev. Ramon C. Strang was the first Rector of this church located at California Avenue and Front Street, which was dedicated in September 1955.

Rev. Strang has, for many years, been a close friend of Jackie Hong Chan who is the Inspector of the Uniondale Auxiliary Police.

In 1968, through this friendship, an idea was born, to have a Chinese translated service in the church. To make this come about, Rev. Strang studied the Chinese language at the

Berlitz School and became very proficient. Today these services are very popular and are attended by a great number of Chinese throughout the island.

Rev. Strang subsequently became a sub-district superintendent and established churches in Chinatown, N.Y. and in Hong Kong. At present he conducts services in sixteen (16) congregations in the Metropolitan area, amongst the Chinese people in Chinatown, and at the Goldwater Memorial Hospital on Roosevelt Island.

CHRIST TEMPLE

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

This is our newest church in Uniondale and is located at 912 Nassau Road. This church, a substantial brick building, was built in 1974 and the interior is still under

construction.

This church is an asset to our community. The Pastor is the Rev. D. H. Green.

Later: Tabernacle of Joy Church, Grace Cathedral, Fountain of Life Church

ST. MICHAELS UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

This church, located at 237 Maple Avenue, was built in 1933 and was reconstructed after a very bad fire in the late 1930's. This church serves

the many Greek and Ukrainian residents of the community. The first Pastor was Rev. Leo Kachor and at present is ministered by the Rev. Simon Hayuk.

Also the Parish Center for St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church, is located on Uniondale Avenue

THE PATTERSON HOME FOR THE AGED AND INFIRMED

The first buildings of the new \$12,000,000 Patterson Home for Nassau County's Aged and Infirm, under construction since 1958, were opened at dedication ceremonies on July 26, 1961. These buildings include one dormitory building for 285 patients, a service and equipment building, a boiler house, and a 500 seat auditorium.

In the Spring of 1963 two new dormitory buildings were opened bringing the total capacity to 928 residents. The home is operated by the Nassau County Department of Public Welfare which was headed by Commissioner John J. McManus. Mr. Joseph D'elia is the present commissioner.

The group of buildings is situated in the town of Uniondale

on a seventy-two (72) acre tract of ground off Jerusalem Avenue.

UNIONDALE CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

The first fire protection that Uniondale had was by the Meadowbrook Company of the Uniondale Fire Department which was formed by a group of civic minded citizens in 1901. These men built their own firehouse which building is now occupied by the American Legion. A hook and ladder truck was purchased. This truck had several ladders from 10' to 50' and carried twelve buckets of water slung underneath. The motive power of this vehicle was the plow horses owned by nearby farmers who received five dollars (\$5.00) each time their horses pulled the truck to the fire. When the alarm bell sounded it was Kentucky Derby time in Uniondale. The farmers would unhitch their plows, race to the firehouse and the winner received five dollars (\$5.00).

It wasn't until December of 1923, when a fire occurred on Avenue "A", which the Meadowbrook Company could not put out, the Roosevelt Fire Department was called to extinguish the blaze. As a result, residents of the southern section of Uniondale petitioned the Town of Hempstead for permission to be annexed to the Roosevelt Fire District.

This alarmed the responsible citizens of Uniondale and plans were formulated for organizing the Uniondale Fire District. With the help of legal advice from the Town, The Uniondale Fire District came into being on January 1st, 1924.

A bond issue was floated for \$30,000 and the Board of Fire Commissioners bought the firehouse and a truck from the Meadowbrook Company. They also built two other firehouses and purchased three chemical pumpers for the Meadowbrook Co., Manor Co. and Brookside Co.

Uniondale in those early days was known as "Charcoal City". This was because our only water supply was hydrants in Hempstead and the brook that ran alongside the Meadowbrook Parkway. By the time we laid our 1200 feet of hose, with the help of Roosevelt or Hempstead, we were just in time to wet down the embers.

In 1936 our water district was formed and the hydrants supplied our needed water. In the early days of Uniondale a creek ran from Mitchel Field alongside the west side of Uniondale Ave. This creek has long since been filled in, but it is still there, underground. This stream can be seen where it comes to the surface in Roosevelt, on Brookside Ave., just past the Southern State Parkway. The presence of this creek caused many home builders along Uniondale Avenue to install sump pumps to keep the water from the creek out of their basements.

During the first year of the department there were seven fires and for the next several years the majority of fires were grass or brush. In 1975 950 alarms were answered and the fire prevention bureau inspected 575 business establishments in Uniondale. These dedicated men of our fire department receive no pay for their services. The tax monies that are received by the Fire District are used wholly for the upkeep and purchase of fire trucks and the maintenance of the buildings.

The residents of Uniondale are extremely fortunate to have these civic minded citizens sacrifice the comforts of their homes to answer the calls to duty at all hours of the day and night.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY

Shortly after the Uniondale Fire District was formed the ladies asked permission of the Board of Fire Commissioners to form a Ladies Auxiliary. This request was granted and Commissioner Otto Botsch helped the ladies of Manor Company to form their Auxiliary on January 27th 1926 with Mrs. F. Clayton as their first President.

The next Auxiliary to be organized was the Brookside Ladies in March of 1927 with Mrs. A. Fisher as their President. Of the original eleven charter members, Mrs. H. Odermatt and Mrs. J. Rizzo are still active and will be celebrating their golden anniversaries with the Auxiliary in 1977.

Protection Company Ladies Auxiliary was the next to be organized, on June 19th 1930, at which time fifteen (15) charter members were honored by a reception given to them by the Company men.

The Emergency Company Ladies Auxiliary was organized in April 1946 with Wilma Reed as the first President and twelve charter members.

In September 1935, the Ladies

of Brookside Company, Manor Company and Protection Company banded together to form the Uniondale Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. In April 1946, when the Emergency Company Auxiliary was formed, they also became members of the Department Auxiliary. The purpose of the Department Auxiliary was to consolidate the efforts of the various Auxiliaries so that the members could form a parade group and compete for prizes in the parades that the men marched in. The success of these ladies can be readily seen in the main trophies in the cabinets in Headquarters. Another function of the Department Auxiliary was to bring coffee, hot soup and food to the firemen when they were out for long periods fighting a bad fire.

The Charter members of the Department Auxiliary were: Mrs. Louise Clayton, Miss Lillian Hopkins, Mrs. Rose Howell, Mrs. Lillian Kern, Mrs. Madeline Kiernan, Mrs. Mary McNevis, Mrs. Helen Odermatt, Mrs. Catherine Prine, Mrs. Ida Rizzo and Mrs. Jessie Yost.

UNIONDALE POST 1487 - AMERICAN LEGION

Uniondale Post 1487, American Legion has been formed in 1945 by a group of Veterans of world War I and World War II. This Post was chartered in 1946 with fifty (50) members. The present site of the Post Headquarters, 545 Uniondale Avenue, was originally the Uniondale Fire Department

Headquarters.

The first Commander of this Post was John Carney, now deceased. We are proud to count among our membership such distinguished members as the Rev. John Byrne, Pastor of St. Martha's R. C. Church and the Hon. Joseph Margiotta, member of the Assembly.

UNIONDALE UNIT 1487 - AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Uniondale Unit 1487, American Legion Auxiliary was organized in July 1947 by the then Nassau County Chairman, Mrs. Blanche Patrick. The first President of this Unit was Mrs. Ann Kisnanuk. The membership of this Unit is drawn from the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of members of the American Legion. There were thirteen charter members of this Unit when it was formed.

The purpose of the American Legion in their projects along with

the many projects of their own which help to make our community strong. The current President of the Unit is Mrs. Betty Greiner.

This Unit also sponsors a Junior Auxiliary, under the leadership of Mrs. Ginny Devine. Our Junior Auxiliary assists the parent organization in many of the projects.

GEN. CASIMIR PULASKI POST 24 POLISH LEGION OF AMERICAN VETERANS, INC.

The Polish Legion of American Veterans, often referred to by its initials, the PLAW, is the largest organization of American Veterans of Polish Ancestry in the United States.

After world War I groups of American Veterans of Polish extraction banded together.

Post 24 is one of the youngest, having been organized in 1957. A Ladies Auxiliary was developed a few

years later.

Both organizations are currently doing volunteer service work at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Northport, New York. In addition to volunteer work, this Post and the Ladies Auxiliary participate in all local functions sponsored by other Veteran groups and Church Societies.

THE UNIONDALE V.F.W. STORY

The purpose of this organization is to live by the Congressional charter granted to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

The returning overseas veterans from Uniondale asked for and received a charter to start a V.F.W. post in their community. The post was called the Uniondale Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2845, and was authorized officially on September 22, 1945, with thirty-two (32) charter members.

One hundred and thirty-five men do their best to help their community and other organizations in their community.

The main purpose of the V.F.W. is to help brother veterans; to support our community as best we can; and to support youth organizations, such as Little League, young basketball teams and, of course, our school scholarship program. This we do with all our hearts, because this is the purpose of the Uniondale Veterans of Foreign Wars.

NASSAU COUNTY AUXILIARY POLICE
CIVIL DEFENSE UNIT 122

Prior to January 1957, our Auxiliary Police Unit was the continuation of the Civil Defense Police Unit which was active during World War II.

Beginning in January 1957, there were approximately thirty-five members on record. The chief was Jim McMurray; First Deputy Edward Kovac; Second Deputy Clifford Maier, and Secretary-Treasurer Arthur Conrad.

Between the years 1957 and 1963, the efforts of the unit members were to determine the direction the Unit was going and how the Unit could serve the community other than just being "air raid wardens".

In 1967, Deputy Inspector Conan was elevated to the position of District Director of Civil Defense, and Captain Chan to Deputy Inspector.

From August 1966 until present, through the efforts of District

Director Conan and Deputy Inspector Chan, the Unit has grown in public stature, is recognized as a visible arm of the Nassau County Police Department, and has many activities in which it participates. These are, namely, school patrol, church crossings, traffic duty on special occasions, i.e., "Memorial Day Parade", "High School Graduation", "Apple Festival-Mill Neck Manor", participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and so on.

As of October 1975, the total membership numbered forty (40).

The Uniondale Auxiliary Police Unit to receive the Outstanding Auxiliary Police Work Award from the Nassau County Police Commissioner. Also, Proclamations were received from Mr. Ralph Caso and Mr. E. Nickerson, Nassau County Executive Officers. The Uniondale Auxiliary Police Unit is the only unit in New York State that has been cited and awarded by former Governor Malcolm Wilson.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ROBERT W. POWELL COUNCIL #3488

This coming year, the 200th Birthday of our Country, is the 24th Birthday of the Robert W. Powell Council. It is only a youngster as an organization.

Started by a group of Knights of Columbus members from the Hempstead Council, we have come a long way to our present Council at 517 Uniondale Avenue, Uniondale. It has taken many men and hours to achieve what is now considered a fixture in the town of Uniondale.

It is an organization of Catholic men devoted to Catholic Activities, Council Activities, Fraternal Activities, Public Relations and Youth Activities. No matter what your personal interest

may be you will find a richly rewarding field of activity in this organization.

The projects of the Knights of Columbus include the helping of the children at the Cerebral Palsy Center in Roosevelt, the youths and grown ups at Melville State School on Long Island, Saint Martha's School, Boy and Girl Scout troops of Uniondale and needy families.

There is a Ladies Auxiliary which has become a vast part of making the Robert W. Powell Council so well known.

The Knights of Columbus also includes the young Squires and Squirettes. These groups are composed of young men and women aged 13 to 18 years.

FISH OF UNIONDALE

486-7000

FISH is a group of concerned people from the community who stand ready to extend emergency, non-financial help to our neighbors, when needed. FISH services are extended without charge, obligation, or lecture, and without regard to race, color or creed. If the FISH volunteer can help you, it will be his

privilege.

We offer the following free services Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.; Transportation, Child care, Provide a Meal, Shopping, Telephone visitation, personal visits, writing letters and referral information.

NASSAU COUNTY HOMEMAKERS COUNCIL UNIONDALE DAY CHAPTER

The Uniondale Home Bureau was organized in 1945 by Mrs. Ralph Pittman. It was one of the first organizations to be formed in the community after World War II. Evening meetings were held in the basement of the Cedar Street School. Mrs. A. Duncan was the first Chairlady.

In 1948, as the membership grew to 180 women, the Hempstead residents left to form their own unit and met in Kennedy Park.

The Uniondale group continued to expand as did the community. Meetings were transferred to the Goodrich Street school and then to the Walnut Street School.

In 1967 the name was officially changed to the Nassau County Extension Service. At this same time,

the needs of an active membership of over 175 could not be handled. Consequently, twenty-five (25) members organized a Day unit and held the first meeting at the Uniondale Public Library in September 1967. Mrs. Frank Cotterelli was the first Chairlady.

As of 1971, the name was again changed to Nassau County Homemakers Council, Uniondale Day Chapter. The group is proud of its contributions to community services, namely the Guide Dog Foundation, "Second Sight" Smithtown, Long Island and an Indian Mission in New Mexico. Our educational classes include various skills, crafts and homemaking techniques, taught at the Library and Grace Lutheran Church by Volunteer member teachers.

Six members have belonged to the Chapter for a period of twenty-five (25) or more years. Mrs. E. Semple is the present Chairlady.

UNIONDALE REPUBLICAN CLUB

During those years we have come to know as the Turbulent Thirties, when all America toasted the end of Prohibition, when F.D.R. attempted to lift the Nation out of the Great Depression with his N.R.A., W.P.A., and C.C.C.,

when mankind gave birth to yet a second World War, a group of Uniondale inhabitants joined together and chartered the Uniondale Republican Club.

Of the twenty-eight (28) members,

two remain actively involved in the club:
LILLIAN KERN and WILLIAM F. SMITH.

Lillian's husband Fred, also a charter member, was President of the Club in 1946. Bill was President in 1950 and a former executive leader. Bill's father, William A. Smith, was the first president of the Club and he, together with Bill's mother, Elsie, are listed as charter members.

In those early years the meetings were held at the Uniondale Athletic Club then situated at Nassau Road. When the Club and Joe Margiotta finally came together, the chemical reaction exploded eventually

RAYMOND ZEPH LODGE
NO. 1135, F & A.M.
UNIONDALE, N.Y.

Raymond Zeph Lodge #1135, Free and Accepted Masons, was instituted on June 19, 1951 and became one of the thirty-two (32) Lodges now operating in Nassau County. It is one of the 980 Masonic Lodges making up the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

The lodge adopted the name Raymond Zeph in tribute to the memory of Raymond John Zeph, born January 10, 1893 in Jersey City, New Jersey. On June 9, 1926 Raymond Zeph became a Mason in Azure Lodge #868, New York City. In 1940 he moved from New York City to Uniondale and affiliated with Garden City Lodge #1083.

Brother Zeph was ever ready to help his fellowman, and this help, advice and guidance, of which he gave so freely, was not confined to his Masonic Brothers but was at the beck and call of any person whom he found to be worthy and in need.

He was the first of a group to realize the need for another Lodge in the growing area of Uniondale and canvassed the Masons in our community to determine if there was sufficient interest to start such an undertaking.

propelling them into national prominence. Both readily conceded that no other combination could have produced the same result.

In the thirty-seven (37) years of its existence, the Uniondale Republican Club went from a membership roll of twenty-eight (28) to almost 2000. It is truly representative of the America envisioned by our Founding Fathers with a blend of people from every walk of life, of every race, color, creed and economic calling. The one thing they all have in common - and this is the only requirement for membership - that they are all Republicans!

In the midst of this task Brother Zeph was called from us on July 27, 1948 and his work was taken up by a group of his friends who decided to carry on where he left off and at the committee's first meeting there were twelve Master Masons present and the adoption of the name Raymond Zeph for the lodge was unanimous. One of the Brothers on this committee, Edward W. Reuther became the first Master of the Lodge in 1951-1952.

The present Master of the Lodge, Joseph F. Panciarelli, has been a resident of Uniondale for more than sixteen years.

Since 1970, Raymond Zeph Lodge has had a fraternal bond with the Robert W. Powell Council of the Knights of Columbus.

The Raymond Zeph Foundation, charitable arm of the Lodge, contributes each year to the Uniondale High School Scholarship Fund and is active in the community through its Welfare Committee who distributes hospital needs, wheel chairs and hospital beds to needy citizens in the community. In 1975, under the direction

of its Master, John H. Bos, the Lodge won the "Community Service Award" from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Now celebrating its 25th Anniversary in this Bicentennial Year, the members of the Lodge pledge to continue their service to the community of Uniondale.

KIWANIS CLUB OF UNIONDALE
A QUARTER OF A CENTURY

Early in the year 1951 - twenty-five years ago, a comparatively small group of men with a remarkably large concept of the true meaning of the word "community", formed the Uniondale Kiwanis Club.

In the beginning, there was Otto Grumback. He was the first president, serving in 1951 and also in 1952. This tall and engaging florist worked with the Roosevelt Club, who sponsored the fledgling Uniondale group.

The first meeting place (there were many to follow) was the Labor Lyceum. It is now the site of St. Pius X. Seminary.

From the very outset, the club concentrated much of its effort in the area of underprivileged children. Annually, a group of youngsters are sponsored to attend Camp Kiwanis during the summer months, first on Long Island and now at Rome, New York. No appeal for help in the community went unheeded; clothes, food, dental care and transportation have been provided to victims of misfortune. At Christmas and Thanksgiving, baskets of food were prepared at Pete Del Sol's deli, and volunteers delivered them to the homes of the needy. Toys and clothes were provided at Yuletide through the excellent services of the Women's Auxiliary - Genetaska.

The club has been involved in many activities, in the field of youth services. It has sponsored Boys and Girls Scout troops. The annual Long Island Track Meet has seen members at

the tape and on the watch. The Uniondale Scholarship Foundation came into being providing tuition moneys to worthy graduates of Uniondale High School. Today an active key Club made up of high school youngsters exists there. In recent years, the club has become active providing many services to the Senior Citizens at the Holly Patterson Home.

The Club was instrumental in bringing about the establishment of a branch of the Franklin National Bank in the community. It had a unique impact in establishing another building that stands proudly on Uniondale Avenue - The Uniondale Public Library. This building was recently dedicated by Assemblyman Joseph Margiotta to the memory of former Lt. Governor and Past President of the Club, Philip Cosgrove. Also commended for his tireless involvement in the library is another deceased Past President, Irving Milstien.

Not long after its beginning, the club began to honor each year the men and women who significantly contributed to the community's greatness. "Community Leaders Night" was the result of an idea put forth by Mike Liebman, a charter member, now deceased.

GENETASKA OF UNIONDALE

(Genetaska - Indian name meaning Helpful Worker)

Founded in June, 1953 with Muriel Hoppe as its first president, Genetaska today consists of twenty-six (26) women all wives of members of the Kiwanis Club of Uniondale.

The objects of the club are community service and social and mental culture with special emphasis on serving the needs of the less fortunate in the Uniondale community.

Bending with the needs of the community, Genetaska has varied its projects from purchasing toys and other gifts, including shoes, for school children to donating groceries, fuel oil, special shoes, eyeglasses and clothing to needy families. Its latest

project is the distribution, during the holiday season, of food purchase certificates to residents of the senior citizen housing facilities.

On-going activities include annual contributions to the Uniondale High School Scholarship Awards program and other Uniondale community organizations.

Fund raising programs have varied from Chinese Auctions, Military Bridge, Costume Parties and raffles to sewing quilts, crocheting Afghans and rummage sales.

Weighing the extent of the community good works as against the relatively small membership roll, the Ladies of Genetaska truly exemplify the Indian name they bear - Helpful Worker.

NOSTRAND GARDENS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Nostrand Gardens Civic Association was formed in the year 1952 to unite the residents of the local area called Nostrand Gardens into an action group to help secure adequate laws, raise community standards, bring closer relationship between home and community and provide for citizenship participation in the larger Uniondale Community.

Throughout these years this association has actively worked both with (and against where necessary) the agencies of the County of Nassau, Town of Hempstead, and the Uniondale Public

School District in areas of housing, recreation, and education for the area residents.

During these years the association has assisted many other community organizations, i.e., United Methodist Church of Uniondale, Community Stabilization Group, U-Care, Tune-In, the Salvation Army, etc., in the overall quest for racial understanding and youth recreation.

On this, the NGCA's twenty third year of continuous community service we again pledge ourselves to continue to service both our local residents and the community of Uniondale.

"TUNE IN"
TOPICS UNIONDALE NEEDS EDUCATION IN

Tune In began in the spring of 1970 as a result of two PTA meetings at the high school. The program then had to do with the drug abuse among our teenagers. A small group of parents, among them our first President, Doris Baker, approached the school board asking for help. From an initial meeting in the office of Dr. James Tolle, a committee was formed. A nucleus of really dedicated people set out to formulate By-Laws and finally became a membership corporation.

Today Tune-In exists to serve as an advocate of the youth of Uniondale. It is felt that Tune-In can and will provide a viable alternative to just hanging-out and getting in trouble. Through individual and group counseling, as well as working with the parents, we intend to help the youth of Uniondale negotiate the problems of the adolescent years. Additionally, Tune In will provide a photography and craft workshop among other activities. Tune In also hopes to provide a tutoring program for the junior high and high school aged persons who are having difficulties in school.

UNIONDALE LITTLE LEAGUE

The Uniondale Little League got started in 1960 with the idea that every player on every team would play in every game.

Tryouts were conducted in July of 1960 by Walter Marks, Bill Van Nostrand, Walter Tafuri and Ben Mooney. There were 120 boys in the program and, in the sixteen (16) years since that first July, more than 7,000 boys and girls have participated.

The Little League Officers in that first year were; George Roberts, President; George Taylor, Vice-President; Bea Roberts, Secretary; Fred Wambolt, Treasurer; and Bob Monair, Player Agent.

The first Little League baseball field was built by Walter Tafuri and Little League managers on the site now occupied by Turtle Hook Junior High School.

When the school was built, the Uniondale Little League moved to Hotstra University and then to the A. Holly Patterson Home for the Aged, where they built their own two baseball fields.

The new Uniondale Park fields on Uniondale Avenue were ready for the 1965 season.

In 1974, the Uniondale Little League became the first League on Long Island to admit girls to the Little League Program. One hundred and fifty-one girls formed eight teams and played softball under the same League rules as the boys.

In 1975 the Uniondale Little League had grown from the original eight teams to fifty-two (52) teams with 700 boys and girls participating in a complete baseball program.

The Little League has received very favorable cooperation from Uniondale's businesses, elected officials and many of the parents in sponsoring and supporting the League.

UNIONDALE COMMUNITY FOOTBALL LEAGUE "THE BADGERS"

In 1968, the Uniondale Community football League was formed. In 1969, two teams were entered in the Long Island Catholic Grammar School League, one team in the "B" Div. for 12 yr. old boys and one team in the "A" Div. for 13 and 14 yr. old boys. The 12 year old boys won the Division Championship that year and this was Uniondale's first division championship football team. In 1970 as an "A" Div. team they also won a championship. In 1972 Uniondale added an 11 yr. old team and they won the championship of their division. In 1973 Uniondale had a banner year, they expanded to 5 teams which took in boys from 8-14, that same year Uniondale held a name the team contest and the name Badgers won. Again in 1974 the

Badgers had 3 championship teams in the LI Grammar School League.

In 1975 the Badgers joined the Long Island Midget Football League. The same year the Senior Badgers played their First Badger Bowl game against the Newton Lions from Massachusetts. This was played at Hofstra University in November and the Badgers won this game 12-6. The reality of this Bowl game, the return trip in September of the Senior team to Massachusetts this year to play the return game with the Newton Lions and the Midget team playing a visiting team in November in another Badger Bowl is due entirely to the hard work of the Badger Family and the financial support of the Sponsors and Boosters.

GIRL SCOUTS

What a better way to bring a little bit of the history of Uniondale Girls Scouts to light, than sharing the experiences of a former girl scout.

Back in 1933 when dues were two cents a week, the bus was the high price of a nickel, which meant walking to and from the meetings. They were held in the basement of the Christ's First Presbyterian Church in Hempstead, and the supervision of the troop was under the leadership of Mrs. Van Campen.

Many of the girls couldn't afford uniforms so they made them. It consisted of a green skirt, white blouse, and hand embroidered socks and neckerchiefs.

There were fun things to do like hikes to Barnum Woods and Hempstead Lake State Park, making quilts out of chicken feed bags, tying knots, and studying the stars, which meant a late night walk home in the dark.

Camping meant a one day outing to the "Plains" of Levittown where the

girls learned to pitch tents, ate potatoes and marshmallows, and stayed up late to the wee hour of 8:30 P.M.

There was the "Good Deed Book" where a record was kept of the good deeds done by the girls. For instance, finding Mrs. Chopect's cow, Bossy, or rounding up geese stuck in the stream under the now extinct Cedar Street School, or baking and caring for the old and sick people at the "Poor Farm".

The girls marched in all parades and carried a flag, which took a year of the girl's time and effort to save for.

At Christmas time the girls would build and decorate a snowman in the center of town and then go caroling for enjoyment and to make a little extra money.

Things were indeed tougher then, but the rewards gotten out of Girl Scouting may have been greater. This was reflected in the pleasure and enjoyment Mrs. Gray, this former Girl Scout, got out of sharing her fond memories with us.

RED COAT GRENADIERS

Early in 1959 the idea of a Drum & Bugle Corps was conceived by men such as Hal Jacobs, Dick Copeland, Bob Warsk, the late Bob Tvelia, Cliff Mollinelli, Lou Wilson, Gene Penna, Lew Lipnickey, Harry Fichtel, Frank Hollenbach and many others, too numerous to mention.

Initially, a dozen or so Cub Scouts of Pack 44 began to follow their drum major, Frankie Autoro, around the confines of the Smith Street G.P. room. As the three bright red and white tom-toms we acquired furnished the beat, we all hummed and whistled a marching tune. With the cooperation of concerned parents who furnished funds, new drums and shiny bugles were soon purchased. Hearts beat a little faster as Mr. Warsk taught the beat and Mr. Tvelia instructed on the melody, while Mr. Jacobs pounded away on precision.

Slowly the Grenadiers made their first public appearance in the Memorial Day Parade in 1960.

It became apparent, as more and more youngsters joined the ranks, as Cubs became Scouts, and as Mrs. Deiores Kletn joined with her group of baton twirlers, that the original name "Pack 44 Drum & Bugle Corps" would have to be changed to embrace the expansion. With the sanction and blessing of Nassau Scout Council, the outfit became known as "Uniondale Scout Drum & Bugle Corps".

Months ran into years as the group grew to encompass Brownies and girl Scouts and finally Explorers. The original Pack 44 group had grown to number over fifty boys and girls, who presented performances at all Scout functions, at Roosevelt Raceway, Freedomland, the Mineola Fair, etc.

By 1965, with more youngsters requesting membership, the original group, now teen-agers, felt that Scouting was behind them and suggested we

re-group and re-name the Corps. After many meetings between parents and members, a unanimous vote carried the name "Redcoat Grenadiers".

Anticipation was high as our youngsters looked forward to parading for the New Hyde Park Fire Department during their tournament season. Almost immediately the Long Beach Fire Department also engaged us and our future began to appear brighter.

Incorporation became necessary in 1972 with the need for tax assistance due to our increased expenditures and the acquisition of a van for transporting our equipment. At this point, our parade schedule was taking us all over the county, New York and New Jersey. Under contract for the tournament season by the West Hempstead Fire Department for the past several years, we then entered negotiations with the Rockville Center Fire Department and have paraded for them during the past two years as well. Negotiations with the Lynbrook Fire Department are still pending. Annually we appear in the St. Patrick Day Parade, American Legion Convention, Little League, Memorial Day Parade, Flushing Thanksgiving Day Parade and presently, during the Bicentennial year, will be performing at numerous civic functions throughout the county.

Meanwhile all of Uniondale can be very proud of the Redcoat Grenadiers' accomplishments. Numerous trophies, prizes, ribbons and medals which grace the Corps' trophy cabinet, do not begin to tell the full story of the enthusiasm and acceptance accorded by the many thousands before whom they have appeared.

UNIONDALE EVENING CHAPTER
NASSAU COUNTY HOMEMAKERS COUNCIL

As a newcomer to Uniondale, Mrs. A. M. Duncan of 799 Planders Avenue, East Hempstead, N.Y., called the Mineola Home Bureau of Nassau County, to ask if there was a unit in East Hempstead. Since the nearest units were in West Hempstead and Mineola, Mrs. Farrah of the Mineola unit, asked her if she would like to start a new unit in Uniondale. Not knowing many contacts yet Mrs. Farrah hastened to call on her neighbor, Mrs. Ralph W. Pittman of 211 Henry Street, East Hempstead to explain her story of what the Home Bureau was all about.

Mrs. Pittman telephoned a number of friends, and called on her neighbors to invite them to her home for a meeting.

On September 26, 1945, a group of twenty-two (22) charter members met at the home of Mrs. Pittman. with Mrs. Farrah and Miss Bart of Mineola--the Uniondale Unit of the Nassau County Home Bureau was founded, with Mrs. Pittman as their first Unit Chairlady.

Their very first class, which the Mineola Center taught them free, was "How to Make Gloves", which was a disaster -- some gloves had enormous fingers, while others came out with fingers either too short or too thin -- but it was a start!

By the end of the first year, their membership grew to forty-five (45). In September 1947, they held their first Open House meeting to show off all the projects they had made during their first two years; sewing, cooking, and crafts. They met at the Goodrich Street School (now Uniondale High School), and then later at the Cedar Street School.

As their membership grew, in September 1948, their new chairlady, Betty Semple, took over, facing the problems of getting new leaders trained to teach the classes.

Sometime around 1956 they became known as the Uniondale Unit of the Nassau County Cooperative Extension.

During the course of its years, it went from the Cedar Street School to the present location, Walnut Street School, where we meet every first Wednesday evening of the month, from 7:30 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. Our membership now consists of 146 members.

In 1967 or 1968, because we had a very long membership list, we divided into two groups -- we remained the evening group, but some of the original charter members formed the Uniondale Day Group which meets at the Uniondale Library.

At the time the unit divided, we became known as the Uniondale Evening Chapter of the Homemakers Council, which is a division of the New York State Cooperative Extension of Nassau County, and Cornell University.
Researched by: Mary Ann Delloiacono,
Past Chairlady 1974-75.

4-H IN UNIONDALE

Nassau County 4-H has been in Uniondale since the late 1950's with small clubs attached to the Hempstead Council.

1969 was the year 4-H came into prominence with the start of the Summer 4-H program at Turtle Hook Jr. High School. The number of boys and girls involved in this program, looking for individual clubs to join, led to the division of Uniondale into two 4-H Councils, Hub Girls on the North side of Jerusalem Ave. and Meadowbrook boys and Girls on the South side.

The 4-H clubs are organized groups of boys and girls with the purpose of receiving informal out-of-school

education in a variety of programs and activities. These clubs are serviced by volunteer adults and junior leaders. Organized on a neighborhood basis, they are grouped into the Hub and Meadowbrook 4-H Leaders Councils under the sponsorship of the program staff of Nassau County 4-H Division. The leaders select their own officers and direct many of the internal programs and activities of the council with the aid of the staff sponsor.

4-H Club members are expected and required to perform many community services as part of their obligations as club members and citizens of their community, county, and country.

UNIONDALE HIGH SCHOOL PTSA

The organizational meeting of the Parent Teacher Association of Uniondale High School was held on Wednesday, June 3, 1954 at the Goodrich Street School and was chaired by Mrs. David Paine. Present was Dr. John Forester, Superintendent of Schools and Dr. Joseph Mooney, Principal of the high school. After bylaws were adopted, a permanent slate of officers was elected with Mrs. David (Lyte) Paine as president. The first general membership meeting was held October 7, 1954 with guest speaker, Mr. Mason, head of the high school guidance department, who

spoke of the aims and purposes of his department. It was announced at that meeting that 265 parents and teachers had become members.

Since that time, the PTA has become a PTSA - a Parent-Teacher, - Student Association. It annually honors students who contribute to the welfare of the school; gives scholarships to graduating students; gives a luncheon to honor teachers; works on committees to improve transportation, lunches, recreation, etc.; and works on legislative proposals to benefit all children and youth.

TURTLE HOOK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PTA

On May 21, 1962, fifty-two concerned people met to discuss and execute the procedure necessary to the formation of a new PTA unit for the Turtle Hook Junior High School that was to open in September of the same year. Newly appointed school principal, Mr. Eugene T. Boylan formally opened the meeting. Present that evening was Mrs. Eloise Twing, Nassau District Director of the New York State Congress of PTA's, who provided the group with all the necessary information and guidance.

A second meeting was held on June 11, 1962, at which a motion was made and carried to form the Turtle Hook PTA. The first set of by-laws, which would govern the unit was adopted, and the first slate of officers for the association was elected. Mrs. Agnes Walden became the unit's first President. The Turtle Hook PTA was on its way with 159 charter members. In September of 1962, the newly opened Junior High School and the PTA jointly ventured forth. The Charter President was Mrs.

Agnes Walden.

Since its inception in 1962 the PTA at Turtle Hook has continued to grow

and flourish. Its prime concern is to promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school and community.

SEPTA SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA

On February 27, 1975 a new PTA unit was born in Uniondale. It was SEPTA (Special Education PTA). Due to information received at several PTA meetings and especially at the PTA Convention in November, 1974, Alice Kiimpel, President of Uniondale Council of PTA's and Marge Muller, President of the Uniondale High School PISA, organized a meeting with the help of Bea Feinberg and Norma Lemmy of the Nassau L. I. District PTA and Jonn Behnken of the Septa Coordinating Committee. It was held at Uniondale High School and, with the cooperation of Frank Sawicki, Director of Pupil Personnel Services of the Uniondale Schools, parents of special education children were invited. After a lengthy discussion of the merits of a SEPTA unit and how the unit might be

able to help the special education children, a vote was taken to form a SEPTA unit here in Uniondale. It passed by a large majority. Temporary officers were selected - Earthalee Workman, President; Phyllis Koch, Secretary, and Joan Irwin, treasurer. PTA by-laws were discussed and the dues were voted as two dollars (\$2.00) a person. Membership was then declared open and forty-five (45) people became charter members of SEPTA, the tenth existent PTA in Uniondale and the tenth SEPTA unit in Nassau.

Although special education children are its main concern, SEPTA, as every other PTA unit, is concerned with the health and education of all children and youth. Membership is open to all - you do not have to have a child in special education classes to join.

HISTORY OF NORTHERN PARKWAY P.T.A.

Northern Parkway PTA received its charter in 1934. The school, at that time, went from kindergarten to eighth grade.

Sixteen years ago this changed with the building of the twin junior high schools, Lawrence Road and Turtle Hook.

The building of the Grand Ave. School changed the boundary lines and the Northern Pkway PTA lost some of its members.

New York State Assemblyman Joseph Margiotta is a distinguished alumni of Northern Parkway.

THE UNIONDALE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY
BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

On October 13, 1974 Walter Wientge, Uniondale High School teacher, Dennis Condon and Maritzel Lopez, Uniondale High School students, went to a Bicentennial Conference held in Poughkeepsie, New York. The purpose of this conference was to pool ideas and also to try to give, through discussion, each attending school, programs which might be suitable for their community and school celebrations.

Upon returning, the Officers of the Class of '76 and Walter Wientge formed and founded the Uniondale School and Community Bicentennial Commission. Mrs. Flavia Iannaccone and Mrs. Mary Condon were invited to represent the community aspects of our newly formed commission.

In early November, Toni Iannaccone (our secretary), sent a survey letter to over one hundred local Uniondale Community organizations. The initial response to our letter was very poor but we did not give up.

The commission began to plan projects and activities to raise money for a scholarship fund. Mrs. Mary Condon made and presented to us a beautiful bicentennial afghan, which we intend to raffle off at our Fair on Saturday, May 1, 1976, and the students of two of Mr. Wientge's art classes, Fashion and Textile Design, and Creative Art workshop, arranged and compiled into a copyrighted

Bicentennial Coloring Book entitled "America 200", which was printed at cost by Howard Clemmings, uncle of Walter Wientge.

On March 10, 1975, the commission took a special group of interested juniors to visit Old Bethpage Restoration; and in May the commission took a three day trip to Williamsburg, Virginia, which was a most exciting tour.

Diane Hirsch organized a school and Community Bicentennial Art Exhibit, which was successfully held at the high school on June 10th, 1975.

Walter Wientge attended, on June 25, 1975, the opening of Bicentennial House, Eisenhower Park, East Meadow. At this occasion Mr. Wientge was given a copy of Liberty Call, Vol. 1, No. 2; and in this issue, we were listed as the official commission, recognized by the American Revolution Bicentennial Advisory Commission.

Flavia Iannaccone kindly invited the commission to attend a meeting on Monday, June 30, 1975 at the American Legion Hall, Uniondale, N.Y. The purpose of this meeting, organized by the American Legion, was to bring all the community organizations together in order to set plans for our school and Community Celebration.

We are an excited group, who wishes our great democracy and beautiful United States of America a sincere Happy Birthday!

EDUCATION IN UNIONDALE

Higher Education

Hofstra University is located on a 158 acre campus in the township of Hempstead and bordering on Uniondale, in an area whose history extends back to the first Dutch and English colonial settlements. The main campus consists of eighteen buildings arranged in three quadrangles, with Hofstra Hall, the original home of the Hofstra Family, standing at the center of the campus and serving as the administration building.

Hofstra was founded in 1935 by the executors of the estate of Kate Mason Hofstra as a memorial to her husband, William S. Hofstra, a lumber merchant and a Hempstead resident of Dutch parentage. At first the college was known as Nassau College-Hofstra Memorial and had a small student

body of less than 200. The college grew rapidly, particularly under the Presidency of Dr. John Cranford Adams, who became president in 1944, until it was organized in 1953 into five Divisions: Humanities, Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Engineering, Social Sciences, Business and Education.

When Hofstra University opened its doors in September, 1935, its classrooms and facilities were housed in the former family homestead, The Netherlands, now known as Hofstra Hall.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE UNIONDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By act of the State Legislature in 1812 - the year the War of 1812 began - public schools were established in New York. Before that time, most children were taught at home by tutors, or in Quaker schools or - not at all. In 1814, Town Commissioners were appointed by the Hempstead Town Board to organize school districts. At the time, Hempstead, - known as Turtle Hook as we have written before, was designated School District No. 2. Hempstead Village was School District No. 1 and there were thirteen other school districts organized at the time.

The original boundaries of School District No. 2 were as follows; northern boundary, the Old Country Road; southern boundary, a line from Meadowbrook west to meet the eastern line of District No. 1. Most of the early boundaries of our school district were difficult to follow on a map since they passed through farm-lands or the open plains.

Until the passage of the Compulsory Education Law in 1879, most parents sent their children to school during only part of the year. They were needed on the farms to work; besides, the school was many miles from home, usually. Roads were wagon tracks except for the main roads which were made of wooden planks. The oldest residents of Uniondale agree that the first school was a one room school house built on posts which was located on the ground across from the Uniondale Public Library on Uniondale Avenue. Some old timers claim their parents and grandparents went to this school, but little is known about this.

The first school of which we have authentic knowledge was built in 1865, the year the Civil War ended, on the plot where the Cedar St. Park is now located. This was also a one-room wooden school house and a second room and a second teacher was not needed until 1893. It was heated by wood which the teacher had to put into a pot-bellied stove.

UNION FREE SCHOOL:

On November 21, 1900 Uniondale was established as a Union Free School.

In 1909, the Cedar Street School, a frame building with eight classrooms, office, library and a basement was built. Before the next school was completed, Cedar Street school had large class enrolments and nearly all grades were on part time. This school, of course, did not go beyond the elementary grades.

Next to be built was the Northern Parkway School in 1923, at a cost of \$150,000. It was built of brick, was two stories high and contained nine classrooms. The building was made with the idea of enlarging it when required. Four years after its construction, the enrolment increased so rapidly that it was necessary to build two classrooms in the basement, convert the

auditorium into two more classrooms and to use the library as a kindergarten! An addition was built in 1932 making out of Northern Parkway a complete unit with seventeen classrooms, gym, offices, shop and a splendid auditorium.

The Board of Education was already looking for a site on which to build another school to cover the needs of the school district. This was to become the California Avenue school in 1928; a school of twelve classrooms, kindergarten, library, shop, etc. It was four years later, in 1932, that school buses were introduced for the first time into our school district. Because of crowded conditions in the Northern Parkway school it became necessary to transfer pupils to the California Avenue school. At this time there were over 1000 children in the three schools and additions were required to meet the growing needs. It was during the war

years (1940-1945) and immediately after that the great Long Island building boom took place, with our school district playing a leading part in this construction.

A proposal for a brand new school in the eastern section was submitted to the voters of Uniondale School District No. 2 in 1949 and approved; this was to become the Goodrich Street School, with sixteen (16) classrooms, two (2) kindergartens, library, health clinic, shop, large gym, the district was purchased in order to make way for another grade school, to be known as the Smith Street School. This is a one-story structure, designed to fit the contour of the land in the shape of a huge "X". It has twenty (20) classrooms, three (3) kindergartens, library, clinic, shop, etc.

Then, in rapid succession were built:

- a) The Cornellus Court School, in 1953, to take care of children in the primary grades, kindergarten through the 3rd grade.
- b) The Grand Avenue School, also in 1953, to take care of the extreme southwestern part of the district, and having ten (10) classrooms, two (2) kindergartens, etc.
- c) The Walnut Street School, in 1954, opened in the eastern end of the district, with sixteen (16) classrooms, two (2) kindergartens, library, etc. its general purpose room alone has a seating capacity of 600.
- d) In 1954-55, the Goodrich Street grade school was closed, a large addition was constructed, and the new unit became Uniondale's first high school,

Uniondale High School. With completion of this building, pupils living in the Uniondale School System through their senior year in high school, graduating from it after twelve (12) years of first rate education to enter college, business or their chosen careers. Uniondale schooling has, indeed, come a long way since the now-vanished one-room wooden school house of last century.

- e) In 1959-60 the Lawrence Road Junior High School was completed, the first independently operating junior high school in the Uniondale District. This was followed by Turtle Hook Junior High School which opened in September 1962.

Another fine secondary school located in our district is Maria Regina, a Catholic Diocesan High School which is located in the Santini area adjacent to the Meadowbrook Parkway.

Now that the eight (8) square-mile district that makes up the Uniondale School District is almost completely developed from a housing and residential viewpoint, the present population should begin to level off. Most of the remaining undeveloped areas are industrial and commercial zones. Within the past thirty years, the population of Uniondale has gone over the 30,000 mark, with those between ages 1 and 17 - that is, of school age - now numbering over 12,000. This large school-age group is assured of quality education in the elaborate school system to which the Uniondale citizens have given their backing without stint.