

WORCESTER

Investing in fun

Univest Bank employees spend a day with Variety Club campers

For Digital First Media

Recently volunteers from Univest Bank came to Variety Club Camp and Developmental Center for a Friday barbecue. They helped us paint benches and set up water games for campers in the afternoon. One of the day's highlights was a Team Univest vs. Team Variety kickball game. Our campers and our volunteers both played really well, so the kickball game ended in a tie!

Since 1935, Variety - The Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley has continued its mission to enrich the lives of children and young adults with disabilities through social, educational, and vocational programs that nurture independence and self-confidence, and prepare them for life.

Univest's Connecting with Community is an employee volunteer program, and it's "our time to unite, roll up our sleeves and put in the sweat equity needed to help our local nonprofits advance their programs and mission," according to the Univest website.



Fielders get ready for the next kicker to step up to the plate.



Part of the day's events included sprucing up the benches.



Strategy comes into play even during a friendly game of kickball.



A game of kickball was a terrific way for the campers to show the volunteers the athletic skills they practice at camp.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

KEEPING SCORE

Phillies great Chase Utley one of the good guys

Baseball fans of the area did everything short of laying rose petals in his path and carrying him around the stadium on a covered golden litter.

Chase Utley is idolized in the Philadelphia area because of the way he played on the field - hard, smart, team-oriented. And the way he comported himself off the field.

Aside from his one major misstep - dropping an f-bomb during his speech, in front of thousands of kids during the Phillies World Series celebration parade - his record is pretty clean.



Tony Leodora
Columnist

He was usually classy and genuinely down-to-earth. He was extremely appreciative of the way he was treated by the fans - especially in the latter years of his career. The devotion he and his wife displayed for animal and pet adoption causes won the hearts of millions.

Bottom line: he was one of the all-time good guys in Philadelphia sports history.

There have been others through the years - the ones who avoided scandal, conducted themselves in a civil manner, did not have any run-ins with the law.

Some who come to mind immediately include Brian Dawkins, Brian Westbrook and Ron Jaworski of the Eagles; Bobby Jones, Billy Cunningham and Julius Erving of the 76ers, Brian Propp and Paul Holmgren of the Flyers and from the Phillies, Mike Schmidt and Utley's keystone combination mate Jimmy Rollins.

They were all great players in uniform ... but even classier once they made the transition into public life.

That cannot always be said about the sports stars in Philadelphia.

Certainly, every city has had its share of nefarious characters. They make a constant procession across the police blotters of America. Currently, football is the leader in producing bad guys. Conversely, hockey has always been the team sport with the fewest black eyes.

Of course, golf is the sport with the ultimate squeaky clean image but - for now, let's put that in a separate category.

Philadelphia teams have had their share of athletes who have generated unwanted headlines.

One of the earliest was Ed Bouchee, a first baseman who finished second in the Rookie of the Year balloting in 1957. It looked as if he had a promising career until later that year when he was arrested for exposing himself to young girls. He pleaded guilty to a number of charges and sentenced to three years of probation.

LEODORA » PAGE 4

PIECE OF HISTORY

Auctioneer: Rosa Parks house has buyers

By **MICHELLE R. SMITH**
The Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. » The auctioneer selling the house where Rosa Parks sought refuge after fleeing the South amid death threats said after the auction on Thursday there are buyers interested, but it will take a few days to work out the details.

The house was included in an auction by Guernsey's in New York as part of a larger sale of African-American cultural and historic items. It was listed with a minimum bid of \$1 million, with a presale estimate of \$1 million to \$3 million.

It didn't sell during the auction, but Arlan Ettinger, of Guernsey's, said he was approached after the auction by a buyer who had trouble entering a bid online. He did not release the buyer's identity.

Among the other items of interest that sold was Alex Haley's manuscript of "The Autobiog-

raphy of Malcolm X," including handwritten notes by Malcolm X and Haley, which sold to New York's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Ettinger said. It was sold after the auction, and he did not immediately release the price.

Parks moved to Detroit in 1957, two years after refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama. She stayed for a time in her brother's tiny, wood-framed home with 17 other relatives, according to family members.

The house eventually was abandoned and ended up on a demolition list before Parks' niece, Rhea McCauley, bought it for \$500 and donated it to American artist Ryan Mendoza in an attempt to preserve her aunt's legacy. Mendoza took it apart and shipped it to Germany and reassembled it in his yard in Berlin, turning it into a work of art that became a destination for people curious about

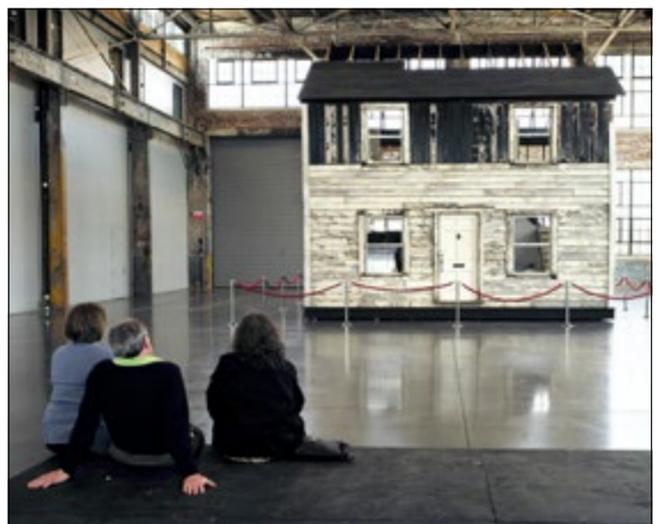
Parks.

Mendoza brought the house back to the U.S. earlier this year and displayed it in Rhode Island as he searched for a permanent place to reassemble the fragile structure for the final time. It is now packed in shipping containers awaiting its new home.

He has said he hopes it will be displayed so the public can see it. The auction house has said the proceeds of the sale will be split between Mendoza and Parks' family.

Mendoza, who was in Berlin for the auction, followed the sale online and initially thought it had failed to sell after bidding did not reach the minimum of \$1 million.

"It's really exciting," Mendoza said. "My god. I thought it was a total failure for a minute there. I had shriveled up into a little ball. I thought I had failed America and American history, and instead it looks like we're going to have a happy ending."



STEVEN SENNE - ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

In this April 1, 2018 file photo, visitors view the rebuilt house of Rosa Parks at the WaterFire Arts Center in Providence, R.I. The house where Parks sought refuge in Detroit after fleeing the South will be auctioned on Thursday, July 26 in New York, with a minimum bid of \$1 million.