

# Summit NJ Times

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Issue 6 • March 2016

**SUBURBAN  
CHAMBER  
BERKELEY HEIGHTS  
BREAKFAST  
WITH THE MAYOR  
& TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING**  
**FRIDAY MARCH 18TH**  
 8:00 to 9:00 am  
**BERKELEY HEIGHTS  
TOWN HALL**  
 29 Park Avenue  
 (plenty of free parking)  
 An exciting agenda of  
 opportunities & info is  
 planned. Plenty of time to  
 meet & network with other  
 local businesses, civic and  
 community leaders.  
 A Well Spent Hour plus  
 Breakfast is Free.  
 RSVP to Karen  
**908-522-1700**  
 khadley@suburbanchambers.org

## MARY POPPINS CAST TEACH SUMMIT ELEMENTARY-SCHOOL STUDENTS "SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS"

Over 50 Summit elementary-school students with a flair for the dramatic participated in an evening of song and dance as they were taught "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" by Summit High School Mary Poppins' cast members on February 17.

Students from all of Summit's elementary schools were invited by the Mary Poppins' Educational Outreach team to the free workshop. Attendees were asked to contribute "tuppence," to be donated to Family Promise, a local organization which helps families in need. The collection ties in with the "family" theme of Mary Poppins being promoted to the community. Over \$200 was raised for Family Promise; the drive will continue during the performances, which will run March 2-6.

Before the workshop, students drew "Let's Go Fly a Kite"-shaped illustrations of an activity they loved doing with their family. These will be displayed throughout the high school during the performances.

The students danced, acted, and sang during workshops led by Anne Poyner, director; Kelly Mott-Sacks, choreographer; and by cast members.

"So many of our talented high schoolers developed their love of theater on our elementary school stages," said Poyner. "I am sure that some future Summit High School stars joined us on Thursday evening."

"We feel it is our responsibility to nurture the love of theatre in our younger students as we teach them about the audition process, and how to perform," she said.

The elementary students were filled with questions about auditioning, rehearsals, and technical aspects of the musical. At the conclusion of the workshop, they performed what they had learned for their parents.

The event was part of the Educational Impact program, which connects the musical to the school district's curriculum, using the production as a teaching tool for the greater student body and local community. Other parts of this effort

included a town-wide "Let's Go Fly a Kite" building day with professional kite flyers, and the district-wide tuppence drive to spread awareness about need in the Summit community.

Photo credit Elise Molleur.



(above) Educational Outreach Team and the cast of Mary Poppins held a theatre workshop for about 50 Summit elementary students last week.

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## SUMMIT DANCERS EXCEL AT REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Summit Times is published by Renna Media. 9,600 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every home and business in Summit.

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### PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

*Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.*

**Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email Lori Theiss at [lori@rennamedia.com](mailto:lori@rennamedia.com)**

Local residents Catherine Lawlor (16) who is a junior at Mount Saint Mary Academy and Ciara Lawlor (14) a freshman at Summit High School recently danced at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships in Philadelphia. Catherine competed on two winning Championship Teams. Ciara danced on five winning teams. She also competed in solo championships, and qualified to dance at the World Irish Dance Championships, which will be held in Glasgow, Scotland from March 20th to March 26th. Ciara will be competing in the Solo U15 Championships and the Celi Team competition. Both dancers have been dancing with The Marie Moore School of Irish Dance in Scotch Plains since they were 5.

Claire Borzner, a championship Irish dancer and the girls' neighbor, helped get the girls involved years prior. Also, their mother emigrated from Ireland to US 23 years ago and was happy to see the girls show an interest in one of our cultural traditions even though she was not a dancer herself. Once they started there was a snowball effect: They began winning local competitions and then began competing on a regional and national level.

The girls also perform with the school at events, such as parades, nursing Homes, libraries, schools and private parties, particularly around St Patrick's Day. They have made lifelong friends through team participation. The Marie Moore Ceili teams are renowned for their excellence and



currently hold the National championship for U16 Figures.

Catherine, also runs varsity cross country and Track for Mount Saint Mary Academy whereas Ciara has a keen interest in music and theater. She also plays Field Hockey at Summit High and plans to run track this Spring.

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**MONDAY - THURSDAY**

<b>Lunch 11am - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Dinner 3:30pm - 10:00pm</b>
Adult .....\$7.99	Adult .....\$11.59
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

**FRIDAY - SATURDAY**

<b>Lunch 11am - 3:30pm</b>	<b>Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm</b>
Adult .....\$7.99	Adult .....\$11.59
Kids 7-10.....\$5.99	Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
Kids 3-6.....\$3.99	Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!	2 & Under.....FREE!

**SUNDAY ALL DAY DINNER**

**11am - 10pm**

Adult.....\$11.59
Kids 7-10 .....\$6.99
Kids 3-6 .....\$5.99
2 & Under .....FREE!

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## GIRLS NIGHT OUT AT THE SUMMIT ELKS LODGE

### 11 CRITICAL HOME INSPECTION TRAPS TO BE AWARE OF WEEKS BEFORE LISTING YOUR HOME FOR SALE

Summit NJ - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-888-243-5861 and enter 3006.

You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of All Towne Realty Realtor. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2014

The Summit Elks Lodge #1246 hosted a Girls Night Out on March 3, at the Elks Lodge to support the Christ Child Society of Summit's Layette Program. Attendees brought many donations of new baby clothes--onesies, pajama stretchies, outfits--size newborn or 3 months, and helped make simple but adorable "Blankets for Babies."

The Christ Child Society of Summit provides layette bundles to babies at the free pediatric clinics at Overlook and Morristown hospitals. Layettes include essential clothing items, and the handmade, adorable fleece blankets that the Elks Lodge #1246 generously subsidizes with a Beacon Grant. These bundles help new babies and their families get off to a happy and healthy start. Please contact Theresa Sweeney at

sweeneyct@comcast.net or Lois Pagano at lpagano07901@gmail.com if you have any questions.

The Summit Chapter of the Christ Child Society provides aid and supplies to at-risk children in Summit and neighboring towns. The Christ Child Society helps build better communities by partnering with others to serve children and families in need. Members assemble and deliver layettes (essential bundles of clothing) to newborns at local hospitals, and partners with Bridges Outreach to run an annual school supplies drive that provides essential supplies for elementary, middle and high school children in Summit. For more information, or to become a member, visit [www.christchildsummit.org](http://www.christchildsummit.org)



(above) Lois Pagano and Tony Plesh of Summit Elks Lodge #1246 making baby blankets for Summit Christ Child Society's Layettes Program.

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## \$2500 GRANT TO HELP MOMS HELPING MOMS FOUNDATION EXPAND

Moms Helping Moms Foundation the community-based not-for-profit organization that distributes diapers to babies living in low-wage families in the New Jersey area, has been selected as one of 29 national recipients of the inaugural Funds for Change grant awarded by the National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN).

“NDBN’s Funds for Change grants help diaper banks reach more families by investing in organizations that we recognize as growing community assets and strengthening that investment with technical support for nonprofit organizations through our national network,” said Susan Van Ness, director of programs at National Diaper Bank Network. “NDBN is very pleased to present Moms Helping Moms Foundation with a \$2500 grant to further its effort to help families in New Jersey.”

According to Bridget Cutler, President of

Moms Helping Moms Foundation, the grant will be used to build out their office space to allow for more inventory storage and to streamline their operational procedures.

“Having the money to reorganize our space and to purchase more shelving and bins will allow us not only to take in more inventory, but will also make the process of putting bags together for our clients much more efficient and safe. The improved safety will allow us to bring more volunteers in to help out. That coupled with the increased efficiency of our procedures will allow us to serve more clients than we are able to currently. We are very excited to get started on this project!” says Bridget Cutler, President, Moms Helping Moms Foundation.

In total, NDBN awarded more than \$100,000 in grant funding to member diaper banks operating in 21 states. However, the net impact

of the Funds for Change exceeds \$200,000, as each NDBN grant is matched dollar-for-dollar at the local level. The 29 grants awarded ranged in size from \$500 to \$10,000 and went to both newly formed and established diaper banks, located in communities throughout the country.

Since its first diaper distribution in 2011, Moms Helping Moms Foundation has helped provide more than 100,000 diapers as well as other essential baby supplies to hundreds of families living in New Jersey.

Moms Helping Moms Foundation continues to help families facing financial distress meet their babies’ basic needs by: 1) providing access to essential baby supplies, and 2) connecting individuals with a variety of services aimed at supporting them during pregnancy and the first three years of parenthood, such as parenting support, child development education, financial literacy, and health and wellness. If you are interested in donating baby items or would like additional information about the foundation and how you can help, please visit their website [www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org](http://www.momshelpingmomsfoundation.org).

### SUMMIT LIBRARY

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### MARCH ADULT PROGRAMS

#### Mondays at the Movies

showings at 12:30 PM and 6:30 PM

#### Testament of Youth (International Film Festival)

March 7

Historical drama, based on Vera Brittain's memoirs. Rated PG-13.

#### Science Fiction

March 14

During a manned mission to Mars, Astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) is presumed dead after a fierce storm and left behind by his crew. Rated PG-13.

#### Espionage Drama

March 21

During the Cold War, the Soviet Union captures U.S. pilot Francis Gary Powers after shooting down his U-2 spy plane. Sentenced to 10 years in prison, Powers' only hope is New York lawyer James Donovan (Tom Hanks), recruited by a CIA operative to negotiate his release. Rated PG-13.

#### Historical Drama

March 28

Carey Mulligan, Helena Bonham Carter, and Meryl Streep lead the cast of a powerful drama about the women who were willing to lose everything in their fight for equality in early-20th-century Britain. Rated PG-13.

#### Music at the Library

Sunday, March 20, 2-3 PM

Irish harpist Aideen O'Donnell

#### Films at the Library

##### Breathe

Friday, March 11, 12:30 PM

British drama about a couple whose strained marriage is put to the test when they are faced with an unexplained pregnancy. Starring Idris Elba and Nadine Marshall.

#### Brown Bag Book Club for Seniors

March 18, 12:30-1:30 PM

Bring a bag lunch; beverage will be provided. The group will be discussing "The Professor and the Madman" by Simon Winchester. All welcome.

## chimney o' rock celebration



Friday, March 4 - Thursday, March 17



Our Homemade Irish Menu:

Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Guinness Beef Pot Pie & Irish Soda Bread

### band schedule

#### Sunday, March 6

"Dicey Riley" at Bridgewater  
"Bloody Callan" at Gillette

Three Seatings Available:  
3:30, 5:30 & 7:30 pm



#### Sunday, March 13

"Bloody Callan" at Bridgewater  
"The Fair Trade" at Gillette

Three Seatings Available:  
3:30, 5:30 & 7:30 pm

#### Thursday, March 10

"The Fair Trade" at Bridgewater  
"The Snakes" at Gillette

Two Seatings Available:  
5:45 & 7:15 pm

#### Tuesday, March 15

"Hooley Shooters" at Bridgewater  
"Bloody Callan" at Gillette

Two Seatings Available:  
5:45 & 7:15 pm

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY 🍀 Thursday, March 17

"Lagans Love" at Bridgewater  
"Hooley Shooters" at Gillette 12-3 pm  
"Courtney Colletti" at Gillette 5-9 pm

Performance Times: 12-3 pm & 5-9 pm

Not accepting reservations for this day  
First Come - First Served

Bridgewater  
800 N. Thompson Ave.  
(732) 469-4600

# Chimney Rock Inn

Gillette  
342 Valley Rd.  
(908) 580-1100

## SUMMER ENRICHMENT CAMPS WITH THE DCP'S HARDING KIDS CLUB

All summer 2016 Harding Kids Enrichment Camps are now open for registration through the Summit Community Center. Enrollment in a Harding Kids camp assures young learners, ages 4 – 7 will continue to develop and maintain academic skills through the summer.

The Harding Kids Club is sponsored by the Summit DCP and welcomes both residents and non-residents to participate in its programs. This summer, parents may select from a variety of programs including Summer "Bridge" Programs which focus on preparing students for either kindergarten or first grade.

Additional summer 2016 Harding Kids camps include It's a Bug's Life, Creatures of the Sea Parts I and II, and Meet the Artists. Whether uncovering some of nature's most fascinating creatures or presenting world-famous artists and their unique artistic styles, each class is sure to peak your child's interest in new ways.

Make learning fun this summer with an enrollment in a 2016 Harding Kids Enrichment Camp.

To register with Harding Kids or any DCP program or camp, visit [summitcommunityprograms.com](http://summitcommunityprograms.com) and click "Register Now." For assistance, contact the DCP at 908-277-2932 or stop in at 100 Morris Avenue.

For more information on listed programs or camps, please contact Claire Renga, Harding Kids Club Director at 973-476-2541.

All Harding Kids programs and camps are held at Cornog Field House, 5 Myrtle Avenue in Summit, NJ. Financial assistance may be available based on information from the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program. All abilities are welcome.

Summit Community Programs strives to provide recreational and other related programs and services to meet the community's needs, with a special consideration for seniors and youth.



## SAGE ELDERCARE CALENDAR OF EVENTS MARCH 2016

290 Broad Street, Summit, NJ • (908) 598-5548

### Tai Chi

Tuesday, March 1 (meets weekly)

Meets weekly on Tuesdays. 11:30 am – 12:45 pm, Tai Chi is a series of precise flowing movements that develop balance, strength, flexibility, focus, endurance, and calmness.

SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

Please call 908.598.5548

to inquire about pricing and to register.

### Gentle Chair Yoga

Wednesday, March 2 (meets weekly)

Monday, March 7 (meets weekly)

Meets weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays.

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Class for older adults.

SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

Please call 908.598.5548

to inquire about pricing and to register.

### AARP Tax-Aide Program

Thursday, March 3 (weekly through April 14)

Free tax preparation for middle- and low-income taxpayers, with special attention to those over 60.

Counselors provided by AARP through its foundation in conjunction with the IRS. Area residents in Essex, Morris and Union Counties do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to use the service. 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit. To make an required appointment, please call 908-598-5509.

More information can be found on SAGE's website calendar at [www.sageeldercare.org](http://www.sageeldercare.org).

### Laughter Yoga

Thursday, March 3

1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

Pradeep Nair, Laughter Consultant at HomeWell Senior Home Care of Morris County, will teach this unique exercise routine which combines unconditional laughter with yogic breathing. Laughter yoga elevates mood, improves health, gives you more energy, and builds a positive attitude.

SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

To register for this free program, please call 908.598.5548.

### Fun-to-be-Fit Exercise Class

Friday, March 4 (meets weekly)

Meets weekly on Fridays. 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

General exercise class for older adults.

SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

Please call 908.598.5548 to

inquire about pricing and to register.

### Theatre Night – "Driving Miss Daisy"

Saturday, March 5

at 8:00 pm

Join us in supporting SAGE's programs and services to older adults in the region and enjoy at night at the theatre! The featured presentation is "Driving Miss Daisy" at The Summit Playhouse, 10 New England Avenue, Summit, NJ.

Space is limited. Please call 908.598.5504 or email [ssharma@sageeldercare.org](mailto:ssharma@sageeldercare.org) to secure tickets.

### Caregiver Support Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 16

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Caring for an older loved one can be a demanding and stressful responsibility. Help is available at PREP (People Responsible for Elderly Persons), a monthly caregiver support group.

SAGE Eldercare,

290 Broad Street, Summit.

To register for this free program, please call

908.598.5548.

### Alzheimer's Association Support Group

Tuesday, March 22

Held monthly on the fourth Tuesday. 10:00 am

This support group provides an opportunity for caregivers, families, and friends to learn more about Alzheimer's disease, share their feelings and concerns, and support each other in coping with the effects of the disease.

SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

To register or obtain more information,

please call 908.598.5548.

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# SAGE ELDERCARE CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Summit Director for the Department of Community Programs, Judith Leblein Josephs, SAGE Eldercare Meals on Wheels volunteer Astrid Hasbrouck of Summit, and Summit Senior Program Coordinator, Gretchen Masterfano, joined in SAGE's 50th Anniversary for Meals on Wheels as Community Partners on Wednesday, February 3.

The City of Summit employees joined Astrid, who has been delivering meals since 1972, to deliver meals to local older adults as part of the

organization's year-long celebration.

Please call Marianne Kranz, SAGE Eldercare Director of Meals on Wheels, at 908.273.5554 to learn more or sign up as a Meals on Wheels Community Partner. Meals are delivered to older residents in Berkeley Heights, Chatham, Madison, Millburn, Mountainside, New Providence, Short Hills, Springfield, and Summit. For more information on SAGE Eldercare or the Meals on Wheels program, please visit [www.sageeldercare.org](http://www.sageeldercare.org).



(above) Summit Director for the Department of Community Programs, Judith Leblein Josephs, SAGE Eldercare Meals on Wheels volunteer Astrid Hasbrouck of Summit, and Summit Senior Program Coordinator, Gretchen Masterfano, joined in SAGE's 50th Anniversary for Meals on Wheels as Community Partners.

## MEET RITA JENSEN OF WOMEN'S ENEWS

*The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit invite you to meet*

**RITA H. JENSEN**

*Founder and Editor in Chief of Women's eNews ([womensenews.org](http://womensenews.org)),*

**MARCH 15TH, 2016, 7:30PM**

*Women's eNews and its writers have received over 35 awards since the organization's launch in 2000, including "Best Internet Site" in 2005 from the National Federation of Press Women.*

*The New York Daily News named Ms Jensen one of the 100 most influential women in New York. She has received numerous awards including an alumni award from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. This innovator survived domestic violence, raised a family on her own, earned college degrees and now is a proud grandmother.*

*This event will be held*

**DECORSO CENTER**

*15 East 4th Street in New Providence  
Please plan to come early, with a friend,  
to enjoy light refreshments!*

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## BOOK DONATIONS WANTED

The Summit College Club (SCC) is seeking books and other media donations for its 6-day annual Book Sale in April.

Donations should be brought to Westy Self Storage, 15 River Road, Chatham. The books must be in good condition and packed in bags or small boxes.

The drop off in Westy's lobby will be open until April 7th: 8am to 5pm on weekdays; from 9am to 5pm on Saturdays; and from 11am to 3pm on Sundays. The Summit College Club Book Sale welcomes donations of books, CDs, and DVDs, but does not accept textbooks, manuals, magazines or encyclopedias.

The sale itself will be held from April 19 through 24, 2016 at the American Legion Hall next to the library in New Providence. Last year, SCC members collected and offered for sale more than 40,000 books. The eagerly anticipated six-day sale regularly attracts hundreds of

customers, dealers and readers from NJ, NY, and PA. Many people return on successive days, emerging with shopping bags full of affordable books, CDs, and DVDs.

Proceeds from the sale are used to fund college scholarships for deserving young women in local high schools.

The Summit College Club is a branch of the American Association of University Women, an organization that promotes equity for all women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Membership is open to all women and men holding the associate degree or higher.

To volunteer for the sale or for more information about donating books, please e-mail [summitcollegeclub@yahoo.com](mailto:summitcollegeclub@yahoo.com) or call 908-464-2540. For further information about membership or an application form, email [jimles59@verizon.net](mailto:jimles59@verizon.net).

The Presbyterian Church at New Providence welcomes everyone to join us on March 27<sup>th</sup>

*Easter Sunday*

7 AM - Sunrise Service (weather permitting)  
8 AM - Easter Breakfast  
9 AM - Traditional & Contemporary Services  
11 AM - Contemporary Service

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(above) Bernie and Betty De Guzman packing up book donations at Westy's Self Storage.

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# NOTED CIVIC LEADER AND FORMER MAYOR, JANET WHITMAN NAMED PERSON OF THE YEAR

by Summit/New Providence Rotary

Noted civic leader, former mayor and Summit resident, Janet Whitman has been named "Person of the Year" by the Summit/New Providence Rotary. Known to area residents as Summit's first woman mayor, her influence has lasted so much longer than her years of leadership. The celebration will be held at the Grand Summit Hotel on Thursday, April 14, 2016, 6 to 8 PM.

Whitman's achievements brought a spirit of pride and accomplishment to the community. She was highly regarded by both parties for her ability to cooperate and collaborate while providing guidance and tolerance of all opinions. Her message to the community was always driven by

Summit's best interest.

"We are honored to have Mayor Whitman as our award recipient and delighted to provide this opportunity for area residents to share memories and extend personal wishes that evening," said Rotary president, Reagan Burkholder, who worked with Janet for eight years as city administrator and seven years on the Summit Public Art initiative.

The recognition event will support the Rotary's scholarship program which benefits high school seniors living in Summit and New Providence.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting [snrotary.org](http://snrotary.org)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT REEVES-REED ARBORETUM

Plans are underway at Reeves-Reed Arboretum for perhaps the busiest season ever. In order to best serve the needs of an ever growing constituency, as well as the maintenance of the pristine and beautiful landscape, and to provide the highest quality of professional programming, the Arboretum will be offering a number of staffing opportunities for the 2016 season. All candidates are encouraged to visit the grounds to best appreciate the unique and exciting traits of working at an historic site and with a passionate and enthusiastic staff.

The mission of Reeves-Reed Arboretum is to engage, educate and enrich our visitors.

To that end, we are looking to fill the following positions: seasonal gardener; garden interns; environmental educator; Spanish Discovery Saturdays educator; lead camp counselor; junior camp counselor; social media/photography intern. These are paid and unpaid positions – for full job descriptions and to apply, please go to <http://www.reeves-reedarboretum.org/>, and click on "employment opportunities."

We are seeking to fill these vacancies as soon as possible.



## SUMMIT MUNI TO OPEN APRIL 1 FOR SEASON

The 2016 season with the Summit Municipal Golf Course is just around the corner. New and returning members can now look forward to Opening Day 2016, set for Friday, April 1.

Summit's Municipal Golf Course, better known as the Muni, is located at 189 River Road. This Par 3, 9-hole executive course was designed by renowned golf architect, Hal Purdy and covers 13 acres of land that was once a private estate.

Both residents and non-residents are welcome to join. Summit resident memberships begin at just \$40 for the season. Non-resident memberships begin at \$115 for the season. The 2016 season is expected to run through November, weather permitting. View all 2016 membership rates.

Instructional clinics and camps for youth and adults will begin the week of April 10. All upcoming 2016 tournaments are TBA.

More information about the Summit Muni can be found at [summitcommunityprograms.com](http://summitcommunityprograms.com). Registration is available online with Community Pass. For registration assistance, contact the Summit DCP at 908-277-2932.



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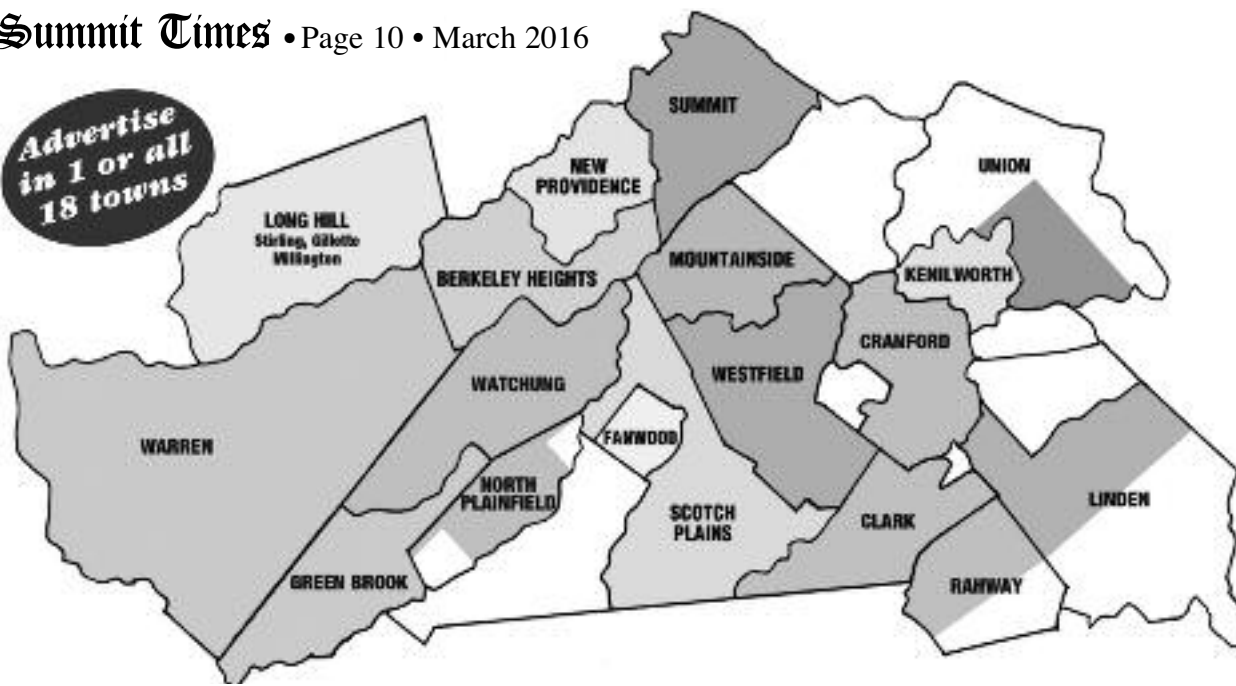
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# NEARLY 600 UNION COUNTY KIDS NEED YOUR VOICE

*Court advocates sought in Summit for foster youth*

Meet foster youth Michael, age 8: Ever since I can remember, me and my siblings lived in our parents' car or motels. We ate lots of fast food but after a while we just wanted real food like a normal family. One day the police stopped my dad and said my little sister was really thin. They took her to the hospital and then came back for me and my siblings and put us in foster care. I'm really sad because we are in three different homes and don't see each other much. We now go to school but had never been to one before! There's so much to learn that other kids already know. We really miss mom but dad scares us. We saw mom again on weekend visits at grandma's and were excited because we thought we would get to live there. But one day, mom snatched us from the visit to bring us to dad, who the judge said she can't see. Mom and dad took us out of New Jersey and we drove through a bunch of states. We didn't have money and dad made us stand with him outside and told us to look sad while he

begged for money. When the police found us we were so excited to come back to New Jersey. They arrested my mom and dad. Even though we're glad to be back, my brother and I have nightmares and miss our siblings who are in other foster homes. I feel terrible — I'm the oldest and should have protected them. Why can't we all just be together and have a regular life?

Michael is one of many children that CASA serves and hopes to serve, as its referral book continues to grow. CASA of Union County is seeking Summit residents interested in being the voice for one of the nearly 600 Union County youth, ages 0-21, in foster care through no fault of their own. Trained CASAs are sworn in by a judge and court-empowered to speak to foster parents, teachers, doctors, lawyers, tutors, therapists and more. CASAs visit the youth regularly and incorporate all findings into a report for the judge. CASAs attend court hearings quarterly, working to ensure a youth's time in

care is as short as possible and their best interests remain the top priority for all parties. Although not required, there is an additional need for advocates who speak Spanish.

CASA's Spring training kicks off Thursday, April 14, 2016 and includes 10 sessions over several weeks, ending May 10, 2016 and soon followed by a swearing in at the courthouse. Training is 6 to 9 p.m. at the County Clerk's Building, 300 North Avenue East in Westfield, Second Floor, across from the Westfield Diner and a light dinner is provided.

Attend an information session in Westfield or Elizabeth. Evening sessions are 6 pm, Thursday, March 17; Tuesday, March 29; Monday, April 4; and Monday, April 11 at the County Clerk's Building in Westfield;

Morning sessions are 10 a.m.

Fridays, March 18, April 1 and April 8 at CASA, 1143-45 East Jersey Street, Second Floor, in Elizabeth.

Summit residents are encouraged to contact Lisa at (908) 527-7048

or [lporis@casaofunioncounty.org](mailto:lporis@casaofunioncounty.org) to RSVP for an information session or for details on the April training.

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