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2018 YOUTH ACADEMY DATES ANNOUNCED

The Summit Police Department has announced the dates for the 2018 Youth Academy. The academy will be running two, one-week sessions: Session One from July 23 to 27; and Session Two from July 30 to August 3. Both sessions will be held at the Summit Police Department, with classes running from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

This will be the 14th season of this popular program, designed to provide area youths with the opportunity to gain an understanding of the role of the police officer. Summit Police Youth Academy has been modeled after today's police academy and the cadets will undergo daily physical and Drill and Ceremony training, as well as instruction in criminal investigation techniques, evidence recovery and patrol practices. In addition, the cadets will participate in field trips to the Union County Police Academy and attend demonstrations from various specialized units that are available to law enforcement, such as the police canine unit, SWAT team and the bomb squad.

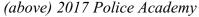
Each cadet will receive official Summit Police Youth Academy uniforms to wear throughout the course. Upon successful completion of the course the cadets will participate in a graduation ceremony in which they will be presented with a certificate of completion and an official Summit Police Youth Academy patch. Each cadet will also receive a DVD slideshow of photos taken during their session.

Acceptance into this program requires that the applicant be between the ages of 11 to 14. Cadets will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Please note preference will be given to Summit residents who are new applicants; former recruits and out-of-town applicants will be placed on a waiting list. In order to be considered, the tuition fee of \$100 must accompany the application. For those applicants that are experiencing financial hardships, there are a limited number of scholarships available.

Applications will be available at the Police Department, the Summit Middle School Office, and online at cityofsummit.org. Applications will be accepted beginning March 12, and the deadline for applications will be April 20, 2018.

For additional information please contact Det/Sgt. Ryan Peters at rpeters@spdnj.org, 908-273-5871; or Pam Ferreira at pferreira@spdnj.org, 908-277-9473.







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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 Editor@rennamedia.com

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MONDO SUMMIT'S BREAKFAST DISCUSSION FOR LOCAL CREATIVES

By Maryanne Christiano-Mistretta

For the past several years, many involved in Summit's innovative community have grouped together envisioning a "Creative Summit." This group welcomes participation from professionals in visuals arts, dance, theatre, music, literary, and healing arts to represent their community.

On February 15, 2018 a gathering of inventive Summit residents met for a breakfast discussion at MONDO Summit, located on the third floor of the MONDO building, 426 Springfield Avenue, Summit, New Jersey.

The five leaders of the group are Diane Gallo, Annette Dwyer (owner of MONDO), Susan Haig, Laura Ekstrand, and Ellen de Havilland.

"We have no titles. We're not our own entity," said de Havilland, and then explained that MONDO Summit is a group of original and indie artists.

Haig added, "Arts and creativity and sustainability attracts tourists. We want to be cutting edge."

The goals of Creative Summit include creating a forum for collaboration in the community; to connect creative citizens and artists with business community leaders; to celebrate arts and integrate culture and diversity; and to celebrate Summit as an arts and cultural destination and engage and empower citizens through creative pursuits.

Over 20 artistic enthusiasts participated in the event. For more information on the MONDO building and MONDO Summit, visit:



(above) Leader Diane Gallo.



(above) Creative minds sharing their vision. Photos by Maryanne Christiano-Mistretta



(above, l-r) Ellen de Havilland, MONDO leader; Marian Glenn, Summit resident and MONDO supporter; Susan Haig, MONDO leader; Annette Dwyer, MONDO leader; and Laura Ekstrand, MONDO leader.

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The Souper Bowl of Caring organized a food drive to help stock the SAGE Eldercare food pantry for older adults in need January 28 to February 4, 2018 at the Connection, 79 Maple Street in Summit, New Jersey.

Organizers included volunteers from the Connection, the Summit Area YMCA, the Interfaith Council, and the Junior League of Summit. Food items included: tuna fish, small jars of peanut butter, individual packets of cheese, plain and peanut butter crackers, granola and protein bars, no-sugar fruit cups, and plain oatmeal packets. Donations are still needed and can be left at the reception area at SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit.

(right, l-r) Deborah Huggins, Associate Pastor of Central Presbyterian Church and Souper Bowl of Caring Event Co-Chair; Nancy MacNiven, Office Manager for the Connection; and Amy Stuart, SAGE Eldercare Volunteer and Community Programming Coordinator.







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CITY HOSTS MEETING FOR BROAD STREET WEST REDEVELOPMENT

To begin its Broad Street West redevelopment effort, the City of Summit is hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 7 p.m. at St. Teresa of Avila Memorial Hall located at 306 Morris Avenue, Summit, New Jersey.

Members of the Summit community are invited to participate in the workshop meeting to



learn about the area between Broad Street and designated "an area in need of redevelopment" by the Planning Board. Participants will be able to share ideas for specific uses and improvements for the redevelopment area, express architectural material. In addition to the public workshop ensure the success of this vital effort." meeting, the city will provide an opportunity for online beginning March 7.

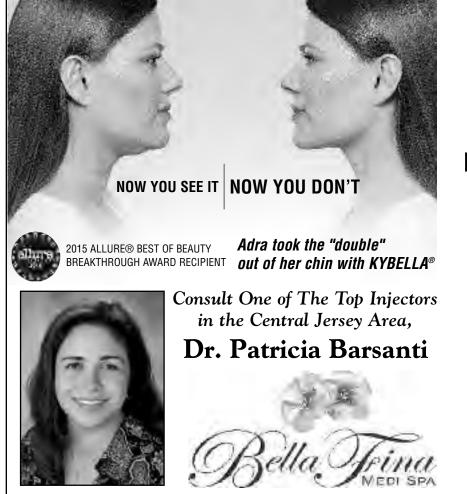
"We are leading a very inclusive community-Morris Avenue, and Maple Street that has been wide process for the Broad Street west redevelopment project by encouraging active participation from residents and members of the business community," explains Summit Mayor Nora Radest. "Gathering feedback from citizens design preferences, and review proposed project both at the workshop meeting and online will

To learn more about the Broad Street West interested citizens to communicate feedback redevelopment process and how to participate, please visit the city website at: cityofsummit.org/



(above) Broad Street West map

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For Tickets: www.thesummitplayhouse.urg THE SUMMET PLAYHOUSET TO NEW ENGLAND AVE SUMMED AND THE

SUMMIT LIBRARY FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER FEATURES JAZZ VOCALIST SARAH PARTRIDGE

The Summit Free Public Library Foundation CD. Sponsor tickets are available for \$50.00. will sponsor a concert and reception featuring jazz vocalist Sarah Partridge on Sunday, March 25th from 3 to 6 p.m. in the library's rotunda. Partridge began her career as an actor in film and television. One of her first acting roles was in the movie "Risky Business" with Tom Cruise. She worked steadily in film and television and carved out a niche doing voice-overs, often portraying cartoon superheroes. A serendipitous karaoke session led to a concert and a new direction. Encouraged by jazz trumpeter, singer and bandleader Doc Cheatham, she honed her jazz art in New York and Los Angeles. She will release her fifth album this spring.

A reception featuring hors d'oeuvres from local caterer What a Dish will follow the performance. Tickets for the March 25th event are available through the Summit Library website (tinyurl.com/y8xqmaot) or in the library at the circulation desk. Patron tickets, available for \$100, offer reserved seating and a Sarah Partridge

The Summit Free Public Library Foundation was established in 2013 to raise private funds to improve the Summit Library beyond what tax dollars can provide. The Foundation's private funds enhance, rather than replace, state and municipal funding. The Foundation focuses its efforts on endowment, technology and facility enhancements and strives to further the library's established tradition of excellence made possible by generous private gifts and strong public support. In its few short years the Foundation has raised more than \$55,000 -- \$30,000 of which went toward the recent children's room renovation and additional funds assisted in the replacement of chairs in the main section of the library.

The Summit Free Public Library is located at 75 Maple Street, Summit. Assistive listening devices are available. For additional information, call 908-273-0350 or check the library website at summitlibrary.org.

SUMMIT PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS "BOEING BOEING" MARCH 2-3, 9-10, 16-17 AT 8:00 P.M. AND MARCH 4 AND 11 AT 2:00 P.M.

hilarious hit comedy "Boeing Boeing" with performances on March 2-3, 9-10, 16-17 at 8:00 p.m.; and March 4 and 11 at 2:00 p.m.

A riotous farce that recently enjoyed hit revivals in London and New York, Boeing Boeing is now set to arrive in Summit—fasten your seat belts!

It's the 1960s, and swinging bachelor Bernard couldn't be happier: A flat in Paris and three gorgeous stewardesses all engaged to him without knowing about each other. But Bernard's perfect life gets bumpy when his friend Robert comes to stay, and a new and speedier Boeing jet throws off all of his careful planning. Soon all three stewardesses are in town simultaneously,

The Summit Playhouse will present the timid Robert is forgetting which lies to tell to whom, and catastrophe looms.

> The cast of "Boeing Boeing" includes Michael Smith-Gallo (Bernard), Dale Monroe (Robert), Elaine D'Addezio (Gloria), Alicia Harbin (Gabriella), Julie Anne Nolan (Gretchen), and Joanne Sternberg (Berthe). The production is directed by Jeanne Johnston and produced by Ann Lowe, Joann Scanlon and Pam Heller.

> The Summit Playhouse is located at 10 New England Ave., Summit, New Jersey.

Tickets are available at Brown Paper Tickets www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3081776 or for more information call 908-273-2192 or email summitplayhouseinfo@gmail.com.





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SUMMIT HOMETOWN HEROES PROGRAM

The City of Summit Common Council has approved a resolution at its meeting on February 6, 2018, establishing the Summit Hometown Heroes program to recognize and honor local veterans. Through the program, the names, images, and dates of service of participants will appear on banners displayed along city streets from Memorial Day through July 4. The program will be funded through private donations; there is no fee to participate. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2018.

An individual is eligible to take part in the Hometown Heroes program if they are serving or have served in any one of the following branches of the United States Armed Forces: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy. Members of the United States Merchant Marine and Women Airforce Service Pilots in World War II are also invited to apply. Applicants must also have lived in Summit at any time in the past or present; or are currently or have been employed by the City of Summit or Summit Board of Education; or are current or former volunteers in the Summit EMS, Police Auxiliary and Volunteer Fire Division.

In 2018, the program will be limited to the first 90 applicants that meet eligibility requirements. An additional 10 participants will be selected based on special merit by the American Legion. The City of Summit reserves the right to remove a banner for any reason.

Information on applications requirements and how to apply is available at cityofsummit.org/hometownheroes. To make a tax-deductible donation in support of the Hometown Heroes program online, please go to sapfnj.org/donate. Donations by check made payable to Summit Area Public Foundation can be mailed to Summit Hometown Heroes, P.O. Box 862, Summit, NJ 07902.

For those who don't have computer access, help can be provided at the Summit Free Library located at 75 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey. The library's phone number is: 908-273-0350.

VOLUNTEER FAIR AT SUMMIT LIBRARY

Mahatma Gandhi, in speaking of volunteerism said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." The recent Day of Service in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday brought out many in the City of Summit to perform acts of kindness in service to others. Service to the community, however, is not a oneday endeavor. Many in our community need our assistance every day.

The Summit Free Public Library is hosting its first Volunteer Fair on Saturday, March 10 from 1 to 4 p.m. A variety of Summit-based organizations will be available to provide information on the good works each of their organizations perform on a daily basis. Attendees will have the opportunity to "shop" the organizations to find the right fit for their interest and skills. Organization representatives will be available to answer questions and sign-up potential volunteers. Connection, The Summit Area YMCA, SAGE, Reeves-Reed Arboretum, Home for Good Dog Rescue, Friends of the Summit Library, Overlook Hospital Elder Life Department, American Red Cross, the Rotary Club of Summit-New Providence, Visual Arts Center of NJ, Summit First Aid, Bridges, Summit Helping Its People (SHIP), St. Hubert's Animal Rescue, The Summit Playhouse, Summit College Branch of the American Assoc. of University Women, Summit Area Green Faith Circle, and Family Promise.

Adult, senior, and teen volunteers are welcome. No registration is necessary. As you plan for the year ahead, remember that "Life's most persistent and urgent questions is, 'What are you doing for others?'" (Martin Luther King Jr.).

The Summit Free Public Library is located at 75 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey. Assistive listening devices are available. For additional information, call 908-273-0350 or check the library website at summitlibrary.org.

Participating organizations include The library website at summitlibrary.org.



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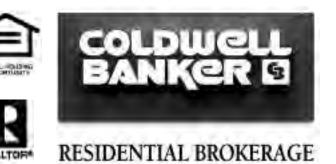
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Summit Times • Page 12 • March 2018





THE 31ST ANNUAL 'TASTE OF SUMMIT' TO BENEFIT SUMMIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Come dine and socialize with your family, friends, and neighbors at the 31st Annual "Taste of Summit." This event will be hosted by the Grand Summit Hotel, 570 Springfield Avenue, Summit, New Jersey on Sunday, March 18, 2018, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

The "Taste of Summit" is a gournet extravaganza featuring more than 20 of Summit's finest restaurants and food merchants. Each restaurant will be serving delicious "tastes," showcasing their special dishes spanning many cuisines, including Italian, Japanese, American and Mexican. There will also be scrumptious desserts from Summit's finest bakers and a cash bar.

The Taste of Summit is an event for the entire family. While parents indulge in their favorite "tastes," children under the age of 12 will be enjoying their own eats and special activities while listening to music from local favorite Paul Fessock of Summit's World of Rock.

During the Taste of Summit, there will be a raffle drawing for a "Private Cocktail Reception and Hors D'oeuvres for the winner and 13 guests." The Grand Summit Hotel's Hat Tavern will host the reception. The \$5 raffle tickets are now on sale at The Carter House located at 90 Butler Parkway in Summit (Tuesdays 9 a.m. to noon and Wednesdays 1 to 4 p.m.), or at The Hat Tavern, 570 Springfield Avenue in Summit (Monday to Sunday 11:30 a.m. to midnight). There are a limited number of tickets for sale and they are going quickly – so buy one soon!

The Taste of Summit is the key fundraiser for the Summit Historical Society, an all-volunteer not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Summit through The Carter House Museum and its archives. All funds raised will help the Society continue its mission of safeguarding records, documents, maps, books, and artifacts as well as antique furnishings and clothes connected to the history of Summit and making them available to the public at the Carter House, which is the oldest house in Summit.

Tickets for the Taste of Summit are on sale now; priced at \$50 per adult and \$20 per child (ages 6 through 12). To ensure a place at the table, please call 908-277-1747 or send a check payable to The Summit Historical Society, P. O. Box 464, Summit, NJ 07902-0464. Tickets for the event will also be sold at the door.

For more information about The Taste of Summit, the raffle for the Private Cocktail Reception and Hors D'oeuvres or The Summit Historical Society, please visit us on the web at summithistoricalsociety.org or on Facebook at summithistoricalsociety. You can also contact us via email at summithistoricalsociety@gmail.com or by telephone at 908-277-1747.



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FIRST AID SQUAD INSTALLS NEW LEADERSHIP

Mayor Nora Radest visited the annual meeting of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad to perform the swearing in ceremony for the 2018 officers and trustees.

John Buscaino, who has previously served as Training Officer and Vice President, takes the helm as the new President, and Bob Flanagan is the new Vice President. Nancy Weeks and Katherine Ganger serve as Corresponding and Recording Secretary, respectively. Dave

Bernstein returns as Treasurer. Completing the Equipment Lieutenant. Board of Trustees are Carl Ganger, James Rath, Paul Raynolds, Fred Schwarzmann, George Shepherd and Greg Vartan.

The First Aid Squad line officers for 2018 are: Kari Phair, Chief; Matt Raymond, Deputy Chief; John Christmann, Personnel Lieutenant; Mel Harari, Records Lieutenant; Jane Mahoney, Training Lieutenant, Jane James, Maintenance Lieutenant; and Anthony Campanelli,

Officers and Trustees are active Squad volunteers who assume these duties in addition to their regular EMS shift.

The all-volunteer First Aid Squad is always looking for new members to join its ranks. All needed training, uniforms and equipment is provided.

For information, please call 908-277-9479, or visit their web site at: summittems.org.

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Photo by John Staunton.



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FREE TAX RETURN HELP

preparing and filing their individual 2017 tax returns. There are no age or income limitations for participation in the program, but taxpayers with complex returns may be advised to seek paid assistance. Free assistance will be provided at the New Providence Senior Citizens Center (NPSCC), 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence, by volunteer tax counselors under a program sponsored jointly by the AARP, the Internal Revenue Service, and the New Jersey State Division of Taxation.

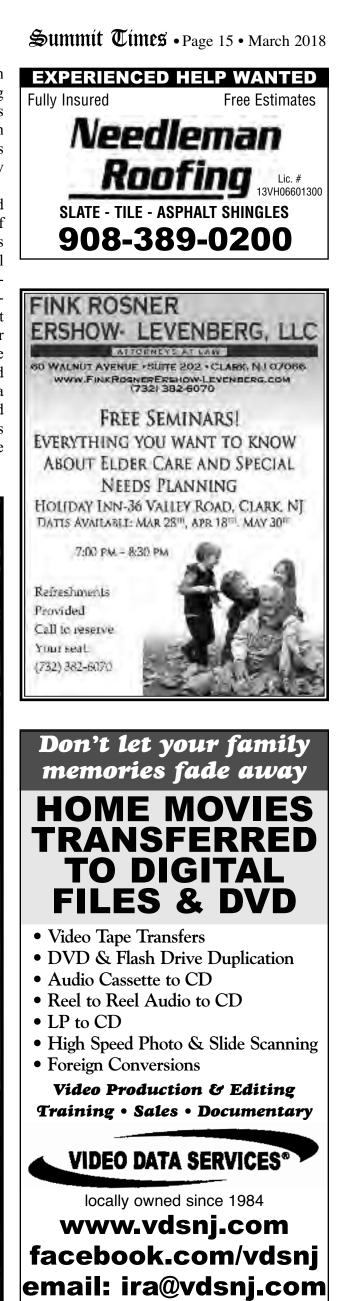
Assistance will cover individual federal and NJ state income taxes, the NJ Homestead Property Tax Rebate, and the Property Tax Reimbursement Program (PTR - 1 & 2), as applicable. All returns will be filed electronically, resulting in refunds being received typically in about four weeks after filing. Any taxes due would not be payable until April 18, 2017.

Tax counselors will be available on Mondays

Summit residents can obtain free assistance in and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. through Monday, April 16, 2018. Taxpayers seeking assistance in preparing and filing their returns may call the NPSCC at 908-665-0046, between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, for an appointment, or they may sign up at the center.

Taxpayers must bring government-issued photo identification, social security cards of persons filing the return and of any dependents listed on the return, copies of their 2016 federal and state returns, and any 2017 federal forms W-2, 1099-R, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, SSA-1099, etc., documentation of the amount of rent or real estate taxes paid in 2017 and of other expenses if the taxpayers wish to itemize deductions; and, if they wish to have any refund directly deposited to their checking account, a check showing their bank's routing number and their account number. In the case of taxpayers filing joint returns, both taxpayers should be present to authorize the electronic filing.





406 Chestnut St. • Union, NJ 07083

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SUMMIT TRIVIA NIGHT RAISES \$15,000

Submitted by Carly Spary

The Junior League of Summit hosted its third annual trivia night fundraiser on Saturday, February 10, 2018, at Chatham Fish & Game, 41 Fairmont Avenue, Chatham, New Jersey. The sold-out event was wildly successful, raising nearly \$15,000, which will directly benefit the community through grants, scholarships, and projects, including our current community outreach program GRACE which is helping to



(above) Desperately Seeking Answers

alleviate food insecurity in Summit and our surrounding communities.

The popular event, coordinated by JLS member and Trivia Night Chair, Rachel Zucker, had an Olympics theme which was fitting considering the fierce competitive spirit amongst the nearly 200 participants. Teams persevered through 10 rigorous rounds of skill and knowledge-based questions and showed creative flair with costumes and table decor. The Trivia Games were emceed by Adam Zucker, host of "CBS Sports' College Football Today," and also featured celebrity guest judges, twotime Super Bowl Champion Zak DeOssie from the NY Giants; Chatham Borough Council President, Len Resto; owner of Sweet Nothings and winner of the 2018 Union County Women in Excellence Award, Donna Puzella; and Director of Upper School Kent Place School, Elizabeth Woodall.

In the end, Brainy Bandits took home the gold as trivia competition winners. Members of the winning team included Tara Cronin, Janet Kelley, Paul Kelley, Annabelle Murray, Colin Murray, Shannon Roulliard, Tim Roulliard, Jim Singer, Charlie Smith, and Rob Steiner. Teams Quizzards of Oz, Could You Be More Pacific?, and Desperately Seeking Answers took home awards for best costumes, table décor and team spirit, respectively. "We are so thankful to our Trivia Night committee members, volunteers, corporate sponsors, and community members. The event was an overwhelming success, and the funds raised will allow us to make a real and immediate impact in the community," noted Liz Dutkewych, League President.

The League is especially grateful for the generous donations made by its platinum sponsor, New Jersey Perinatal Associates, and its gold sponsor, Prominent Properties Sotheby's International Realty. The League also wishes to recognize and thank its bronze level sponsors: Advanced Dentistry LLC, King's Food Markets, Murray Hill Tennis & Fitness, Zadie's Nurturing Den, SeeClear Associates LLC, Investors Bank, Peerless Beverage Company, Boxcar, and Equinox.

The Junior League of Summit is a nonprofit, charitable, and educational organization of women who are committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

For more information about the Junior League of Summit or to inquire about becoming a member, please visit the website at jlsummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349.



(above) Quizzards of Oz



(above) JLS Trivia Night Volunteers



(above) Could You Be More Pacific?



(above) Brainy Bandits

Summit Times • Page 17 • March 2018

JOANNE RAJOPPI WILL RECEIVE "WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY" AWARD

Crane's Ford Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapter will be presenting Joanne Rajoppi, Union County Clerk, with the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution "Women in American History" award on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at noon at the Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Avenue, Cranford, NJ.

The "Women in American History" award, sponsored by the NSDAR, is designed to recognize worthy women, and celebrate their contribution to history, culture, and society.

Joanne Rajoppi is the first woman County clerk in the 154-year history of Union County. She is the former Mayor of Springfield, former Union County Freeholder and first woman chairman of the Freeholder Board, and former NJ Assistant Secretary of State during the Byrne Administration. She has been an advocate for women running for public office, writing her first

March is Women's History month and the book, "Women in Office: Getting There and Staying There" in 1993.

> As an author, her first book published in 2013 chronicled the military service of her greatgrandfather during the American Civil War titled "New Brunswick and the Civil War: The Brunswick Boys in the Great Rebellion" letters he wrote to his family. She followed the story with the Hamilton women after the war writing her most recent book: "Northern Women in the Aftermath of the Civil War: The Wives and Daughters of the Brunswick Boys." This book was published in 2017. Ms. Rajoppi will be presenting a power-point program on her most recent book and copies of the book will be available for purchase.

> The public is invited to join us for the presentation with a reception to follow. The Crane's Ford chapter will also be celebrating its 74th Anniversary, chartered on March 8, 1944.

The NSDAR is a volunteer women's service



organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, historic preservation, service to veterans and meaningful community service. Membership is open to any woman 18 years or older who can prove lineal descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American Independence. For more information or DAR application please contact our chapter Registrar, Patricia Campanelli at patushkat@aol.com



FIGHT FOR AIR CLIMB



(above) Firefighter Thomas Penn, of the Summit Fire Department, participated in the Fight for Air Climb in Boston, Massachusetts on Saturday, February 3, 2018. The annual event benefits the American Lung Association. Wearing full protective gear, Penn climbed 41 stories in nine minutes, 50 seconds, finishing in 32nd place out of 400 participants. Overall, the Fight for Air Climb raised \$375K for the American Lung Association.



Summit Times • Page 18 • March 2018 CARING CONTACT TEACHES SUICIDE PREVENTION AT RENAISSANCE

Two suicide prevention seminars were held by crisis listening line Caring Contact at Renaissance Church, 2 Kent Place Boulevard in Summit, New Jersey on Sunday January 28, 2018.

More than 50 adults attended the "Let's Talk" seminar, which focused on sharing facts and data to bring awareness to the problem of suicide. The risk factors for suicide and the protective factors against suicide were described. In addition, participants were taught the warning signs to watch for and then provided with the ABCs of suicide intervention – a set of skills that anyone can use to make a difference in someone's life.

"I feel like I have tangible resources and knowledge," one participant said after the session. "I feel more enabled and empowered to help. I'm encouraged to hear others and know of this supportive Caring Contact community. I am much more aware of the problem of suicide now."

Seventeen youth attended the Teens Helping Teens program, which is divided into two parts. The first focuses on prevention and helps teens focus on themselves and their emotional health. The second gives participants tools to recognize distress in others and how to intervene.

Both seminars provided a framework for understanding the problem of suicide, educated participants about the signs of emotional distress and suicidal ideation, and provided specific words and phrases to use to talk to a person about whom individual is concerned.

In response to a survey question, one teen responded, "Feelings are not good or bad, it's what you do with them that matters."

Another said, "This training will allow me to help others in the future. The ABCs are so important, Act, Be there, and Collaborate. It's so important to remember these simple tools."

"Depression and suicide are epidemics in America," said Tom Hansen, Pastor of Student Ministry at Renaissance Church. "We want to change that. We care about our community and want everyone to know they are not alone. We want to help people be there for those in need."

"Our community awareness events are powerful ways to educate individuals, congregations and other groups about mental health and suicide awareness and intervention," said Janet Sarkos, executive director of Caring Contact. "We are seeing rising numbers of teen suicides in Union County alone. These events are our way of breaking the silence and giving people tools to help themselves and others. We invite other individuals and groups to reach out to us for education and training."

Arlene Klemow, certified Master ASIST Trainer and director of training at Caring Contact, led the seminars.

Anyone wanting to learn more about Caring Contact's suicide prevention seminars or schedule a session should contact Melinda Allen-Grote, the hotline's outreach coordinator, at 908.301.1899 or melinda.allengrote@caringcontact.org.

For information on Renaissance Church, please log onto their website at renchurch.com.

Caring Contact is an award-winning,



(above) Arlene Klemow, director of training at Caring Contact

volunteer-staffed caring and crisis hotline and listening community, providing active listening support and best-in-class training to the Central and Northern New Jersey community. More than 80 trained volunteer listeners answered more than 10,200 calls last year from people in crisis, having suicidal thoughts or simply feeling depressed and lonely.

If you are in crisis and need someone to listen, call Caring Contact at 908.232.2880. To learn more, visit caringcontact.org.

Anyone interested in volunteering at Caring Contact should visit caringcontact.org/givesupport/volunteer/. There are non-listening volunteering opportunities, as well.

Caring Contact serves Central and Northern New Jersey and is a primary responder to calls to the national suicide prevention line,1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-SUICIDE, that originate in New Jersey. Callers also reach Caring Contact by dialing 908-232-2880. Those preferring to seek supporting through texting may text "heart" to 741-741. The hotline also provides best-in-class training to the Central and Northern New Jersey Community.

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Free College Financial Planning Workshop

PARENTS, IS YOUR CHILD HEADING TO COLLEGE SOON? DON'T MISS THIS FREE WORKSHOP!

> Thursday, March 29th 7:00PM - 8:00PM at the VFW Post 6259 15 Locust Ave Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922

Due to the popularity of our free workshops, seats fill up quickly. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.

Register Online: www.redoakcollegeplanning.com or please call: 908.758.1322

Please join us for a FREE Educational College Financial Planning workshop that will focus on high school sophomores, juniors and seniors.

We'll discuss the FAFSA form and all the other information you need to understand in order to maximize the amount of financial aid you are eligible to receive!

Even if your family is not eligible for need-based aid, we will cover the best strategies on how to pay for college in the most cost efficient basis without it putting a strain on the rest of your finances.

In this workshop, you will learn:

- · How to increase your college-related tax deductions and tax credits
- How to pick colleges that will give you the hest financial aid packages
- How to send your child to an expensive private university for less than a state school
- Which assets are taken into consideration when the U.S. Department of Education calculates your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- How to pay for college in a failing economy without relying on 529 plans, expensive private student loans or raiding your retirement accounts
- How to get ahead by developing a customized plan to meet all the college costs you will incur as a family
- How to lower your "out-of-pocket" costs and get the maximum amount of money from each school

Here is what parents like you are saying about our FREE College Funding Workshop...

"Very informative. The presenter told us many things that I was totally in the dark about".

Rosie Palumbo, Pareni of High School Junior

"Information was clear, easy to understand and straight forward. Excellent presentation no hidden agendas."

Lynn McKennu, Paront of High School Semor

"Opened up opportunity to look at colleges we thought were out of our price range."

Barbarn Fames, Parent of High Schurd Sophomore

"Covered a lot of ground - easy to follow and moved quickly."

Satu Pogue, Porent of High School Jonur

> "Demystified the college funding process"

Joseph Mozzella, Pareni af High School Senior

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