# Summit & Times

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James Fitzsimmons 908-598-9302 447 Springfield Ave **Summit, NJ 07901** ifitzsimmons@ allstate.com

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### **NEUROSURGEON VISITS WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Submitted by Mia Bivaletz

"It's not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters" – **Epictetus** 

This was the life lesson that 2nd grade teacher Laura Madden wanted to share with her Washington Elementary School students this spring after she was diagnosed with an acoustic neuroma, which is a benign brain tumor at the base of the skull between the brain and ear.

On Wednesday, June 20, 2018, Ms. Madden's class had a once in a lifetime opportunity. Dr. James K. Liu, the neurosurgeon who successfully removed her acoustic neuroma, came to visit the class. He shared with the class what inspired him to become a neurosurgeon and taught the class about the brain. Then each student was able to do a mock surgery using model skulls and surgical tools. "Having Dr. Liu visit the class was the perfect way for us to end our school year together. Not only is he an elite neurosurgeon, but he wants to inspire others to never stop learning. His passion for his field and compassion towards his patients will now have a positive and lasting impact on my students," Ms. Madden shared.

Dr. James K. Liu is the Director of the Center for Cerebrovascular, Skull Base and Pituitary Surgery at the Rutgers Neurological Institute of New Jersey, and Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. He is internationally known for his expertise in brain tumors, aneurysms, and endoscopic surgery. He is affiliated with Rutgers Health and RWJ Barnabas Health.



(above) Dr. Liu, the neurosurgeon who operated on 2nd grade teacher Laura Madden, visited her class to teach the students about the brain.



Photo by Summit Public Schools.







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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



Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com



### **KENILWORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT CARNIVAL AUGUST 13-18TH, 2018**

The Kenilworth Volunteer Fire Department \$10,000 in past years. will continue its long running summertime tradition of hosting its annual fundraising carnival on August 13 - 18th, 2018.

Stop by St. Theresa's School for lots of rides (kiddie rides too), games, food, music and safe family-friendly fun. Pay-One-Price-Ride-All-Night wristband nights are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Visit the Beer Garden, enjoy a sausage sandwich or grab a bag of zeppoles and try your luck on the Money Wheel. There will be a Super 50/50 grand prize drawing on Saturday night, which has amounted to over

Proceeds benefit the Kenilworth Volunteer Fire/Rescue Support Organization. Kenilworth Fire Department thanks you for your continued support and hopes to see you and your family there. Like "Kenilworth, NJ Fire Rescue" Facebook updates. for Kenilworthfire.org.

Carnival hours are Monday thru Friday 6:30 -10:30 p.m., and Saturday 5:30 - 11 p.m. St. Theresa's School is located at 540 Washington Ave., Kenilworth, NJ. One block off of Kenilworth Blvd.







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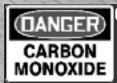
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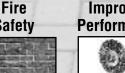
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### KIMBERLY LEE WINS NATIONAL SPEECH AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT

The Summit Speech and Debate Team made competitors in the event. history at the National Speech and Debate Association's National Tournament held in June when Kimberly Lee won first place in Dramatic Interpretation. She is Summit's first national champion! Kim placed first in a field of 248

Summit High School also won a 'School of Excellence in Speech' award by ranking in the top 20 out of 1000 schools competing in the national tournament.



(above) Caroline Abut, quarter finalist in Dramatic Interpretation; Kim Lee, first place Dramatic Interpretation; Anne Poyner, coach; Ryan Colon, Tim Erday, and Harry Saroff, quarter finalist.

Photo by Summit Public Schools.

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### **ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BLUEBERRY MUFFIN CONTEST AT FARMERS MARKET**







Summit Downtown, Inc. held its first Sunday Funday contest of the 2018 season at Summit Farmers Market on Sunday, July 8.

Judges Jeanny Race, Carol Nurmi, and Mayor Nora Radest tasted all 23 muffins and rated each entry on its flavor, texture, and appearance. Jeanny Race is the owner of Race Farms along with her husband Doug Race. Carol Nurmi is the owner of Sweet Carol's and is a Blue-Ribbon winner for several of her jams. Mayor Nora Radest is a Summit Downtown, Inc. Trustee.

After tasting and scoring each of the 23 muffin entries, Scott Noonan's Sour Cream Coffee Cake Blueberry Muffins were awarded first place. Scott offered would-be bakers this sage advice: "Don't bake at 2 a.m. if you don't have all your ingredients!"

Mary McHugh, a Summit resident and amateur baker, took home second place, and third place went to Steven Spurr, who said that both he and his daughter are "mad about blueberries!"

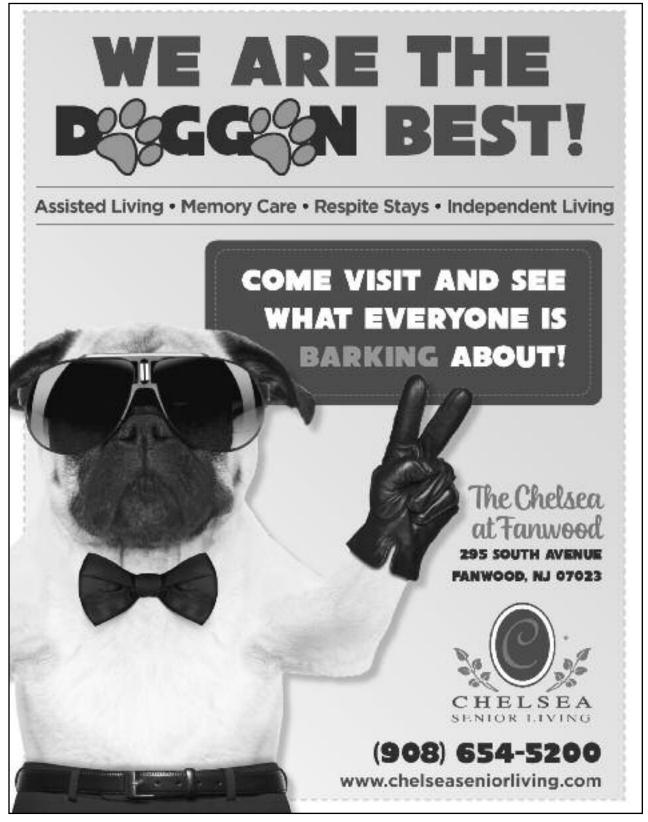
The three winning muffin recipes can be found on summitfarmersmarket.com. Photos of the contest can be found on the Market's Facebook page.

"Thanks to all the contestants for participating, the judges for their expert palates, and the Summit Farmers Market team for helping make this year's contest another successful one," said SDI Executive Director Nancy Adams.

The next Sunday Funday activity will be the Salsa Contest on September 30, followed by Pumpkin Painting on October 28. The final event will be the Apple Pie Contest on November 4.

The market is brought to the public by Summit Downtown, Inc. and is open every Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. through November 18. It is located in Park & Shop Lot #2, at the corner of DeForest Avenue and Maple Street. All downtown parking is free on Sundays, with convenient parking available on-street, in Park & Shop Lots #1 and 3, and the K Lot, located behind CVS off Maple Street.

For more info on the Summit Farmers Market and other Sunday Funday events, "like" the market on Facebook, subscribe to our newsletter, visit summitfarmersmarket.com or contact Summit Downtown, Inc. at 908-277-6100.





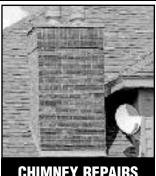




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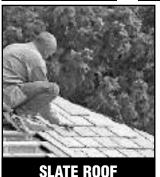
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### PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN BROCKETT PARSONS RETURNS TO SHS

If you watched Super Bowl LI you would have seen Brockett Parsons. If you are a fan of Lady Gaga, you would have heard of Brockett Parsons. And if you are a musician or vocalist at Summit High School, you would have gotten to know Brockett Parsons.

The Summit High School alum came to work with over 250 students through the inaugural grant of the Arthur C. McCann Speaker Series, funded by the Summit Educational Foundation. Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Concert Band, Big Band, Women's Chorus, Chamber Choir, and a plethora of singer/songwriters performed for him; in addition to praise, Parsons' pointed critiques were focused on individual growth.

Parsons grew up in a musical family in Summit, New Jersey. His mother is a gifted composer and pianist, and Parsons started to study piano and trumpet at the young age of eight. Making his way through LCJSMS and SHS, Parsons was very involved in Jazz Band, Concert Band, NJ Youth Symphony and All-State Band. His positive experience in SHS led him to attend Bucknell and Berklee College of Music and afterwards, on to a career that many only dream about.

After college Parsons played in numerous bands in Boston before moving to New York. "In NYC I played every week - jazz, hip hop, R&B - all the gigs you can imagine," said Parsons.

Then in 2009 he caught a break. He waited in line for eight hours, with over 2,000 people auditioning in many cities. He was chosen to compete on P. Diddy's reality show, "Making His Band," and was ultimately selected as a one of the final seven. Equipped with talent, that unique experience, and confidence, Parsons went to an

open call in 2010 to audition for Lady Gaga. Again competing for a spot amongst a thousand other musicians, he was chosen as Lady Gaga's keyboardist.

Life has been an exciting whirlwind to say the least. He was part of the huge Monster Tour in Europe, as well as six shows at the iconic Madison Square Garden. He has played on SNL twice, as well as Oprah, Jimmy Kimmel, and more. And who can forget the Super Bowl half-time show?

"Every year, I show the students Brockett's name on the wall when he received the Director's Award for Band. And then I show them a clip of him playing with Lady Gaga at the Super Bowl, to inspire them," said Alex Bocchino, who applied for the SEF grant. "To have an alum reach the highest levels in the music industry, and be able to come back to share his experiences, is special. And to explain the path he took to get there is important."

Parsons shared that he always loved music and he followed his heart. His advice to students is to love music, whether they pursue it professionally or not. "Music feeds the soul. There is a lot in the world that is not easy. All go through pain, but one of the most beautiful things that can help heal pain, is the arts; and music is one of the great arts."

There was an abundance of positive feedback about the day, from so many of the students, as well as the Music Department staff Alex Bocchino, Barbara Vierschilling, Dan King, and Steve Rapp. "Being in the same room as such a talented musician was already so amazing. But once he jumped on the keyboard to jam with us, I knew it was a moment that I will never forget," said senior Donell Williams, who will be attending Parsons' alma mater, Berklee College of Music, this fall. Also this fall, Parsons is set to release his solo album via Rope A Dope Records.



(above) SHS alumnus Brockett Parsons came to work with over 250 students through the inaugural grant of the Arthur C. McCann Speaker Series, funded by the Summit Educational Foundation.

Photo by Summit Public Schools

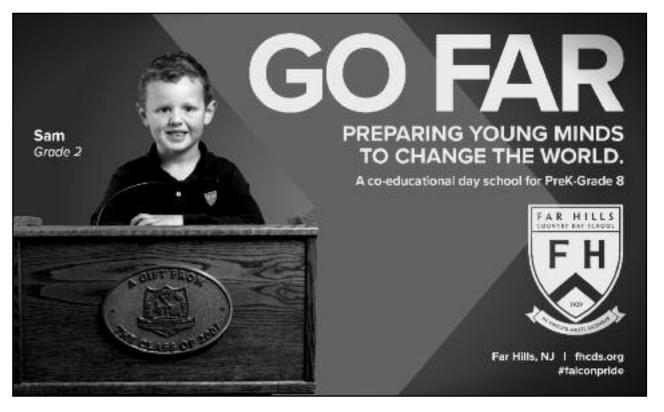


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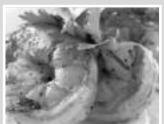
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### **GRACE RECEIVES GRANT FROM SAPF FOR COMMUNITY REFRIGERATOR**

The Junior League of Summit is proud to announce that it received a \$15,000 grant from Summit Area Public Foundation (SAPF) to support its signature community outreach project, GRACE's Refrigerator. These funds will be used to purchase fresh, healthy foods for families that



would not otherwise be able to purchase for themselves.

GRACE, which stands for Giving and Receiving Assistance for our Community's Essentials was founded in 2016 by member and Summit local, Amanda Parrish Block. The program was launched following research into the issue of food insecurity and the revelation that one in six Summit public school students is lacking access to fresh, nutritious foods. We believe that creating better communities starts with food and everyone should have the opportunity to shop for and enjoy healthy foods needed to fuel their minds and bodies. The GRACE program is making an enormous impact in our community and the momentum is strong. We rely on the efforts of volunteers and donations to continue providing these essentials.

GRACE's Refrigerator is open weekly and offers nutrient-dense produce, dairy, and prepared food which is sourced from the Summit Farmers Market, local businesses, and the Community FoodBank of New Jersey. On average, 72 families depend on the community refrigerator each week. Since its inception, it has served 112,332 pounds of produce, dairy, eggs, and bagels to 17,442 individuals, including 9,163 children and 792 senior citizens.

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 www.ilsummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349. Those interested in donating to the League, please visit https://www.jlsummit.org.





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### **JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SUMMIT ANNOUNCES 2018-19 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Junior League of Summit is proud to announce its Board of Directors for the 2018-19 year. The Board will be led by President Erika Melchiorre of Summit, who succeeds Elizabeth Dutkewych. Joining Erika is Danielle Valliere, Administrative VP; Kelsey Espinosa, Treasurer; Andrea Caserta, Community VP; Stephanie Wilson, Membership VP; Tara Gulla & Tracey Tango, Sustainer VPs; Stephanie Giblin, Thrift Shop Committee Chair; and Dana Felmet, PR Chair (not pictured: Julie LoPalo, Membership Development Chair).

"It is an honor and privilege to serve as the President of the Junior League of Summit," said Erika Melchiorre, Junior League of Summit President. "We have an exciting year planned for our members and the community. I look forward to leading this network of empowered women dedicated to changing their community for the better."

Erika and her family live within Summit.

Originally from Indiana, Erika attended DePauw University where she met her future husband, Mark. After DePauw, Erika attended the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago, Illinois. She and her family moved to Summit in 2011 where she transferred into the JLS. Since then, she has served on MAC, 85th Anniversary Gala Chair, Community Liaison, and Administrative Vice President. In addition to her involvement with the League, Erika is a current Board member at The Connection and a former Board member of the Overlook Auxiliary.

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 communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Notable projects started by the League include: the Summit First Aid Squad; the Summit Speech School; two safe houses in

Summit for battered women; the Mabie playground in downtown Summit; Senior Connections (AKA Big Wheels), a senior transportation system; and a rain garden at the Jefferson Primary School, where children learn about healthy eating and gardening. The League also operates the Junior League of Summit Thrift Shop, a stalwart Summit shop that offers residents the opportunity to buy highly discounted clothing, accessories, toys and housewares. The Junior League of Summit is always seeking new members of diverse professional and personal backgrounds who are interested in community involvement and would like to develop their personal and professional skills

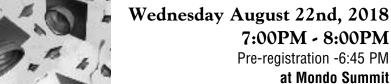
For more information about the Junior League of Summit, please visit the website at jlsummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349. Those interested in donating to the League, please visit jlsummit.org.

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Lynn McKenna, Parent of High School Senior

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

Barbara Eames, Parent of High School Sophomore

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

Sara Pogue, Parent of High School Junior

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Joseph Mozzella, Parent of High School Senior



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### **SUMMIT LIBRARY AUGUST ADULTS PROGRAMS**

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Below are adult programs for August at the Summit Free Public Library, including the Brown Bag Book Group and the Mondays at the Movies series. Please note that our film licences vary, and that for some films we can't advertise the titles in outside media.

#### **Brown Bag Book Group**

Friday, August 17, 12:30 p.m. - 01:30 p.m. Lunchtime book group. All welcome. Bring a bag lunch; beverages are provided. The group will be discussing "The Rules of Civility" by Amor Towles.

#### **MONDAYS AT THE MOVIES**

showings at 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

#### The Midwife

Monday, August 6

[International Film Festival]

Two of French cinema's biggest stars shine in this bittersweet drama about the unlikely friendship that develops between Claire (Catherine Frot), a talented but tightly wound midwife, and Béatrice (Catherine Deneuve), the estranged, free-spirited mistress of Claire's late father. Though polar opposites in almost every way, the two come to rely on each other as they cope with the unusual circumstance that brought them together in this sharp character study from the César-award winning director Martin Provost. In French with English

#### subtitles. Not Rated. 117 minutes. Loveless

Monday, August 13

[International Film Festival]

Zhenya and Boris are going through a vicious divorce marked by resentment, frustration and recriminations. Already embarking on new

lives, each with a new partner, they are impatient to start again, to turn the page - even if it means threatening to abandon their 12year-old son Alyosha. Until, after witnessing one of their fights, Alyosha disappears, and they must unite to

find him. In Russian with English subtitles. Rated R. 127 minutes.

#### [Drama/Thriller]

Monday, August 20

Max and Annie's weekly couples night gets kicked up a notch when Max's charismatic brother, Brooks, arranges a murder mystery party, complete with fake thugs and faux federal agents. So when Brooks gets kidnapped, it's all part of the game--right? But as the six uber-competitive gamers set out to solve the case and win, they begin to discover that neither this game--nor Brooks--are what they seem to be. Over the course of one chaotic night, the friends find themselves increasingly in over their heads as each twist leads to another unexpected turn. With no rules, no points, and no idea who all the players are, this could turn out to be the most fun they've ever had... or game over. Rated R. 100 minutes.

#### [Drama/Musical]

Monday, August 27

Hugh Jackman leads an all-star cast in this bold and original musical. Inspired by the story of P.T. Barnum (Jackman), the film follows the visionary who rose from nothing to create a mesmerizing spectacle. It also stars Zac Efron, Michelle Williams, Rebecca Ferguson and Zendaya. Rated PG. 105 minutes.

#### **Film: Hotel Salvation**

Friday, August 10, 12:30 p.m.

An ominous dream convinces 77-year-old Dayanand Kumar that his end could be near He takes the news to his son Rajiv, knowing he wants to breathe his last in the holy city of Varanasi and end the cycle of rebirth, by attaining salvation. Being the dutiful son he is, Rajiv, is left with no choice but to drop everything and make the journey with his stubborn father. Daya and Rajiv check into Mukti Bhawan(Hotel Salvation) in Varanasi, a guesthouse devoted to people to die there. But as the days go by, Rajiv struggles to juggle his responsibilities back home, while Daya starts to bloom in the hotel.Not Rated. In Hindi with English subtitles. 100 minutes.







### **SUMMIT PARK LINE FOUNDATION IS AWARDED 200K MATCHING GRANT FROM REEVES**

The Summit Park Line Foundation has received a 200K matching grant from the Reeves Foundation to support its Park Line project, a 1.2 mile linear pedestrian park being created on the abandoned Rahway Valley Railroad line.

The Park Line Foundation applied for a matching "challenge" grant and was required to raise a minimum of \$200,000 to receive the funding from the foundation. With grants from the Summit Area Public Foundation, Overlook Foundation, Overlook Medical Center and through a number of generous donations from Summit residents, the Park Line Foundation exceeded the \$200,000 goal raising more than \$225,000 of the \$3.2 million dollars needed to complete the project within a 12-month period, and qualifying for the matching grant.

In early 2016, the City of Summit acquired from the State of New Jersey the rights to build the park accessible for pedestrian and bicyclists. Once completed, Park Line will extend from the edge of the downtown Summit at Overlook Medical Center, along a 1.2 mile path through eastern Summit, ending at Briant Park on the Springfield, NJ border.

The Summit Park Line Foundation and concept was created by Dr. Robert Rubino, former Summit councilman who realized the potential for a park similar to the Highline Park in Manhattan could be initiated in Summit, NJ along the abandoned rail line. Through worldclass design, excellence in operations, and innovative and responsible stewardship, the mission of the Park Line Foundation is to engage the community around and about the Park Line, raise essential public and private funding to help complete its construction, and create an endowment for future operations.

"There has been an outstanding expression of support for the Park Line concept from the Summit community," explains Rubino. "As the momentum for funding of the project continues to build, the Park Line Foundation is extremely thankful for the circle of friends that are helping to carry this important project forward."

For more information on the Park Line Foundation and the Summit Park Line project or to make a tax-deductible contribution, go to: https://www.summitparkline.org.



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### **SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS AT TEMPLE SINAI**

On Friday, August 10 at 7:30 p.m., the public invited to join Temple Sinai of Summit for Friday night services under the stars. Enjoy the music, the outdoors, and the communal prayer. Bug spray and refreshments provided. Weather permitting.

Where: Temple Sinai, 208 Summit Avenue, Circular portion of the Temple Sinai Driveway, Summit, NJ.

No RSVP required.

With any questions, please contact office@templesinainj.org, 908-273-4921 x 10.

### **DOWNTOWN EMPLOYEE DIGITAL PARKING PERMIT RENEWAL**

Announcement from the City of Summit **Chief Communications Officer** 

Downtown employees are required to renew annual digital parking permits on or before September 1, 2018. An email reminder has been sent to all current permit holders. Parking Services staff is available at City Hall on Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to provide assistance or call 908-522-5100.

Visit www.cityofsummit.org/ 217/Employee-Parking for more information

### **FOUR-WAY STOP INSTALLED AT MAPLE STREET AND**

At its July 10, 2018 meeting, Summit Common Council approved the installation of a four-way stop at the intersection of Maple Street and Oakland Place, as part of a comprehensive and continuing engineering effort to increase vehicle and pedestrian safety.

In the city of Summit, four-way stops are also required at Whittredge Road and Hobart Avenue, Essex Road and Whittredge Road, and Blackburn Road and Pine Grove Avenue intersections.

The City of Summit is asking motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians to be aware of these new traffic patterns and to drive, bike and walk safely around town.



### **SUMMER 2018 CONCERTS AND MOVIES CONTINUE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

Presented by Investors Bank, The City of and the movie will begin playing at dark. Summit Department of Community Programs 2018 Hot Summer Nights Concert Series featured a variety of bands on the Village Green on Tuesday nights during July and August. The lineup concludes with Brian Kirk and the Jirks on August 14. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and will be accompanied by food trucks from Pizza Vita and Anita's Baked Wonders, as well as free ice cream provided by Investors Bank.

The 2018 Screen on the Green Movie Series also takes place at the Village Green, on Thursday nights throughout July and August. The series concludes with 'The Greatest Showman' on August 9. Twisted and Anita's Baked Wonders food trucks will be at the Village Green for all movies. Family Dance Parties begin at 7:15 p.m.

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The Summit Family Aquatic Center will host an additional Screen on the Green Movie Series event, 'Happy Feet' on August 27. The SFAC will open to the public at 6 p.m. with the family dance party, and the movie will start at dark. SFAC memberships are not required.

All concert and movie-goers are reminded to bring their own blankets and chairs. Admission to all concerts and movies is free. All events held with the City of Summit are alcohol and tobaccofree events.

Full event details for the 2018 Hot Summer Nights Concert Series and the 2018 Screen on the Green Movie Series including vendor and sponsorship information can be found online at summitcommunityprograms.com.

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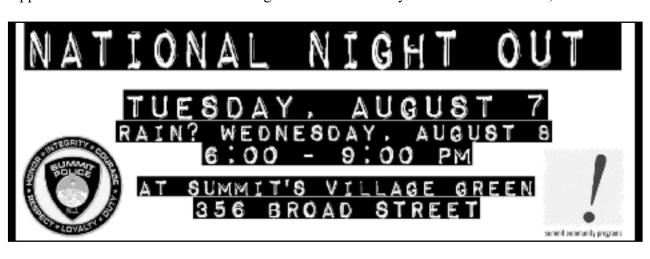
Arts + Cars returns to downtown Summit on Sunday, September 16, 2018! From 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. there will be a juried art show with lots of art and crafts for sale, the P.A.L. Classic Car Show, live music, and children's activities. These activities are being organized cooperatively by the Summit Police Athletic League (P.A.L.), Summit Downtown, Inc. (SDI), and the Visual Arts Center of NJ (VACNJ).

Interested in showing and selling your art? Applications are due no later than August 15.

Arts + Cars returns to downtown Summit on Inday, September 16, 2018! From 10 a.m. - 4 and more details: artcenternj.org/downtown-summit-art-festival-arts-cars

Interested in showing your car? Please visit summitpal.org/carshow2018.pdf

SDI is looking forward to another day filled with arts, cars, music, and fun for the whole family! Summit Downtown, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the on-going development and promotion of the business community in downtown Summit, NJ.



## SUMMIT'S ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

The Summit Police Department and Department of Community Programs are hosting Summit's annual National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 from 6 to 9 p.m. on the Village Green, located at 356 Broad Street in Summit, NJ.

Summit joins thousands of communities around the United States in celebrating National Night Out, a community-building event that takes place annually on the first Tuesday in August. Featuring a variety of state, federal, county, and municipal-level agencies, National Night Out provides a chance for community members to come together with law enforcement individuals to view displays and demonstrations by Union County SWAT, NJ State Police, the FBI, and K-9 along with Summit Police, Fire, EMS, and Public Works.

National Night Out will also feature a Dunka-Cop Tank to benefit two Westfield residents who are six-year-old identical twins with global developmental delays and non-verbal Autism, requiring daily, year-round intensive therapeutic interventions.

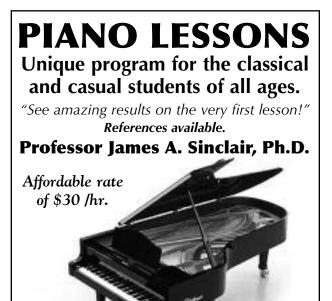
Food trucks, bounce houses, and other amusements will open at 6 p.m., followed by the annual Blessing of the Badges at 6:45 p.m. The band Luke and the Troublemakers will perform on the main stage at 7 p.m. Free hot dogs will be provided at Summit PAL food cart.

Summit's 2018 National Night Out is sponsored by Overlook Medical Center and Summit PAL.

Visit summitcommunityprograms.com. For more information on National Night Out, visit natw.org.



Summit Times • Page 15 • August 2018



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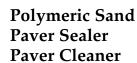
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