

Summit NJ Times

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DOWNTOWN DESIGN DISTRICT IS TOP DESIGN DESTINATION

Submitted by Jane Doveton

Summit Downtown Design District is fast becoming a vibrant hub for premier design businesses in New Jersey. It is home to architects, interior designers, floral designers, and bath and kitchen designers. Recently, Design NJ awarded Editor's Choice awards to items at eight downtown businesses including A. Home, Cove Carpet, Floor and Home Donna Donaldson Home & Interiors, Duxiana Summit, GreatHouse Bonny Neiman, Pereaux Interior Design, Ricciardi Brothers and Serena & Lily.

On Thursday, October 11, 2018 Summit Downtown, Inc. (SDI), in cooperation with Design New Jersey, hosted the third Summit Downtown Design Day & Night. The event was expanded from an evening only event to a day and night event to allow more people, especially industry professionals, to attend. Sixteen home and design businesses participated in this year's event to showcase their work and host special events for the evening. Design businesses in downtown Summit offer an array of furniture, fine art, antiques, bedding, paint, flooring, cabinetry and accessories. The Design Day & Night special event highlighted all these businesses and included trunk shows, giveaways, free design advice, demonstrations, workshops, guest speakers, and more.

Some of the highlights of the event included the Ashley Whittaker presentation at Serena & Lily. Ashley, an acclaimed New York designer who has been described as "neo-traditionalist", shared design tips and tricks for entertaining and easy ways to spruce up a home for each season.

Her signature style of classic taste and chic sophistication was immediately evident as she addressed the enthusiastic audience. West Elm hosted a floral design workshop by Alice's Table. Attendees learned how to make the most of the Fall season with gorgeous harvest blooms and were offered a private store tour and discounts on select items. GreatHouse Bonny Neiman was another design house that hosted a floral design workshop. Shaun from Main Street Bloomery in Boonton shared his creativity and passion for flowers with a fun, hands-on workshop that was a great success. Pereaux Interiors introduced new collections from Sanderson and Morris and Donna Donaldson hosted Phillip Jeffries wallcovering rep Suzanne Keenan, who inspired guests with great ideas on how to impact space with wallcoverings.

Summit House was also involved in the event and hosted a special prix fixe lunch with beautiful tablespaces designed by downtown businesses including A. Home, GreatHouse Bonny Neiman, Pereaux Interior Design, Ricciardi Brothers, and Serena & Lily.

Special thanks to all the home and design businesses for staying open and participating in this successful event and to everyone who attended the event!

Summit Downtown, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the on-going development and promotion of the business community in downtown Summit, NJ.



(above) The Summit Design District recently hosted its third Design Day & Night on October 11. Sixteen design businesses participated in this year's event, including eight that were recently awarded Design NJ Editor's Choice Awards.

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Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email
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GWYLLYN OF OUTLANDER JOINS PIPES OF CHRISTMAS



Attention Outlander fans: STARZ Series' Outlander bard, "Gwyllyn" aka Gillebride MacMillan, has just been added to the 2018 production of the Pipes of Christmas with performances in NYC and Summit, NJ.

Tickets still remaining for the 2 p.m. concert on Saturday, Dec. 15 in NYC and the 7 p.m. concert on Sunday, Dec. 16 at Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, NJ.

Get tickets via www.smarttix.com or by calling (212) 868-5444.

MacMillan will be signing copies of his new CD, "Freumhan Falaichte" (Hidden Roots) after the 7PM performance in Summit, NJ.



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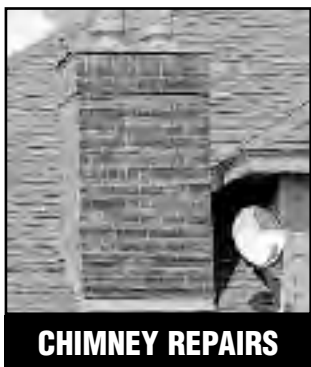




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HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS AT THE SUMMIT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Summit Free Public Library is the place to be this holiday month with something fun for everyone in the family. From music to movies, we've got activities to delight adults and keep the kids busy!

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

Still looking to finish your holiday shopping? Looking for a little something extra to stuff in a stocking? The Friends of the Summit Free Public Library will have a "Pop-Up" Jewelry Sale on Sunday, December 9 from 1-4 p.m. There are many bargains to be found, from watches to fine and costume jewelry—all previously owned and donated. The Friends of the Summit Free Public Library use the money they raise to fund many of the programs you love - from museum passes to children, teen, and adult activities and classes the library holds throughout the year.

GET IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT WITH MUSIC & MOVIES

Visit the library for the perfect holiday break on Sunday, December 9 at 2 p.m. and prepare to be entertained by Carrie Jackson & The Guys in the Band as they present their "Swingin' and Singin'" jazz concert! Carrie, a New York based vocalist, rekindles thoughts of America's great jazz history. She has performed at top jazz venues in the NY Metropolitan area and toured throughout the US and abroad. In this concert, Carrie and The Guys in the Band will perform selections from Gershwin, Ellington, Lerner & Loewe, and The American Song Book. This program is made possible in part through the generosity of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs.

OUR MONDAY MOVIE WILL HAVE YOU SEEING VISIONS OF SUGAR PLUMS

Join us on Monday, December 10 for George Balanchine's The Nutcracker. We'll be screening this movie twice - at 12:30 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. This holiday classic, as danced by the New York City Ballet, has been

beloved for generations. A rousing snowstorm sends a blizzard of ballerinas across the stage, sweeping you to exotic locales in the enchanting Land of Sweets. You'll meet marching toy soldiers, little Marie, and the valiant Nutcracker who saves her from the villainous, seven-headed Mouse King. With Tchaikovsky's incomparable score, hundreds of dazzling costumes, a one-ton Christmas tree that magically grows and grows, and a million watts of illuminated excitement, this movie is the definitive holiday must-see!

A HOLIDAY MENU TO KEEP THE KIDS BUSY: CODING, COOKIES, AND CRAFTS

FAMILY STEAM CLUB: CODING BASICS & CODE FEST

On Tuesday, December 4 we'll be celebrating 'Week of Code' by learning Coding Basics - low tech and higher tech forms of coding from 7-8 p.m. On Saturday, December 8 the library wraps up 'Week of Code' with Coding Fest - another opportunity to learn how to code or practice what we learned in the Tuesday class. Registration requested, call the library at 908-273-0350, ext. 825 to reserve a spot. Open to Grades K-5.

COME LIGHT THE MENORAH!

On Thursday, December 6 join us as we celebrate Hannukah Lights with Jewish folktales, songs, and a special Hanukkah craft. 4-5 p.m. Open to grades K-5. Registration requested.

A WINTER WONDERLAND OF ACTIVITIES

Are you excited for the winter? Join us on Saturday, December 8 from 11 a.m. - 12 noon for Winter Storytime - a winter-themed storytime. We'll also make some winter themed crafts to take home. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Ages 2-K. Registration requested.

On Tuesday, December 11 our Family STEAM Club will be doing some Cookie Castle Engineering!

Channel your inner architect and design your inner graham cracker castle to take home and use to decorate your house for the winter. 7-8 p.m. Grades K-5. Registration required.

On Thursday, December 13 we'll be sprinkling some sugar on our holiday activities with Christmas Cookies! Join in the fun as we listen to Christmas stories, sing holiday songs, and decorate cookies. 4-5 p.m. Grades 1-5. Registration requested.

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LOCAL YOUTH IS THANKFUL FOR THE GIFT OF A CAR AT THANKSGIVING

As families gathered for Thanksgiving and celebrated all they have, one 20-year-old who is an Elizabeth resident who works in Summit, was grateful for something most people take for granted – her car.

Nicole Jenkins has not had an easy life, living within the state child welfare system and looking for a place to call home until she became a member of Community Access Unlimited (CAU) in 2016. CAU is a Union County-based, statewide nonprofit that strives to integrate people with disabilities and at-risk youth into the general community through housing, vocational and life-skills training, education, advocacy, recreation and more.

The agency's Transitional Opportunities Program (TOP), of which Jenkins is a member, provides at-risk youth aged 13-21 with a variety of residential support and life-skills and employment training. Youth enrolled in TOP participate in an employment training workshop and receive interviewing and job training to prepare them to seek and find employment.

For Jenkins, this training paid off when she landed a job at a restaurant in Summit. But without a car, she had to rely on multiple bus rides to get to work and her classes at Essex County College. But thanks to one donor's generosity, Jenkins is now getting around in a Sebring convertible.

CAU's Vehicle Donation Program allows people to donate their cars and receive a tax credit while helping an at-risk youth or person with disabilities attain the freedom of personal transportation. Unlike other vehicle donation programs, which sell the donated cars for only a portion of their value, CAU's program transfers the full value of the car to the receiving member, according to Howard Wingard, supported housing coordinator at the agency.

"Our car donation program impacts their lives

tremendously by giving them more independence and the freedom to travel where they need to go," Wingard said. "It also gives them the opportunity to job seek in other areas and to be able to visit family and friends and reconnect with them."

Jenkins is thankful for the donation -- and newfound freedom -- she has received from the program and its donors.

"It makes it much easier to get where I need to go and much faster," Jenkins said. "I don't have to wait for the bus. It's like having a whole new level of independence. I'm grateful that I have the car because there are a lot of people who don't and who don't have the opportunities I have at CAU."

Anyone interested in donating a vehicle to CAU should contact the agency's Development Department at 908.354.3040 or inf@caunj.org.



(above) Nicole Jenkins is thankful for the car she received through the kindness of a donor to Community Access Unlimited's Vehicle Donation Program.

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The City of Summit Department of Community Services and the Recycling Advisory Committee are implementing two new programs to help reduce items from entering the waste stream and utilize recycling and reuse initiatives. The soft plastics recycling program will be implemented with a collection bin at the Transfer Station next to the commingled recycling area.



(above) The soft plastics recycling bin, one of Summit's new recycling programs. If 500 pounds of soft plastics are collected within a six-month period, the town will receive a donated bench.

Soft, stretch plastics resulting from household waste will be sent to the Trex Company. If 500 pounds of soft plastics are collected within a six-month period, the Trex Company will donate a bench made from recycled plastic for use in a Summit area green space or park.

Soft plastic items that can be recycled include: grocery bags, ziplock and other reclosable food storage bags, produce bags, bubble wrap and air pillows, bread bags, cereal bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, case overwrap, wood pellet bags, industrial pallet wrap and stretch film.

All bags must be clean, dry, and free of food residue.

Items that cannot be used for this program include: garbage bags, frozen food bags, candy bar wrappers, chip bags, six-pack rings, pre-washed salad mix bags, degradable/compostable bags or film packaging.

The second recycling program is for used tennis balls. Collection bins are located at Memorial Field adjacent to the tennis courts on Ashland Road and at the Summit Tennis Club on 45 Sunset Drive. Two additional collection bins will be added near the Tatlock Field tennis courts at 80 Butler Pkwy.

Collected tennis balls will be submitted to RecycleBalls to repurpose into other green products. It is estimated that 125 million tennis balls enter the waste stream each year.

For more information on the City of Summit recycling efforts please visit: <https://www.cityofsummit.org/334/Recycling-Advisory-Committee> or follow the Recycling Advisory Committee Facebook page at Summit Recycling Advisory Committee.

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SUMMIT FIRE DEPARTMENT HONORED BY BURN CENTER

The Summit Fire Department was recently honored by the Burn Center at Saint Barnabas Medical Center for its rescue efforts at the December 31, 2017 fire in Summit, NJ. On arrival at the scene, fire department personnel were met with heavy fire conditions throughout the building and made multiple rescues of occupants trapped on the second and third floors. Although 12 families lost homes that night, no life-threatening injuries were sustained by either the occupants or firefighters during the incident.

(right, l-r) Summit Fire Department members Firefighter Brian Tavis, Firefighter Christopher Esposito, Firefighter Dwight Nichols, Firefighter Gabriel Iannella, Lieutenant James Pignatello, and Battalion Chief Henry Clint Evers. Also honored by Saint Barnabas Medical Center but not pictured are Millburn Fire Department members Firefighter Michael Pershyn, Firefighter Augustine Muresan, and Captain Bernard Cunningham.



Photo by City of Summit



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SUMMIT POLICE ADDS NEW HARLEY DAVIDSON ELECTRA GLIDE MOTORCYCLE TO PATROL UNIT

The Summit Police Department has added a 2019 Harley Davidson Electra Glide motorcycle to its fleet of Traffic Unit vehicles through a generous donation from a local foundation. The motorcycle will be used for specific traffic enforcement and control, parades and escorts and not for general patrol specific duties such as answering calls.

“Motorcycles are highly maneuverable and the high acceleration response capabilities make it an excellent tool for traffic law enforcement,” explains Summit Police Chief Robert Weck. “These capabilities will allow the Traffic Unit to carry out its duties with less hindrance by traffic and narrow city streets.”

The mission of the Traffic Unit is to keep Summit roadways safe. Each day, the unit uses proactive enforcement, community education and outreach, and traffic safety engineering to reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities. It routinely analyzes traffic crash and moving violation data, and reviews citizen complaints in the formation of traffic safety plans.

Weck continues: “The purchase of a high-mobility motorcycle increases the ability of the patrol unit to conduct traffic enforcement in a variety of ways. It also increases the visibility of officers in the community, which is an added

bonus.”

Summit Police officers must complete a rigorous police motorcycle rider training course and receive certification before being assigned to motorcycle patrol duties. Officer Christopher Eriksen recently completed the two week course and will be the first current Summit Police officer to conduct motorcycle patrols.

For more information on the Summit Police Department and its Traffic Unit, go to <https://cityofsummit.org/police>.



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John Montana

ST TERESA'S ENCOURAGES COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT FIRST AID SQUAD

Each Fall, the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad launches an annual fund drive to help pay for the services it provides. St. Teresa of Avila in Summit responded to that appeal with a donation to the Squad. Squad President John Buscaino was joined by Recording Secretary Katherine Ganger to accept the donation from Fr. Kevin Valle. St. Teresa of Avila encourages all Summit residents to consider a donation to the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, which is comprised of volunteers who give of their time and knowledge to help our community every day at our most vulnerable moments.

The all-volunteer First Aid Squad is entirely funded through private donations and does not bill for service. The Squad has 90 members, including 20 junior members, and is always looking for new volunteers to join its ranks. All needed training, uniforms and equipment is provided. For information on becoming a volunteer or donating to the squad, please call 908-277-9479, or visit summitems.org.



(above) Fr. Kevin Valle from St. Teresa of Avila making a donation from the parish to Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad during their annual fall fund drive.

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APPLE PIE CONTEST RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Summit Downtown, Inc. (SDI) held its annual Apple Pie Contest and thanks to great weather, eight pies were entered, some hot from the oven.

Judges Dylan Baker, Pat Angelo and Nancy Adams were given the challenging task of rating each of the pies on filling, crust and appearance. Dylan Baker is a co-owner of the Summit House, a seasonal American restaurant and bar in downtown. SDI Trustees Pat Angelo (General Manager of The Committed Pig) and Nancy Adams, Executive Director of Summit Downtown, Inc., completed the panel of judges.

After deliberating, the judges crowned Diane Richson's Brown Bag Apple Pie the 2018 winner. Diane, a Summit resident, is a mother of four who has been making this pie for over 30 years. She has been always been told to sell her pies to the public and people can't believe that she bakes it in a brown paper bag. Paige Schleimer, another Summit resident, is an amateur baker and a Summit Farmers Market

enthusiast who won 2nd prize for Paige's Apple Pie. Rounding out our top three winners is Julie Keenan, a third Summit resident and mother of three with her Brown Sack Apple Pie, another pie baked in a brown paper bag.

Winners received "Summit Farmers Market Fun Money" that can be spent at the market and the winning recipes will be shared in the Summit Farmers Market newsletter, on social media and on summitfarmersmarket.com.

The market is brought to the public by Summit Downtown, Inc. and is now closed for the season. For more information on the Summit Farmers Market, "like" the market on Facebook, subscribe to our newsletter, visit summitfarmersmarket.com or contact SDI at 908-277-6100.

Summit Downtown, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the on-going development and promotion of the business community in downtown Summit, NJ.



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SMILES ABOUND FOR 28 YOUTH AT UNION COUNTY ADOPTION DAY

It was quite a day at the Union County Family Courthouse, as 28 youth gathered to celebrate their adoptions and an end to foster care. The morning of Friday, Nov. 16, 2018, Union County's observation of the national awareness day held each year the Saturday before Thanksgiving, 16 children entered courtrooms as foster youth but exited as part of a forever family. In addition, 12 others adopted in recent months returned to celebrate.

National Adoption Day raises awareness of children in foster care awaiting adoption. Since its inception 19 years ago, approximately 60,000 children have left foster care and entered forever families. In the United States, more than 100,000 such youth need a permanent home, and the average wait time for each is nearly four years. Unfortunately, more than 20,000 age out without a permanent home or family.

In addition to adoption hearings officiated by Superior Court Judges James C. Wischusen and James Hely, festivities included guest speakers, entertainment, gifts for the children and families, and well-wishes from all. All adoptions ended

with teddy bears for all, plucked from their perch on the judges' bench.

After the adoption finalizations, families were greeted by CASA of Union County staff and Cranford Girl Scout Troop 40332 Cadettes who rallied their community to donate games and popcorn for "Family Fun Night Makes Memories" baskets. In addition, each child received specially selected books donated by Kappa Alpha Theta's Westfield Chapter and each child will receive a bike and helmet, courtesy of the Albanese Family of Plainfield's Dairy Queen.

Prior to the formal program — which included comments from Union County's Assignment Judge Karen M. Cassidy and Family Presiding Judge Lisa F. Chrystal, as well as two teen adoptees — families enjoyed personalized cupcakes, books from Union Catholic high-schoolers, coats from Alpha Kappa Alpha

Sorority, elaborate balloon hats sponsored by A Birthday Wish Foundation, and the appearance of Heroes4Heroes, a Union County corrections officers organization whose members don superhero costumes and brighten the faces of all. In addition, Elizabeth's Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy. A Cappella Choir performed "This is Me" from The Greatest Showman — the conclusion of which left no dry eye.

Eleven adoptees had CASA volunteers advocating for their needs: Clark's Bob Vogel, five youth; Westfield's Barbara Bagger, three youth; and Springfield's Isabella Blumberg, invited by the family to join the closed hearing as their three adoptions were finalized.

For details on CASA of Union County and ways to get involved, contact Courtney at cgreen@casaoofunioncounty.org or 908-293-8136, or log on to casaoofunioncounty.org.

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(above) Judges Richard Wischusen and James Hely celebrate with the Arias family after the adoption presceding that they presided over. The event was extraordinary in that it kept six siblings intact as one family. Both judges worked with the family during the years the children were in the court system. It was a monumental, emotional and joyous event for all involved in the child welfare system.

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LCJSMS YEARBOOK WINS PRESTIGIOUS GOLD AWARD

Submitted by Mia Bivaletz

Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School (LCJSMS) was one of eight schools in New Jersey to receive the GOLD Award for the 2017-2018 School Yearbook from the GSSPA.

The Yearbook theme for the 2017-2018 was "Color Outside the Lines." Students who worked on the yearbook were truly a "stand out" group who brought their own unique spin to the yearbook.

LCJSMS received this prestigious award at the 2018 GSSPA conference on October 29, 2018.



(above l-r) Pictured with the Gold Award are Lauren Ettinger, Rachel Quartuccio, Cecelia Webb, and Stefanie Jurista.

Photo by Summit Public Schools



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VOLUNTEER FIRST AID SQUAD ANNUAL APPEAL RAISES 50K IN OCTOBER

In early October, the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad launched its annual fundraising appeal Neighbors Helping Neighbors. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$300,000 to fund squad operations and help offset costs associated with an impending upgrade to a digital radio network for use with Summit police and fire departments in emergency response actions.

An initial outpouring of support from local residents and the business community has raised more than \$70,000 toward its overall fundraising goal. Now through the end of 2018, the squad will continue outreach to its neighbors; an appeal letter that highlights reasons to donate and how to make a donation has been sent to each household in Summit.

Ask 81-year-old Summit neighbor Seth Bodner who was hit by a car on the corner of

Morris Avenue and Maple Street. He remembers walking into town on a sunny autumn day and starting to cross the street. Seth woke up at Morristown Hospital unable to move. He attributes the professional skill and care used by the First Aid Squad as the only reason he is able to walk today. Squad EMTs used equipment purchased with donated funds to stabilize and transport Seth to the hospital. For more on Seth's story, go to the City of Summit's Youtube channel.

Since 1962 and with 65 active members, the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad answers more than 2,100 calls a year, saving Summit taxpayers over one million dollars annually. This year, tax-deductible donations will directly fund the purchase of communication services, as well as medical supplies and other equipment that

Emergency Medical Technicians use when responding to 9-1-1 calls. It will also cover the expense of ongoing professional training for First Aid Squad members.

The Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, Inc. is an independent non-profit corporation dedicated to providing emergency medical services (EMS), non-emergency ambulance transportation, and safety training to the Summit community. All of its services are provided free of charge and funded entirely through private donations.

For information on membership and how to donate, please go to summitems.org.

Donations by check may be mailed to: Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, 1000 Summit Ave., Summit, NJ 07901. To donate online, please go to summitems.org.



(above) The entire staff of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad

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SAGE ELDERCARE'S 2018-19 SENIOR RESOURCE GUIDE AVAILABLE

Submitted by Cindy Potters

Whether you are a caregiver of an aging parent, an older adult who needs help with meals and other services, or an organization that would benefit from local resources for seniors, the SAGE Eldercare Senior Resource Guide is a valuable tool.

The 2018-19 SAGE Eldercare Senior Resource Guide is being circulated to local senior centers, libraries, churches and synagogues, medical facilities, and other outlets that serve older adults and their families. It is a free reference guide that describes available services and offers advice for older adults wishing to remain independent in their own homes. The guide is distributed in Union, Essex, Morris, and Somerset Counties.

"We are excited to release the latest version of this unique community resource as part of the SAGE Eldercare commitment to provide an array of services promoting independence," said Angela Sullivan, SAGE Executive Director. "We thank the local organizations and businesses who have advertised in the guide."

Individuals interested in receiving a free copy of the Resource Guide may stop by SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street, Summit, call: 908-598-5548, or email: education@sageeldercare.org. Directors of organizations or businesses may also contact SAGE to obtain guides for distribution.

Since 1954, SAGE Eldercare has been helping

make the communities it serves amazing places to age. The non-profit organization provides a wide array of information, support, and services designed to help individuals lead the most independent and active lives possible. From helping with errands and delivering Meals on Wheels, to exercise classes, community programs and support groups, Medicare counseling, care planning, an adult day health care center, and home health care, as well as the SAGE Resale Shop and Furniture Restoration Workshop, SAGE's expertise helps older adults remain independent in their own homes. SAGE is committed to being the leading provider of programs and services to meet the changing needs of older adults, their families, and caregivers in Union, Essex, Morris, and Somerset Counties. For more information, please call 908-273-5550 or visit sageeldercare.org.



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OLD GUARD CELEBRATES 400TH MEETING

Submitted by Henry Hynes

There are many Old Guard fraternal organizations in New Jersey and all have memberships of retired men who join together to share common bonds, information and companionship through weekly meetings and many various activities. Our organization, the Summit Old Guard, was formed on December 2, 1930. On December 4, 2018 we are celebrating

our 4,000th weekly meeting. This will be a special event for us. We currently have more than 200 members from Summit and surrounding communities and welcome new members almost every week. Our meetings are held each Tuesday at the New Providence Borough Hall starting at 10:00 a.m. More information can be found on our website at summitoldguard.org, which describes our activities and meetings in detail.

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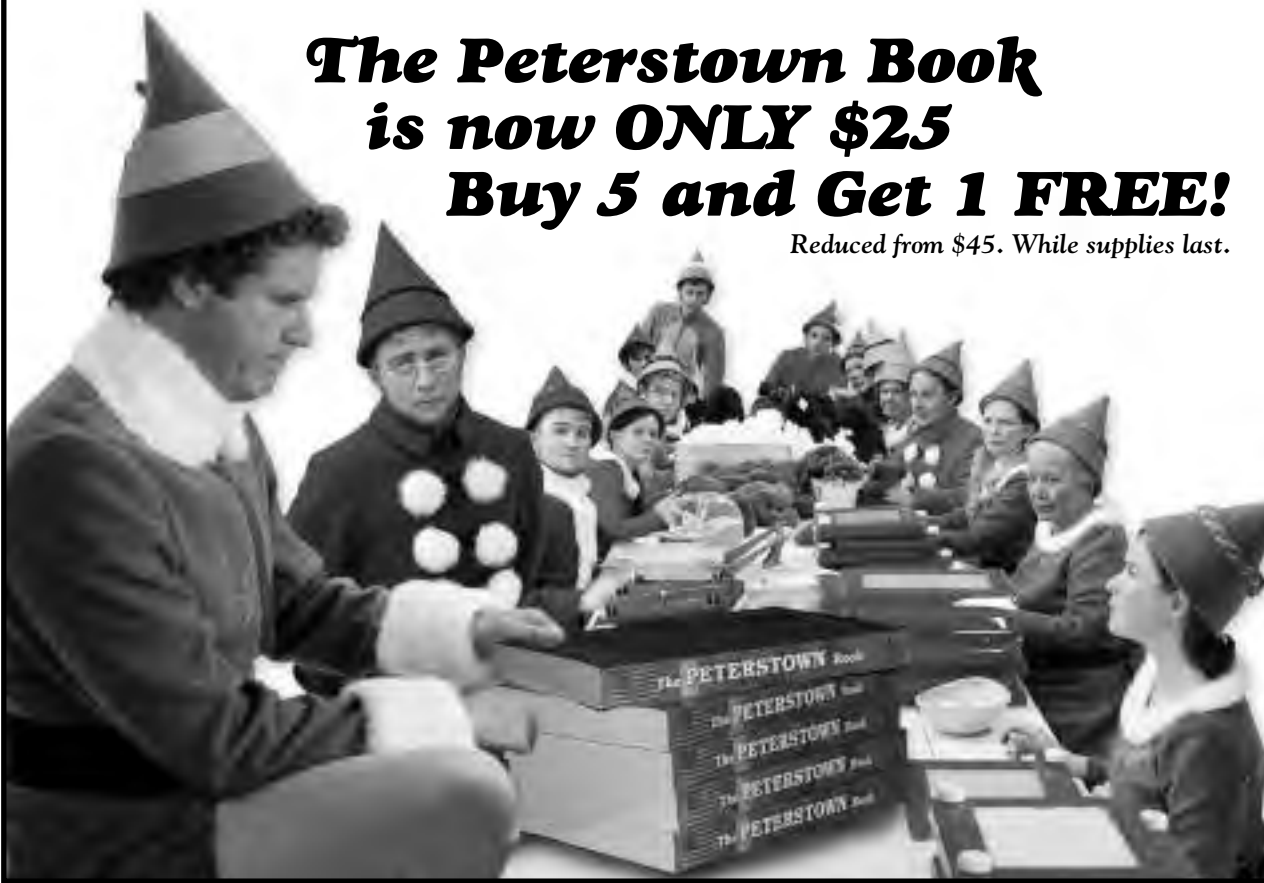
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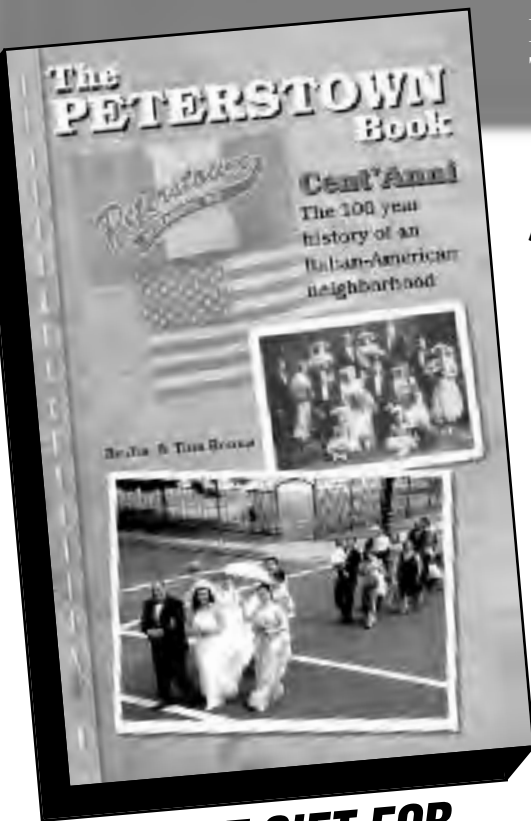
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