

Summit NJ Times

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SUMMIT FIRST AID SQUAD REORGANIZES FOR 2019



(above) Newly installed 2019 Officers and Trustees of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad
with Mayor Nora Radest, who performed the swearing in ceremony.

Photograph by John Staunton

Submitted by John Staunton

Mayor Nora Radest was invited to the First Aid Squad's annual reorganization meeting to administer the oath of office to the officers and trustees for 2019, a task she was happy to perform for her 3rd year.

Bob Flanagan, who previously served as Vice President, is the Squad's new president. John Christmann is the new Vice President. Dave Bernstein and Katherine Ganger will continue to serve as Treasurer and Recording Secretary respectively, while Fred Schwarzmans will serve as the new Corresponding Secretary.

Outgoing president John Buscaino will continue to serve as a Trustee. Other Trustees include Beverly Brown, Marco

diMayorca, Carl Ganger, Nancy Weeks, and Kerry Whitcher.

Kari Phair will remain as the Squad's Chief and be assisted by Deputy Chief Matt Raymond, Records Lieutenant Mel Harari, Training Lieutenant Jane Mahoney, Equipment Lieutenant Robert Endress, and Maintenance Lieutenant Richard Raymond.

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 their website at: summitems.org.

SDI SEEKING MUSICIANS FOR DOWNTOWN EVENTS

Summit Street Sounds debuted in 2018 and brought live music to downtown Summit Thursday evenings in June. With an overwhelmingly positive reception, Summit Downtown, Inc. (SDI) is extending Street Sounds to include some Thursdays in May this year.

SDI is seeking musicians and street performers for a variety of events in 2019. All performance opportunities are outdoors, so performers must be able to play outside and provide their own sound equipment. Performance opportunities include

(pending event approval by Summit Common Council): Summit Farmers Market (Sunday mornings), Summit Street Sounds (Thursday evenings, May/June), Arts + Cars (festival in September), etc.

Interested musicians should email kathryn@summitdowntown.org with their: Name; Email address; Phone number; Brief description of act / group and what type of music; YouTube Sample (link to performance); Hourly/event rates; Emails only. No phone calls, please.

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SARAH WALSH FINISHES ONE-YEAR RUN ON BROADWAY

Sarah Walsh, a 6th grade student at Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, completed her one-year run as Marcy in "School of Rock" at the Winter Garden Theatre on Jan. 20, 2019.

Sarah has made her dream come true. While rehearsing as Annie in "Annie Jr." under the direction of Karen Cantor at Elephante Music in New Providence, she responded to an open casting call for "School of Rock." After returning for multiple callbacks, Sarah landed the role.

Over the past year, Sarah has performed in over 380 shows, rocking out in eight shows a week, while also attending the middle school.

In addition, Sarah has had the opportunity to participate in the Broadway Cares Easter Bonnet Competition at the Minskoff Theatre, singing with the students of Parkland High School and the SOR cast.

According to Broadway World, Sarah "wowed the crowd" with her rendition of "We Need a Little Christmas" at the Broadway Beats Hunger event at the Paper Mill Playhouse, sponsored by the Summit Medical Group Foundation and the Community FoodBank of New Jersey.

Sarah can be seen in an Anti-Bullying Public Service Announcement with other SOR cast members on major television networks.

After an exciting year full of amazing experiences and opportunities, signing autographs and taking photos with numerous theater fans from around the globe, Sarah is looking forward to getting back to a regular middle school schedule. She appreciates all of the friends and relatives that have supported her by coming to see the show!



(above) Sarah Walsh as Marcy in "School of Rock."

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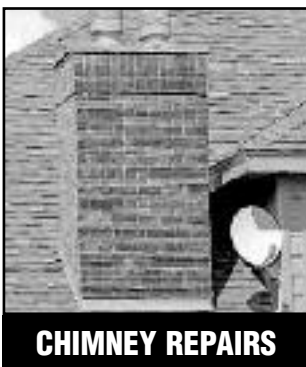
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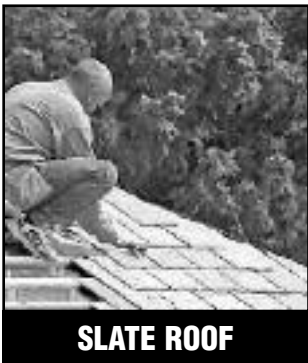
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MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS

Submitted by Mia Bivaletz

Four Summit High School band students successfully auditioned for the Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Region Ensembles in December. These students were accepted based on a competitive audition held at JP Steven's High School. There were over 100 students trying out from all over the region, which is made up of schools in Hunterdon, Monmouth, Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, and Union Counties, for 18 slots. We congratulate the following students who performed with their ensembles in a concert in early January: Filip Vizitiu, Symphonic Band; Katrina Lin, Flute Symphonic Band; Emily Kane, Clarinet, Symphonic Band; Abby Brandt, English Horn, Wind Ensemble and Orchestra.

We are also proud to announce that two students were selected to perform with the Nafme All National Band and Orchestra. Nikki Lee

(violin) performed with the Orchestra and Katrina Lin (flute) performed with the Band at Disneyland in Orlando, Florida. Both of these talented musicians had to submit a taped audition last June and were selected from a pool of students across all 50 states.

Three Summit High School chorus students successfully auditioned for the Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Region II Chorus in December. These students competed against choral students out from all over Hunterdon, Monmouth, Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, and Union counties. We congratulate the following students who will be performing with their respective ensembles at a concert in early February: Anna Creel, Soprano I, 9th Grade; Ella Grainger, Soprano I, 9th Grade; Annabelle Avelino, Alto II, 10th Grade.

Special thanks to Alex Bocchino, Dan King, Steve Rapp, and Barbara Vierschilling.



(above) Anna Creel, Ella Grainger, and Annabelle Avelino, who were chosen to be a part of the Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Region II Chorus.



(above) Filip Vizitiu, Katrina Lin, Emily Kane, and Abby Brandt, who were chosen to be in the Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Region Ensembles.



(above) Nikki Lee (violin) performed with the Nafme All National Orchestra and Katrina Lin (flute) performed with the Nafme All National Band at Disneyland in Orlando, Florida.

Photos by Summit Public Schools.

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(above) Moderator Rebecca Lubetkin, with Holocaust survivors Fran Malkin and Robert Max. Photo by Summit Public Schools

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS SPEAK TO 8TH GRADERS

Submitted by Mia Bivaletz

On Wednesday, January 16, 2019, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School hosted Holocaust survivors who were represented by The Holocaust Council of Jewish Federation of Greater Metrowest. They addressed the 8th grade student body through a program entitled "Survivors Speak," and shared their experiences, along with moderator Rebecca Lubetkin. This program was created for the Morris Museum as part of their outreach to schools and this was Summit's seventh year participating.

Along with their language arts teacher Grace Buonpane, 8th grade students read The Diary of Anne Frank, and researched the background of that time period. Additionally, Ms. Buonpane organized the "Survivors Speak" program, because there is nothing more powerful than hearing firsthand accounts of history.

Fran Malkin and Robert Max (a Summit resident), each shared their Holocaust experiences and stories of resilience. They are

models of strength and courage; it was a privilege for students and staff to hear them speak.

Fran Malkin was born in the town of Sokal, Poland, to candy store owners Lea and Eli Letzer. She and her family were thrust into World War II with the invasion of Poland by the Nazis in 1939. They were uprooted and forced to live in a ghetto.

Robert Max, an American Jewish soldier, spoke about his three major battle campaigns across Europe in World War II and his ultimate capture during the climactic Battle of the Bulge when he was forced into slave labor. He shared his experience in the war and his upcoming book.

Following the presentation, Summit High School students from Lauren Wells' Holocaust & Genocide class set up small discussion groups for high school and middle school students to debrief about the personal accounts. This collaboration was extremely beneficial and gave the 8th graders an outlet to reflect upon what they heard and the overall impact of the presentation.



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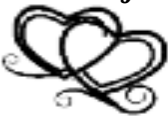
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UNION COUNTY BASEBALL PLAYERS AND COACHES WILL BE HONORED AT ANNUAL "HOT STOVE" AWARDS DINNER, SUNDAY, FEB. 10

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: DWIGHT "DOC" GOODEN

The Union County Baseball Association will induct four new members into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame at the organization's 83rd annual Hot Stove League Dinner on Sunday, February 10, 2019 beginning at 1:00 p.m., at The Gran Centurions in Clark, New Jersey.

The four new inductees into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame include:

Rich Biddulph of Roselle, an All-State catcher for Roselle Catholic High School and longtime coach of American Legion Baseball teams in Cranford and Roselle;

Walter Podgurski of Union, an All-State second baseman for the Farmers, who went on to play for the University of Pennsylvania and was drafted by the Minnesota Twins;

Chris Roof of Berkeley Heights and Scotch Plains, a standout player at Governor Livingston High School and Montclair State University and longtime coach at Governor Livingston;

Tom Urban of Elizabeth, a varsity infielder at Thomas Jefferson High School, baseball coach in Elizabeth and at Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark, and director of the Union County Baseball Association Summer and Fall leagues.

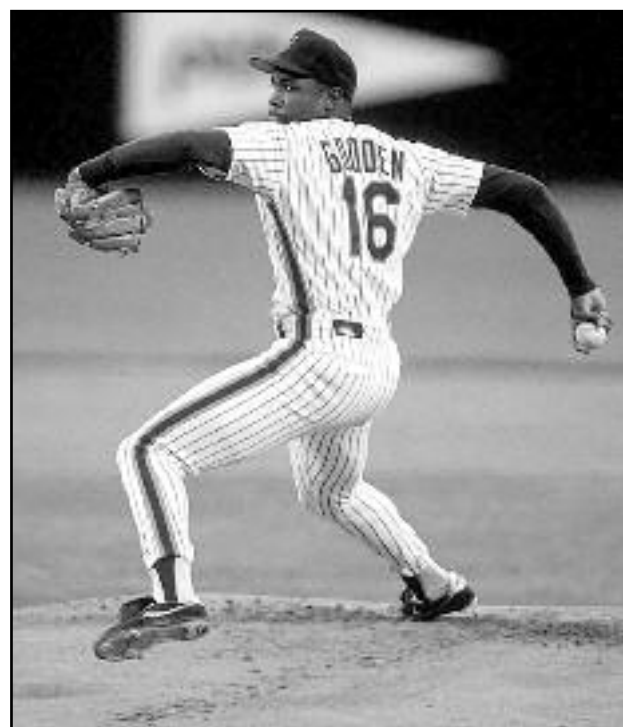
The special guest speaker at the annual event will be Dwight "Doc" Gooden, the former award-winning pitcher for the New York Mets and the New York Yankees. Gooden's headline-grabbing 16-year Major League career – including Rookie of the Year and Cy Young awards with the Mets and his no-hitter while pitching for the Yankees – remains a hot topic of discussion nearly two decades after he threw his final pitch.

Scholastic athletes from throughout Union County also will be honored at the afternoon awards ceremonies on Feb. 10 for their accomplishments in high school, college and Union County Youth Baseball leagues. Among these honorees will be Luis Amaro of Roselle Park; Jamie Belfer and Danny Serretti, both of Berkeley Heights; and Ed Kushner of Linden.

Tickets for the 83rd annual Hot Stove League awards dinner may be purchased online at UCBA-NJ.org or by writing to the Union County Baseball Association, PO Box 176, Fanwood, New Jersey 07023.

Sponsored by the Union County Baseball Association, in cooperation with the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Hot Stove League awards dinner is the primary annual fund-raising effort for the Union County Youth Baseball Leagues. The summer and fall leagues have given more than 40,000 boys and girls an opportunity to participate in an organized baseball program for the past 70 years.

For more information call Jim Iozzi, UCBA president, at 908-917-2523.



(above) Dwight "Doc" Gooden will be the guest speaker at the 83rd annual Hot Stove League Dinner on Sunday, February 10, 2019.

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JOHN W. COOPER RETIRES AFTER 28 YEARS AS PRESIDENT OF SAPF

Board Names New Officers - Submitted by Summit Area Public Foundation

John W. Cooper (Jack) has retired as president of the board of Summit Area Public Foundation. The board has appointed Julie Keenan to succeed him.

When Cooper first joined the board as president in 1990, the organization held \$1 million in assets. Under his leadership, SAPF has grown its assets to \$16 million, which includes 35 donor-advised and restricted-purpose funds. Through these funds, SAPF has supported hundreds of local area nonprofit organizations and agencies.

"Going back to the organization's very early days, Jack Cooper has been the driving force behind SAPF," said Julie Keenan. "His conviction that coordinated local philanthropy can impact the lives of our neighbors has been broadly embraced. We celebrate Jack's long tenure at the helm of SAPF and thank him for his leadership. The entire board looks forward to continuing his legacy of promoting philanthropy in the Summit area."

"Jack Cooper exemplifies the true spirit of philanthropy through his extraordinary support of our community," said Summit Mayor Nora Radest. "After having achieved tremendous success in business, he generously committed his knowledge, time, and resources to help others to advance as well. Under his three decades of leadership, SAPF grew exponentially into one of the largest and most successful area foundations, funding initiatives and supporting the work of organizations to make an indelible, lasting mark on our community."

"It has been my great honor to serve an organization that is so deeply committed to local philanthropy," said Cooper. "I'm very pleased and humbled by the difference SAPF has made. We have talented and dedicated trustees who will continue to advance SAPF's mission each and every day."

In addition to his leadership of SAPF, Cooper has served as a trustee with many other local nonprofit organizations, including Overlook Hospital Foundation, SAGE Eldercare, Northern New Jersey Estate Planning Council, Summit Area United Way, Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, Summit Family Service Association, Summit Speech School and Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child. Cooper was a partner at Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook and Cooper, P.C.

In addition to naming Julie Keenan as president, the SAPF board has named David Dietze as vice president, Sandra R. Lizza as secretary, Leah Griffith as treasurer and Martha Sayre as assistant treasurer.

SAPF is a community foundation that fosters philanthropy in the Summit, NJ, area by identifying local needs and offering donors flexible ways to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors. During the past 10 years, SAPF has awarded more than \$4.7 million in grants to 117 nonprofit agencies. SAPF awards an average of 37 grants per year.

For more information on applying for a grant and the impact of SAPF in the Summit area community, visit sapfnj.org.



(above) Julie Keenan
(new SAPF president) and Jack.

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FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL LIBRARY LOVER'S MONTH CELEBRATE AT THE SUMMIT LIBRARY

The Summit Free Public Library's mission to inform, enrich, and inspire takes on special meaning during National Library Lover's Month, with a series of programs, author talks, lectures, and a musical performance that celebrate the rich diversity of our community and our commitment to improving people's lives through information, education, and enrichment. Visit the library during National Library Lover's Month and help us celebrate. We hope to see you at one or more of our many programs this month!

AMORE: CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY SONGS OF LOVE

The month kicks off with a performance on Sunday, February 3 at 2 p.m. by Synergismus Duo, a violin-cello pair who will get everyone in the mood for Valentine's Day. The concert will cover 400 years of music, featuring Renaissance love songs, classical opera arias, tangos, and Broadway love songs. Funding for this program is made possible in part by the NJ State Council on the Arts, through a grant from the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD MINICOURSES FOR ADULTS: AMERICA'S FOREIGN INTERVENTIONS

Join us for a 4-week course taught by Rutgers University's Bruce Tucker on America's Foreign Interventions. Running on consecutive Fridays starting February 8 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Professor Tucker will cover US foreign policy as it pertains to regime changes since the establishment of the Department of State. This course is made possible through a generous grant from the Summit Area Public Foundation.

AUTHOR TALKS & LECTURES BY EXPERTS

Would you like to travel the world, or back in time, or perhaps just learn how to improve your own backyard? You can do all that and more at the library this month as we offer an eclectic array of lectures and author talks will suit every family member's taste.

Tuesday, February 5 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Join author of African American Women Chemists in the Modern Era, Jeannette Brown, on Tuesday, February 5 from 7-8:30 p.m. for an interesting discussion that details the lives of 18 living women chemists who are doing remarkable work in the field of chemistry.

Tuesday, February 12 from 6:30-8 p.m.

On Tuesday, February 12 from 6:30-8 p.m., the Great Swamp Watershed Association and the Rahway River Watershed Association are sponsoring a lecture by Marian Glenn, Summit Environmental Commissioner, on Water Quality and Management in our Area - Green Infrastructure for Managing Storm Water, as part of their One Water series. Attendees will learn about elements of landscape architecture and how they can meet New Jersey's new rules for storm water management. Glenn will detail how homeowners can utilize aesthetically pleasing options for meeting these new rules.

Tuesday, February 19 from 7-8:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, February 19 from 7-8:30 p.m. the library is thrilled to welcome Amy Knight, author of Orders to Kill: The Putin Regime and Political Murder. Knight, a historian and expert on the Soviet Union and Russia, has been described by The New York Times as "the West's foremost scholar" on the KGB. Registration for this program is requested, as seating is limited. You can call the library at 908-273-0350, ext. 818 to reserve a spot.

Thursday, February 21 from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Are you curious about George? Washington, that is! On Thursday, February 21 from 7:30-8:30 p.m., Joel Farkas, National Park Service docent at Washington's Headquarters, will present on George Washington, New Jersey, and the Revolutionary War. Farkas will discuss Washington's New Jersey battles as well as cover Washington's time wintering in Morristown. There will be a slide show of Ford's Mansion, which served as Washington's headquarters.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

- LET'S CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE PIG!

Tuesday, February 5 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Kids and their families can join in the festivities as the Summit Free Public Library celebrates the Year of the Pig! Visit us this month and marvel at the Chinese art and lantern decorations you'll find throughout the library!

Our Chinese New Year Celebration week starts on Tuesday, February 5 from 7-8:30 p.m. with A Taste of China! We'll learn how to make traditional food typically eaten on New Year's Eve and enjoy some delicious food and tea.

Wednesday, February 6 from 7-8:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, February 6 from 7-8:30 p.m. join us for Chinese Calligraphy and Traditional Chinese Painting. We will introduce the origin of some Chinese characters and teach kids how to write their name in Chinese, along with traditional crafts, paper-cutting demo and more.

Thursday, February 7 from 7-8:30 p.m.

On Thursday, February 7 from 7-8:30 p.m. families are invited to participate in Face Painting and Movie Night. Children will learn about the famous Beijing Opera, get a chance to face paint for the opera performance, and try on the opera costumes, such as the Monkey King, prior to watching the Beijing Opera cartoon movie Havoc in Heaven.

Sunday, February 10 from 2-4 p.m.

We'll wrap up our week of celebrating with a big Chinese New Year Celebration on Sunday, February 10 from 2-4 p.m. We'll kick off the festivities with the Lion Dance, do a few Chinese New Year activities, and enjoy some light snacks and tea!





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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SUMMIT ANNOUNCES 2018 JEAN HUDSON GANO AWARD RECIPIENT

Junior League of Summit is proud to announce that Community Service Association (CSA) has been chosen as the recipient of the annual Jean Hudson Gano Community Service Award for 2018. This award is given in memory of and in tribute to Jean Hudson Gano, a JLS member who died of breast cancer in 1997. Jean's exemplary and extraordinary commitment to volunteerism, community service and particularly to issues regarding women and children, was an inspiration to all those that were touched by her efforts.

CSA was founded in 1954 and is an organization that offers financial assistance to New Providence residents, primarily women and children, during times of financial need. All of the organization's funds come from donations, grants and fundraising. In 2017, CSA provided

close to \$30,000 in assistance to its clients. CSA volunteers meet monthly to review the cases of their anonymous clients and implement solutions. CSA refers their clients to the necessary social and/or government agencies for additional assistance.

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. Those interested in donating to the League, please visit jlsummit.org/?nd=donate_summary.



(above, l-r) Community Service Association (CSA), accepting Jean Hudson Gano Award: President Elect Illya Daddizo, VP Pat Daquila, President Lisa McKnight, and JLS President Erika Melchiorre.

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In 2017, Summit residents, Ryan and Dana Felmet, established an annual charity fundraising event called "February Fun Fest," at which 100 percent of the monies raised benefit select charities which have included Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, the YWCA of Union County, Cancer Research Institute, and Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The couple sponsor the event with their own funds, and invite friends, family, and the local community to join a fun filled night which features guest speakers from each of the benefiting charities, light appetizers donated from local restaurants and businesses, raffle baskets donated by

attendees and local businesses, and much more. The first two annual events raised over \$9,000.

This year's event will take place at Summit Elks Lodge, 40 Maple St, Summit, NJ, on Saturday, February 16, from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. The event will once again feature food, music, raffles and games, and will benefit Chron's and Colitis Foundation, the YWCA of Union County and the Cancer Research Institute. Admission to the event is free. Attendees are encouraged to make a donation to one or more of the beneficiaries during the evening.

"My wife and I have close personal connections with people who are impacted by a variety of unfortunate circumstances and we feel fortunate to be in a position to help make a difference. Important issues including uncured diseases, cancer, and domestic violence, are just a few examples of why we are supporting organizations who are making a difference. It is truly a win-win opportunity to have the ability to bring family and friends together to support these causes at an event filled with love, optimism, and fun for all attendees," said Ryan, the event founder. Dana added, "The dress code is always bright, bold and beautiful which is our way to lighten up the typically cold, dark month of February with a fun event featuring bright colors, specifically focused on the color of each charity."

We encourage local businesses and vendors participate in our event, as the majority of attendees are area residents. If you have questions, would like to donate, or are interested in sponsorship, please visit FebruaryFunFest.org or contact Ryan at FebruaryFunFest@gmail.com.



(above) Ryan and Dana Felmet at the first annual February Fun Fest event in 2017.

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JUNIOR LEAGUE ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER SET FOR FEB. 23

The Junior League of Summit is excited to announce its fourth Annual Trivia Night. Join the Junior League of Summit on February 23, 2019 for an evening of trivia fun at Chatham Fish & Game. Tickets are on sale now. Teams of up to ten people may register for a table for an entrance fee of \$600. All competitors must be 21 or older. For more details and ticket information, visit jlsummit.org.

"There's an electricity in the air at JLS Trivia Night. Teams are dressed up, kegs are out on the porch, and challenging questions are posed. It is a wonderful opportunity to have a great night out with your friends and other community members, all for a great cause," said Rachel

Zucker, the event chairwoman.

The festivities will include lively competition among the teams in various trivia categories, as well as interactive bonus rounds and extra points for best team themes and table décor. The evening will feature Adam Zucker, host of CBS Sports' College Football Today, as the competition emcee.

As with previous years, all funds raised at Trivia Night benefit the JLS's Annual Fund, supporting its community grants, scholarships and projects such as GRACE, the League's signature community outreach project. GRACE stands for Giving and Receiving Assistance for Our Community's Essentials and its main focus

is fighting food insecurity in Summit and our surrounding communities.

If you are interested in sponsoring this fantastic event, please email jlstrivianight@gmail.com.

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



(above) Sign up your team now for the Junior League of Summit's Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser on February 23.



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We are always looking for new members, donations, and volunteers if anyone would like to get involved.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Kenilworth VFW, located at 33 S. 21st St., Kenilworth, NJ, on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (except July and August). There is no fee to attend a meeting.

Our Annual Kids Seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, V.F.W., 33 South 21st Street, Kenilworth, NJ. A Guest speaker to be announced and topics of discussion will be safety while fishing, fish identification, and practice casting. Prizes will be awarded and snacks will be served. There is no fee to attend.

For more information visit nbfcc.org or contact Bob Jones BJonesJRNJ@hotmail.com or 908-272-3545.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUMMIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Chief Robert K. Week

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to address a recent social media challenge directed towards children and young adults, called the "Momo Challenge." I am urging all parents and guardians to become aware of this challenge and monitor their children's use of social media and the internet. The "Momo Challenge" can be found on Facebook and/or through the social media platform WhatsApp.

Communications through the "Momo Challenge" begins with a text and/or call that requests the recipient to perform small tasks which rapidly escalates to more serious violent acts, including self-inflicted harm, all while demanding photographs or videos for proof of completion. Unfortunately, in recent history there has been documentation where the disposition of the challenge resulted in serious injuries and/or death.

In collaboration with the Board of Education, social media risks will be addressed by school staff members and our Juvenile Detective Bureau. As always, the safety of our children is of the utmost priority.

Any questions/concerns, please contact Juvenile Detective Sergeant Ryan Peters at 908-273-5871 or rpeters@spdni.org.

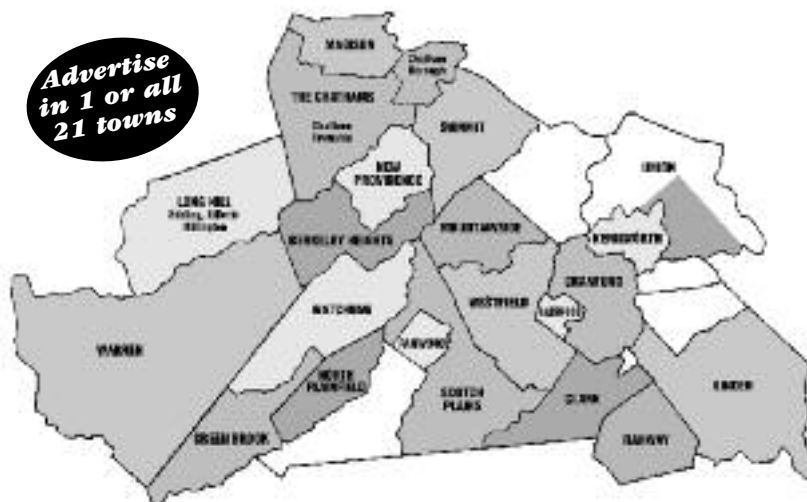
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SUMMIT FIRE DEPARTMENT EARNS CLASS 2 INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE RATING

Summit Fire Department has received a Class 2 Public Fire Protection Classification rating grade from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) effective January 1, 2019. The Class 2 rating is earned by fewer than two percent of fire departments nationwide and indicates an exceptional level of preparedness, fire ground operations and overall effectiveness by the Summit Fire Department.

Through its audit, the ISO determined that Summit Fire Department training programs far exceed minimum standards and that the department has the capacity to suppress fires in all residential and business district buildings. Retention of the Class 2 rating can help to reduce fire insurance premiums for residential and commercial property owners in Summit.

"The Class 2 ISO rating reflects outstanding work by the men and women of the Summit Fire Department," explains Mayor Nora Radest. "I am

very proud of this achievement from our expertly-trained and properly prepared firefighters and the potential benefits to the citizens of Summit."

At the January 15, 2019 Common Council meeting, Fire Chief Eric Evers explained the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule and classifications from 1 to 10 used by the ISO during its assessments. "An ISO rating is like a report card with one being the highest possible score and 10 being the lowest. Summit's superior rating illustrates our commitment to superior property fire protection and highly effective operations."

Evers continued "There is a proven correlation between an excellent ISO rating and a decrease in fire losses in the community, which is always our goal."

For more information on the Summit Fire Department and its ISO audit process, go to cityofsummit.org/fire.

SUMMIT OLD GUARD FEBRUARY EVENTS

If you are a retired male and have an interest in living an interesting life with like-minded men... new members are always welcomed. Put on your business casual attire or jacket & tie (or something more casual from May to September) and attend a meeting.

Meetings are held each Tuesday in the council meeting room of the New Providence NJ Municipal Center at 360 Elkwood Ave, New Providence NJ, starting at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and conversation, followed by programs consisting of stimulating talks by people such as past governors, mayors, politicians, Nobel Prize winners, physicians, judges, professors, scientists, economists, authors, journalists, etc.

After the meetings, many members join together to have lunch at various local restaurants.

In addition to the weekly meetings, there are activity groups for golf, bridge, hiking, trips, computer help, tennis and more.

For more information, contact James Hewitt, Chairman, Membership Committee, (908) 233-5507, info@SummitOldGuard.org. You can also visit summitoldguard.org.

February programs

Feb. 5 The Mysteries of the Very Small Revealed

Phil Eisner, Old Guard member, retired physicist, Exxon Research, is well known to our members as a clear expositor of the physical world. He will explain the mysteries of quantum theory, which describes nature at its smallest scale. The theory of quantum mechanics arose in the first half of the 20th century to explain weird observations made on photons, atoms, and subatomic particles that couldn't be explained by classical physics.

Feb. 12 Spend-Down: Increasing Your Odds of Having Enough Money in Retirement

Jim Cornfield, CFP, Buckingham Strategic Wealth, Short Hills. Many people think of retirement planning as saving enough money to live the lifestyle they've envisioned. The financial planning you need for this new phase of life is different and often more complicated. Cornfield will show an overall spend-down strategy intended to decrease your tax costs and increase your odds of having enough money in retirement to meet your goals.

Feb. 19 Reminiscences of a Lifetime of Sports Reporting

Mark Di Ianno, columnist for the Star-Ledger, 2013 Pulitzer Prize finalist, will speak about his life involvement in sports reporting, including some high-profile stories, and also talk about a novel with a baseball background he has written about the responsibilities of manhood and the pitfalls of glory.

Feb. 26 Navigating Hearing Loss Remediation

Craig J. Barth, M.A., CCC-A Audiologist, Fellow, American Academy of Audiology, Morristown, will present a step-by-step thorough and logical process to get our hearing assessed and have proposed remedies clearly explained. He will also share helpful tips for becoming an educated consumer of hearing aid devices.



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