

Summit NJ Times

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SUMMIT DOWNTOWN ANNOUNCES 2019 HOLIDAY EVENTS

Summit Downtown, Inc. is excited to announce the downtown holiday events and initiatives for 2019: Shop Summit Passport Program, Small Business Saturday, Celebrate in Summit, and Carriages & Carolers. The Summit VISA Gift Cards, accepted at over 125 Summit businesses, will also be available this holiday season! More information on holiday events and Summit Gift Cards can be found on summitdowntown.org.

Shop Summit Passport Program November 30 - December 7

Visit 8 different downtown Summit businesses between Nov. 30 and Dec. 7 to have your passport stamped! At least 4 stamps must be from retail shops. No purchase is necessary. Passports must be turned in by 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 7 to be entered to win \$500 Summit Gift Card. 10 runners up will also each win \$100 gift cards. Summit Gift Cards are accepted by over 125 Summit businesses and make great holiday gifts! The winning completed passports will be drawn at 4 p.m. during the Celebrate in Summit event on December 7.

Celebrate in Summit Saturday, December 7 - 1-4 p.m.

Shop, dine, and celebrate in Summit this holiday season! Do your holiday shopping right in downtown Summit. There will be music throughout town, hot chocolate, and Horse and Carriage rides from 1-4 p.m. at Lyric Park (corner of Beechwood Road and Bank Street). Winners for the Shop Summit Passport will be drawn at 4 p.m. All activities are free to the public. Special thanks to Major Sponsor Sunrise Senior Living for making this event possible!

Want a couple hours to shop and dine without the kids? The Summit YMCA will be offering free babysitting complete with pizza and activities from 1-4 p.m., so you and your friends or significant other can enjoy a night out on the town. Babysitting is free, but registration is required. Call 908-273-3330 to register.

Carriages & Carolers - 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 and 21

Take a break from your downtown shopping to enjoy holiday music and free horse and carriage rides from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays December 14 and 21. The boarding location will be Lyric Park, located at the corner of Bank Street and Beechwood Road. Use 17 Beechwood Road for GPS.

Santa's Holiday Party Saturday, Dec. 7 - 5:30-7 p.m.

The Summit YMCA is organizing this fun family event on the Village Green. Join them for the annual tree lighting and party with Santa. There will be fun activities for the children.

FREE PARKING

There will be free parking December 14-29 at 90-minute meters, Bank St. Lot, and 1st floor of the Tier Garage. Compliments of the City of Summit and Summit Downtown Inc.

Summit VISA Gift Cards

Looking for a new way to support local Summit businesses while giving a great gift to that special someone? Accepted at over 125 Summit businesses, both in and outside the downtown, Summit VISA Gift Cards are available for purchase at summitdowntown.org. Don't know what to get? Get Summit Gift Cards!

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

Celebrate in Summit

- November 30**
Small Business Saturday
Music throughout downtown and kickoff of Shop Summit Passport
- December 7**
1-4pm
Celebrate in Summit
Music throughout downtown, horse and carriage rides, prize drawings for Shop Summit Passport
Hot chocolate provided by Sunrise Senior Living of Summit
Free babysitting at the Summit YMCA 1-4pm
Pre-registration required: 908-273-3330 ext. 1157
- December 14 & 21**
1-4pm
Carriages & Carolers
Saturdays: Horse and carriage rides and holiday music throughout downtown
- Summit Gift Cards**
The Perfect Holiday Gift!
Available for purchase at summitdowntown.org. Accepted at over 125 Summit businesses.

— ALL EVENTS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC —

summitdowntown.org

Free parking December 14-29 at all 90-minute on-street meters, Bank St. Lot, and 1st floor of Tier Garage.
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Summit Times

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PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

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

Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email Editor@rennamedia.com

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NEW JERSEY NATIVE ENTERS CLASS OF 2023 PLEBE SUMMER AT THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

ANNAPOLIS, Md. – John Robert Trombetta a graduate of Morristown – Beard School in Morristown, NJ was inducted into the Naval Academy Class of 2023 Thursday, June 27, and will begin six challenging weeks of basic midshipman training as part of Plebe Summer.

Approximately 1,200 candidates are selected each year for the Academy's "plebe" or freshman class, and each student is required to participate in Plebe Summer. Last year the Naval Academy received over 16,000 applications for the Class of 2022.

During this time, plebes have no access to television, movies, the internet or music, and restricted access to cell phones. They are only permitted to make three calls during the six weeks of Plebe Summer.

The pressure and rigor of Plebe Summer is carefully designed to help plebes prepare for their first academic year at the Naval Academy and the four years of challenge, which awaits them.

As the summer progresses, the new midshipmen rapidly assimilate basic skills in seamanship, navigation, damage control, sailing, and handling yard patrol craft. Plebes also learn infantry drill and how to shoot 9 mm pistols and M-16 rifles.

Other daily training sessions involve moral, mental, physical or professional development and team-building skills. Activities include swimming, martial arts, basic rock climbing, obstacle, endurance and confidence courses designed to develop physical, mental and team-building skills. Forty hours are devoted to the instruction of infantry drill and five formal parades.

Founded in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy today is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally and physically to be professional officers in the naval service. More than 4,400 men and women representing every state in the U.S. and several foreign countries make up the student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen. U.S.

News and World Reports has recognized the Naval Academy as a top five undergraduate engineering school and a top 20 best liberal arts college. Midshipmen learn from military and civilian instructors and participate in intercollegiate varsity sports and extracurricular activities. They also study subjects such as leadership, ethics, small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering and weapons, and military law. Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a Bachelor of Science degree in a choice of 25 different subject majors and go on to serve at least five years of exciting and rewarding service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

The Brigade of Midshipmen is comprised of approximately 4,400 students from every state in the union and a handful of international students. Each year, approximately 1,200 young men and women are admitted to the Naval Academy's incoming class.





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SHS TURF FIELD RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Submitted by Mia Bivaletz

The Summit Public Schools formally "cut the ribbon" to open the brand new turf field at Summit High School on Friday, October 18, 2019. It was a collaborative effort, with the Summit Board of Education sponsoring and supporting the project. EI Associates were in charge of planning and oversight, while Shaw Sports Turf and Applied Landscaping prepared

and installed the new field. In addition to installing over 125,000 square feet of brand new turf, other upgrades were made including brand new fencing, the addition of a second digital scoreboard and flagpole, and a brand new Summit Hilltoppers windscreen adorning the eastern fence. Our Summit athletes and fans are going to enjoy a lot of athletic success on this field for sure!

We thank Superintendent June Chang,

Assistant Superintendent Louis Pepe, Athletic Director Dan Healy, Board member Chris Bonner, Facilities Director Angelo Palumbo, Michael Wozny from EI Associates, and the SHS administrative team of Stacy Grimaldi, Nick Steffner, and Elizabeth Aaron. Special thanks to coaches Dave Field, Neal Sharma, and Jen Schwarzenbek, as well as to the Field Hockey Team and Girls & Boys Cross Country Teams who attended the ceremony as well.



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(above) A ribbon cutting was performed on Friday, October 18, 2019,
for the new turf field at Summit High School.

Photo by Summit Public Schools

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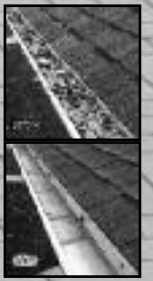
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SANTA CLAUS SHOP HELPS DELIVER A JOYOUS HOLIDAY TO LOCALS IN NEED

Submitted by Lauren Bialek

The Santa Claus Shop will open its doors once again to area families, providing its 53rd consecutive year of complimentary holiday shopping. The shop serves more than 400 low-income families and senior citizens from Summit and other local communities, including New Providence and Berkeley Heights, who are referred by local social services agents.

This year's Santa Claus Shop will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church, 587 Springfield Avenue in Summit. Families will be offered shopping hours by invitation only on Wednesday, December 4. In addition, the Santa Claus Shop will be hosting a holiday gathering for senior citizens on Tuesday, December 3.

The Santa Claus Shop guests personally select a household item, new clothing for each member of their immediate family, a hat and mittens, a book, and a new toy for each child. Local volunteers are responsible for the shop setup, personal shopping services for each guest, gift-wrapping, and clean up.

The Santa Claus Shop is chaired by Summit residents, Michelle Frei, Kim McGovern, Megan Rende and Christine Semcer and co-chaired by Lauren Bialek, Susan Campbell, Maritess Manaluz and Marnie O'Connell. The Santa Claus Shop exists solely on donations and volunteers. With the monetary donations from area residents,

local organizations and businesses, the Santa Claus Shop can purchase the gifts that allow less fortunate neighbors to experience the joy of holiday giving without financial burden.

To keep the holiday spirit alive for local residents in need, the Santa Claus Shop chairwomen ask for members of the community to consider giving. Checks can be made payable

to SHIP, with Santa Claus Shop noted on the check's memo line, and mailed to the Santa Claus Shop, P.O. Box 119, Summit, NJ 07901. The ability to make an online donation is also available at summitsantaclausshop.com. If you would like to find out more information or get involved please visit our website or follow us on Facebook at Santa Claus Shop - Summit, NJ.



(above, l-r) The co-chairs for the 53rd annual Santa Claus Shop, Megan Rende, Kim McGovern, Christine Semcer and Michelle Frei.

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STARTING OVER AFTER FIRE GUTS HOME OF 56 YEARS

A house fire left a Summit family with just clothes on their backs in less than 10 minutes on Veterans Day when an electrical fire at 59 Morris Avenue destroyed a family home and left its eight occupants with essentially only the clothes they were wearing when they escaped the blaze.

Billye Brown, age 87, owned the two-family home, which she occupied with her granddaughter and her family.

The fire broke out on Monday morning shortly after breakfast and quickly spread throughout the house. Qadra Brown, mother of three small children, ages 6-months 2 and 3, along with her grandmother Billye were forced to pass the infant through a broken first floor window to safety. Mercifully, all family members evacuated the building safely with

only minor injuries.

Unfortunately, Qadra, who supported her family as an artist, lost her entire portfolio of paintings in the fire.

Monsignor Robert Meyer of St. Teresa's Catholic Church, Mayor Nora Radest and the Other Fellow First Foundation are all working together to galvanize a community effort to help this family back onto their feet.

The little foundation hopes the Summit community will join them in helping this Summit family in distress.

A Go Fund Me page, gofundme.com/f/startingoverinsummit, has been set up by grandson Ameer Robinson. He shared on his page:

My name is Ameer and today my grandmother had her home of 56 years totally

and completely gutted by fire. She moved to Summit in 1963 to make a better life for her family and this is so sad because there are so many memories that were made in that home my mom was raised there and so were my sisters and I. This fire leaves my grandmother along with my sister and her three children homeless and without any possessions. I'm just looking to raise money to help them in the short term so they can rent a long term residence and with winter coming I want to make sure they have clothes etc. I know this is hard asking for help with it's the holiday season but anything will help even if only a dollar.

Thank you even if only for your consideration.

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EILEEN WOLFE'S APPLE PIE WINS ANNUAL APPLE PIE CONTEST

Submitted by Marin Mixon

The Summit Farmers Market hosted its third Annual Apple Pie Contest on Sunday, September 29, 2019. Perfect weather made it a very special event for everyone.

Judges Nora Radest, Brad Finkel and Bob Conway had the challenge of rating all 14 pies on their filling, appearance and crust. Nora Radest is Summit's Mayor and serves on the Summit Downtown Board. Brad Finkel is owner of Hoboken Farms and has been at the Summit Farmers Market since its inception. Bob Conway

serves as Chairman of the SDI Board and is the owner of Brownie Points Bakery.

Eileen Wolfe's apple pie, made from Golden Delicious apples, was awarded the winner. Eileen, resides in Millburn, and is passionate about baking, especially pies. Apple Caramel Crumb Pie is a specialty of Stephanie Lipkin, a Springfield resident, who took home second place. Samantha Lopuszynski, a Summit resident, was awarded third prize for her pie made with a cream cheese crust.

The three winning pie recipes can be found on summitfarmersmarket.com.

SDI Executive Director Nancy Adams said, "thanks to all the participants for entering their delicious pies, the judges for sharing their expertise and the community for making this event such a success!"

The next Sunday Funday activity will be the Pumpkin Bread/Muffin Contest on Sunday, November 10.

The market is run by Summit Downtown, Inc. (SDI) and is located in the Park & Shop Lot #2, at the corner of DeForest Avenue and Maple Street. It is open every Sunday through November 24 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 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 of Maple Street. For more information about the market, visit [here](http://summitdowntown.com) or contact Summit Downtown, Inc. at 908-277-6100.

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

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OUR HOUSE INC. BASKETBALL AT SUMMIT COMMUNITY CENTER

Submitted by John Kieser

Our House Inc. is pleased to announce an arrangement with the Summit Community Center to have the use of one of their new gyms, providing basketball facilities for 30 of their participants. Our House Inc. is most appreciative of Dave Guida, Program Supervisor, and Mark Ozoroski, Director, of Summit Recreation, for

their assistance in making this happen. Nicole Cassata and Tory Kania of Our House Inc. were instrumental in setting up the program. Our House Inc. houses and provides programs for almost 400 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Union, Somerset and Morris Counties and has been helping those adults in excess of 15 years.



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IMAGINE'S MARY ROBINSON SELECTED AS TOP TEN CNN HERO OF THE YEAR

Submitted by Val Stierhoff

Imagine Founder and Executive Director Mary Robinson has been selected this year as a Top Ten CNN Hero by CNN Executives. While Imagine made it to the Top Ten CNN Hero category, they can use your vote to make it to the Hero of the Year which would result in a donation of \$100,000 for Imagine and a global spotlight on the need and importance of supporting grieving youth. You can vote ten times a day every day for Mary at cnnheroes.com. Voting ends Dec. 3.

"We are thrilled but not surprised Mary has been selected," said Imagine Board Chair John Toriello. "Having served on the board since Imagine's inception in 2011, I know Mary is an outstanding and dedicated leader who makes and has made an enormous contribution in helping grieving children and families. We are very proud of her."

"This award means we are able to shine an even bigger spotlight on our mission of supporting children, teens, young adults, and their families, who are coping with loss due to death or illness," said Mary. "In NJ alone there are currently over 114,000 bereaved youth who have had a parent die. Nationally the number is over 4.9 million. At Imagine over 430 children and adults from 59 towns across New Jersey attend our support groups every two weeks in Mountainside and Newark. However, serving 430 people at our centers is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of youth needing support. Therefore, our mission also includes a focus on education, to make sure wherever a grieving child or teen turns in their life, there is an adult who pays attention and understands the need to provide support and to listen. Our goal is to create grief-informed communities, school districts, agencies, workplaces, and neighborhoods in New Jersey and nationally.

"Volunteering and working in the field of Children's Grief Support since 1997, I am so honored to receive this award," said Robinson.

About Imagine

Imagine offers free year-round grief support groups for children age 3-18 who have had a parent or brother or sister die, and for families caring for a family member living with a life-altering physical illness. Concurrent groups are available for parents and guardians, and young adults 18-30. Support groups meet on weekday nights for an hour and a half. Dinner is provided prior to the group meeting. To schedule an orientation for yourself or your family or for more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginein.org.



(above) Imagine's Executive Director, Mary Robinson was recently nominated as a top ten CNN Hero. In order to become CNN's number one hero and earn \$100,000 for Imagine's programs, Mary needs to receive votes at the CNN Hero website.

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 Kids 7-10\$6.29
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Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm

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 Kids 7-10\$7.79
 Kids 3-6\$6.29
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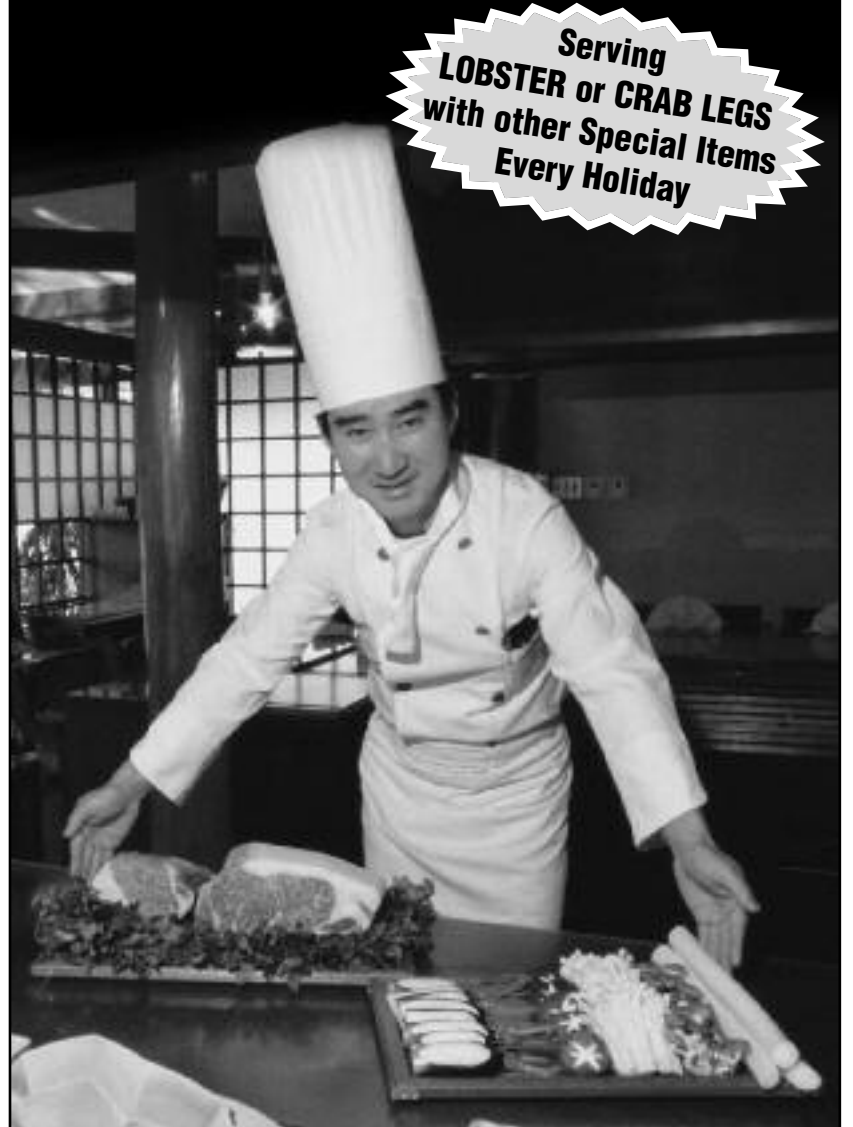
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JUNIOR LEAGUE THRIFT SHOP PRESENTS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Submitted by Dana Felmet

The Junior League of Summit Thrift Shop is excited to announce its annual Holiday Boutique. The highly anticipated event features a wide selection of brand new toys, as well as new and gently used men's, women's, and children's holiday-themed clothing, holiday items and seasonal decorations. The event will be held at Parish Hall, Calvary Church (next to the Thrift Shop) on Thursday, December 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday, December 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Thrift Shop will also remain open during regular business hours throughout the event.

"We can't wait to see everyone at our annual Holiday Boutique. The League has been busy for weeks getting it all ready for opening day! We have lots of toys, gifts, decorations and clothing for all your holiday needs! The Thrift Shop itself and Calvary Parish Hall will be filled with treasures for everyone on your shopping list!" says Thrift Shop Manager Marie Avagliano. The Thrift Shop staff and Junior League volunteers

prepare for Holiday Boutique for months and appreciate the community support and involvement in this wonderful event.

"Holiday Boutique is the official kickoff of the Holiday Season. The Junior League of Summit looks forward to this event each year and it is a great opportunity for the community to shop for new and slightly used merchandise such as toys, clothes, handbags, just to name a few. As with all Thrift Shop sales, all the money generated will go back into the community through grants and scholarships," says Shop VP, Stephanie Giblin.

"The Junior League of Summit truly enjoys this annual event as a way to connect with our community and spread some holiday spirit. We thank our customers and the community for your ongoing support," says Junior League of Summit President Erika Melchiorre.

The Junior League of Summit Thrift Shop in Summit was established in 1934 and offers new

and gently used clothing and shoes for men, women and children, toys, decorative items for the home, housewares, and furniture that is deeply discounted. It is the primary fundraiser for the Junior League of Summit and has provided the resources for the League's many grants, projects, programs, and scholarships over the years. Since its inception, the Shop has raised over \$3,000,000 to benefit Summit and surrounding communities.

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, please visit the website at jlsummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349.

JUNIOR LEAGUE RECEIVES GRANT FOR THRIFT SHOP RENOVATION

Submitted by Dana Felmet

The Junior League of Summit (JLS) recently received a \$1,000 grant from Investors Foundation. The money contributed to the Junior League of Summit Thrift Shop's recent basement expansion that created additional storage space for donations received by the Shop. The revenue generated by JLS Thrift Shop is invested in grants and scholarships awarded to community organizations and individuals. The grant will help further the JLS mission of supporting the community through grants and scholarships by funding the basement expansion of the JLS Thrift Shop.

"As the amount of donations has increased each year, the shop reached its storage capacity. With the completion of the dig out, it will give the shop more space to store donations throughout the year. The revenue generated from the shop will go back into the community through grants and scholarships," says JLS Thrift Shop Chair, Stephanie Giblin. The basement expansion is officially complete and the Thrift Shop happily accepts donations on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and

Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each week.

The Junior League of Summit Thrift Shop in Summit was established in 1934 and offers new and gently used clothing and shoes for men, women and children, toys, decorative items for the home, housewares, and furniture that is deeply discounted. It is the primary fundraiser for the Junior League of Summit and has provided the resources for the League's many grants, projects, programs, and scholarships over the years. Since its inception, the Shop has raised over \$3,000,000 to benefit Summit and surrounding communities.

ABOUT THE INVESTORS FOUNDATION

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WANDS AND USED GIFT CARDS SOUGHT

Summit Times • Page 17 • December 2019

Volunteer organization Green Summit “hard-to-recycle-items” collection drive is going on now through January 2020.

The group will be collecting clean and dry mascara wands to be reused by North Carolina nonprofit Appalachian Wildlife Refuge. The wands are used to help remove fly eggs and larva from the fur of animals.

Green Summit is also collecting used gift cards and rigid type plastic cards to be recycled by an

Ohio based company, creating 100% recycled plastic cards used by retail stores and hotels.

Drop off donations are accepted between 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Reeves-Reed Arboretum, 165 Hobart Avenue, Summit. Collection bins can be found in the foyer of Wisner House (main building) of the arboretum.

If you have any questions, or you would like to make a larger donation, reach out via GreenSummitNJ.org.

SUMMIT FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTES FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Prevention week was October 6 through 12. The Summit Fire Department teamed up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to promote the 2019 Fire Prevention Week campaign: “Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!” The goal of the campaign is to educate about the small but important actions people can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

In 2017 U.S. Fire Departments responded to 357,000 home structure fires. Fires caused 2,630 fire deaths and 10,600 fire injuries. On average, seven people died in a home fire per day during 2012 to 2016.

“These numbers illustrate how home fires continue to pose a significant threat to safety,” reports Lorraine Carli, NFPA Vice President of Outreach and Advocacy. “In a typical home fire people may have as few as one to two minutes to

escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Escape planning and practice is essential in giving everyone enough time to get out.”

While NFPA and the Summit Fire Department are focusing on home fires, these messages apply to virtually any location.

“Situational awareness is a skill people need to use wherever they are,” explains Chief Eric Evers. “When entering a new location, I always advise people to look around for available exits. If the alarm system sounds, take it seriously and exit the building immediately.”

For more information on Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Summit, go to cityofsummit.org or contact the Summit Fire Department at 908-277-9358. For more information on national Fire Prevention Week and home escape planning, visit fpw.org.

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TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE THROUGH DEC. 9

The Summit Policemen's Benevolent Association #55 (PBA) and Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association #54 (FMBA) are hosting the annual United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots holiday toy drive through December 9, 2019.

To participate, bring new and unwrapped toys to the donation boxes at the following Summit locations during

normal business hours:

- Summit City Hall (512 Springfield Ave)
- Summit Fire Department (396 Broad St)
- Summit Post Office (61 Maple St)
- Summit High School (125 Kent Place Blvd)
- Summit Community Center (100 Morris Ave)

- Starbucks (2 Beechwood Rd)
- Summit YMCA (67 Maple St)
- Lakeland Bank (510 Morris Ave)
- Peapack-Gladstone Bank (48 Deforest Ave)

The PBA and FMBA will drop off donated toys to the Marine Corps Reserve on December 10. The toys collected

through this program are distributed to children throughout Union County and the surrounding area. In 2018, the

Marine Toys for Tots program collected and distributed more than 18 million toys to seven million deserving

children in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands.

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GIVING BACK AT THE FOOD BANK

Summit Times • Page 19 • December 2019

Submitted by Ann Kent

A group of over 130 mentors, mentees, and parents from Student/Partner Alliance, a Summit-based non-profit, volunteered at The Community Food Bank of New Jersey on Saturday morning, November 9th, 2019. The volunteer day is an annual service event for our students and a great way to give back to the community.

Everyone left the Community Food Bank of New Jersey energized and proud of the work that they did. Volunteering at an event like this is a great way for mentors and mentees to connect to form a strong and positive relationship. The Community Food Bank of NJ is the state's largest

anti-hunger and anti-poverty organization.

If you would like to learn more about our program, please contact akent@studentpartneralliance.org.

ABOUT: STUDENT/PARTNER ALLIANCE

The mission of Student/Partner Alliance (S/PA) is to support motivated high school students at private high schools in New Jersey's urban areas of Essex, Hudson and Union counties with tuition assistance and mentoring to increase their chances for college admission and scholarships, and ultimately to lead successful and productive lives.



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WHARTON INSTITUTE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS ANNOUNCES 2019-2020 CONCERT SEASON WITH A FOCUS ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

New Jersey's largest non-profit community performing arts education organization has announced its 2019-2020 season, featuring 35 public events presented by over 1,500 talented students and faculty members. And with a grant from The Catalyst Fund of the League of American Orchestras, Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts (WIPA) embarks this season on an equity, diversity, and inclusion initiative to help advance its mission to create supportive and inclusive learning for a wide range of students.

"As we continue to inspire our students to strive for personal excellence through performing arts education, we desire to practice culturally responsible instruction by embracing and celebrating diversity on and off the stage," says WIPA Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Helen H. Cha-Pyo. "To this end, we will offer more intentional programming this season with works representing cultures from around the world and music written by under-represented composers, in addition to celebrating the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth with over 15 works by this beloved 19th century composer."

"Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts is committed to transforming communities through music education, a powerful tool that affects the greater education system by improving student graduation rates, college readiness, and job readiness," says incoming Executive Director and new force behind Wharton's growing community presence, Peter H. Gistelink. "It also spurs economic development by making communities more attractive to live in, creating jobs, and improving quality of life as Wharton's programs impact communities across the state of NJ from Berkeley Heights, to Paterson, and beyond. Above all, we view our work through the lens of social justice and shared power, ensuring that the benefits of music are accessible to all students despite their ability to pay, socioeconomic background or where they come from."

On Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. The New Jersey Youth Symphony (NJYS), a Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts program,

will give a rare performance of *Two Nutcrackers: Tchaikovsky & Ellington* at the Union County Performing Arts Center, located at

1601 Irving Street in Rahway. The NJYS Youth Symphony and Jazz Orchestra will perform side-by-side in this holiday spectacular sure to delight the entire family. Tickets can be purchased at www.ucpac.org.

In addition to collaborating with and under the guidance of a consultant to further equity, diversity, and inclusion, NJYS will celebrate female African-American composers Florence Price and Julia Perry in a concert on Sunday, January 26 at 4:00 p.m. at Princeton University's Richardson Auditorium. A world premiere by New Jersey resident Aferdian Stephens, winner of the 2018 Bohuslav Martinů Award and 2018 ASCAP Young Composer Award, will be featured alongside the annual NJYS Concerto Competition winner on Sunday, May 3 at 7:30pm at Rutgers University's Mason Gross Performing Arts Center.

The Performing Arts School (PAS) Wharton Players will present *Elf, Jr.* on Friday, December 6 and Saturday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 p.m. in the Wharton Arts 100-seat black box theatre located at 60 Locust Avenue in Berkeley Heights. Tickets can be purchased at whartonarts.org. PAS will also present practical workshops and inspiring master classes with world-class artists such as Afendi Yusuf, Principal Clarinet of the Cleveland Orchestra, and Dr. Min Kwon, Professor of Piano at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University.

On March 29 at 3:00 p.m., the annual crowd-pleasing Playathon pops concert takes place at The Mills at Jersey Gardens in Elizabeth, featuring a 500-piece orchestra performing a wide range of movie and Broadway favorites. Students from NJYS, PMP, and PAS participate in this day of music making, furthering the organization's mission to make performing arts accessible to everyone.

The season culminates with the NJYS American Celebration of Music Concert Series in Italy, June 27-July 6. The tour, including four orchestral concerts and one chamber concert, will present some of NJYS' and the Garden State's most talented young musicians at Milan's Teatro dal Verme, Florence's Teatro Verdi, Rome's St.

Andrea della Valle and St. Eustachio, and Albano's Festival Liszt Albano at Castel Gandolfo. NJYS will participate in a festival exchange with the Florence Conservatory of Music (Conservatorio Luigi Cherubini) in an exclusive concert series through Music Celebrations International.

For ticket information and full 2019-20 season brochure, visit www.WartonArts.org.

The Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts' mission is to provide the highest quality performing arts education to a wide range of students in a supportive and inclusive environment, where striving for personal excellence inspires and connects those we teach to the communities we serve.

Wharton Arts is New Jersey's largest independent non-profit community performing arts education center serving over 1,500 students through a range of classes and ensembles including the 15 ensembles of the New Jersey Youth Symphony, which serve 500 students in grades 3 – 12 by audition. Beginning with Out of the Box Music and Pathways classes for young children, Wharton Arts offers private lessons, group classes, and ensembles for all ages and all abilities at the Performing Arts School. With the belief in the positive and unifying influence of music and the performing arts and that arts education should be accessible to all people regardless of their ability to pay, Wharton teaches all instruments and voice and has a robust musical theater program. Based in Paterson, New Jersey, the Paterson Music Project is an El Sistema-inspired program of the Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts that uses music as a vehicle for social change by empowering and inspiring children through the community experience of ensemble learning and playing.

Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts is located in Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Paterson, NJ and reaches students from 10 counties. All of Wharton's extraordinary faculty members and conductors hold degrees in their teaching specialty and have been vetted and trained to enable our students to achieve their personal best.



SAGE ANNOUNCES BIRTHDAY BASH TO CELEBRATE 65 YEARS

In celebration of SAGE Eldercare's 65th year as a community leader in older adult care, the nonprofit will hold a birthday bash at Canoe Brook Country Club on November 7th beginning at 6:00 pm. The celebration will honor SAGE's corporate partner PNC Bank and longtime volunteer Kitty Hartman of New Providence. SAGE volunteer John Mell and his wife Anne of Summit will be guest speakers. The celebration will also pay homage to SAGE Founders and the nonprofit's story, which began in 1954 when a

group of civil minded volunteers saw a need in the community to help older adults and took action to make it happen. The event will feature a silent auction, which will include two rounds of golf at Canoe Brook Country Club, dinners at The Summit House, Fiorino and the Harvest Group Restaurants, a blue sapphire necklace from Schroth and Lorenson Jewelers in Summit and lots more.

"It is hard to believe that SAGE is celebrating its 65th year," said Executive Director, Angela

Sullivan. "We have accomplished so much over the years and yet when we look at the overwhelming statistics facing our aging community, we realize our work is needed now more than ever. Older adults count on SAGE and the valuable services we supply. We need the community's support to remain viable and helpful."

To purchase tickets to SAGE's Birthday Bash please contact Jean Finsen at 908-598-5504 or email jfinsen@sageeldercare.org. To help SAGE in other ways or to learn more about SAGE's services, visit www.sageeldercare.org.

ABOUT SAGE ELDERCARE

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 www.sageeldercare.org.



(above) SAGE Board President Christopher Cotter, SAGE volunteer Kitty Hartman, SAGE Trustee Michael Foncannon of PNC Bank and SAGE Executive Director Angela Sullivan.

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Wednesday Eucharists at 12:00 and 7:30 p.m.
• **Sunday, December 22 •**
Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP
Christmas Eve • Tuesday, December 24
Family Service
including Children's Pageant at 4:00 p.m.
Candlelight Eucharist
with Soloists at 6:00 p.m.
Candlelight Eucharist with Sanctuary Choir and
Instrumentalists at 8:00 p.m.
Christmas Day • Wednesday, December 25
Nativity Eucharist and Carols at 10:00 a.m.
• **Sunday, December 29 •**
Eucharist, Lessons and Carols at 10:00 a.m.

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Make Your Own: Hand-colored Silk Scarf

Tuesday, December 3 at 2 pm

We provide all the materials—you provide your creativity—and voila! Make a pretty scarf to give as a gift or for yourself. It's easy and fun—no prior experience necessary—our skilled teacher will provide a step-by-step lesson and be on-hand to provide guidance and encouragement! Class size is limited to 20, call the library to reserve a spot.

Trivia Night at the Library

Wednesday, December 11 from 7-8:30 pm,

Trivia night is good for some laughs with questions that are designed to be accessible to a wide range of ages and interests. Open to adults and teens age 16+, you can have up to four people on your team—and, yes, there will be prizes! Call us at 908-273-0350, option 3 and sign your team (or yourself!) up.

Rewind: A Woodstock Anniversary Tribute

Sunday, December 15 from 2-3 pm.

The band will revive memories and emotions with their Songs of Woodstock, the one-of-a-kind music celebration that featured Creedence Clearwater Revival, Janis Joplin, Santana, Joe Cocker, Jefferson Airplane, and countless other classic bands and musicians. No reservation needed.

Cookie Castles!

Saturday, December 21, 2-3 p.m.
and 3:30-4:30 pm

we'll be keeping the kids busy building Cookie Castles! Sign them up for this always popular program—so popular we expanded the event to two sittings! Open to kids in grades K-5, call the Children's Room at 908-273-0350, ext. 825 to book a spot, or drop by the Ask Us Desk in the Children's Room to sign up in person.

Noon Year's Eve celebration

Tuesday, December 31, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Ring in the New Year at our Noon Year's Eve celebration for kids in grades K-5. We'll be dancing, singing, telling stories, making crafts, and partying like it's 2020. What better way to toast the New Year than with your friends and family at the library?!

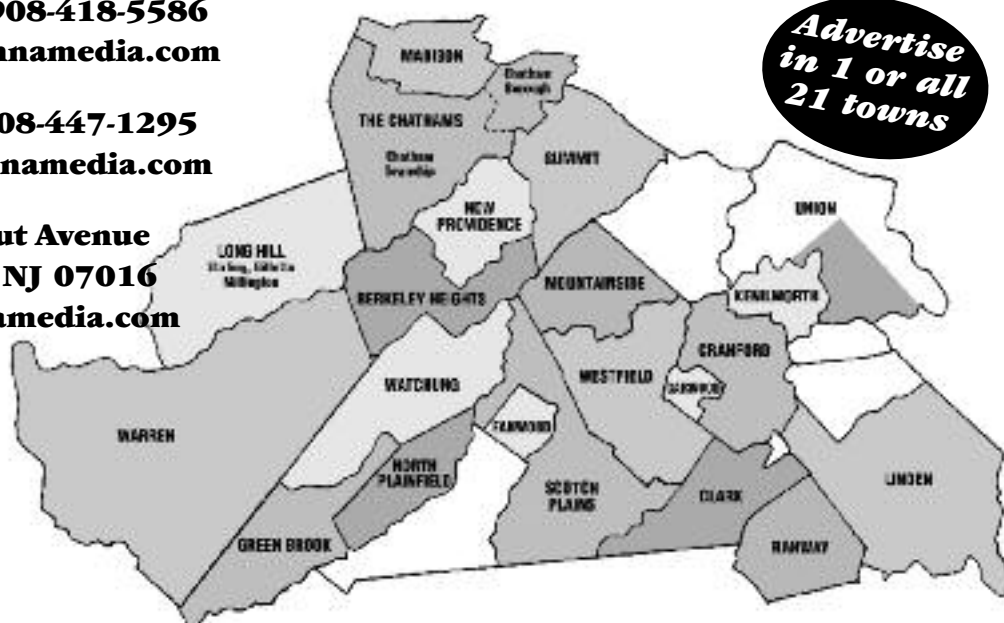
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TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 21ST ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 21st season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 14 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) for a 2 p.m. performance. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 15 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ with performances at 2 and 7 p.m.

For those weary of the ceaseless stream of secular seasonal music from department stores to TV, the Pipes of Christmas offers a spiritual and traditional take on the season that connects concertgoers to the holiday in a fresh, meaningful way. The show features tunes such as, "Highland Cathedral," Joy to the World, and Amazing Grace, all performed live on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, and organ and brass and more. Not only does the performance define Christmas cheer, but also it inspires those of

Celtic descent to retrace and reconnect to their ancestry.

The 2019 production will also mark the world premiere of "Mystical Nativity," an original composition inspired by the 16th century masterpiece painted by Italian Renaissance master, Sandro Botticelli.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Featured performers include singer Maddy Kearns of Glasgow, Scotland making her concert debut, James Robinson from the film "Braveheart," New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more.

PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which includes the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts

Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School as well as annual gifts to the National Piping Centre and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland) the Gaelic College of Nova Scotia and Lyon College in Batesville, Arkansas.

Proceeds also support the Society's sponsorship of the US National Scottish Harp Championship, the Gaelic Literature Competition at Scotland's Royal National Mod and an annual academic research prize at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Scotland's Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye.

Each year, concert highlights are webcast in hi-definition over the Christmas holiday to a global audience. In cooperation with HomeTowne Television, the 2018 production was the recipient of two prestigious Telly Awards for webcast excellence.

The concert is still accepting Title Sponsors as well as Program Ads. These gifts help offset production expenses and add help fund our scholarships.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Tickets may be purchased online exclusively through Brown Paper Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com (be certain you select the event name and date in the search engine) or by phone at (800) 838-3006. Reserved patron seats are available at both venues.



(above) Rachel Clemente. The acclaimed composer and performer will debut the new composition, "Mystical Nativity."

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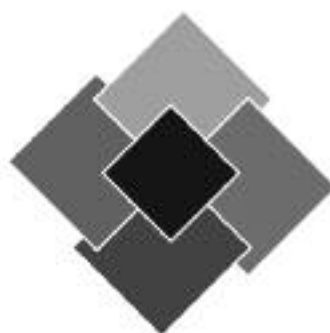
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