

Summit NJ Times

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SUMMIT FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO ITS BOARD

The Summit Foundation announces the appointment of two members to its board and the retirement of a longstanding trustee.

Jonathan Betz and Mark Yeager have joined the board. Sandra R. Lizza has retired from the board.

Jonathan Betz is a senior engineering manager at Facebook. Previously, he's led engineering teams at Google, Yext, and Rent the Runway. He is also an active angel investor, with investments in more than two dozen technology startups. From 2018 through 2020, Betz was chairman of the Summit Economic Development Advisory Committee. He served as grants chair of the Sustain Summit Fund, a program to support Summit's local businesses in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. He has been Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 67 in Summit since July 2020.

Mark Yeager is founder and principal of MRV Associates, LLC, a private equity real estate organization based in Summit, New Jersey. He worked at Nabisco and CB Commercial before serving as president and chief investment officer at Gale Real Estate Services Company. He was also executive vice president of Mack-Cali Realty Corporation. He served on the board of trustees for the Tri-County Scholarship Fund and Daytop and is a current board trustee at Lehigh University. In 2003, he was honored with the Huber Award for Outstanding Voluntary Leadership. Yeager supports two endowed



(above, l-r) Sandra Lizza, Jonathan Betz, Mark Yeager

scholarships at Lehigh University.

Sandra R. Lizza served on the board of trustees of The Summit Foundation for 12 years, most recently as secretary. She also was chair of the Foundation's nominating and governance committee for many years. Lizza was a councilwoman for the City of Summit, a trustee for Summit Downtown Inc., and vice chair of the Summit Historic Preservation Commission. Her 24-year career with Philip Morris USA (now Altria Group) included leadership positions in finance, planning, and process management. Lizza has been a volunteer with many civic, school and religious groups and was honored by the Boy Scout's Patriots' Path Council for her community leadership. She is an active supporter of Saint Peter's Prep and Saint Peter's University in Jersey City.

The Summit Foundation (formerly Summit Area Public Foundation) fosters philanthropy by identifying local needs and offering donors flexible ways to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors. Since 2010, The Summit Foundation has awarded \$6 million through 430 competitive grants to tax-exempt organizations that serve the Summit area.

THE SUMMIT FOUNDATION AWARDS MORE THAN \$305,000 TO AREA NONPROFITS

Submitted by Julie Adams

The Summit Foundation has awarded more than \$305,000 in grants to 17 local nonprofit organizations providing vital food, shelter, education, arts, culture, and health programs and services. Some of the grants include:

- \$20,000 to Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County
- \$25,000 to GRACE
- \$15,000 to YWCA of Union County
- \$10,000 to ECLC Foundation
- \$8,500 to Friends of Summit Public Art
- \$26,000 to Overlook Foundation

Other organizations receiving grants include ARTS by the People, Morristown Medical Center Foundation, Summit

Speech School, Imagine, Good Grief, Center for Hope Hospice, St. Joseph Social Service Center, Community FoodBank of NJ, Boy Scouts of America Patriots' Path Council, Summit Chorale, and Summit Area YMCA.

In 2020, The Summit Foundation's support totaled \$1.2 million, including \$100,000 in emergency grants to help organizations respond to COVID-19 restrictions, \$665,000 in competitive grants to 34 local nonprofits, \$50,000 in college scholarships for local high school students, and more than \$385,000 through donor advised and community pass through funds.

For the full list of grantees, visit summitforever.org.

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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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Veterans and their families who are experiencing a housing crisis may be eligible for emergency assistance such as motel/hotel stays, security deposits, rent, rental arrears, groceries and utilities through Community Hope.

Community Hope's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is currently providing assistance remotely. Urgent community-based services such as critical supplies and veteran wellness-checks are provided in person.

The increase in support services to veterans and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic is possible thanks to funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

To make a referral, please call the referral hotline at 1-855-483-8466 or email SSVF@communityhope-nj.org, or email Gema Diaz at gdiaz@communityhope-nj.org.

Community Hope is a nonprofit that helps individuals, including veterans, and their families, overcome mental illness, addiction, homelessness and poverty. Learn more at communityhope-nj.org.



COVID-19 VACCINES ARE IN THE PIPELINE SCAMMERS WON'T BE FAR BEHIND

Division of Consumer and Business Education, FTC

The release of COVID-19 vaccines plans for distribution are still being worked out.

While we wait for a timeline and more information, there's no doubt scammers will be scheming. Here's what you need to know to avoid a vaccine-related scam:

- You likely will not need to pay anything out of pocket to get the vaccine during this public health emergency.
- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get early access to the vaccine.
- No one from a vaccine distribution site or health care payer, like a private insurance company, will call you asking for your Social Security number or your credit card or bank account information to sign you up to get the

vaccine.

- Beware of providers offering other products, treatments, or medicines to prevent the virus. Check with your health care provider before paying for or receiving any COVID-19-related treatment.

If you get a call, text, email — or even someone knocking on your door — claiming they can get you early access to the vaccine, STOP. That's a scam. Don't pay for a promise of vaccine access or share personal information. Instead, report it to the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov or file a complaint with your state or territory attorney general through consumerresources.org, the consumer website of the National Association of Attorneys General.

Display: Three Ways to Avoid COVID-19 Vaccine Scams infographic (ftc.gov)

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Having more than 30 years of industry experience, I joined Edward Jones in 2018 as a financial advisor. My wife, Shari and I are Summit residents since 2001. We are raising our three children here and are active in this great community.

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Summit Market Watch



2020 Summit Home Sales

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ADDRESS	BEDS	BATHS	GARAGE	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DOM
55 Fernwood Rd	6	6.1	2	\$2,995,000	\$2,900,000	154
189 Kent Place Blvd	6	4.2	3	\$2,575,000	\$2,660,000	4
18 Hawthorne Pl	5	3.2	2	\$2,349,000	\$2,500,000	8
40 Edgewood Rd	5	5.1	2	\$2,395,000	\$2,347,500	65
99 Fernwood Rd	6	6.1	2	\$2,395,000	\$2,250,000	197
29 Whitfledge Rd	5	4.1	3	\$2,150,000	\$2,150,000	27
16 Greenbriar Dr	5	3.1	4	\$2,100,000	\$2,075,000	1
36 Colt Rd	6	3.3	3	\$2,095,000	\$1,950,000	84
34 Prospect St	5	5.1	2	\$1,895,000	\$1,925,000	34
97 Pine Grove Ave	5	3.1	2	\$1,750,000	\$1,850,000	7
29 Waldron Ave	5	3.2	2	\$1,525,000	\$1,727,777	14
66 Templar Way	4	3.1	2	\$1,579,000	\$1,630,000	8
15 Hickory Rd	3	4.0	2	\$1,395,000	\$1,500,000	20
21 Londonderry Way	4	3.0	2	\$1,349,000	\$1,490,000	8
18 Sherman Ave	4	3.1	2	\$1,399,000	\$1,450,000	11
5 Ox Bow Ln	4	3.1	2	\$1,200,000	\$1,355,000	11
18 Pine Ridge Dr	5	3.1	2	\$1,265,000	\$1,325,000	32
220 Mountain Ave	4	3.1	2	\$1,199,500	\$1,210,000	13
71 Pine Grove Ave	4	2.1	2	\$1,100,000	\$1,125,000	11
11 Oak Knoll Rd	3	2.1	1	\$975,000	\$1,075,000	7
16 Iris Rd	4	2.2	1	\$1,050,000	\$999,000	85
168 Ashland Rd	3	3.1	2	\$929,000	\$960,000	12
27 Gates Ave	4	2.2	2	\$879,000	\$920,000	11
121 Ashland Rd	4	2.1	2	\$795,000	\$820,000	20
231 Mountain Ave	3	1.1	0	\$789,000	\$800,000	0
31 Edison Dr	4	3.0	1	\$725,000	\$775,000	17
7 Oak Ridge Ave	4	2.1	2	\$685,000	\$712,800	6
9 Harrison Ct	3	2.1	2	\$635,000	\$635,000	13
24 Baltusrol Place	3	2.0	2	\$519,500	\$565,000	15

Source: GSMILS, selected properties sold between 01/01/2020-12/31/2020

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DR. KENNETH SCHNEIDER JOINS IMAGINE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Submitted by Val Stierhoff

We are so pleased to welcome Kenneth Schneider, Ph.D of Summit to the Board of Trustees at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss in Mountainside and Newark.




Although Ken “retired” from his full-time academic position at the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology of Rutgers University fifteen years ago, he continues to teach, supervise and mentor doctoral students in clinical and school psychology. He is a licensed New Jersey professional psychologist with a practice in Springfield and is an ally with individuals considered less able by many segments of society. The mission of Imagine coordinates with Ken’s commitments. Offering a variety of resources without cost to individuals and families at a time when they are in need of unconditional human connection is a high calling.

Jersey Fresh, Ken was born, raised and inculcated by the diversity of the NY metro influences. He and his wife, Linda, a professional educator, raised their children in Mountainside and exposed them to the values of relationships, understanding others, and repairing the world in the smallest of ways. Their children are passing these values to their children. Under normal times Linda and Ken are Broadway enthusiasts and spend time in Kennebunk, Maine.

Imagine offers grief and loss education and training to the community and free year-round grief support groups for children age 3-18 who have had a parent or brother or sister die. Concurrent groups are available for parents and guardians, and young adults 18-30. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imagineinj.org.



(above) Kenneth Schneider, Ph.D, of Summit joined the Board of Trustees at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss.

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Nathan Weiser ★★★★★
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Charles Sherrick ★★★★★
 I have been at Spring Grove for a few weeks now, they have exceptional service and excellent staff. All the nurses have been professional and attentive to all my needs. I never thought a rehab center can have such a beautiful layout and well put together. The newly renovated room I have stayed in, is up to date and extremely clean. The therapy staff have gone above my expectations with their expertise and getting me to where I am today. Alyssa the social worker has gone above and beyond with all her assignments.
Thank you Spring Grove.

Chrissy Sloan ★★★★★
 The nursing staff and administration is professional, patient, attentive and understanding. The facilities are very clean and well maintained. My parents room is always clean and tidy. Although it was a difficult decision to make relocating my folks from a home environment to a senior living facility, Spring Grove made my decision easy.
Thank God for them!

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SUMMIT EMS RESPONSES – DECEMBER 2020

Submitted by John Staunton

Summit's EMS Volunteers closed out a hectic 2020 by answering 170 emergency calls for help in December. These included 108 medical emergencies: 15 falls; 9 motor vehicle accidents, including 1 into a tree; 9 traumatic injuries; 1 woman in labor; 6 cases of overdose or poisoning; and 10 responses to a medical alarm. Squad Volunteers also provided 4 "lift assists" to patients who did not require transport to a hospital as well as 2 non-emergency ambulance transports.

Among the Squad's emergency calls in December was a large scale missing person search to which 14 Squad members responded and conducted searches of area buildings, backyards, parks, wooded areas, etc. After a 4 hour search effort, the individual was found in a neighboring town. The Squad also helped a cardiac arrest patient who was successfully revived and has since returned home. In that case, a nearby Summit Police officer arrived on scene almost immediately with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and administered a shock to restore an effective heart rhythm. The Squad arrived just a minute later, continued treatment and transported the patient to Overlook Medical Center.

After treating 9 possible COVID-19 patients in November, the Squad saw just 3 in December.

During December, 22 emergency calls were answered by an off-duty "back-up crew" of volunteers responding from home or work when the on-duty crew is busy. 9 emergency calls were to provide mutual aid assistance to neighboring towns. 19 patients transported to a hospital by Squad members also received advanced life support care from hospital-based paramedics who accompanied the Squad's ambulance.

The Squad answers calls for help 24 hours a day and at a variety of locations. December's responses included 99 to patients' homes or apartments; 19 for accidents or medical emergencies on roads or highways; 3 calls were to an assisted living facility; 2 in public buildings; 8 at a local business; and 2 to a health care professional's office. There were also 5 medical incidents on sidewalks; 2 in parking lots; 1 at a church; 1 in a park; 11 at Summit's Train Station; and 11 on the grounds of a local hospital.

The all-volunteer Summit First Aid Squad responds to emergency calls 24/7, is entirely funded through private donations and does not bill for service. The Squad 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.

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Edward Anthony Somma, MD
Internal Medicine

After graduating from medical school, Dr Somma served his internship in Internal Medicine at Trinitas Regional Medical Center. He then completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Seton Hall Post Graduate School of Medicine, where he was elected Chief Resident of Internal Medicine in his final year.

Dr. Somma has been in practice in Union and Middlesex counties for over 20 years, with an emphasis on excellence and compassion for his patients. He has served as the physician for the Elizabeth Fire Department, the Board of Health of Hillside and has served the Board of Education for Woodbridge NJ. He was granted the Humanitarian of the Year Award by Trinitas Health Foundation in May 2014, for his dedication to the community and his outstanding service to the goals of the Foundation.

Dr. Somma has special interests in various fields of Internal Medicine, including diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular diseases and arthritis/rheumatology. He has represented to major pharmaceutical companies, such as Schering-Plough and Pfizer, in a consulting and educational role for his peers. Dr. Somma has been a clinical educator for Seton Hall's Physician Assistant Program as an Associate Professor of Medicine for their Internal Medicine program.



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SCHEDULE YOUR COVID VACCINATION

The County of Union opened an online registration system at ucnjvaccine.org for those eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

Please note the registration system will only log those who are eligible to receive the vaccination. Those who are ineligible to receive vaccinations will not be allowed to pre-register, and must wait until they are eligible.

Those who are eligible to receive the vaccine include paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and long-term care residents and staff, and also sworn law enforcement personnel and

fire professionals. Residents 65 and older are also eligible to receive the vaccinations, as are those between the ages of 16-64 with medical conditions, as defined by the CDC, that increase the risk of severe illness from the virus.

The county is offering the Moderna vaccine. The vaccination clinic is located at Downs Hall at Kean University in Union, and is currently open five days a week from 3-7 p.m. Once more vaccines are available, the county is planning to offer the COVID-19 vaccine in different areas of the county.

To secure an appointment for the COVID vaccination visit ucnjvaccine.org.

NAMI UNION COUNTY "CIRCLE OF FRIENDS"

The Union County chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) invites area residents to join its Zoom "Circle of Friends" for a free informal evening of discussion on Feb. 23, from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

The format will be a panel discussion with Joyce Benz, LCSW, Director of Intensive Family Support Services of the Mental Health Assoc. in NJ as moderator along with other NAMI members. The panel will explore various topics affecting persons with mental

illness and offer insight from their own experiences in dealing with these problems. Join us and bring your questions and concerns. This is an opportunity for information sharing with others who have a common interest.

Please register for this evening at naminj.org/support/affiliates/union/UpcomingEvent. Click on the "Register Here" link which will not be available until a few days before the event.

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Submitted by Larry Holt

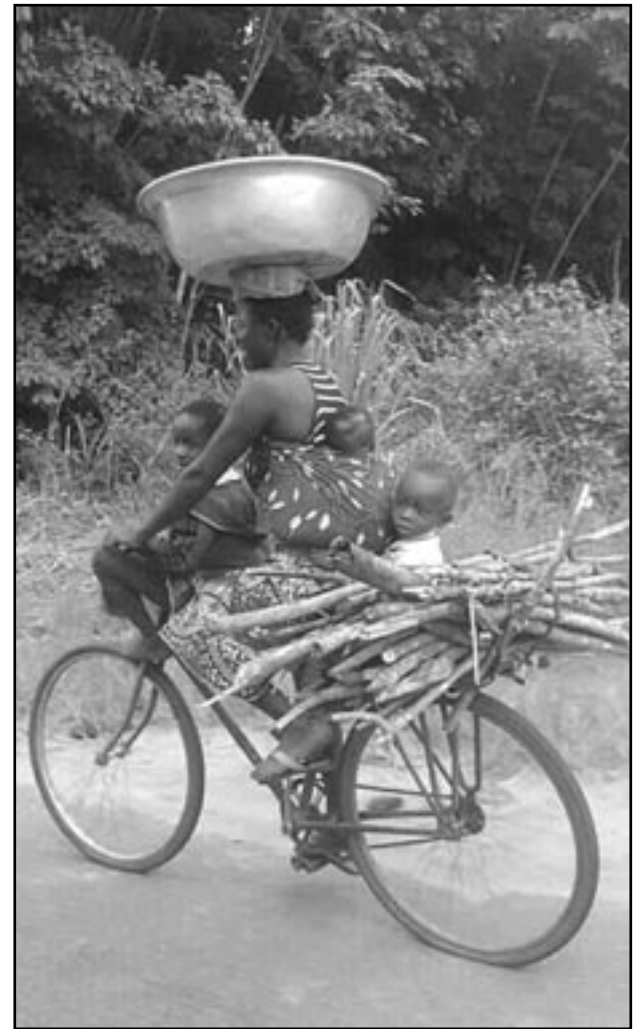
In August 2020, Renna Media reported that Faith Lutheran Church collected and repaired 170 used bikes from residents of New Providence, Berkeley Heights and neighboring towns. The collection was conducted on behalf of Pedals for Progress, an organization which recycles bikes for persons in developing countries. Faith contributed \$1,700 toward the shipping bikes.

In the United States daily transportation occurs conveniently with little or no forethought. This is not the case in developing countries, where a village may not have one car. The mode of transportation for commuting to work, going to market and receiving medical care is frequently a pedal bike.

Later this year, Faith will again be asking persons to donate bikes for Faith to process through Pedals for Progress. A person may ask Faith to pick up the bike from his/her house or deliver the bike to Faith. If one wishes to donate a bike before the request, one may place the bike by the shed at the back of Faith's parking lot located at 524 South Street, New Providence, NJ. If you would like a bike picked up call 908-464-5177.

Since 2002 Faith has been participating in the Pedals for Progress program. For the past five years, Casey Walsh has chaired the ministry.

The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. Visit online at famfaith.org, or reach by phone at 908-464-5177.



(above) This picture, sent to Faith by Pedals for Progress, demonstrates how completely and creatively the recipients use their bikes.

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POLICE OFFICER HENRY LUDEÑA APPOINTED TO DETECTIVE BUREAU

Submitted by Amy Cairns

The Summit Police Department appointed Police Officer Henry Ludeña to its Detective Bureau on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

Detective Ludeña is a nine-year veteran of the Summit Police Department where he actively served in the Patrol Bureau, participating in many community and school events.

“Detective Ludeña is a respected member of the Summit Police Department patrol unit,” explains Chief Andrew Bartolotti. “His exemplary record in community policing and strong relationships in the Hispanic community will benefit the Detective Bureau. Now more than ever, it is important for the community to be able to relate with law enforcement, and law enforcement to establish relevant connections in the community.”

Detective Henry Ludeña is a 2004 graduate of William Patterson University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, 2007 graduate of the John H. Stamler Police Academy and 2016 graduate of Seton Hall University with a Master in Human Resources Training and Development. From 1997 to 2001, Officer Ludeña served in the United States Navy as a gas turbine electrician and was deployed to the Persian Gulf as part of Operation Southern

Watch. He was honorably discharged in 2001. More information on the Summit Police Department is available on the City of Summit website.



(above) The Summit Police Department announced the appointment of Police Officer Henry Ludeña to its Detective Bureau.

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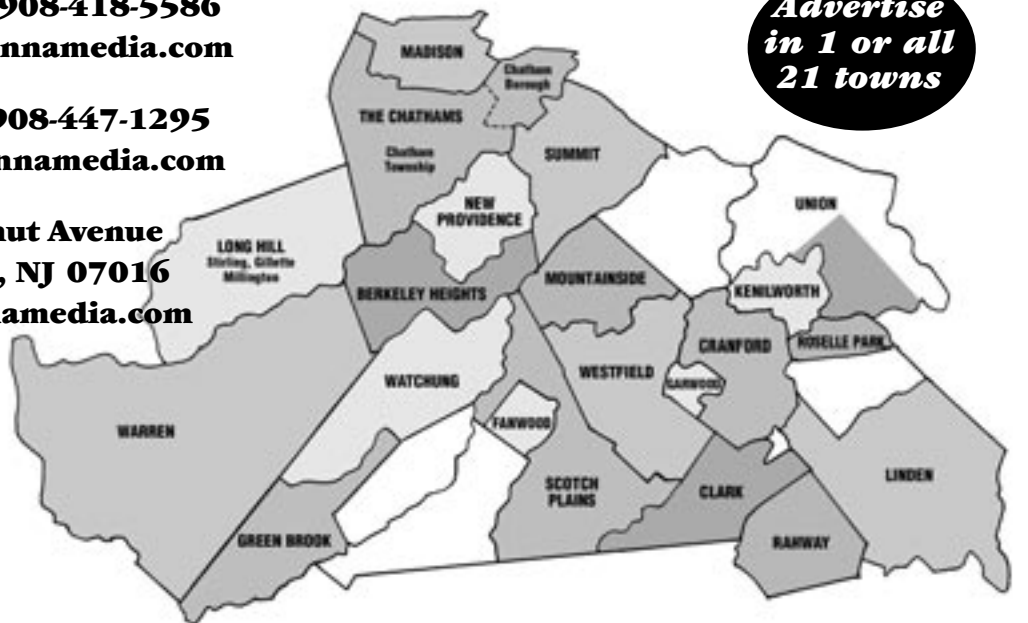
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The Summit Free Public Library will continue virtual programming via Zoom in February with a number of informative programs being offered for adults.

Why Do Lovers Send Greeting Cards, Candy, and Roses on February 14?

Tuesday, February 2nd at 7 p.m.

Kevin Woyce is back with Valentine's Greetings in his newest holiday program, author, photographer, and musician Kevin Woyce explores the romantic history of Valentine's Day, from Saint Valentine, Cupid, and the first Valentine cards to some of the season's most popular songs. The slideshow is illustrated with original photographs and lots of vintage Valentine's Day cards and art.

Let's Get Crafty!

Wednesday, February 10th at 11 a.m.

Crafting pro Marge Barkan returns with a new craft project—this month she'll be showing participants how to make a T-shirt infinity scarf in the latest in our series, Make Your Own: T-shirt Infinity Scarf. No sewing required! This will be a Facebook Premiere video, which allows you to return to the video to review your progress and for additional guidance. The first 15 registrants will receive a t-shirt to use for the craft (you supply the scissors).

Learn Meditation Techniques with Umesh Bhatia

Wednesday, February 10th at 7 p.m.

Meditation expert Umesh Bhatia returns to present Meditation for Modern Times. The ancient tradition of meditation has become even more valuable for people due to daily stressors and the added stress of COVID-19. Meditation is a tool that can be used to cope with the challenges of everyday life and reduce stress. There are many benefits that come from meditation on a physical, emotional and spiritual level. During this engaging workshop you will learn a simple time-tested technique and even have the chance to try this out!

Make your Business Buzz-worthy

Tuesday, February 16th at 7 p.m.

Join Michael Roderick, Small Pond Enterprises CEO and expert in referability and relationship building 90-minute presentation-Being Referable: How to Get People Talking About You and Your Brand. Are you an entrepreneur or small business owner? Then this workshop is for you. Get tips and advice to some practical applications for getting people talking about you and your brand!

History Lessons

Wednesday, February 17th at 7 p.m.

Storyteller Lou Del Bianco presents Out of Rushmore's Shadow: the Luigi Del Bianco Story. Portraying his grandfather, Luigi Del Bianco, Lou talks about his unsung contribution as chief carver on our nation's greatest memorial, Mount Rushmore. Lou uses authentic photos, timelines and primary source documents to bring Luigi's story to life. The presentation culminates with designer Gutzon Borglum's praise of Luigi, the 25-year struggle to get him recognized and the tribute where a plaque at Mount Rushmore is finally unveiled! This program is a dramatic and touching story about Luigi's legacy and the immigrant struggle.

Can we Talk?

Thursday, February 18th at 11 a.m.

About books that is! Join librarian Debbie Abrams for Book Talk with Debbie. Debbie will provide a selective guide to the most buzz-worthy books each month. Come away with a new title for your list - or at least be able to fake it when someone asks! Bring titles - to recommend or pan - to share with the group.

Explore Your World with Robert Comeau

Friday, February 19th at 2:00 p.m.

The library's popular Explore Your World: Minicourses for Adults series returns with perennial favorite, Robert Comeau of Union County Community College presenting Invisibility and the Gaze: Ralph Ellison and Toni Morrison. This six-week minicourse will explore and journey through Ralph Ellison's Invisible Man and Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon. Attendees can read each novel before the start of class-the library will have copies of the book available in several formats including eBook, eAudiobook, and books on CD, and print.

Interested in signing up for any of these programs? You can visit our website at summitlibrary.org and go to the Events tab at the top of the homepage or call the library to register directly with one of our librarians. Note, all of the library's programs are currently being delivered via Zoom. You'll receive a Zoom link in your email, typically the day before and the day of the start of the program.



(above) Lou Del Bianco will speak about his grandfather's legacy when he presents 'Out of Rushmore's Shadow' on Wednesday, February 17th at 7 p.m.

SUMMIT OLD GUARD FEB ZOOM EVENTS

The Summit Old Guard is continuing its virtual programming throughout February, and probably most of this year. The programs are delivered via ZOOM and can be accessed by sending an email to info@summitoldguard.org. Our February programs are listed below.

Feb 2 - Margaret McMenamin, President of Union County College, will describe the College's work to help students and their families achieve economic and social mobility through higher education. UCC is a federally designated Minority Serving Institution where 70% of the 20,000 students are Black or Hispanic.

Feb 9 - Summit Old Guard's Foster Osborne will pose questions such as: Was the assassination a good or bad thing? Was he a great leader or a despicable tyrant? And what makes his assassination the most famous in history? Answer to the last question is easy (it helps to have William Shakespeare write about it).

Feb 16 - S/PA Executive Director Maggie Momber will describe how Summit-based program increases low-income student success through scholarships and mentoring. Over 25 years, S/PA has supported more than 2,200 scholarships for high school students from our nearby urban areas.

Feb 23 - A medical professional from the Summit Medical Group will review what you need to know about the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines.

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

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