

Published by Renna Media

Issue 66 • March 2021

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OSTAL

PEN PAL PROGRAM CONNECTS SENIORS WITH 5TH GRADERS

Submitted by Cindy Potters

In an effort to help combat the loneliness and isolation older adults are experiencing during COVID-19 and the cold weather months, SAGE Eldercare partnered with fifth grade students at Lincoln Hubbard Elementary School to start a pen pal program with Meals on Wheels clients called Cold Weather Buddies. In the past, the school's fifth graders visited SAGE every Spring to take part in the agency's Sensitivity Training Program, which focuses on the challenges associated with aging.

Nina Tiger, Coordinator of SAGE's Your Decisions Matter program, presented the idea to the school's Principal, Matt Carlin and the PTO. A mother of two former Lincoln Hubbard School students, Tiger was hopeful the PTO would embrace the program, even with the stress of partial remote schooling. "The Meals on Wheels clients we work with have a lot to deal with, including food insecurity as well as physical and sometimes cognitive challenges. The pandemic has been extremely hard on these people as many live alone and are so isolated. We wanted to do something to help and let them know someone cares."

The PTO loved the idea and jumped on it. Students were given a buddy's first name and asked to write a letter, draw a picture or both, telling a bit about themselves and their interests. "Cold Weather Buddies is a great way for kids to learn about the challenges of older adults and how much their act of kindness means to these older people, especially those living alone," said Helen Griffith, 5th Grade Chair at Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School. "We are thrilled to be a part of this program. The fact that some of the Meals on Wheels clients are writing back is a wonderful bonus."

For more information about how your school or organization can become a Cold Weather Buddy, please contact Nina Tiger at ntiger@sageeldercare.org or 908-598-5511.

Since 1954, SAGE Eldercare has been helping make the communities it serves amazing places to age. The 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, to exercise classes, community programs, care planning, and home health care, 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 throughout Union, Essex, Morris, and Somerset Counties.

For more information, please call 908-273-5550 or visit sageeldercare.org.



(above) SAGE's Meals on Wheels clients hold letters they received from fifth grade students at Lincoln Hubbard Elementary School. The students participated in a new SAGE program called Cold Weather Buddies. The goal of the program is to let older adults, who are struggling with isolation and loneliness during COVID-19, know they are not forgotten and that someone cares. For more information about how your school or organization can become a Cold Weather Buddy, please contact Nina Tiger at ntiger@sageeldercare.org or 908-598-5511.





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



SUMMIT PD CERTIFIED AS US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SAFE POLICING AGENCY

Submitted by Amy Cairns

The Summit Police Department has received certification by the United States Department of Justice designating its agency as in compliance with Presidential Executive Order No. 13929 issued on June 16, 2020. The goal of the Safe Policing for Safe Communities order is to ensure law enforcement agencies provide transparent, safe, and accountable delivery of services to communities.

"This designation is noteworthy for the police department, and a significant reminder of the important work we are doing to build trust and ensure safety in our Summit community," explains Summit Police Chief Andrew Bartolotti. "Summit Police Department is committed to a comprehensive review of policing policy, and to becoming an accredited law enforcement agency."

The executive order includes two mandatory standards for certification that are linked to federal funding:

To maintain use of force policies that adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and \cdot To maintain use of force policies that prohibit use of choke holds, except in situations where the use of deadly force is allowed by law.

Beyond the two mandatory certification standards, the US Department of Justice also encourages an independent assessment of agency policies and procedures, in areas such as:

- Training protocols on use of force;
- Training protocols on de-escalation;
- The scope of duty and obligation of an officer to intervene and prevent use of excessive force by another officer;
- When and how to provide appropriate medical care;
- by officers • Identification law as enforcement and provide verbal warning of intent to use deadly force; and
- Shooting at or from a moving vehicle.

Additionally, the Executive Order encourages law enforcement agencies to implement early

Edward Jones



(above) Summit Police Chief Andrew Bartolotti

intervention systems to promote officer wellness, and identify officers who may be at risk for violating use of force policies and procedures.

Chief Bartolotti continues, "An important outcome of this effort will be an ongoing investment in resources in police training and recruitment, and community engagement to address the specific and growing needs in Summit. While the department had an informal system in place for years prior to my appointment as Chief of Police, we are now completing the work needed to adopt and implement a formalized system for certification to ensure accountability throughout the organization."

More information on the Summit Police and Presidential Executive Order No. 13929 certification is available on the City of Summit website.



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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.

Give me a call or send me an email and let's talk about how I can help you and your family achieve your financial goals.

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FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH a worshiping and serving community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 524 South Street, New Providence, NJ 07974 908-464-5177 · family.faith@verizon.net ww.famfaith.org • The Rev. Jane McCready, Pastor **Online Weekly Worship** Sundays at 10:00 a.m. **Online Midweek Lenten Liturgy** with Organ Recital to Follow Wednesdays at 12 noon February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 **Online Holy Week Worship 2021** Passion/Palm Sunday, March 28 Festival Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. Holy Thursday, April 1

Special Liturgy at 7:00 p.m. • Good Friday, April 2 • Special Liturgy at 7:00 p.m.

• Easter Celebration, April 4 • Lighting of the Paschal Candle Garden Liturgy at 7:00 a.m. Festival Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

All services are streamed on Facebook at Faith Lutheran, New Providence

SUMMIT EMS RESPONSES IN JANUARY 2021

Submitted by John Staunton

Summit's EMS Volunteers began the New Year less than 2 hours after midnight with the first of their 161 emergency calls in January. These included 100 medical emergencies: 13 falls; 6 motor vehicle accidents, including 1 into a tree; 11 traumatic injuries; 1 pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle; 8 cases of overdose or poisoning; 1 allergic reaction and 6 responses to a medical alarm. Squad Volunteers also provided 6 "lift assists" to patients who did not require transport to a hospital.

For the 2nd month in a row, the Squad was summoned to assist with a missing person. In this case an elderly person wandered from their home and was found soon afterwards in a nearby parked car. The Squad transported the person to Overlook Medical Center for evaluation.

During January, 11 emergency calls were answered by an off-duty "back-up crew" of volunteers responding from home or work when the on-duty crew was busy. 6 emergency calls were to provide mutual aid assistance to neighboring towns. 15 patients transported to a hospital by Squad members also received advanced life support care from hospital-based

paramedics who accompanied the Squad's ambulance. There were also 3 non-emergency ambulance transports, a service the squad continues to provide to Summit residents.

The Squad answers calls for help 24 hours a day and at a variety of locations. Responses in January included 83 to patient's homes or apartments; 21 for accidents or medical emergencies on roads or highways; 3 calls were to an assisted living facility; 2 in public buildings; 1 at a local business; and 1 to a health care professional's office. There were also 9 medical incidents on sidewalks; 1 in a parking lot; 3 in public buildings; 1 at a church; 2 in a park; 10 at Summit's Train Station; 8 at a local behavioral health facility; and 4 on the grounds of Overlook Medical Center.

The all-volunteer 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 are provided.

For information on becoming a volunteer,

or donating to the squad

please call 908-277-9479, or visit their website at summittems.org.

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SUMMIT COMMUNITY CENTER WILL SERVE AS VACCINATION SITE

As part of ongoing efforts to fight the COVID- online. 19 pandemic, the City of Summit, in partnership with Atlantic Health System's Overlook Medical access may call the Department of Community Center, has established the Summit Community Center on 100 Morris Ave. as a location to signing up for a vaccination alert notification. administer COVID-19 vaccines.

Phases 1A and 1B may register with Atlantic Health System online to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at the Community Center or another Atlantic Health location.

Atthis time, vaccine supply is extremely FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY limited and appointments will only be made available to eligible recipients as supply allows. change. The movement between vaccination To learn more about who is eligible, visit eligibility phases may be fluid. One phase may covid19.nj.gov.

beginning on Monday, February 8, 2021 and administered Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. when vaccine supplies are available. No walk-ins will be accepted. The process requires people to register to receive a vaccination appointment alert at atlantichealth.org. When vaccine is available, Atlantic Health System will send a notification to schedule an appointment.

Those with an appointment are asked to arrive no sooner than 15 minutes before their scheduled time. Wearing a mask and social distancing will be required. For parking and additional instructions, please visit the Atlantic Health System website or visit the City of Summit

Senior citizens and residents without internet Services at 908-277-2932 for assistance with Please do not contact the DCP to schedule an Starting Monday, February 8, individuals in appointment; they will only be assisting people without internet access to receive a vaccination appointment alert notification. All appointments will be scheduled through Atlantic Health System.

Vaccination phases are tentative and subject to overlap with another. Not all individuals in each Vaccinations will be by appointment only phase will be vaccinated before opening to additional groups, and not all groups within a specific phase will be made eligible to receive the vaccine at the same time.



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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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SUMMIT LIONS CLUB CELEBRATES 95 YEARS

Submitted by Peter Twill

The Summit Lions Club celebrated their 95th Anniversary in February. The Club was chartered in 1926 at the Blue Lantern Tea Room (where Winberrie is located) with a group of 27 businessmen. The first president was Eric Von Siefart. Charles Baum was the secretary. The meetings were then held at the Grand Summit Hotel. The club reached a peak of 65 members in

Lou Havanick in 1988.

The Club membership is now 20 and meets once a month at Marco Polo. Members come from Summit and surrounding towns. Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become the knights of the blind in 1925 at the Lions National Convention in Cedar Point Ohio. The club's main mission is to assist the blind and visually

the 1970's. The first woman president was Mary impaired locally and throughout the world. We collect over 1,000 pairs of unwanted eyeglasses each year and distribute them around the world to millions who need but cannot afford eyeglasses. Other missions include the environment, diabetes, youth and hunger.

> To find out more about the Summit Lions Club and how you can help us meet our goals, visit our website at summitlionsclub.org.



(above) Summit Lions Club, which draws members from several towns, is celebrating 95 years of service to the blind and vision impaired. To find out more about the Summit Lions Club visit summittionsclub.org.



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LOCAL GYM GETS CRUSHED BY PANDEMIC

In 2007, Gabriele Fitness founder, Vince Gabriele, started a Sports Performance training business out of the back of his pick-up truck. Over the past 13 years, the Berkeley Heights based gym has worked with thousands of youth athletes between the ages of 6-18.

When the pandemic struck in March of 2020, the Sports Performance program at Gabriele Fitness was hit hard. They tried to move it online but had little success.

Since Covid-19 was too much they decided to put the program on the back burner. They focused on their adult personal training program which held strong due to a very loyal core membership.

It's been close to a year since they shut the Sports Performance program down, but a huge announcement was recently made.

THE HUGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Founder, Vince Gabriele, announced they are bringing the Sports Performance program back and have been behind the scenes working on a full-fledged re-brand.

The new program will be called Grit Athlete Performance. It will serve local youth athletes ages 6-18 who want to perform better at their respective sports.

Founder, Vince Gabriele, was asked why he decided to bring the program back and his answer was very inspiring.

THE STORY THAT IGNITED THE FIRE

Gabriele was sitting at his normal table at the Prestige Diner when a young man in his 20's came up to him, looked him in the eye and shook his hand.

The young man was a student in their Sports Performance program close to a decade ago. He went on to tell Gabriele how much he had learned and still uses the nutrition, fitness and life lessons today.

He entered the program as a slow, shy and awkward kid but transformed himself into a strong, confident healthy adult.

"This was the moment", Gabriele said.

"The moment I knew we needed to bring the Sports Performance program back so we could continue to help create stories like this."

NTH DEGREE {virtual} MATHEMATICS TUTORING Susan Marie Mayers Susan Marie Mayers nthdegreemathematics @gmail.com 908.317.9144

A HAND-SELECTED TEAM OF TRAINERS

Gabriele went out and hand-picked a brandnew team to transform this into the premier Sports Performance training program in the area.

The full-time job of this new team will to be to help athletes ages 6-18 get strong, fast and confident so they can build a bigger and better future.

Grit Athlete Performance will help kids get stronger and faster so they can perform better at their sports. The true goal is bigger than that and goes beyond their athletic career.

Grit is not something you need just in sports. Grit is a character quality that every successful human being has had in their life. When you have grit you continue to have the power. When you have grit, anything is possible.

That'll be the take home message when they launch this new program on March 15th. Grit will have 3 programs that serve the following age groups:

• 6-8 years old

- 9-13 years old
- 14+

A VIRAL RESPONSE FROM LOCAL PARENTS

Gabriele recently put a message out to his local list and on the community forum sites with the announcement. The response was overwhelming.

Well over 100 people responded with strong interest to reserve spots in the new program. The first block of training will go from March 15-June 15th. They have stated they will only be taking 50 athletes for the first run. They expect to be fully sold out by March 1st.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD

If you have a child that is in these age groups and have interest in signing your child up for their March 15th-June 15th program, please visit:

WWW.GRITATHLETES.COM OR CALL 908-464-4441 FOR PRICING AND AVAILABILITY.





Discover How To Get Your Children AGES 6-18 Strong, Fast and Confident in 13 Weeks ... So They Can Build a Bigger and Better Future

This program is for your child if:

ATTENTION

- They want to get better at sports but struggle because of **lack of speed**, **strength or stamina**.
- They eat more junk food than healthy food and you need another voice to help them understand how important a healthy diet is during these developmental years.
- They **need to improve their confidence** and you want them to start to get better at recovering from their mistakes.



• They're doing pretty good right now but want to take their performance in their sport to a **higher level**.

Here's what parents can expect to happen:



- They will get stronger which means when they show up to their sport they'll be able to perform better than ever.
- They will run faster and jump higher so they can show up to their next season and people will start asking what the heck have they been doing.
- They'll become **more coordinated and improve agility** which means they'll pick up new skills their coaches teach them faster.
- Your children will start to eat better because we'll be educating them daily on what's good and what they should avoid...don't be surprised if they start asking you to buy more vegetables.
- **Confidence will skyrocket.** When kids get stronger, faster and more fit ...their confidence will rise...so will their self-esteem which means their performance in every aspect of life will get better.
- **Their mindset will improve.** We're going equip your child with very specific mindset skills that'll help them learn how to transform how they think about mistakes and failures.

The Details RCH 15-JUNE 12 Dates: Please visit www.gritathletes.com for pricing THE AGE GROUPS 6-8(SPACES REMAINING: 13) 9-13(SPACES REMAINING: 9) • 14+(SPACES REMAINING: 14) Please visit www.gritathletes.com for days/times at each age group. Location: All sessions are held at the GRIT SPORTS PERFORMANCE COMPLEX (Located inside Gabriele Fitness in Berkeley Heights) Sign up before March 15th and redeem founders club pricing. Visit www.gritathletes.com for all the details or scan QR Code with your camera phone





About Grit Athlete Performance (A Gabriele Fitness Company) GRIT helps kids ages 6-18 get strong, fast and confident so they can build a bigger and better future. They are located in Berkeley Heights inside Gabriele Fitness. All Grit coaches have been handpicked via a very lengthy interview process by Gabriele Fitness founder, Vince Gabriele.

SUMMIT LIBRARY MARCH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Phone: 908-273-0350, option 3 • www.summitlibrary.org/ • 75 Maple St, Summit, NJ 07901 Curbside pick-up available: Monday – Thursday 10 am – 7 pm and Fridays and Saturdays 10 am – 4 pm.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Mother Goose Storytime LIVE every Monday at 10 am Family STEAM Club LIVE every Tuesday at 7 pm Wednesday Wigglers Every Wednesday at 4 pm

Serendipity

Every Thursday at 4 pm Featuring popular children's librarian Mrs. Wheeless, with stories, songs, and sometimes a special craft, who delivers a creative, prerecorded program .

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR KIDS **Kids Game Day**

Wednesday, March 17 at 4 pm Delivered live by Ms. Lisa on and Kids in the Kitchen, where Ms. Lisa will be showing kids how to make yummy Bird's Nest Cookies. These two programs are for kids in grades 1-5.

PJ Storytime Club

March 11 at 7 pm Ms. Lisa will be taking place on and includes a fun craft kids can pick up at the library. It is open to ages 2 up to kids in 5th grade.

Virtual Books & Woofs

Monday, March 22 at 7 pm Where kids can practice their reading to an attentive audience of dogs!

SAT Practice Test

Teens can sign up to take an SAT Practice Test on Saturday, March 6 at 10 am and/or an ACT Practice Test on Saturday, March 13 at 10 am.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS **How to Make Dreamcatchers**

Wednesday, March 10 at 11 am Marge Barkan returns to show interested adults how to make Dreamcatchers. Unlike most of our live programming for adults, this program will be delivered as a FB Premiere video on the

library's Facebook page. **Great Decisions Program** March 10, at 7 pm

The subject of this month's program is Global Supply Chains and National Security. The shutdown of global supply chains due to the Covid-19 pandemic brought to the fore an issue

with the high level of global economic interdependence: what happens when one

country is the main source for an item, say face masks, and then can no longer supply the item? The Great Decisions book, which covers all the Great Decisions 2021 series, are available for

purchase at a discount. Contact the library at 908-273-0350, option 3

to arrange to purchase a copy. **Spring into an Organized Home!**

Monday March 15 at 7 pm Jamie Novak returns to share her approach on how to finally get that winter stuff put away. You will learn simple strategies to get things

together and put your winter things away, cover how to clear the closets, get the top of your table back, and so much more!

Let's Go to the Movies

Wednesday, March 24 at 1 pm. Join film buff and librarian Shirlee Lewinter. The movie title is to be announced-but will be a movie that is available either through our DVD collection and/or through Hoopla digital

or Kanopy.

Trivia Night

Friday, March 26 at 7 pm. Hosted by librarian Mary Piekarski. Test your knowledge and enjoy some friendly competition with your neighbors and friends! What else can you do with your library card?

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movies, TV shows, music (Hoopla, Libby/Overdrive, Kanopy), learn a foreign language (Rosetta Stone), learn a new skill (Lynda.com), download free music (Freegal), read favorite magazines (Flipster), read The New York Times or Star Ledger online, learn to

knit, crochet, quilt or a myriad of other crafts (Creativebug), read digital comics online (ComicsPlus), online books for kids (Tumblebooks), Test Prep for Teens (ACT/SAT), and more! How do you find most of these resources? Just go to our website, select the Resources tab, and explore! Need

help finding something? Call us.



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MEETING

March is Women's History Month. The League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit will be hosting Patricia Teffenhart, Executive Director of the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault at its March meeting.

On March 16, Ms. Teffenhart will speak about the "State of Sexual Violence in New Jersey: where we are and where we need to be." This will be a virtual meeting. To receive the link, please email LWVBHNPS@yahoo.com.



(above) Patricia Teffenhart, Executive Director of the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault, will speak at the League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit's March meeting.



THE SUMMIT OLD GUARD MARCH ZOOM EVENTS

The Summit Old Guard has a very interesting and varied schedule of programs for March, enough to keep you interested for one and a half hours on Tuesday mornings. The programs are virtual via Zoom and you can get access by sending an email to info@summitoldguard.org All programs start at 10.00 a.m., and end at 11.30 a.m. There is time for questions.

March 2 - Women in the Revolutionary War Joel Farkas, a well-known lecturer at Florham Institute and Fairleigh Dickinson University for Lifelong Learning, will talk about the support women played in the Revolutionary War from aspects little known to this day, including the story of a woman who dressed as a man in order to fight on the front lines.

March 9 - Old Guard member, Jay Leatherbee will share his experience with five other people on a chartered 40-foot sailboat shipwrecked in the Bahamas. A storm came up suddenly on an overnight sail, and they tried unsuccessfully to seek refuge. They were washed up on a coral reef on an uninhabited island where Jay was marooned for six days before being rescued.

March 16 - David G. Dietze, managing principal, senior portfolio strategist at Peapack

Private Wealth Management, will speak on the outlook for markets in 2021. How will the new Biden administration affect the economy and the markets? How should you best position your investments amid the COVID-19 vaccine rollout? What potential tax changes may occur and how might they affect your income?

March 23 - Old Guard member, Nolan Asch, will be speaking about a very timely topic, the U.S. Constitution. He will talk about the origins of the Constitution and how it has been interpreted during the last four years. He will also provide his own thoughts about some of the more controversial and uncertain aspects of it.

March 30 - Banking Now and the Future

Kevin Cummings, CEO and chairman of Investors Bank, which has become the 50th largest bank in the U.S., will talk about the history of banking since it became more regulated after 2008, as well as some partial relief from regulation granted during the last four years.

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

SILVER SUMMIT SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Silver Summit Senior Citizens Advisory Committee is seeking volunteers to join a newly formed Projects subcommittee, focused on identifying, developing, and implementing senior-focused programs, resources, and services in Summit.

Summit residents 18 years of age or older may apply. This remote position has a time commitment of approximately five hours each month, though volunteer hours may fluctuate depending on current projects. Subcommittee meetings will be held virtually using the Zoom platform, once a month or as needed.

"The Silver Summit Senior Citizens Advisory Committee is focused on ensuring that Summit is a community where residents can grow older and thrive," explains Common Council President Marjorie Fox. "The newly launched projects subcommittee will be vital in focusing new initiatives for seniors, ensuring that community engagement in Summit is a lifelong experience."

For a volunteer application or more information on the Silver Summit Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, visit the city website or email silversummitnj@gmail.com.



HOMETOWN HEROES PROGRAM

Submitted by Megan Trindell

The City of Summit has announced that enrollment is now open for its 2021 Hometown Heroes program. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2021.

This will be the fourth year for the successful program that displays banners with the names, images and dates of service of active military and veterans on city streets from mid-May through mid-August. In 2021, the program will include a total of 250 honorees. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and limited to the first 44 eligible applicants.

An individual qualifies to take part in the Hometown Heroes program if they are serving or have served in any one of the following branches of the United States Armed Forces: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy. Members of the United States Merchant Marine and Women Airforce Service Pilots in World War II are also invited to apply.

Applicants must also have lived in Summit at any time in the past or present, or are currently or have been employed by the City of Summit or Summit Board of Education, or are current or former volunteers in the Summit EMS. Police Auxiliary and Volunteer Fire Division.

The program is funded through private donations with no fee to participate. Information on application requirements and how to apply is available at cityofsummit.org/hometownheroes.

Donations by check made payable to The Summit Foundation can be mailed to

Summit Hometown Heroes, P.O. Box 892, Summit, NJ 07902.





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(left) The mission of the Summit Hometown *Heroes program committee is to recognize* and honor local veterans. Through the program, the names, images and dates of service of participants will appear on banners displayed along city streets from Memorial Day through VJ Day, August 15. The program is funded through private donations; there is no fee to participate. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2021.

> For more information, email summitnjheroes@gmail.com.



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SAGE NAMES ANGELA AND JEFF SCHROEDER 2021 MEALS ON WHEELS SWEETHEARTS

The 13th annual Meals on Wheels Sweethearts for 2021 are Angela and Jeff Schroeder of Summit. Local residents for 24 years, the couple started working at SAGE's Meals on Wheels during the COVID-19 lockdown. The parents of six children, (four daughters and two sons, ages 16, 18, 19, 20, 22 and 25), they credit their sons with getting them involved in Meals on Wheels. The boys, who were home working remotely, had each been delivering a route. They praised the program so much that Angela and Jeff decided to get involved. Since then, it has become a family affair with all eight of the Schroeder's pitching in to support Meals on Wheels. Whether it is sorting food donations, filling bags with nonperishables, driving a route or making beautifully printed labels to make packages look extra special, everyone has devoted time and energy to the program.

"It's such an easy thing to volunteer to do," said Angela. "And it makes a tremendous impact." She noted that through Meals on Wheels she has discovered pockets of Summit she didn't know existed. "Beautiful old homes in neighborhoods I didn't know were here."

Angela and Jeff have become very fond of the people they deliver to as a team every Thursday. When they learned a client had been hospitalized, they sent flowers. When it's apparent that someone needs a visit as much as they do a meal, they mask up and make time to talk. One of Angela's favorite Meals on Wheels encounters was when she and Jeff were delivering a meal to a local gentleman, Mr. A. When they arrived, Mr. A was talking from his porch to a neighbor. As Jeff approached, he called out "Looking good Mr. A." The client was so thrilled and proud for his neighbor to see that these people were there just to see him. "You could tell it was a real boost for him," said Angela. "That's the magic of Meals on Wheels."

Noting that they have both volunteered for many organizations, the couple praised the staff at SAGE for their positive energy, commitment to what they do and their professionalism. "It's so impressive how everything is so well organized and how grateful they are for the volunteers," said Jeff.

For more information about getting involved at SAGE, please call 908-273-5554.



(above) Angela and Jeff Schroeder are SAGE Meals on Wheels Sweethearts of the Year for 2021. The couple, who have lived in Summit for 24 years, began volunteering at SAGE during the COVID-19 lockdown. Their six children ages 16-25 have also been supporting the program in meaningful ways making the whole experience a family affair. Pictured from left: Jack, Mary Margaret, Angela, Jeff, Grace and Billy Schroeder. Missing from the photo are Kaitlin and Kelsey.



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