

# Summit NJ Times

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## GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR CONDOMINIUM PROJECT

Morris Habitat for Humanity, a major builder and leading advocate for affordable housing in New Jersey, celebrated the groundbreaking for a new condominium complex in Summit on September 25, 2022. The condominiums are being built on the former site of the Italian American Club located at 146 Morris Avenue.

Morris Habitat is collaborating with Summit city officials to bring these affordable homes to the city. The project will feature 12 condos in two L-shaped buildings consisting of six 3-bedroom and six 2-bedroom units. The Summit Civic Foundation has donated \$50,000 toward the project.

Blair Schleicher Wilson, chief executive officer of Morris Habitat for Humanity, presided over the event held at the Summit site, and speakers included Summit Mayor Nora Radest, Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz, Summit Civic Foundation officers Roz Kendellen and Peter Elliot, and the Pastor of Wallace Chapel AME Zion Church, Rev. Dr. Denison Harrield Jr. Also in attendance were members of Summit Common Council including Lisa Allen, Marjorie Fox, Susan Hairston, Andy Minegar, Danny O'Sullivan and Greg Vartan.

"Today, in the midst of an extreme housing shortage, we break ground on this affordable homeownership project," said Schleicher Wilson, who noted that New Jersey has a deficit of 200,000 units of affordable housing. "Thank you for your help in planting hope for tomorrow by bringing these homeownership opportunities here in Summit to families wishing to reach the American Dream."

The Crossings at Morris Avenue represents Morris Habitat's first utilization of modular construction. The project will be constructed in two phases and is expected to be completed in 2023. It is the second project by Morris Habitat in the City of Summit; the first was a six-plex condominium complex on Morris Avenue that was completed in 2012.

"With the support and work of volunteers, Habitat for Humanity helps homeowners to achieve the strength, stability, and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and



(above) Morris Habitat for Humanity celebrated the groundbreaking for a new condominium complex in Summit on September 25.

for their families," explains Summit Mayor Nora Radest. "Members of Common Council and I are thankful for their presence in our community, and commitment to building a place for deserving homeowners to call home in Summit."

Morris Habitat for Humanity builds more than just homes—the organization empowers families to build brighter futures for generations to come. Home is the foundation to achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance that people need to shape a better tomorrow for themselves and their families. Additionally, every home constructed helps to strengthen the fabric and economies of local communities for all citizens.

The future Summit homeowners will perform a minimum of 300 hours of "sweat equity" working alongside other Habitat volunteers toward building their own homes, the homes of others or volunteering in other capacities within the organization such as at the ReStore or other community events.

### ABOUT MORRIS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Morris Habitat for Humanity is part of a global, nonprofit housing organization committed to building homes, communities, and hope. The organization serves Morris, Middlesex and portions of Somerset and Union counties. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Morris Habitat builds affordable new homes and provides home repair services to income eligible families. Since 1985, Morris Habitat has served nearly 780 families through building 173 local homes, preserving 324 homes for low-income and senior residents, and helping 282 families with housing solutions worldwide. The organization has engaged more than 145,000 volunteers for various programs. Morris Habitat also operates a successful ReStore home improvement outlet which has kept 15,500 tons of reusable materials out of landfills and funded 33 homes. For more information, visit [MorrisHabitat.org](http://MorrisHabitat.org) or call 973-891-1934.

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# Summit Times

Renna Media LLC, Publishers  
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## BRICK PAVER FUNDRAISING PROGRAM

The Summit Fire Department is launching a brick paver fundraising drive to raise money for the new Fire Department headquarters construction project. Residents and business owners are invited to purchase a brick paver that will be inscribed with a name or message and prominently placed near the entrance to the new fire headquarters.

The Other Fellow First Foundation is working with the City of Summit to help raise money for Summit's new fire headquarters. Close to \$300,000 has been raised through private donations from local businesses and foundations with \$100,000 remaining to complete the fundraising goal.

"We are very pleased with the progress of the construction so far and are sincerely looking forward to moving in next year once the building is complete," explains Summit Fire Chief Eric Evers. "This renovation is long overdue and much needed to provide our team with the necessary space so we can continue to serve the Summit community. We hope you will consider purchasing a brick to help us complete this important project, and we thank you for your continued support."

Citizens can choose from three sizes of bricks to purchase: 4"x4" for \$250, 4"x8" for \$500, and 12"x12" for \$1000. There are four different ways to purchase bricks:

- Register online with Community Pass.
- Call the Department of Community Programs at 908-277-2932 to pay with a Visa or Mastercard over the phone.
- Visit the Summit Community Center at 100 Morris Avenue to pay with cash, check, or Visa/Mastercard and complete the donation form. Make check payable to the City of Summit.
- Send a check to the Summit Community Center, 100 Morris Ave, Summit, NJ 07901 (Attn: Brick Paver Program) with a completed donation form attached. Make check payable to the City of Summit.

For more information on this project please visit [cityofsummit.org/brickpaver](http://cityofsummit.org/brickpaver) or contact the Summit Fire Department at 908-277-1033.



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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.

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List prices are dropping and homes are sitting on the market longer as buyer activity slows down. According to major real estate companies:

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After seeing record highs, sellers are adjusting their expectations. Buyers feeling the sting of higher mortgage rates are visiting fewer homes and bidding less fiercely overall.

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(above) Mom, Samantha, and daughter, Ellie, participate in the Parent Infant Program at Summit Speech School.

Courtesy photo

# SUMMIT SPEECH SCHOOL RECEIVES GRANT

The Summit Foundation recently awarded \$45,000 to Summit Speech School to support the School’s Parent Infant Program. The Parent Infant Program provides early intervention to babies and toddlers who are diagnosed with a hearing loss.

The Summit Foundation is a community foundation that fosters philanthropy in the Summit, NJ area by identifying local needs and offering donors flexible ways to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors. During the past 10 years, SAPF has awarded more than \$4.7 million in grants to 117 nonprofit agencies. The Foundation makes grants to local nonprofits in areas such as education, health care, the arts, and human services. SAPF has been a regular supporter of Summit Speech School, awarding grants that have supported the Parent Infant Program as well as capital projects such as a roof replacement.

## ABOUT SUMMIT SPEECH SCHOOL

Summit Speech School was founded in 1967 by Junior League of Summit member May S. Gold, who wanted to teach deaf and hard of hearing children to listen and talk. The School has grown over the years and currently consists of the Parent Infant Program, a Preschool, an Itinerant Mainstream Support Program and an Audiology Center that provides pediatric audiology services to families as well as educational audiology services to school districts. Through its four programs, the School serves about 300 children annually. Summit Speech School works with families and school districts to develop children’s listening, speech and language skills, thus fostering communication, education, socialization and self-advocacy.



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Curbside leaf collection began on October 3, and continues through Friday, December 2 (or the first major snow fall). Leaves should be placed at the curb in paper, biodegradable bags for pickup on residents' household trash collection day. Property owners should not rake or blow leaves into piles in the street. Do not include twigs, branches, or other yard debris in leaf bags.

Please note, it may take up to two weeks after placing bags at the curb before they are collected. Leaves are not picked up by the same trucks that collect trash; it is a separate truck that performs leaf collection. Leaves left at the curb after the last scheduled collection day will not be picked up. More information is available at [www.cityofsummit.org/leafcollection](http://www.cityofsummit.org/leafcollection).

## PROGRAM FOR SENIORS WITH ONGOING HEALTH CONDITION OR THEIR CAREGIVERS

Are you an adult age 55 or older with an ongoing or long-term health condition or their caregivers? Put life back in your life and Take Control of Your Health. Sponsored by the Westfield Regional Health Department and SAGE Eldercare, you'll get the support you need, find practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, understand new treatment choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

If you have conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, chronic pain, or anxiety, join us for this free program at SAGE Eldercare, 290 Broad Street in Summit beginning on Tuesday, October 18 at 10

a.m. Free refreshments will be served at each lesson.

This educational program offers six lessons that cover a wide range of topics. Participants will have an opportunity to meet new people and learn:

- How to manage your symptoms.
- How to get started with healthy eating and exercise.
- How to communicate effectively with your doctor.
- How to manage fear, anger, and frustration.
- How to make daily tasks easier.

For more information, please contact Amy Lewis at 908-789-4070 ext. 4080 or [alewis@westfieldnj.gov](mailto:alewis@westfieldnj.gov).

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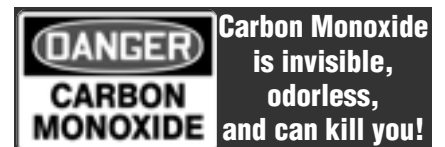
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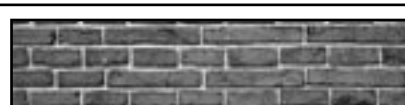
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# SEPTEMBER DECLARED AS SUMMIT VOLUNTEER FIRST AID SQUAD MONTH

During the City Council meeting on September 6, Mayor Nora Radest proclaimed September as “Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad month”.

The Mayor highlighted the Squad’s 60 years

of service to the residents of Summit and surrounding communities. “The dedication and hard work of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad members provides quality care at no cost to the patient or taxpayer, saving the City of Summit approximately two million dollars per year.” Mayor Radest emphasized “Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad members, all of whom are volunteers, should not go unrecognized.”

During 2021, the Squad answered more than 2,200 emergency calls. Services are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year. In addition, the Squad regularly provides non-

emergency coverage at many community events.

In closing, Mayor Radest asked all citizens to join her in praising these volunteers and lending the Squad their financial support.

This month, the Squad is commencing its annual fund drive campaign. The Squad is staffed 100% by volunteers, is funded solely from private donations and does not receive financial support from the City of Summit. To donate, please visit <https://summitems.org/donate/>

To learn more about becoming a member of the Squad and other volunteer opportunities, please visit <https://summitems.org/join/>

Photos by City of Summit



(above) Mayor, Nora Radest with the SVFAS Chief, John Staunton.



(above) Mayor, Nora Radest with the SVFAS Chief, John Staunton, and members of the SVFAS.

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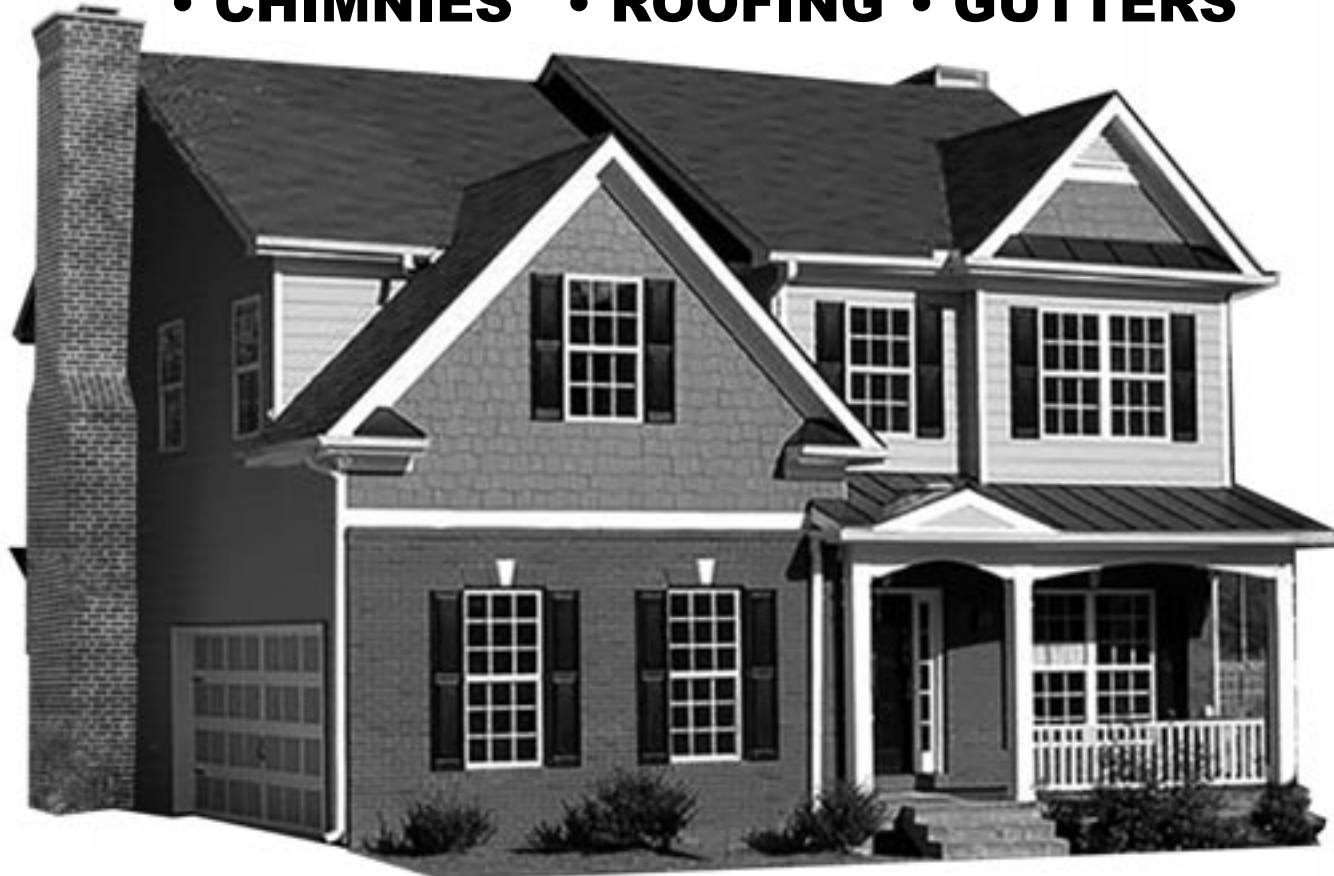
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## BOY SCOUTS EARN EAGLE RANK

The Boy Scouts of America Troop 67 of Summit is proud to announce the two newest scouts to obtain the prestigious Eagle rank: Robert Welton of Summit and Ezra Richman of Rockaway.

Ezra Richman's Eagle community service project involved the Chatham, NJ Senior Center. To improve the center, he provided four new benches, two new tables, a painted wall, two raised garden beds, and fresh plantings for the garden. Ezra recently graduated from high school and is enrolled with the US Marine Corp. He is currently attending basic training in Parris Island, SC. We gratefully thank him for his dedicated service to our country.

Robert Welton's Eagle community service project involved the creation of a series of animations to educate children on five unique bible stories. The animations are being used by Central Presbyterian Church of Summit for both the Sunday school curriculum and summer bible school, and may also be shared with other select Presbyterian churches within the state of NJ. Robert is currently a senior at Summit High School and plans to study animation and digital media in college.

Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of Scouts have earned this rank.



*(above) Robert Welton of Summit earned his Eagle Scout rank through his work on a series of educational animations.*



*(above) Ezra Richman of Rockaway completed his Eagle Scout project enhancing the Senior Center in Chatham, NJ.*

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## STUDENT/PARTNER ALLIANCE WELCOMES NEW TRUSTEES

Student/Partner Alliance, a Summit-based non-profit, welcomed two new members to its Board of Trustees - Shadae McDaniel and Quincy Slay. Ms. McDaniel is the Vice President and City Leader of the All Stars Project of New Jersey, an afterschool non-profit organization that uses the

developmental power of performance to transform the lives of youth in poor and underserved communities. Mr. Slay is a 2019 graduate of Hudson Catholic Regional High School where he was a Student/Partner Alliance student mentored by Christopher Birosak, current

Treasurer of the S/PA Board of Trustees. He is currently a student at Seton Hall University where he will graduate in 2023.

"We are thrilled that Shadae and Quincy are joining our Board of Trustees," said Emmett Daly, President of the Board, "Shadae's experience as a non-profit executive and Quincy's experience as a former S/PA student will bring new perspectives to our Board." Student/Partner Alliance provides tuition assistance and mentoring to private high school students in New Jersey's urban areas of Essex, Hudson, and Union counties.

### 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.

To learn more about the role mentoring plays in our community and to find volunteer opportunities with us visit:

[studentpartneralliance.org](http://studentpartneralliance.org).

If you would like to learn more about our program, please contact Laura DeGennaro, Director of Marketing and Communications at [ldegennaro@studentpartneralliance.org](mailto:ldegennaro@studentpartneralliance.org).



(above) Quincy Slay



(above) Shadae McDaniel

Courtesy photos



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## LIVING DONOR KIDNEY TRANSPLANT NEEDED FOR SUMMIT POLICE OFFICER

The Summit Police Department, Summit Fire Department, Summit PBA Local #55, Summit FMBA #54, Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad and city officials are joining together to raise awareness about the immediate need for a living donor kidney transplant for Summit Police Officer Karen Stenstrom Sauers.

Karen was diagnosed at age 24 with polycystic kidney disease, an inherited disorder in which clusters of cysts develop primarily within the kidneys, causing them to enlarge and lose function over time. At the time of diagnosis, she was told that one day she would need a kidney transplant to prolong her life. Now is that time.

Raised in Summit from the age of eight, Karen Stenstrom was a scholar and an athlete. She was co-captain of the women's lacrosse team, graduated from Summit High School as part of the Class of 1989 and pursued a degree in education at Boston College. After graduation, Karen returned to Summit, began teaching in

Newark public schools and volunteering on the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad.

As she watched the twin towers fall on September 11, Karen realized that she was meant to serve the community in a different way and enrolled in the John H. Stamler Police Academy. She is now a valued and decorated police officer in Summit and has served the community faithfully for more than 20 years.

Karen met and married Jon Sauers, also a Summit Police Department officer, and is a co-parent to Andy, age 20, and the devoted mother of 13-year-old twins Tommy and Maggie. None of her immediate family or relatives are a match for a kidney transplant so her life depends on receiving a donor kidney. Karen is a patient with the Living Donor Institute at Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center. The program allows patients with chronic kidney disease to receive kidney transplants from living donors and deceased donors as soon as possible.

While receiving a kidney from a deceased

donor would prolong Karen's life for a handful of years, a living donor kidney would extend Karen's life expectancy for 10 to 15 more years.

"Officer Karen Sauers is one of the kindest and most positive individuals I know," explains Summit Police Chief Steven Zagorski. "Throughout her distinguished career with the agency and now on this difficult journey, she has shown great strength and commitment. As colleagues and friends, we want to do everything possible to help find a potential donor. Please consider learning more about it."

For more information on the process of kidney donation, visit [www.CBMCLivingDonor.org](http://www.CBMCLivingDonor.org). Please include the code KARENSAUERS if completing the health history questionnaire so all potential matches are connected to Officer Sauers.

For more information on Officer Karen Stenstrom Sauers and the Summit Police Department go to [www.cityofsummit.org/police](http://www.cityofsummit.org/police) or contact Nikki Griffiths at 908-277-9472.



(above) Summit Police Officer  
Karen Stenstrom Sauers



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SUMMIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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IF YOU HAVE TWO HEALTHY KIDNEYS, YOU MAY BE ABLE TO HELP SAVE THE LIFE OF SUMMIT POLICE OFFICER KAREN STENSTROM SAUERS.

**ABOUT KAREN**  
A loving wife and mom to three, Karen grew up in Summit and is a 1989 graduate of Summit High School.  
As a police officer, she has faithfully served the City of Summit and its citizens for the past 20 years.  
At age 24, she was diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease - now she needs a kidney transplant to survive.

Learn more about Officer Sauers at [cityofsummit.org/police](http://cityofsummit.org/police).

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## SUMMIT LIBRARY UNVEILS STORYWALK®

On Saturday, September 10, the Summit Free Public Library officially unveiled its StoryWalk®. The StoryWalk® features a full-length picture book on 20 signs around the bushes on the Library's front lawn. Families can follow the new stone path around the lawn to read the illustrated story together while surrounded by the outdoors. Each month, a new picture book will be displayed.

"The StoryWalk® idea at the Summit Free Public Library began as an offshoot of activities scheduled during the height of the pandemic," explains Ann-Marie Aymer, Head of Youth Services at the Summit Library. "One such activity was a temporary StoryWalk® of 'The Library Book' by Harry Chapin around the Library's sidewalk. Due to its success, former Director Susan Permahos, Lisa O'Shaughnessy, and I decided it would be a good idea to create a more permanent installation. We contacted two parent leaders at Boy Scouts Troop 67 to see if any of the scouts were interested in creating one for the Summit Library."

Local Eagle Scout Jeremy Betz took up this offer and created the Library's StoryWalk® this spring, in association with the Summit Free Public Library and the Department of Public Works, as an Eagle Scout Service Project of Scouts BSA Troop 67, Summit, NJ.

"It was my pleasure to participate in the

unveiling of the StoryWalk® at the Summit Free Public Library," says Summit Mayor Nora Radest. "There have been some very creative Eagle Scout projects by young Summit residents and this initiative with the library is one of the best. Thank you to Jeremy Betz and the library and city staff for making an interesting and educational activity for us all to enjoy."

In addition to Mayor Radest and Eagle Scout Jeremy Betz and his family, in attendance were former Director of the Library Susan Permahos, members of the Summit Library Board of Directors, members of the Summit Library Foundation, members of the Summit Police Department, and many members of the Summit community. Attendees were invited to read the featured picture book on the StoryWalk® and enjoy refreshments and a craft.

Patrons can also listen to the story as they walk by calling the Library's Dial-A-Story at 908-277- 9480, option 1. This month's read-aloud was recorded by Mayor Radest.

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson. The Summit Library StoryWalk® was funded by the Manley-Winsor Foundation.

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## FIRST AID SQUAD CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad celebrated its 60th anniversary of serving the community this Summer.

Sis Barker and Betty Bangs, both of whom were members of the Junior League, decided to start a First Aid Squad in Summit. With the blessing of the Junior League, they began their project and enlisted the help of a local Businessman, Michael J. Formichella. He used his influence in the community to help organize the Squad. On July 28, 1962, the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, Inc. was formed.

Overlook Hospital donated its old ambulance which the squad operated for a few months until it was able to purchase a new Cadillac ambulance. The ambulance was housed for a couple of years in Formichella's garage on Broad Street, and members met and trained in their homes.

A building fund was organized to construct a headquarters for the new Squad. The City of Summit agreed to lease a piece of land on Summit Avenue, across from LCJ Summit Middle School, to the Squad for one dollar per year. Much of the work on the building including excavating, plumbing, heating, and electrical was either donated or performed by volunteers. Among the charter members of the Squad were an excavator, Mike Formichella; a mason contractor, Andy Soccodato; and a heating contractor, Jim Burns. Construction was completed in 1964.

Since those humble beginnings sixty years ago, the Squad has expanded to provide emergency services 24/7 to Summit and surrounding communities. No one has ever received a bill for Squad services. The Squad relies exclusively upon donations from private citizens and foundations, receiving no funding from the City of Summit. All Squad members are volunteers, who seek no compensation for providing help to their neighbors when it is needed most.

John Staunton joined the Squad over 30 years ago shortly after returning home from Villanova University. He had some first aid experience as a lifeguard instructor and gained interest in EMS after witnessing an accident involving a friend at school. EMS has been like a second career for John, as his "day job" has been primarily as an engineer. He became a CPR and then an EMT Instructor at a young age and has served in multiple positions over the years, including as President and currently Chief.

"Serving on the Summit First Aid Squad has been a great experience where I've made some lifelong friends and had the chance to help many neighbors as well as perfect strangers. What I like most about the Squad is how people from various backgrounds and walks of life can work together so effectively to fulfill such a vital mission."

The lifesaving skills Squad members learn can also be very valuable in everyday life and John has had several instances where that experience helped family, friends, and co-workers.

Mel Harari joined the Squad 14 years ago in July 2008 and has been the Records Lieutenant since 2009. She moved to the United States from

Argentina in 2001. Without any prior medical experience, Mel attended EMT school that fall. Two of Mel's sons were junior members, both of whom became doctors, and thought she would enjoy becoming a volunteer.

"I'm not sure if they hadn't been members of the squad, they would have become doctors. Being on the Squad was a big exposure to the healthcare industry for them," said Mel.

During Mel's years at the Squad, she said she gained a level of empathy and understanding for individuals with physical issues that she never had before. "I am now able to put myself in the position as a patient. My experiences helped me tremendously when my mother was ill. My knowledge assisted me in making decisions regarding my mother's care... The level of commitment people have here is not seen in other squads. I like the people I work with. We have good challenges and conversations among a group who is wise and listens to one another."

An EMT since 2021, Mateo Zoubek joined the squad at age 17 as a member of the junior program. Mateo, a student at Newark Academy, was interested in possibly pursuing medicine as a career option and wanted experience in the field. Mateo attended EMT school during the summer of 2021 and found the course much easier since he was familiar with the equipment and had a basic knowledge of patient assessments. "I was exposed to being an EMT even though I wasn't one. You absorb the information which makes becoming certified much easier." He decided to take a gap year after high school to obtain hands-on experience as an EMT to expand upon the limited patient interaction received as a junior member. "Joining the squad is a great way to serve the community and obtain experience in the medical field I wouldn't otherwise have. I think it's been a great stepping stone for my career choice. For adults who aren't in the same career-choice position as I am, I think it's a great way to serve the community in a productive manner." Mateo is attending Georgetown University majoring in neurobiology.

Jenny McIlwain first joined the Squad as a

member of the junior program the summer after her sophomore year at Summit High School. She thought it would be a good indicator in determining if she wanted to go into medicine or not. "I think I had the best training during my time as a junior. Every single shift we would practice skills and training. By the time I got to EMT school, I had a leg up on everyone else because I learned so much before going in." Jenny completed EMT school in June 2021 and is majoring in neuroscience at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Joining the Squad family was the right move for them, and it could be for you as well. As the Squad begins its seventh decade of selfless service, we are actively seeking new members to our winning team. Our members include men and women of all ages, ethnicities, and backgrounds united by a strong desire to help others. Most people who join the Squad have had no prior medical experience. Neighbors Helping Neighbors is both our motto and our mission. Fulfilling it is an incredible experience that's hard to match. To help assess whether one is interested in joining the Squad, we offer an observer program that allows prospective volunteers to accompany a working crew for a shift or two. These "Ride-Along" opportunities give the experience of what being a first responder is like before any commitment is made. For more information, or to inquire about joining our winning team, please visit our website, [summitems.org/join](http://summitems.org/join).

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*Volunteers ages 16 and older often enter with little or no EMS experience. All you need is the desire to serve. There are three basic types of volunteer memberships: Active Members staff the ambulance and participate on Emergency Medical calls; Affiliate Members assist with squad administration; Junior Members are high school students ages 16 and older who participate and assist on Emergency Medical calls. Visit [summitems.org/join](http://summitems.org/join) for more information.*

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# 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

From Sunday, October 9, to Saturday, October 15, 2022, the Summit Fire Department will join firefighters across the nation in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Fire Prevention Week. With today's home fires burning faster than ever, the National Fire Prevention Association is focusing on home escape planning and practice with its topic for this year, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape."

"Home escape planning is one of the best things you can do for your family, and it is our hope that Fire Prevention Week will encourage Summit residents to make an escape plan if they don't already have one," explains Fire Chief Eric Evers. "Every family and home are different, so every home fire escape plan will look different too. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out in an emergency. Keep this in mind when making your plan."

The Summit Fire Department is sharing the following tips from the National Fire Protection Association for home fire escape planning:

- Draw a map of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors.
- Make sure all escape routes are clear and that doors and windows open easily.
- Smoke alarms should be installed in every sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the alarm and what to do when it sounds.
- Pick an outside meeting place that is a safe distance in front of your home where everyone can meet. This should be something permanent like a neighbor's house, a light post, mailbox, or stop sign.

- Everyone in the home should know the fire department's emergency number and how to call once they are safely outside.
- Practice day and nighttime home fire drills. Share your home escape plans with overnight guests.

Visit [cityofsummit.org/homefiresafety](http://cityofsummit.org/homefiresafety) to view family worksheets and other resources for home fire escape planning. For more information on National Fire Prevention Week, visit [nfpa.org/fpw](http://nfpa.org/fpw).

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# JUNIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE HOMELESS

## Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark

Harrison James, 11, of Chatham will receive the first-ever Junior Volunteer of the Year Award for his extraordinary service to the homeless. Harrison's gifts of time and talent the last four years provided much-needed linens, clothing, and so much for the homeless shelters and transitional homes at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Harrison will receive his award during the Catholic Charities' Fifth Annual Benefit to Help our Homeless to be held at St. Philomena Church in Livingston on Sunday, October 9, 2022.

Harrison's involvement began four years ago when he and his aunt, Mary Walsh of Madison, joined the Shelter Urgent Needs Shopping Club run by volunteers at Catholic Charities. "Helping out feels good," says Harrison, a 6th-grader at Chatham Middle School in Chatham. "Seeing the Shelters when we deliver the needed items gives me an opportunity to get out of my neighborhood and help those who are struggling. As my grandfather would say, 'We're all in this together!'"

"Harrison's big heart helping our Homeless is inspiring!" says Catholic Charities CEO John Westervelt. "We're so grateful to have him on our Team, and no one deserves this honor more. We expect great things from this amazing young man!"

## ABOUT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark has been in operation since 1903 serving adults, children, families, seniors, veterans, and

those suffering from HIV with compassionate care and services that provide help and hope. Our 88 programs serve close to 60,000 individuals in Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Union Counties annually. Our programs include counseling and support services for at-risk youth and their families; psychological and psychiatric help for those with mental illness; job training for those who are cognitively disabled; childhood education for preschoolers in Newark,

Bloomfield and Elizabeth; emergency shelter for the homeless and for those who are HIV-positive; affordable housing for low-income families; immigration legal services; refugee resettlement; and adoption services.

Last year Catholic Charities provided over 71,000 nights of Shelter, food, and clothing for over 1,171 people.

For more information on Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, visit [ccannj.org](http://ccannj.org).



(above) Harrison James of Chatham alongside his Aunt, Mary Walsh of Madison, enjoyed a lovely meal at Pizza Vita of Summit, one of Catholic Charities' Concert Benefit food truck vendors.



(above) Harrison James of Chatham, Catholic Charities' youngest volunteer at age 11, poses alongside fellow Homeless Shelter Urgent Needs Shopping Club member, 91 years young, Faith Menard of Summit.

THE SUMMIT DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS PRESENTS

# HAUNTED HIKE AT MARTINS BROOK PARK

Are you ready to be spooked?  
Join us for a hike along this haunted trail for a Spooktacular time!

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2022**  
**RAIN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2022**  
**SUGGESTED \$5.00 DONATION AT ENTRY**

6:00-7:00 PM - A "less scary hike" suitable for younger children  
7:00-8:00 PM - A "super scary hike" suitable for all ages - this hour will have characters hidden along the trail who will jump out for a spook!

**\*\*Adult supervision MUST accompany any child 4th grade and younger**

**MARTINS BROOK PARK IS LOCATED ON BUTLER PARKWAY  
BE SURE TO GET A TREAT AT THE END OF THE HIKE!**

For more information, please contact the Summit Department of Community Programs at 908-277-2932 or email [dguidajr@cityofsummit.org](mailto:dguidajr@cityofsummit.org)

THE SUMMIT DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS PRESENTS...

# SCREAM ON THE GREEN

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21**  
**RAIN DATE: OCTOBER 28**

Disney THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

**THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

SUMMIT'S VILLAGE GREEN  
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JOIN US FOR TREATS AND CIDER!

Join us for a Family Dance Party and bonfires beginning at 6:00 PM.  
Movie showing at dark.

We'll see you on the Green!

[summitcommunityprograms.com](http://summitcommunityprograms.com) [facebook.com/summitcommunityprograms](https://facebook.com/summitcommunityprograms) 908-277-2932

# HALLOWEEN EVENTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

The Summit Department of Community Programs is announcing three Halloween events to be held in the month of October: the Haunted Hike, Scream on the Green, and the annual Halloween parade.

The Haunted Hike will take place on Friday, October 7, at Martin's Brook Park located on Butler Parkway. A less-scary hike for younger children will take place from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The "super scary" hike will take place from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and feature spooky characters jumping out along the trail. Adult supervision is required for any child in fourth grade or younger. There is a suggested \$5 donation at entry. Rain date for this event is Saturday, October 8. Info is available at [summitcommunityprograms.com/430/Haunted-Hike](http://summitcommunityprograms.com/430/Haunted-Hike).

Scream on the Green will be held on Friday, October 21, on the Village Green, located at 356 Broad Street in Summit. The featured movie will be The Nightmare Before Christmas. A family dance party will begin at 6 p.m. and the movie will be shown at dusk. Attendees can enjoy bonfires and s'mores, and are encouraged to bring a blanket or chairs; no seating is provided for the movie. The rain date for this event is Friday, October 28. More information is available at [summitcommunityprograms.com/335/Scream-on-the-Green-Halloween](http://summitcommunityprograms.com/335/Scream-on-the-Green-Halloween).

The Summit Police Athletic League and Department of Community Programs are hosting the annual Halloween parade on Saturday, October 29, from 2:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. The parade will leave from 25 Deforest Avenue. Participants

are asked to line up at 2:45 p.m. The parade will depart at 3 p.m. and arrive at the Village Green. Attendees can participate in a costume contest and enjoy music, entertainment, and snacks on the Village Green from 3 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. The winners of the costume contest will be announced at 4:15 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in the following categories: Most 2022 Relevant, Scariest, Cutest, Best Group, Most Original, Mayor's Choice, and Best Overall. Music and entertainment will continue until 5 p.m. Info is available at [summitcommunityprograms.com/288/Halloween-Parade](http://summitcommunityprograms.com/288/Halloween-Parade).

For more information on these events, please contact the Department of Community Programs at 908-277-2932 or visit [summitcommunityprograms.com](http://summitcommunityprograms.com).

## SCREAM ON THE GREEN

Join the Department of Community Programs for Scream on the Green on Friday, October 21, on the Village Green, located at 356 Broad Street in Summit. The featured movie will be The Nightmare Before Christmas. A family dance party will begin at 6PM and the movie will be shown at dusk. Bonfires will be available for attendees. Movie goers are encouraged to bring a blanket or chairs as no seating is provided for the movie. The rain date for this event is Friday, October 28. More information is available at [summitcommunityprograms.com](http://summitcommunityprograms.com).

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THE SUMMIT DCP AND PAL PRESENT



*Summit's Annual Halloween Parade*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022**  
RAIN: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Parade Route: Deforest Ave - Beechwood Road - Union Place - Maple Street - Summit's Village Green, 356 Broad Street

- 2:45 PM - LINE UP AT 25 DEFOREST AVENUE AT 2:45 PM
- 3:00 PM - DEPART FOR VILLAGE GREEN AT 3:00 PM
- ARRIVAL UNTIL 4:15 - JUDGING, GAMES, MUSIC AND FUN
- 4:15 PM - ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS AT 4:15 PM
- ENTERTAINMENT CONTINUES THROUGH 5:00 PM

Sweet treats & Goulash Giveaways Chilling Costume Contest  
Spooktacular Games and Entertainment

For more information visit [summitcommunityprograms.com](http://summitcommunityprograms.com) or call 908-277-2932

summit community programs



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or email [jfinsen@sageeldercare.org](mailto:jfinsen@sageeldercare.org)



## IMAGINE WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEERS

The staff at Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss was so pleased to be able to offer our first in-person volunteer training since 2020 at our Mountainside Center this summer! Pictured are the participants in our 2022 Imagine Summer Training Class, who have joined our wonderful community of volunteers - facilitating grief support groups for children, teens, young adults and their parents/guardians. Our new volunteers participated in a three-day training program that prepared them to be present for the children and families that participate at Imagine, gave them tools to help support those in their family and community who are grieving, and provided an opportunity for them to receive support for losses they've experienced themselves.

Another big milestone is coming up for

Imagine! Our grief support groups will be returning to the city of Newark through a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Newark (BCGN).

This is an experience like none other; the experiential nature of the training will prepare you to facilitate support groups in a way that a lecture-style training could never do. Previously trained volunteers have said this training is "life-changing" and "inspiring," and we hope you can be a part of it!

If you're interested in making a difference in the lives of grieving families and would like to participate in Imagine's volunteer facilitator training, please visit our website at [imaginej.org/become-grief-support-facilitator](http://imaginej.org/become-grief-support-facilitator). If you have questions, please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100.

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(above, top row, l-r) Debbie Berez, Mountainside; Stacey Glickstein, Scotch Plains; Vernita Bostick, Belleville; Carrie Greenberg, Springfield; Sonia Nunez, Imagine's Newark Program Manager; Joan Castellano, West Orange; Abigail Preece, Imagine's Interim Program Manager and John Hutchinson, Glen Ridge; (middle row, l-r) Deborah Ojeda, Imagine's Graduate Intern, Dan Vorhaus, Summit; (bottom row, l-r) Diane H. Tracey, Jersey City; Gen Belfiglio, Union; Anna Fishman, Short Hills; Gregory D. Edgell, Nutley; and Zakeeyah Harris, Newark.

Courtesy photo

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## SUMMIT PARK LINE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AND PROGRESS UPDATE

The City of Summit and Summit Park Line Foundation are sharing information on progress at the Summit Park Line.

Work has begun along Morris Avenue to place the bridge that will connect both sides of the Park Line across the street. The bridge is expected to be placed in late October, weather permitting.

“We are thrilled about the progress we have been making and are looking forward to the Morris Avenue bridge placement so we can begin work on the next phase of the project,” explains former Summit Common Council President Robert Rubino, President of the Summit Park Line Foundation. “This entire project has been a community effort and partnership amongst the foundation, residents, and agencies that have helped us to not only raise necessary funds but also volunteer on a weekly basis at the Park Line to clear and beautify the space. We are so thankful for all the community support we have received over the years and truly can’t wait to see Summit residents and visitors enjoy the space for years to come.”

Phase 1 of the project, which is the area from Broad Street to Morris Avenue, is complete, with ongoing beautification and maintenance work. Phase 1A encompasses the Morris Avenue pedestrian bridge that is currently under

construction. After the bridge is in place, work on Phase 2 will begin, which includes the area along Henry Street between Morris Avenue and Ashwood Avenue. The design and concept plans for Phase 2 are currently being finalized with installation scheduled for October 2022 through April 2023. A presentation with project updates from Director of the Department of Community Services Aaron Schrager at the Tuesday, September 6, Council meeting is available on the city website.

The Summit Park Line plan was introduced by the Summit Park Line Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, and approved by Summit Common Council in September 2018. It was included in the city’s 2016 Master Plan ReVision by the Planning Board. The concept was to create a pedestrian linear park along the abandoned Rahway Valley Railroad (RVRR) that runs from the edge of downtown Summit, in front of Overlook Medical Center, along with a 1.2-mile path into Briant Park. When complete, the Park Line will be the first new park in Summit in 85 years.

To volunteer, donate, or view more information on the project, please visit [summitparkline.org](http://summitparkline.org).

Photo by City of Summit Communications Office



(above) Work has begun along Morris Avenue to place the bridge that will connect both sides of the Park Line across the street.

## BICYCLE HELMET SAFETY TIPS

### Summit Police Department

The Summit Police Department is sharing bicycle helmet safety tips and information for riders of all ages.

According to the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, head injury is the most serious injury type and the most common cause of death among bicyclists. The National Injury Prevention Foundation reports that nearly 70% of all fatal bicycle crashes involve head injuries and that bicycle helmets have been estimated to reduce the risk for head injuries by approximately 85%.

“Although New Jersey law requires everyone 17 years of age and younger to wear a helmet while riding a bike, we strongly encourage all riders to use one every time they ride to help protect themselves from injury,” explains Summit Police Chief Steven Zagorski. “To keep yourself and other bicyclists and motorists safe while on the road, we also ask that you obey traffic laws, use hand signals, and utilize reflective clothing and flashing bike lights at night. Bicyclists should follow the rules of the road and ride in the same direction as traffic, on the right-hand side of the road.”

The Summit Police Department is sharing the following tips from the CDC for wearing a properly fitting helmet:

- The helmet should fit snugly all around and directly over the forehead, with about two fingers of space between the eyebrows and bottom of the front of the helmet.
- The side straps should form a “V” under the ears when buckled.
- The chin strap should be centered under the chin and fit snugly so that no more than one or two fingers fit between the chin and the strap. When you open your mouth wide, as if in a big yawn, the chinstrap and helmet should be snug. Once the chinstrap is fastened, the helmet should not move in any direction.
- Helmets should be replaced after a crash or when they no longer fit properly.
- Bicycle helmets are different from those for other activities such as skateboarding and rollerblading.
- Watch a bicycle helmet fit test video from Safe Kids at [safekids.org/video/safety-seconds-bike-helmets](http://safekids.org/video/safety-seconds-bike-helmets).

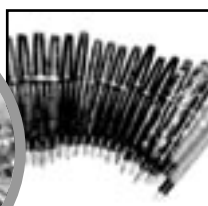
For more information on the Summit Police Department and other safety tips, visit [cityofsummit.org/police](http://cityofsummit.org/police).

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4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900
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9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
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## 5TH ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE

On Sunday, October 9, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark will host its 5th Annual Benefit Concert for the Homeless at St. Philomena Church in Livingston. All proceeds from the event will help to fund the homeless programs and services of the agency that provides assistance to thousands of individuals and families in need.

The Drive-In Concert will offer a variety of family/kid friendly activities (face painting, magicians, balloon artists, etc.) along with a full concert by New Jersey's own "The Nerds" – a widely acclaimed rock and roll band. Food trucks will be available but folks are encouraged to tailgate as well.

Registered participants get a parking space with an adjoining space to set –up chairs, etc. Each car can carry up to 6 occupants and parking spaces are priced at \$300, \$175 & \$125 based on their proximity to the stage.

For event details, please visit [ccanconcert22.GiveSmart.com](http://ccanconcert22.GiveSmart.com) or call Peter Ruccione, Catholic Charities Director of Development, at 973-818-4060.

Last year Catholic Charities provided over 71,000 nights of Shelter, food, and clothing for over 1,171 people, individuals and families.

For more information on Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, visit [ccannj.org](http://ccannj.org).

### ABOUT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark has been in operation since 1903 serving adults, children, families, seniors, veterans, and those suffering from HIV with compassionate care and services that provide help and hope. Our 84 programs serve close to 50,000 individuals in Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Union Counties annually. Our programs include counseling and support services for at-risk youth and their families; psychological and psychiatric help for those with mental illness; job training for those who are cognitively disabled; childhood education for preschoolers in Newark, Bloomfield and Elizabeth; emergency shelter for the homeless and for those who are HIV-positive; affordable housing for low-income families; immigration legal services; refugee resettlement; and adoption services.

## MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT WEBINARS

SAGE Eldercare's State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselors are available at no charge to discuss Medicare plans and options for 2023 Open Enrollment, October 15 – December 7.

SAGE is hosting a free Zoom webinar every Wednesday morning, from 10 – 11:00 a.m., and Thursday evening, from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Attendees are asked to come with a prepared list of questions. To register and receive the ZOOM link, please visit [eventbrite.com/e/preparing-for-medicare-open-enrollment-tickets-416847029687](https://eventbrite.com/e/preparing-for-medicare-open-enrollment-tickets-416847029687).

SAGE Eldercare serves as the SHIP representative for Union County. Staff and volunteers are available for free, personalized, confidential, and objective Medicare counseling regarding program options, claims, billing, appeals and information about programs for people with limited income and resources. The counselors receive ongoing training from the Division of Aging Services, New Jersey Department of Human Services.

If you are a Medicare beneficiary and resident of Union County with questions about Medicare, call 908-273-6999 or email the SHIP office at [ship@sageeldercare.org](mailto:ship@sageeldercare.org) for free, objective, and confidential services. Anyone residing outside Union County can visit [medicare.gov](https://medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE to get the phone numbers of SHIP representatives in other NJ counties or in other U.S. states.

SHIP is a state-wide program, administered by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Senior Affairs, with major funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. SAGE is the sponsoring organization for the program in Union County.

SHIP counselors do not provide legal advice, sell, recommend, or endorse any specific insurance product, agency, insurance company or HMO. They provide information and assistance so that clients can make their own decisions.

### ABOUT SAGE ELDERCARE

SAGE Eldercare is one of only a few providers in the nation — and the only one in New Jersey — to provide a full range of eldercare services under one roof. For 67 years, SAGE's mission has been to help older adults remain living in their own homes. Whether it is assisting with a Home Health Aide, helping with food insecurity or offering a stimulating adult day medical program, SAGE is here. Our team provides referrals, caregiver support groups and free and confidential Medicare counseling. And as the unique challenges of older adults and caregivers evolve, we offer educational programming every step of the way to keep you informed of best practices. Learn more at [sageeldercare.org](https://sageeldercare.org). Follow us at @SAGEeldercare



### ONLINE ADS & PRESS RELEASES DRIVE LOCAL TRAFFIC TO YOUR WEBSITE

#### • GET UNLIMITED CLICKS

An alternative to expensive pay-per-click programs

#### • FREE AD DESIGN AND COPYWRITING

Advertising webpage includes many features including write-up, images, video, Google map, etc.

#### • POSTS ARE SHARED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

Posts shared on multiple Facebook pages and twitter.

#### • PAID SEARCH ENGINE PROMOTIONS

Posts are promoted by industry, key words and location.

#### • TRACKABLE RESULTS

All ads include a live view counter.

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: [JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)

RENNAMEDIA.COM

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**\$10  
PER POST**

Block of 20 for \$200

Single poay is \$20

### Full Color Flyers and Menus Printed and Mailed to Every Home and Business in Town!

#### MENUS - PRINTING - \$50 PER THOUSAND

Rate is for quantities of 25,000 or more.

For quantities less than 25,000 cost is \$68 per thousand.

11"x17" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock /

Includes folding (quarter fold or tri-fold, with or without coupons tab)

#### FLYERS - \$35 PER THOUSAND

8.5" x 11" / Full color / 2 sided / 60lb gloss coated stock /

Tri-fold add \$10 per thousand

#### INSERTED AND MAILED TO EVERY HOME AND BUSINESS

\$60 per thousand. (as low as \$30 per thousand depending on quanttiy.)

Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: [JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com](mailto:JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com)



**FLYERS**

**\$45**

PER 1,000

**MENUS**


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