

Summit ^{NJ} Times

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REDEDICATION CEREMONY HONORS VETERANS

A Rededication Ceremony for the newly revitalized Monument Park on the Village Green was held on December 10, 2023. The monuments were successfully installed a week prior, with new flag poles and concrete work finished in time for the ceremony.

About a year ago, Rick Wolffe of Summit Elks Lodge and Henry Bassman of the Lindsey-Street Post of The American Legion noticed the small war monument area on the village green in Summit had deteriorated. Wolffe remarked, “This is no way to honor the men and women who served our country.”

That comment sparked a passionate commitment to restore and improve “Monument Park”.

With singular focus, Rick and Henry started a campaign to upgrade the monuments and garnered the support of the City of Summit.

Through the generosity of over 260 members of the Summit Elks Lodge, the members of the Lindsey-Street Post, and the Summit Foundation, the campaign raised over \$100,000 in nine months! “Donors were so generous, we were able to include elements beyond our original design, including the installation of flags for each branch of the

military,” commented Henry Bassman.

After months of hard work that went on behind the scenes and the installation work performed by the Summit Department of Public Works, the dedication ceremony on December 10 drew a large crowd from our community which included dignitaries from the Elks, the American Legion, and the City of Summit to see the realization of the dream built by the community coming together.

The program included the singing of the Star Spangled Banner led by LTC William Rappelled (Retired) accompanied by Mark Noonan on Bugle. An invocation was done by Elks Lodge Chaplain Peter Holmes and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Common Council President Marjorie Fox. After opening remarks Rick Wolfe and Henry Bassman presided over the dedication ceremonies.

The event featured the raising of flags representing the six branches of the armed forces while the Armed Forces Melody was played by the Emerald Pipers. The flags were hoisted by Jim Bennet (Army), Gil Owren (Marine Corps), Emil Meny (Navy), John Smethers (Air Force), Mike Williams (Space Force), and Mike Yannacone (Coast Guard).

(Additional photos on pages 14 and 15.)

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LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION WITH THE SUMMIT LIBRARY

Lunar New Year Celebration
Sunday, January 22, 2023,
from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

The Summit Library Chinese Club is hosting its annual Lunar New Year Celebration at the Summit Library. Experience a variety of Asian cuisines, participate in traditional Chinese painting and other visual arts, and watch traditional Chinese dances and music performed by local artists. The Lunar New Year, or Chinese New Year, is celebrated on the first new moon that appears between January 21 and February 20. This upcoming lunar year is the year of the Rabbit.

Visitors will also be able to view the Lunar New Year Art Show gallery, featuring original visual art pieces by young artists in Summit and surrounding areas. Submissions for the Art Show are currently open and will close on February 11, 2023.

“When my children were young, they went to the library all the time,” says Ni Liu, member of the Summit Free Public Library Foundation and organizer of the Summit Library Chinese Club. “Mrs. Wheelless, a librarian and the best storyteller I have known, would tell many interesting stories along with beautiful music accompanied to them on her story telling

program.” Mrs. Wheelless asked Liu to create a Chinese New Year’s celebration at the Library, which ended up being a great success, and was continued in the subsequent years. “From then on, more moms from the local community joined me to volunteer for the New Year Celebration,” says Liu, “and the scale of the celebration has been growing bigger and bigger, and the event has become an epic in Summit.”

The Summit Library Chinese Club is a volunteer-led organization that works with the Summit Library hand in hand to organize Chinese/Asian culture-related events in the community. They lead many other programs in partnership with the Summit Library, such as their Chinese Corner, a Chinese Immersion program held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month during the school year. The Chinese Club is continuously adding new programs, such as NeuLingo, a Mandarin language learning course for Grades 1-5, held on Thursdays from January 12 through February 9, 2023.

The Lunar New Year Celebration is free and all are welcome. To register for the Lunar New Year Celebration, visit the Summit Library website at summitlibrary.org. To register for the Lunar New Year Art Show, visit the Summit Library Chinese Club website at 75chineseclub.com.

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FOOD COLLECTED FOR THE NEEDY



(above) Summit residents Jessica and Cheryl Bock, the latter has chaired the New Providence Fall Food Drive for 20+ years. Jessica, Cheryl's daughter, has assisted for many years.

Courtesy photos

On Saturday, November 19, over eighty-five members of Faith Lutheran Church and the New Providence community gathered at Faith to sort and pack into boxes an estimated \$32,700 of canned and packaged food designated for the needy.

Summit resident Cheryl Bock, a parishioner of Faith Lutheran Church, was the chairperson of the Fall Food Drive. For more than twenty years, Ms. Bock has fulfilled this significant responsibility.

The food had been collected from New Providence residences by Boy Scout Troops 1 and 63 and Cub Scout Packs 99, 263 and 363. The prior Saturday, the scouts had left empty bags at the residences with requests to contribute food for pickup on November 19.

The eighty-five volunteers prepared over one hundred forty boxes of food for twenty-five families who live in New Providence. The boxes were distributed to the local residents by the New Providence Community Service

Association, under the direction of Nancy Valerio. The Community Service Association added turkeys and pies to the boxes.

More than two hundred additional boxes were packed in a truck and delivered on Saturday, November 26 by Faith to StarFish Pantry, a combined Jewish/Christian organization in Plainfield. The delivery was coordinated by Chris Melhuish and seventeen other volunteers from Faith. StarFish Pantry provides emergency aid to about 9,000 people in the Plainfield area, two-thirds of whom are children. While the resources of the Pantry were almost depleted, the new food will meet the needs of the Pantry throughout the winter and early spring.

The pastor of Faith is Rev. Jane McCready. For more information about the food collection and other outreach programs of Faith, one may call the church office at 908-464-5177 or e-mail the church at Family.Faith@verizon.net The web site is famfaith.org.



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SUMMIT EMS RESPONSES – NOVEMBER 2022

Summit's EMS Volunteers responded to 199 emergency calls during November. Responses included 113 medical emergencies; 30 falls; 22 motor vehicle accidents, including two into a pole or tree, one off the road and one overturned vehicle; 10 traumatic injuries; seven cases of overdose or poisoning; two responses to a medical alarm; one burn injury; once case of Carbon Monoxide (CO) exposure; and six pedestrians struck by a vehicle. Squad Volunteers also provided four "lift assists" to patients who did not require transport to a hospital.

On November 14, several off duty Squad members joined the on-duty crew to staff all 3 ambulances and answer simultaneous emergency calls, with one patient transported to the trauma center at Morristown Medical Center, another to the pediatric unit at Morristown and the third to Overlook Medical Center.

24 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. There were also 18 emergency responses by Summit volunteers to provide mutual aid assistance to six neighboring towns. 20 patients transported to a hospital by Squad members also received advanced life support care from hospital-based paramedics who accompanied the Squad's ambulance.

Squad members also provided EMS stand-by coverage at two fire scenes, including a commercial structure fire, as well as non-emergency coverage of an event at Kent Place School.

The Squad answers calls for help 24 hours a day and at a variety of locations. November responses included 89 to a patient's home or apartment; 24 for accidents or medical

emergencies on roads or highways; one in a public park; six in public buildings; 14 at a local business; and seven to a health care professional's office. There were also eight medical incidents on sidewalks; four in parking lots; eight at Summit's train station; 15 at a local behavioral health facility; 10 on the grounds of Overlook Medical Center; five to an assisted living facility, one in a house of worship; two in a day care center; and two at a school.

The all-volunteer First Aid Squad responds to emergency calls 24/7 and 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 summitems.org.

CITY OF SUMMIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

2023 ORGANIZATION MEETING

The 2023 Organization Meeting of the Summit Common Council will be held on Tuesday, January 3, at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, located at 512 Springfield Avenue. The meeting will be broadcast live on the City of Summit YouTube channel and HomeTowne TV Comcast channel 36 and Verizon channel 33. Citizens are invited to attend.

At the meeting, Mayor Nora Radest will provide her State of the City address and a new Council President will be elected. Ward 1 Councilmember-elect Delia Hamlet and Ward 2 Councilmember-elect Lisa Allen will be sworn in. Retiring Ward 1 Councilmember Danny O'Sullivan and Councilmember-at-Large Beth Little will be recognized. Retiring board members will be recognized, and the 2023 mayoral and council appointments for city boards, commissions, and committees will also be announced at the meeting.

CURBSIDE CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

Curbside Christmas tree collection begins on Monday, December 26, 2022, and continues through Monday, January 30, 2023. All ornaments, lights, and decorations must be removed, and trees should be removed from plastic bags. Residents should place garlands and wreaths in or next to trash cans; they will be picked up with trash collection. There are no specific pickup dates or times for Christmas trees. Please do not report a concern about tree pickup until after January 30, 2023. For more information visit cityofsummit.org/recycling.

STRING LIGHT RECYCLING

Summit residents can bring old or broken string lights to the collection bin on the upper level of the Transfer Station. The materials are reused. String lights should not be included with household curbside recycling items; the lights will damage sorting equipment at the recycling facility.

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A CONVERSATION WITH HEATHER MCGHEE

In celebration of a 100-year commitment to equality for all, The Connection hosted a conversation with Heather McGhee, author of New York Times Bestseller *The Sum of Us*, at Summit High School in partnership with the Summit Interfaith Council AntiRacism Committee.

A renowned expert on the American economy, Heather McGhee is one of the most brilliant and influential thinkers exploring inequality today. Both her viral TED talk and her instant New York Times Bestseller *The Sum of Us* reveal the devastating true cost of racism—not just for people of color, but for everyone. Deeply stirring, intelligent, and compassionate, McGhee's talks offer an actionable roadmap during one of the



(above) The Connection hosted a conversation with Heather McGhee, author of New York Times Bestseller *The Sum of Us*.

most critical—and most troubled—periods in history.

McGhee was introduced by Julie Lanzone, Chairwoman of The Connection Board of Trustees, to the crowd of 250 attendees before sharing with the audience about her background in economy, what she learned about racism from looking at the data, and what led her to delve into the root of our most complicated issues off the spreadsheet.

Heather McGhee shared stories of hope and solidarity that she encountered on a road trip across America for her Podcast, also titled *The Sum of Us*, before sitting down for a Q & A session with co-moderators Jayne Graepel, former Associate Executive Director of The Connection, and Michelle Fielder, member and facilitator for the AntiRacism Committee. Attendees were encouraged to submit their questions ahead of time and the co-moderators led a conversation where McGhee spoke about the racism she discovered in our politics and policymaking, how addressing those issues would benefit us all, and what we could do as individuals to help.

“Since the moment The Connection opened as the YWCA of Summit, our foundation has been built upon values which foster diversity and inclusion. The choice to be fully integrated—and anti-racist—was made deliberately, and without

reservation,” says Wendy Graeb, Executive Director of The Connection.

“We look to all we have in common to help move us forward; the strong respect for one another, the need to speak up at injustice, the desire to make space for all voices, and the commitment to listen and learn. We are grateful to be part of a community filled with individuals and organizations that focus resources to make collective change.”

As Heather McGhee writes in *The Sum of Us*, “a functioning society rests on a web of mutuality—a willingness among all involved to share enough with one another to accomplish what no one person can do alone.” Visit theconnectiononline.org for ways to continue in this work.

This program was supported in part by a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Connection is a non-profit, human service organization providing a variety of programs and activities open to everyone in the community regardless of physical ability or economic circumstance. It has been serving the greater-Summit area for 100 years. To find out more about its programs, or help the organization help others by making a donation, visit TheConnectionOnline.org.

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BUTTERFLY RELEASE REFLECTS ON GRIEF AND LOSS

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss

Over 30 Imagine participants and staff gathered in the Tribute Meadow at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield held on Saturday, October 22. It's a lovely spot near the weeping willows, pond, and fountains. They came together for a Butterfly Release Ceremony arranged by Imagine staff member, Kristin Imbimbo and Sharon Rossman and Rick Ralph of Fairview Cemetery.

The ceremony included poetry, music and

reflections on grief and loss followed by the release of the butterflies. As it was a cool night, many of the butterflies chose to stay close to the warmth of the children and adults releasing them sitting on hands, shoulders and jackets as they warmed themselves before flying off. It was an intimate ceremony of remembrance and Imagine and Fairview plan to partner again in the spring to provide another opportunity for families to participate.

Imagine offers free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and guardians of the children in the groups and are offered in English and Spanish. Imagine also offers grief and loss education and training to the community. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org.

Courtesy photo



(above) Members of Imagine and Fairview Cemetery came together for a Butterfly Release Ceremony.



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SUMMIT TEENS SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Bridges Outreach

On a cold morning in early December, a group of local teens trekked from the Oakes Center in Downtown Summit to Irvington’s Civic Square on a mission to distribute 100 new winter coats, 150 sandwiches, and other sustainables to those experiencing homelessness and/or food insecurity in Essex County.

The group, Teens Tackle Homelessness (TTH), is a program of Bridges Outreach, the Summit-based organization that is dedicated to ending homelessness in New Jersey. TTH members are high schoolers from local counties that meet once a month to discuss the causes and costs of homelessness, as well as to explore creative solutions to ending homelessness.

Bridges is well known for their street outreach runs, where staff and volunteers distribute 65,000 brown bag meals, 10,000 pairs of socks and underwear, 7,500 hygiene kits, and tons of clothing each year in Newark and Irvington. December’s TTH outreach run was bolstered by a generous donation of 100 new winter coats and 150 sandwiches coordinated and collected by the “1774 Sandwich Initiative” led by it’s founder and TTH co-President, Leon Sarkissian.

“These coats will hopefully warm the hearts of many people, despite these frigid temperatures,” exclaimed Sarkissian, who personally gave out the coats with a smile, while other TTH members served hot chocolate and soup to clients in line. In addition to the coats distributed on the outreach run, an additional 125 coats were

delivered to the Thirteenth Avenue School in Newark. The coats were generously donated by the Knights of Columbus.

The 1774 Sandwich Initiative started at the beginning of the year with the goal of collecting 1,774 sandwiches for distribution by year-end (1774 is a nod to the founding year of Newark Academy, the high school that Sarkissian attends and where the sandwiches are student-assembled). With over 5,500 sandwiches already distributed, they’ve increased the target tenfold to distribute 17,740 sandwiches by 2025 (Sarkissian’s graduation year). As a result of the success of December’s run, a new initiative to distribute 1,774 coats is now also underway.

“It’s a privilege to help raise awareness at our schools and in the community” said Alice McNamara, who shares the role of TTH President with Sarkissian. Together, McNamara and Sarkissian are organizing a “Sleep Out” fundraiser on February 17 where they are challenging friends, families, and businesses to spend one night in their backyard, car, or other outdoor space to raise crucial funds.

“I’m excited by the enthusiasm and fresh ideas this group has to offer and I’m grateful for their help in raising awareness and funds to support our mission,” said Richard Uniacke, President of Bridges Outreach. “The next big idea for ending homelessness may well come from this group, and I can’t wait to see where they take this.”

For more information, please visit: bridgesoutreach.org 1774sandwichinitiative.com.



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SANTA'S HELPERS

WOMEN'S GROUPS TO SCREEN RUBY BRIDGES

In celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, two local organizations will screen the film Ruby Bridges at the New Providence Library on Sunday, January 15. The screening is at 2:00, there is no admission charge, and the public is welcome. The library is located at 377 Elkwood Avenue, New Providence.

The Summit College Club, a branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the League of Women Voters of Berkeley Heights, New Providence, and Summit are the sponsoring organizations.

Ruby Bridges is the story of the 6-year-old child who desegregated the New Orleans public school system in 1960. On her first day in first grade, half a dozen years after the landmark Supreme Court decision Brown v. Board of Education had been decided, Ruby braved a crowd hurling hatred, insults, and death threats. Accompanied by federal marshals and her mother, Ruby succeeded in entering the all-white school, but she was to remain the only child in her class for the entire year.

Immediately after the screening, Hedy Tukey of the Summit College Club and Jean Crichton of the League of Women Voters will lead a discussion of the film.

The Summit College Club website is at summitcollegeclub.com, and the League of Women Voters is at lwvbhnp.org.



(above) Patricia Novy with Christmas stockings waiting for delivery to Family Promise of Union County.

Courtesy photo

Over the last four years, a small group of Santa's elves has helped fill Christmas stockings for Family Promise of Union County. The organization serves low income families and families experiencing homelessness.

Students and staff at the Academy for Performing Arts at the Magnet School in Scotch Plains participated this year also. Kaitlyn Landaverde, a Junior from Clark, organized the drive at the high school.

Patricia Novy of Clark, who started the project four years ago, shared the fact that the group filled 36 stockings the first year, 67 stockings last year and 91 Christmas Stockings for children ages 4 to 12 this year.

"The need is greater than ever," Novy said. "In speaking with Family Promise, the children often receive donated gifts, but stockings are not considered. Our little group of friends, family and former colleagues help fill that void."

We are inspired each year by this quote from a nine-year-old boy, "When you give something; someone else gets."

APPLY FOR JEAN HUDSON GANO AWARD

The Junior League of Summit (JLS) is now accepting nominations for its Jean Hudson Gano Award program for 2023. This award recognizes special volunteer achievement by either an individual or a nonprofit organization. It is given in memory of and in tribute to Jean Hudson Gano, a JLS member who died of breast cancer in May of 1997. Jean's exemplary and extraordinary commitment to voluntarism, community service, and particularly to issues regarding women and children, was an inspiration to all those who were touched by her efforts.

Nominees from the communities of Berkeley Heights, Chatham, New Providence, and Summit are eligible for the award. Individual nominees should be of high school age or above whose dedication and excellence in leadership has served their community through their volunteer efforts, either within the preceding year or as a long-term, on-going commitment. Organizations nominated should be those that benefit women

and/or children within the past year and must supply verification of 501c3 status.

The award recipient will be honored at a future event, and the recipient's name will be displayed on a plaque at the JLS Thrift Shop. Recipients will receive a \$500 monetary award made possible by a generous gift given by Jean's father, Mr. William Hudson.

For more information, and to access the application, please visit jlsummit.org. Applications are due by February 28, 2023.

The Junior League of Summit, Inc. is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. For more information about the Junior League of Summit or to inquire about becoming a member, please visit the website at jlsummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349.

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



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SIXTEENTH ANNUAL INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The sixteenth annual New Providence-Berkeley Heights Interfaith Thanksgiving Service occurred on Monday evening, November 21, 2022, at Faith Lutheran Church in New Providence.

The participating worship communities were the Congregation Ohr Shalom-Summit Jewish Community Center, Faith Lutheran Church, Church of the Little Flower (Roman Catholic), New Providence United Methodist Church, St.

Andrew's Episcopal Church, and Summit's Temple Sinai.

The service began with a welcome by Rev. Jane McCready, pastor of Faith Lutheran, which was followed by a greeting from Mayor Al Morgan of New Providence.

The Thanksgiving homily was offered by Rabbi Avi Friedman of Congregation Ohr Shalom/Summit Jewish Community Center.

The liturgy of the service consisted of prayers and readings led by each of the interfaith clergy. The music featured an interfaith choir, led by Shea Velloso, Minister of Music at Faith Lutheran. Three hymns were sung by the congregation.

Regarding the offering, the canned goods were given to the StarFish Interfaith Food Pantry in Plainfield, which is supported by an ecumenical group of religious organizations. Financial gifts were given to the Community Hope for Veterans, a program that serves our veterans at Lyons Hospital and is supported by the Islamic Society of Basking Ridge.

An open letter from the New Providence-Berkeley Heights Interfaith Clergy to the Community was included in the program of the service and was distributed to all.

SOME OF THE WORDS FOLLOW:

"Let There Be More Love, Deeper Understanding and Greater Gratitude for the Blessing of Diversity in Our Community."

"We believe that the ethic of love and compassion is the heart of our Jewish-Christian-Islamic-Sikh-Bha'i heritages."

"We believe that each human being, as a child of God, is entitled to be treated with respect, dignity and understanding."

"We pledge to realize this vision among ourselves and to help our community become more welcoming to all."



(above, l-r) Participating in the service were Rabbi Avi Friedman of Congregation Ohr Shalom/Summit Jewish Community Center; Rev. Daniel Gunn of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, New Providence; Rabbi Shira Gluck of Temple Sinai, Summit; Rev. Matthew Dooley of Little Flower Roman Catholic Church, Berkeley Heights; Rev. Victor Franco of New Providence United Methodist Church, Rev. Jane McCready of Faith Lutheran Church, New Providence; and Mayor Al Morgan of New Providence.

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The Senior Center of the Chathams is committed to offering its programs and services to a wide range of people and draws members from six counties and 70 towns, including Chatham, Madison, Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Florham Park, and Summit to name

a few.

All are welcome at the Senior Center of the Chathams. There is no membership fee to join. Many programs are offered free of charge, while others involve only a minimal fee thanks to individual donations, fundraising events, and grants. The Center is open Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

For more information about the Senior Center of the Chathams, call 973-635-4565 or visit chathamseiorcenter.org.

CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS

The Senior Center of the Chathams hosted Holiday Parties on two days - December 2 and December 9. Lunch was served, including deserts and mocktails – eggnog and holiday punch. A Holiday Concert was performed by entertainer Bob Marino who is known for ‘Singing Italian and more’.

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(above) Senior Center of the Chathams, employees, volunteers, and sponsors of the event.



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DO YOU KNOW ABOUT NJ 211?

Summit Times • Page 17 • January 2023

The 211 system is found throughout the United States and is devoted to connecting people in need to the resources that can help. While each 211 operates independently, all of the more than 200 organizations provide a network of local support that people can call on with confidence when they need help and simply don't know where to turn. In New Jersey, our motto has been: Need Help? Start Here.

NJ 211 provides live assistance 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Our services are free, confidential and multilingual. There are several ways to reach us: By phone (simply dial 2-1-1); via text (send your zip code to 898-211); email (info@nj211.org); or chat on-line: nj211.org/contact-us. Whichever method you choose, you will be communicating with a community resource specialist who has been educated about federal, state and local systems

created to help people who are struggling.

NJ 211 also serves as the State Homeless Hotline and New Jersey's Utility Assistance Hotline.



FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Are you feeling stressed and alone in trying to cope with the effects of a loved one's mental illness? Union County's Family Support Group is for family members and caregivers of persons with mental illness. The group is led by NAMI-trained facilitators and is a peer support group

that allows participants to gain insight from others facing the same challenges.

Zoom sessions are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. To register, email Denise at: namiunioncounty@yahoo.com with your name, town, and phone number.

HELP HTTV TELL THE STORY

Dear Neighbor,

We are coming to you, as we always do at this time of year, to ask for your support for your local access cable station and hyper-local media outlet, HTTV.

Last year, we spoke about the challenging times that all of us faced during the pandemic. We were excited that HTTV was at its finest—delivering information that contributed to the health and safety of residents, connecting faith communities through virtual church services and sharing joyful moments such as the parade that celebrated our health care heroes and first responders.

Inform, educate, inspire, enrich and bring people together—this is HTTV at its core. We bring you municipal government meetings, church services, events such as “Cars & Croissants” and medical segments including Health Matters that recently broadcast “Covid's Long Term Effects” which was paneled by top-notch physicians at Overlook Medical Center.

An award-winning local 501(c)(3) nonprofit local access station and video production studio, HTTV is a hyper-local media outlet, httonline.org. With Comcast channel 36 and Verizon channel 33, the signal reaches more than half a million people in 32 towns in Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union counties.

The station is partially funded by the City of Summit and special grants - but these sources can't do it alone. We rely on contributions from viewers like you. Your investment will allow us the privilege to continue serving you and our community.

The easiest way to contribute is to visit httonline.org and click on donate. Mail checks to 70 Maple Street, Summit, NJ 07901.

During this season of giving, we thank you for including us in your charitable donations.

Sincerely,

John Serruto, President,

and Frank Macioce, Vice President

SUMMIT ACHIEVES SUSTAINABLE JERSEY CERTIFICATION

The City of Summit has been awarded silver level certification from Sustainable Jersey for 2022.

The process was led by the Summit Environmental Commission and is the culmination of a year-long effort to document programs and policies in Summit that aim to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, stimulate local economies, and increase resiliency and progress toward an equitable society.

“Municipalities that achieve certification are considered by their peers, state government, and civic organizations in New Jersey to be among the leaders in the state,” explains Summit Mayor Nora Radest. “I am so proud that we have yet again achieved this important designation. Thank you to the Environmental Commission members and numerous city staff that collaborated on this important project. Your everyday efforts to make Summit a more sustainable community do not go unnoticed.”

The City of Summit has achieved Sustainable Jersey certification in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2017, and 2019. In the 2022 certification process, Summit received 620 points from 50 separate actions.

The major categories in which Summit was awarded points include Waste Management (110 points); Public Information and Engagement, and Emergency Management and Resiliency (a total of 85 points generated from the Communications Office); and Natural Resources (80 points). The additional 345 points were spread across 11 additional categories.

“Sustainable Jersey certification benefits our city in many ways,” reports Summit Environmental Commission Chairperson Donna Goggin Patel. “Summit has been awarded grants in the past that help us to fund programs like the Summit Free Market at the Transfer Station. This would not be possible without certification. It also provides an opportunity for us to analyze all sustainable actions citywide and examine where we may be able to take additional steps to enhance our environmental efforts.”


More information on sustainability efforts and projects in Summit is available on the city website.

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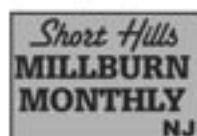
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9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
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city of rahway
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RAHWAY

JANUARY IS A SOUPER TIME TO VISIT RAHWAY

Rahway is your winter destination in 2023! Looking for something to do to fight off those winter blues? Bundle up and take the train, rideshare, or drive to Rahway to experience all that the city has to offer. Rahway is home to a diverse small business community with unique retail shops and dining experiences. You can start your day in Rahway with a hot cup of coffee and some shopping, get the kids out of the house for lunch and some family game time at the arcade, and plan a date night with drinks and dinner at any one of our many delicious restaurants. No matter what cuisine you are craving, you will find it in Rahway! Watch a show at the Union County Performing Arts Center, view an exhibit at one of our art galleries, or listen to local musicians who can help you rock and sway your way through the winter months.

Looking to warm up this winter? Our annual Soup Stroll, presented by our Special Improvement District (SID), will return every Saturday in January (Jan 7, 14, 21, 28) from 1-4 p.m. Mayor Raymond Giacobbe and the Rahway City Council encourage everyone to attend this free event as a great way to get together with friends, get out of the house, and sample some delicious soups while strolling through the City.

Restaurants will be stirring up their finest soups for you to try, so be sure to follow @Rahwayishappening on Facebook and Instagram or visit RahwayIsHappening.com/soupstroll for participating eateries and more information. Snap a photo of you and your Soup Stroll Squad enjoying your samples and share it with @rahwayishappening on Instagram to enter our Soup Stroll Selfie contest for a chance to win a \$25 Gift Card to your favorite participating restaurant.

Visit Rahwayishappening.com for information on parking, lists of shops and restaurants and details about all of our upcoming events!

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