

Summit NJ Times

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TREE DEDICATION HONORS GENEROUS DONOR

Reeves-Reed Arboretum

Reeves-Reed Arboretum recently held a special tree dedication ceremony in honor of the extraordinary generosity of Pamela Hauptfleisch. Mrs. Hauptfleisch bequeathed a legacy gift to the Arboretum, and as well, was very involved with the organization in its early years as a non-profit public Arboretum.

The tree dedication held on September 27, 2023, celebrated the invaluable contributions of Mrs. Hauptfleisch to the community and the profound impact her support has had and will have on the public garden. Current and former board members, Arboretum staff, family, friends, and community partners including Mayor Radest attended the event, with remarks given by Reeves-Reed Arboretum's Executive Director, Jackie Kondel.

"The large, beautiful copper beech tree will be a lasting tribute to Mrs. Hauptfleisch's commitment and support. The copper beech was chosen as it has an exceptionally long lifespan, often living for centuries," explained Executive Director, Jackie Kondel. "It symbolizes endurance, strength, and resilience, and we hope this tree will signify Mrs. Hauptfleisch's enduring impact and lasting legacy."

Celebrating 50 years as a historic public garden and education resource, Reeves-Reed Arboretum engages, educates, and enriches the public through horticulture and environmental education, and the care and utilization of the gardens and estate. Open 7 days a week, 365 days a year, Reeves-Reed Arboretum is listed on both the National and New Jersey State Historic Registers and is free to the public.



(above) Pamela Hauptfleisch



(above) Copper Beech Tree



Courtesy photos



(above) Pamela Hauptfleisch's daughter's Melinda Shumway, Hillary Campbell; and RRA Executive Director, Jackie Kondel

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Summit Times

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SAILORS SHINE AT FALL AWARDS DINNER


The Summit High School Sailing Team joined sailors from Chatham HS, Seton Hall Prep, Delbarton, Westfield HS, Ridge HS, and Pingry at the Summit Elks on November 6th, to celebrate a successful fall season at the Raritan Bay High School Sailing Foundation (RBHSSF) Awards Dinner. SHS Senior Lauren Murray was recognized as the Female Sailor of the Year, and SHS Junior Grace Penque received the award for Crew of the Year. Congratulations to Lauren and Grace on their well-deserved awards. Congrats to all our Summit Sailors on a successful fall season. Well done, Hilltoppers!

(above, l-r) Coach Jeff Bonanni, Coach Kim Sinatra, Grace Penque, Lauren Murray, Coach Kailey Savacool

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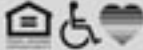

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41 Plymouth Rd	5	3.1	2	\$1,625,000	\$1,825,000	16
743 Springfield Ave	5	3.2	2	\$1,750,000	\$1,690,000	36
17 O'Shea Ln	5	2.1	2	\$1,535,000	\$1,535,000	0
182 Mountain Ave	4	3.0	2	\$1,170,000	\$1,220,000	14
59 Madison Ave	3	1.1	1	\$899,000	\$999,000	8

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Source: GSIMLS, select properties sold 10/13-11/13/2023. If your property is currently listed with another Realtor, this is not intended as a solicitation of that listing. Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Each office independently owned and operated. Equal housing opportunity. Some homes may be sold and listed by other brokers.



SUMMIT OLD GUARD DECEMBER SPEAKERS PROGRAM



(above) The Summit Old Guard has 19 activity and interest groups. During a Nov. 3rd fishing outing Bob Eng, along with Joe Geist, Joe Corona, and Marv Gersten all landed some sizeable striped bass for dinner and the freezer. Besides fishing, members golf weekly, play bocce followed by lunch, discuss the latest technology issues, and much more.

Courtesy photo



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The Summit Old Guard was founded in 1930 and meets most Tuesdays at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our motto is “Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends.” Please join us. Our programs are free to the public, and we welcome you!

December speakers include Bill Freund, Mitch Erickson, and a special event featuring Joe Regan.

On December 5th, Summit Old Guard member, Bill Freund, will tell us about fleeing Nazi Germany with his family in 1936 at age 11. A refugee doesn't look for happiness, only survival. He was a shoe-shine boy, learned English, and attended school. He eventually earned a PhD from Columbia and became Chief Economist at the New York Stock Exchange. He wrote several professional books and later, two children's stories, including one about a cookie that played a central role in his life. We'll hear the remarkable life story of one of our most notable members.

On December 12th, another distinguished Old Guard member, Mitch Erickson will review the science, biology, and environmental and social uses of water as a parable of the intersection of science, environment, policy, recreation, safety, climate change, and social justice that affects all 8 billion of us. It is important to be informed about the fundamental properties of H2O to participate in societal discussions. Mitch is an environmental chemist with a lifetime of



(above, l-r) Bill Freund, Mitch Erickson, and Joe Regan

professional experience with water. He also enjoys a variety of beverages comprised largely of water.

December 19th will be our last meeting of the year. We always try to make it a little special and a little festive. This year we will feature Joe Regan, a well-known cabaret singer and pianist we have always enjoyed, and he'll appear with a repertoire of popular standards and holiday songs. There will be special refreshments and decorations, and the bigger the turnout the better it will be. Join us for the music, snacks, and SOG bonhomie.

Past speakers and much more can be viewed at SummitOldGuard.org but we encourage people to drop in on our meetings which take place at the church at 10:00 a.m. most Tuesdays. “Come for the Speakers. Stay for the Friends.” We look forward to meeting you.

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COPING WITH LOSS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

There is so much pressure to be happy in our culture, especially at the holidays. We are supposed to have a Happy Thanksgiving, a “merry little Christmas” or a Happy Hanukkah. But grief doesn’t take a holiday.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss would like to offer support to those navigating the challenges of grieving during the holiday season and offer some coping strategies as well. On Thursday December 14th from 6:30-8 pm, Imagine will offer a workshop on Coping with Loss During the Holidays. The free workshop will be held at their center at 244 Sheffield Street in Mountainside and is open to adults and children grades 3 and older.

Imagine’s Grief Educator, Connie Palmer, LCSW will present the workshop in English and Training and Education Director, Veronica Ortiz, LPC and Bilingual Program Manager, Sonia Nuñez will present the workshop at the same time in Spanish. Pizza dinner is available prior to the session beginning at 6:15 for those who sign up. Hot cocoa and cookies will be served as well.

If you are looking for support as you cope with a loss this holiday season, the staff at Imagine would like to help, and hope to see you at the workshop on the 14th.

Imagine is a 501c3 nonprofit that 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 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@imagineenj.org.



(above) If you’re interested in attending the workshop presented in English, please scan the QR code or visit Imagine’s website at imagineenj.org/education-training/community-webinars/ to register. Registration is not required for the workshop presented in Spanish.

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NJIO PRESENTS FREE FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT IN SUMMIT

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra will be entertaining families on Sunday, December 10, 2023 with a free concert of seasonal holiday favorites. The concert will be from 2pm to 3pm at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, 272 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ. Families with children of all ages are invited to come and join in the fun!

NJIO's three orchestral ensembles will combine to perform music by Strauss, Mozart, Brahms, and more! The concert concludes with Leroy Anderson's exciting Sleigh Ride, with percussion accompaniment provided by the youngest members of the audience!

The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Following the concert, the famous NJIO Instrument Petting Zoo returns! Experienced NJIO musicians will guide young audience members and assist them in safely trying out the instrument of their dreams. Instruments are loaned by Elefante Music of New Providence and Scotch Plains.

Concert Details:

Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 2 pm
Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School
272 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901

Admission is free;
donations are gratefully accepted.

This concert is made possible by funds from: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a

partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation; The Lillian Schenck Foundation; The Henry S. and Agnes M. Truzack Foundation; Investors Foundation; Standish Foundation; and many other generous supporters. NJIO is a proud participating organization in the Families First Discovery Pass Program, a program of the NJ Departments of Health and Human Services.

NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible. For more information regarding the concert or to inquire about patron services, please contact NJIO at info@njio.org, or visit NJIO's website njio.org.

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, now in its 30th season, has been nationally recognized as a leader in intergenerational excellence through its unique approach to teaching musical performance and as a model for intergenerational orchestras across the country. Depending on space availability, NJIO welcomes new members of all ages and abilities each concert period to one of its several orchestras - no auditions needed!

NJIO's 30th anniversary season will continue with two more concerts:

NJIO'S WINTER CONCERT

Sunday, February 25, 2024, 3 pm
Dolan Performance Hall,
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NJIO'S SPRING CONCERT

followed by 30th Anniversary Celebration!
Sunday, April 21, 2024, 3 pm
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Free Concert

Sunday, December 10, 2023 • 2 pm
 LCJ Summit Middle School
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New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra
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A Family Concert!
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Warren Cohen, Artistic Director & Symphony Conductor



(above) Young audience members get to try out orchestra instruments at NJIO's Holiday Concert Instrument Petting Zoo. Instruments are loaned by Elefante Music.

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SUMMIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

The Summit Symphony Orchestra begins its 2023-24 season, celebrating 85 years of free concerts in Summit, on Sunday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m., at Summit High School, 125 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit. Admission to all Summit Symphony concerts is free.

Music Director Michael Avagliano will lead the orchestra in "Music from Opera" featuring soprano Sarah Stine and tenor Jeremy Blossey performing selections by Rossini, Puccini, Verdi, Leoncavallo and Gounod.

The Summit Symphony has been providing free orchestral concerts for the Summit area since 1938. Their 2023-24 season will include 3 performances, on December 3, March 10, and May 19. For more information about this concert or about the Summit Symphony Orchestra, please visit our website summitsymphony.org.

FREE DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAM

The Summit Free Public Library is pleased to announce that it is now a Northstar Digital Literacy location. Northstar Digital Literacy is a comprehensive, free resource designed to provide individuals with essential computer skills at their own pace. Whether you are a beginner or seeking to refine your skills, Northstar's online learning modules cover a wide range of topics, allowing users to earn certificates and badges as proof of their proficiency.

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2. Essential Software Skills: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Google Docs.
3. Using Technology to Accomplish Tasks: Social Media and Information Literacy.

Residents can access the program from home

or through Library computers at summitlibrary.org/resources/northstar-digital-literacy/. The Library also offers personalized assistance from librarians on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. or 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

"Computer skills are so vital these days for everything from job applications to social life," said Abigail Brady, Head of Adult Services at the Library. "We are thrilled to offer everyone the opportunity to learn the skills needed to navigate the digital world."

No library card is required to use this resource. To schedule a 30-minute appointment with a librarian or for additional information, please contact the library at reference@summitlibrary.org or call 908-277-0350, option 3.

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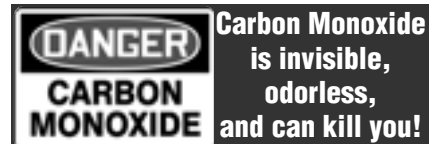
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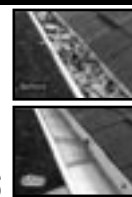
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TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 24TH ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 24th joyous season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 17 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) for two performances at 2 and 7PM. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 18 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ also with performances at 2 and 7PM.

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

According to producer Robert Currie, "We are absolutely delighted to be bringing our concert back to full force after two devastating years weathering the Covid pandemic. Supporting our GoFundMe campaign will continue to make these concerts possible."

The 2022 production marks the NYC solo debut of soprano Sharon Lyons originally from Dublin, Ireland.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. In addition to Ms. Lyons, featured performers include James Robinson from the film "Braveheart," New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more.

PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which include annual gifts to the National Piping Centre and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland) the Gaelic College of Nova Scotia and the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School.

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

Each year, concert highlights are webcast in hi-definition over the Christmas holiday to a global audience in cooperation with HomeTowne Television. In addition to winning multiple Telly Awards for broadcast production excellence, the 2020 virtual concert was a finalist for the coveted

MG Alba Trad Music Award presented annually in Scotland.

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

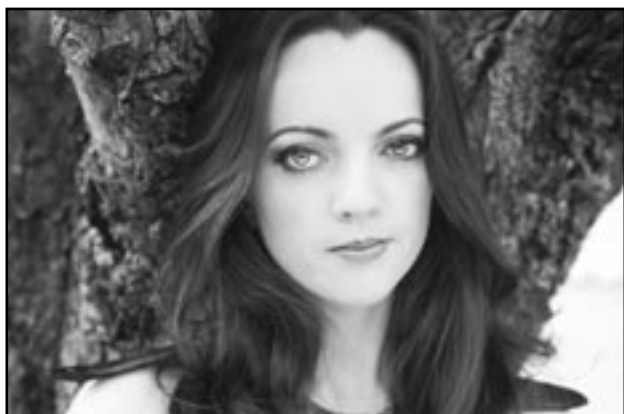
TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Tickets may be purchased online exclusively through ShowTix4U at www.showtix4u.com (be certain you select the event name and date in the search engine). Reserved patron seats are available at both venues.

ABOUT "THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS"

Since making its debut in 1999, The Pipes of Christmas has played to standing room only audiences. Now a cherished holiday event, the concert provides audiences with a stirring and reverent celebration of the Christmas season and the Celtic spirit. Audience-goers return year after year to experience the program, many reporting that the Pipes of Christmas has become part of their family's annual Christmas tradition.

The concert has been lavished with critical acclaim. In his review for Classical New Jersey Magazine, Paul Somers wrote, "The whole evening was constructed to introduce gem after gem and still have a finale which raised the roof. In short, it was like a well-constructed fireworks show on the Glorious Fourth. The Westfield Leader described the concert as "a unique sound of power and glory nowhere else to be found."



(above) Soprano Sharon Lyons originally from Dublin, Ireland, made her NYC solo debut at the 2022 Pipes of Christmas concerts NJ.



(above) Pipers from the Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band are returning to join the company of the 24th annual "Pipes of Christmas" concerts.

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ELKS LODGE NAMED ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

During the annual Suburban Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner held in October, Summit NJ Elks Lodge #1246 was presented with the Organization of the Year Award.

Covering the 3 town area of Summit, New Providence, and Berkeley Heights NJ, the award recognizes an organization which has consistently performed services within the community for at least five years, and has achieved or carried out one or more outstanding events or projects during the previous year.

Summit Elks Lodge #1246 is a chapter of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks of the United States and was chartered in 1911. The Summit Elks Lodge has donated millions of dollars and countless community volunteer hours supporting local and national charities.

Each year, the Summit Elks supports families with special needs children to attend Camp Moore - the N.J. State Elks Special Project, for children with physical and developmental challenges. The Summit Lodge also sponsors events for local children including an annual holiday party, Flag Day celebration, and the annual Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot contests which provide young athletes the opportunity to compete for local, state and national prizes.

The Summit Elks supports first responders in the area, for example recently funding bullet-proof vests for several local police departments and helping fund the living and recreational quarters at the new Summit firehouse. Drug awareness is an area the Summit Elks works to promote education and also Scholarship is a focal point where the Summit Elks provide



(above) Rick Wolffe - Past Lodge President, Hank Bedlivy - NJ Elks East Central District VP, Peter Holmes, Ken Gerard, Apollo Hrehorovich, Kathy Preacher, Mary Twill, Rocco DiPiano, Randy Natunen, Michael Helmer - Lodge President, David Dietze and Marcella Gencarelli - Suburban Chamber of Commerce, Lauren Cook, Michael Williams - Past Lodge President, and Senator Joe Bramnick - Event Master of Ceremonies.

college scholarships for area residents to include supplemental room and board for young men and women under ROTC contract.

Elks have a special commitment to veterans, and have pledged, "As long as there are veterans, the Elks will never forget them." Summit Elks have been heavily involved with promoting awareness of and helping homeless veterans, raising funds for, and contributing to providing needed furnishings for homeless veterans when they move into a home. Elks members visit veterans, host an annual Thanksgiving dinner at the Lyons VA Center and

organize a coat drive for homeless vets.

The Lindsey Street Post of the American Legion calls the Summit Lodge on Maple Street its home as well, and local Elks partnered with Legion members to fund and erect the new memorial monuments on Summit's Village Green to honor those from the city who gave their lives protecting our freedom, and a monument to honor two Medal of Honor recipients from World War I who called Summit home.

Please visit summitelks1246.org for more information about the Elks and how to join.

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TOYS FOR TOTS HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

City of Summit

The Summit Policemen's Benevolent Association #55 (PBA) and Summit Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association #54 (FMBA) are hosting the annual United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots holiday toy drive beginning Monday, November 13, through Friday, December 15.

To participate, bring new and unwrapped toys to the donation boxes at the following Summit locations during normal business hours between November 13 and December 15:

Summit Police Headquarters at City Hall (512 Springfield Avenue), Summit Fire Department (396 Broad Street), Summit Community Center (100 Morris Avenue)

The PBA and FMBA will drop off donated toys to the Marine Corps Reserve. The toys collected through this program are distributed to children throughout Union County and the surrounding area. Since 1947, the Marine Toys for Tots program has collected and distributed more than 604 million toys to 272 million deserving children in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands.



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VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR GIRLS' YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL

The Summit Department of Community Programs and Summit Youth Football are seeking volunteers to help develop a girls youth flag football program for the Spring 2024 season through the New Jersey Suburban Football League. Summit High School is offering girls flag football for the first time in Spring 2024, and the youth program is expected to offer a team for girls ages 12 and up and a team for girls ages 14 and up.

Interested volunteers should contact Nolister Montas at nmontas@cityofsummit.org or Kevin Fagan at summityouthfootball@gmail.com.

FALL CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION

Curbside leaf collection began on Monday, October 3, and continues through Friday, December 2 (or the first major snowfall). 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; they are separate trucks that perform leaf collection. Leaves left at the curb after the last scheduled collection day will not be picked up. More information is available at cityofsummit.org/leafcollection.



VOLUNTEER ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The City of Summit is actively seeking volunteers from the community to serve on several of its boards and commissions.

Each November, the Mayor and Common Council begin the annual process of reviewing volunteer applications and appointing new members. Terms vary from one to five years of service with an opportunity for re-appointment. The city keeps applications active for two years.

The deadline to apply is November 15, 2023. A complete list of boards and commissions can be found on the city website at cityofsummit.org/volunteer. Residents can apply now using the online portal. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 908-273-6400 with any questions.

BLUE CHRISTMAS PRAYER SERVICE

The Church of the Little Flower will be hosting a Blue Christmas prayer service on Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. The service will be held in the Bernauer Parish Center, 290 Plainfield Avenue in Berkeley Heights.

Many of us feel down or depressed this time of year, whether due to stress, financial issues, broken relationships, death of a loved one, or may be looking for a brief respite from the hustle and bustle of the season.

The Bereavement Ministry of the Church of the Little Flower invites anyone from the parish or any faith community to attend our service where we can pray for renewed strength and hope and experience the presence of the Lord.

Light refreshments will be served afterward. For further information, you may call the parish center at 908-464-1585 and ask for Dan Grossano or email bereavement.lf@gmail.com.



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SHINING STARS CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR – DEC. 2ND

With cast members from all over Union County and beyond, the Shining Stars Network has been producing live programming for the special needs community for eleven years.

Celebrate the holiday season when the Shining Stars take the stage for their 2023 Christmas Spectacular” set for Saturday, December 2nd, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

The show will take place on the main stage at the historic Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway as this talented cast sings and dances to your holiday favorites.

This year’s Christmas Spectacular marks the return of the Shining Stars to one of the most beautiful theaters in New Jersey and will feature 35 special needs cast members and their volunteer buddies from local high schools, who serve as mentors to the cast during rehearsals.

Two previous Shining Stars shows at UCPAC

drew more than 1,000 audience members for each performance, and already, the buzz is building in the community.

“We’re so excited to ring in the holiday season,” noted Shining Stars Network founder and President Mike Curci. “Our stars are ready to share their smiles, energy and amazing talents with everyone. This will be a great way to cap off our 11th year.”

“We strongly believe in creating an inclusive environment for our cast, and our buddies are an integral part of the Shining Stars experience,” noted Shining Stars founder and show director Sally Curci. “We are so excited to bring a new show to the stage and cannot wait to connect with our incredible audience again to celebrate the holiday season.”

Shining Stars Network is wrapping up their biggest year yet, which included their annual

“Evening of Shining Stars” Spring Show, their Broadway debut at the Gershwin Theatre, and their impressive main stage debut at the iconic Paper Mill Playhouse.

The Shining Stars performed “This Is Me” on Broadway as part of the Arts for Autism concert and soon after, took the Paper Mill stage to present The Greatest Show, a history-making performance which was the first full production of performers with special needs in Paper Mill history.

“Shining Stars Network is not only about performing, but more importantly we’re about building self-confidence and self-esteem,” said Shining Stars co-director Nicole Greene. “Our cast members are not only talented, but inspire us every day, and we are all very excited about seeing our cast take the stage again to share another magical night with the audience.”

Tickets are on sale now at UCPAC.org. For groups of 10 or more, email shiningstarsnetwork@gmail.com.

The night will also feature a Tricky Tray and 50/50 raffle. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m.

Shining Stars Network is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization based in Cranford, N.J. that offers opportunities in the performing arts for the special needs community.

For more information on Shining Stars Network or to make a donation, please visit shiningstarsnetwork.org.



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Summit Downtown, Inc. (SDI) is pleased to announce an exciting promotion for holiday shoppers! The highly sought-after Summit VISA Gift Card is set to soar in popularity with SDI's introduction of a special giveaway card program, perfectly timed for the festive shopping season. Here's the deal: for every \$50 spent by a customer on Summit VISA Gift Cards, they will receive an additional \$10 in Summit VISA Gift Cards completely free of charge! Planning to purchase a \$100 gift? Grab a Summit VISA Gift Card and enjoy a bonus \$20 gift card for yourself! Please note that the maximum limit per customer per transaction for free gift cards is \$100. Don't miss out on this fantastic holiday offer!

"What better way to thank customers for shopping local than to give a gift of local shopping to them?", said SDI Board Chair, Bob Conway of Brownie Points Bakery. "People give a Summit VISA gift card to someone, and then give themselves a gift too! We think it's a fun way to celebrate shopping local and thank those who support the businesses by buying Summit gift cards."

Don't know what to buy for all your gift giving needs? There's nothing simpler than getting those on your list a Summit VISA Gift Card because it's accepted at 150 Summit businesses city-wide! Your gift recipient can treat themselves to a salon experience, a delicious meal, a bottle of wine or whatever they like from all the participating businesses; the choices are vast and extensive.

Purchases for the special Gift Card Giveaway can only be made in person at SDI's office in the heart of downtown Summit (18 Bank St., Suite 101) on 4 specific days while supplies last. The special giveaway event kicks off on Small Business Saturday, November 25th from 1-4pm and Fridays, December 1st, 8th, and 15th also from 1-4pm. (Does not apply to online purchases.) Limit \$100 in free gift cards per person, per transaction. Call SDI's office at 908-277-6100 with any questions.

For a list of participating businesses, shoppers should go to summitdowntown.org.

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BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM

The Blue Envelope Program is accessible to all Union County residents on the Autism Spectrum. Residents can obtain a Blue Envelope at their local police departments throughout the county.

The Blue Envelope Program introduces a simple yet effective tool that contains essential information for drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This includes a copy of their driver's license, vehicle registration, insurance details, and an emergency contact card. Additionally, the envelope provides clear instructions to drivers on how to navigate a traffic stop and interact with law enforcement officers in a manner that promotes clarity and safety.

Key features of the Blue Envelope Program include:

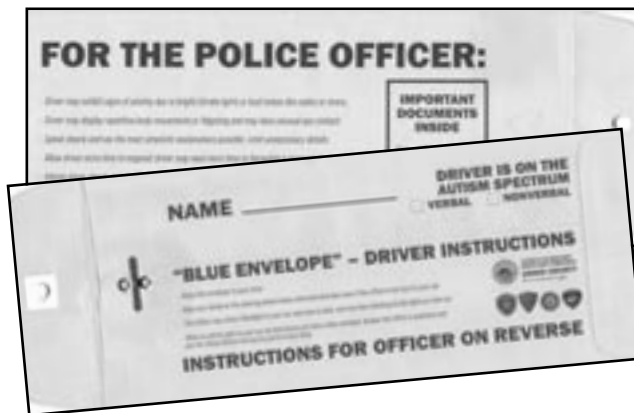
- **Specialized Training:** Every officer in Union County, including local officers in all 21 municipalities, will undergo specialized training to develop a deeper understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder and the best practices for engaging with individuals during traffic stops.
- **Communication Facilitation:** Drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder can present the blue envelope to the officer upon being stopped, allowing officers to quickly recognize the situation and adapt their approach accordingly.
- **Essential Information:** The envelope includes guidance for officers to simplify requests and

minimize the risk of misunderstandings or potential escalation. Additionally, officers are advised to contact the person listed on the emergency contact card for assistance if needed.

- **Verbal or Nonverbal Indication:** A checked-off box on the envelope indicates whether the driver is verbal or nonverbal, which aids officers in communicating effectively.

"Every single police department in Union County is proud to be a part of this initiative," said Elizabeth Police Chief Giacomo Sacca and President of the Union County Police Chief's Association. "Our officers have undergone thorough briefings and trainings to ensure they are well-versed in the proper protocols, and they are eager to put their training into action."

For information on this program in your town, contact your local Police Department's Community Outreach Unit.



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Short Hills MILLBURN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 8,200 Zips: 07041, 07078	Summit NJ Times Qty: 9,600 Zip: 07901	Spirit of UNION NJ Qty: 6,800 Zip: 07083 (partial)	WARREN MONTHLY NJ Qty: 6,200 Zip: 07059	Watchung Post NJ Qty: 2,700 Zip: 07069	Westfield NJ MONTHLY Qty: 11,800 Zip: 07090

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4 Units	3.25" x 8" or 6.5" x 4"	\$180	\$450	\$700	\$900	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900
6 Units	6.5" x 6.25" or 10" x 4"	\$240	\$600	\$900	\$1200	\$1400	\$1600	\$1800	\$2000	\$2200
9 HALF PAGE	6.5" x 9" or 10" x 7"	\$320	\$800	\$1000	\$1300	\$1600	\$1900	\$2200	\$2400	\$2700
12 Units	10" x 8"	\$360	\$900	\$1200	\$1500	\$1800	\$2100	\$2400	\$2700	\$3000
18 FULL PAGE	10" x 14"	\$400	\$1000	\$1400	\$1800	\$2200	\$2500	\$2800	\$3000	\$3400
2-PAGE SPREAD	21" x 14"	\$700								
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December 6, 13 and 20 at 12 noon
Organ Recitals After Services on December 6 and 20

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24

Family Service with Eucharist at 4:00 p.m.
Candlelight Eucharist with Special Music at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25

Nativity of Our Lord Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Service of Lessons, Carols and Eucharist

Sunday, December 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Livestream available

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Facebook at Faith Lutheran, New Providence

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8:00 PM - Traditional Service

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