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## **ELIZABETH DAVIES EARNS COLLEGE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**

Submitted by Lorna Ness

Lile Hall in Christ Church, Summit, was filled on Sunday afternoon, June 2, 2024, when the Summit College Club Foundation awarded \$4,500 to each of six accomplished high school senior women from Summit and surrounding towns. The scholarships, a testament to the Summit College Club's mission to advance equity for women and girls, will significantly aid these young women in pursuing their college dreams. The recognition of these students through the awarding of college scholarships is an annual high point for the members of the Summit College Club. Since its inception in 1920, Summit College Club has awarded more than \$1 million in scholarship money, a contribution that has helped hundreds of local young women attend the college of their choice and make a difference in their communities.

This year's scholarship recipients, Tanya Dev from Summit High School, Julia Nugent from Chatham High School, Mahrukh Khizar from Kent Place School, Elizabeth Davies from New Providence High School, Winnie Grober from Governor Livingston High School, and Manaal Qureshi from Chatham High School have been chosen for their outstanding

academic performance, exceptional leadership qualities, and the significant contributions they have made to their communities.

Marylou Motto, Co-chair of the Summit College Club Scholarship Committee, gave an update on AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), which had wrapped up its annual conference the previous day. As a branch of AAUW, Summit College Club sponsored a previous year's scholarship winner to attend this year's NCCWSL conference. This year's attendee wrote back to the club about the enormous value she had gained from NCCWSL through the several days of workshops, activities, and talks that enhanced her leadership skills.

After the awards ceremony, there was a catered reception where Summit College Club members, guests, proud parents, and scholarship recipients enjoyed meeting one another and celebrating the scholarship winners' amazing accomplishments.

For more information about the Summit College Club, please visit summitcollegeclub.org or email summitcollegeclub@gmail.com.



(above, 1-r) Scholarship Recipients Julia Nugent, Manaal Qureshi, Tanya Dev, Winnie Grober, and Elizabeth Davies; Speaker Dr. Audrey Fisch.

Courtesy photo



# **New Providence NEWS**

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# FAMILY FUN DAY DRAWS RECORD ATTENDANCE

**Community Access Unlimited** 

The 26th Annual Ira Geller Family Fun Day, hosted by Community Access Unlimited (CAU), drew an enthusiastic crowd of over 800 supporters, members, and staff to Warinanco Park on Saturday, May 18th.

The event delivered a day filled with joy and community spirit, with an aim of supporting CAU's essential services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) and at-risk youth. Activities offered enjoyment for all ages and all abilities; the park was made more accessible with a path for those using wheelchairs, and a new sensory station engaged attendees to stimulate and regulate their senses.

Participants enjoyed a variety of activities, including over a dozen games, two bouncy slides, a free photo booth, and lively music from CAU's resident DJ. The atmosphere was alive with families and friends reveling in the day's festivities, all while supporting a meaningful cause and commemorating CAU's 45th year of service to the community.

Tonya Hopson of Hillside, a CAU member since 1987, shared her personal journey and the profound impact CAU has had on her life.

As a teenager, Hopson aged out of the foster care system and found a lifeline in CAU, which provided housing and essential services. As an adult with a disability, employment support from CAU assisted her in securing a job at a Target where she has thrived for over 20 years.

This year's Family Fun Day not only celebrated the memory of Ira Geller, a former CAU member and advocate, but also highlighted the significant contributions of CAU in improving the lives of over 3,000 individuals and families across New Jersey. Through housing, education, support services, employment, support coordination, and the Day Program, CAU continues to make a tangible difference in the community.

For more information on CAU and its programs, or to make a donation, please visit caunj.org.

#### **ABOUT COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED**

Community Access Unlimited (CAU), celebrating 45 years in 2024, supports people with disabilities in achieving full lives in the community. CAU provides support and gives voice to adults and youth who traditionally have little support and no voice in society. CAU helps people with housing, life skills, employment, money management, socialization and civic activities. CAU currently serves more than 3,000 individuals and families and is continually expanding its services to broaden the scope of its support. For more information about CAU and its services, contact us by phone at 908.354.3040, online at caunj.org or by mail at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202.



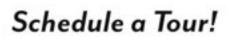


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# **YOUTH FACILITATORS SOUGHT FOR TRAINING**

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss training to become a volunteer facilitator at Imagine the next training will take place over two days beginning on August 28th and concluding on August 29th and interested volunteers should plan to attend both days of the training. The training will be held from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. each day. Please visit Imagine's website at imaginenj.org to learn more about volunteering with Imagine and to complete an interest form for our upcoming training. Questions about training to be an Imagine facilitator can be directed to Imagine's Clinical Program Supervisor, Abigail Priece, LPC at abigail@imaginenj.org.

Imagine's youth facilitators partner with our adult volunteers as they facilitate Imagine's peer support groups for children. Youth facilitators are an integral part of Imagine's team as they create safe spaces where Imagine's young participants can share their stories or use play as an outlet for their feelings of grief.

One of Imagine's former youth facilitators said this about her experience as a volunteer:

"Being a part of imagine as a youth facilitator If you're a high school age youth interested in not only made my high school experience, it made me who I am today. I am so honored to be a part of a community that holds a space for so many families they can find nowhere else, as well as one that creates a space where us too as volunteers grow, and learn, and listen. At Imagine, I gained things that I don't think are accessible elsewhere, all while hopefully adding to someone else's life." The staff at Imagine are so grateful for the time that youth volunteers commit to their programs and for the unique perspective and empathy that they bring to their support groups.

Imagine is a 501c3 that offers grief and loss education and training to the community and 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. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org or visit our website at imaginenj.org.



(above, 1-r) Participants in Imagine's recent youth facilitator training proudly displaying their certificates of completion: Tim Jiao, Addy Oni, Ava Handler, Amanda Linde and Lauren Glasofer

Courtesy photo

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## THE DOMINICAN NUNS CLOISTER SHOPPE

the Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary in Summit "brings me peace no matter how my day is going." She began volunteering at the Cloister Shoppe there more than four years ago after another Westfield resident, Marge Roeck, told her about it.

The well-stocked gift shop is operated by the Dominican nuns who reside on the Rosary Shrine grounds that include a large chapel open to the public. Several years ago, the cloistered nuns began making a number of products to sell,



(above) Volunteer Tina Lesher from Westfield

For Westfielder Pat Colbert, volunteering at including candles, soaps, face and foot crème, etc. Those items are available, along with a host of religious goods, at the gift shop and online at cloistershoppe.com. Proceeds provide funds needed to support the 20 nuns who live at the monastery.

> Many people come to the shop to secure perpetual enrollments that provide prayers for individuals.

> "These are beautiful cards that people usually buy to give to families of recently deceased individuals or for any living person who might need prayers," says Tina Lesher, of Westfield, who along with her husband, John, volunteers at the shop. "We print out these lovely enrollments and include a special holy card."

> Morris Township resident Kathy Sette has been a dedicated volunteer for 20 years.

> "We're more blessed being here," says Sette. "There's just a feeling about it."

> Her feelings are echoed by decades-long volunteer Dorothy Shanahan of Summit.

> "Curiosity led me as a young woman to investigate that big church on the hill...Simply put, God's grace and love began a lifelong association with the monastery...this journey has been a very special privilege and gift to my life and my family."

> Many of the volunteers are members of the Rosary Guild, an auxiliary that assists the nuns in such undertakings as raising funds, driving the nuns to appointments, shopping with the sisters,

etc. The current president is Joan Brinkerhoff of Summit. She argues that working in the shop "can give me and all the volunteers an Evangelizing ministry---a time to care for others emotionally in a loving, Christian way. We reach out to our shoppers to help them find a special gift for a new grandchild, a sick friend or help them with a loss of a friend, child, parent or even a life-altering illness...we are the lay hands and voices of the nuns."

While handling the shop duties, volunteers also answer calls coming into the Rosary Shrine and relay the messages to the nuns.

"Many of the callers are seeking the nuns' prayers for a variety of reasons, often because of illness or loneliness or depression. As I listen to the pleas, I feel so lucky," says Tina Lesher.

The Summit monastery was founded in 1919 when a group of sisters from a Union City monastery moved to the current site. As contemplatives, the nuns use prayer and penance to spread the Kingdom of God. The average age of the current 20 sisters in Summit is in the 50s.

The monastery chapel houses the only copy of the Shroud of Turin. The 400-year-old shroud copy can be viewed during the open chapel hours from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Mass for the public is celebrated daily at 7:30 a.m and Sundays at 8 a.m. The Cloister Shoppe is open Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Monastery is located at the corner of Springfield and Morris Avenues in Summit.





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## **OLD GUARD JULY SPEAKERS PROGRAM**

#### Summit Area Old Guard

The Summit Area Old Guard is a social, educational, and recreational organization that serves men of retirement age. We meet most Tuesdays at the New Providence Presbyterian Church located at 1307 Springfield Ave. Our dues are minimal, and members manage all aspects of the operation. Our motto is "Come for the Programs. Stay for the Friends." The organization



was founded in 1930.

We will have five programs in July:

On July 2nd, our speaker will be Craig Guy, Hudson County Executive. He will discuss Hudson County, the process of building a new courthouse, new developments and causes of increased population-growth and some of the initiatives the County has undertaken to keep up with recent changes.

On July 9th, we will hear about Advances in Cancer Research (Zoom presentation). Our speaker will be Pat Morin, PhD, Deputy Scientific and Communications Director for the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research. He will discuss the history of the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, its programs, and the current developments in cancer research.

On July 16th, Christopher Fiore, Deputy Director of the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency, will discuss New York City's 'Sixth Borough' and review the incredible development of the Hudson County waterfront and of Jersey City - 'a brand new old city'.

On July 23rd, our topic will be Collegiate Athletics. Bryan Felt, Seton Hall University Athletic Director, will tell the story of Seton Hall athletics including the recent NIT Championship, the building of a new basketball practice facility and the success of other sports teams like golf. Also, he will share his knowledge of what NIL is and how the portal works (NIL is an initiative arising out of the recent NCAA scandals exposed in 2019-20).

Finally, on July 30, The Success of a 150-yearold institution. Dr. Michael Gomez, President, Saint Peter's Preparatory, will describe this downtown Jersey City institution that educates students from over 150 towns in New Jersey and New York City. Dr. Gomez will relate how student aid works, the continuing process of updating 150-year-old historic structures and the tremendous success of its student body.

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(above, l-r) Mr. Felt, Dr. Gomez, Mr. Fiore, Dr. Morin, Mr. Guy

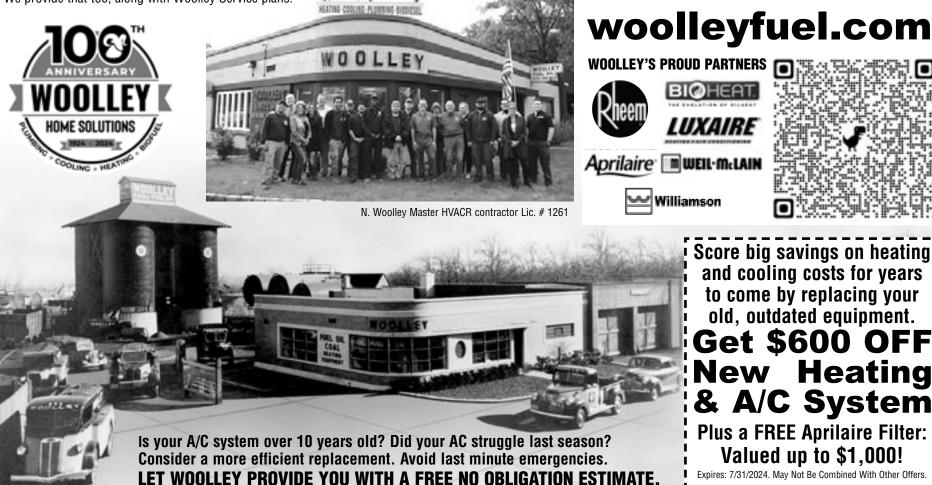
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## SUMMIT ELKS RECEIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

Summit Elks Lodge #1246 received the Springfield, Stirling and Summit. Community Partnership Award At the Summit Area YMCA's annual celebration held on April 25th, 2024, to recognize their efforts in joining the YMCA to host the Extra Special Prom - an event for special-needs students aged 13-25, their parents, and other volunteers.

During the award presentation, a highlight video of the Extra Special Prom was played. The footage demonstrated the utter joy emanating from the young adults who attended the prom, which was a milestone they might otherwise miss out on if not for the Elks partnership with the Y.

Summit Elks Exalted Ruler Fred Honold and fellow members then continued to detail the synergies between the two organizations in their commitment to serving the community and to enriching the lives of youth with special needs.

Summit Elks Lodge #1246 was also honored by the Summit Area YMCA on April 25th with the Y's "Community Partnership 2024 Award." Over 200 people gathered over dinner at The Primavera Regency in Stirling to celebrate. Among several areas highlighted is the Elks' Partnership with the "Y" for Special Needs Children and their collaboration for The Special Children's Prom on May 30th.

The Summit Area YMCA serves more than 15,000 individuals with their free and fee-based programs and services in an area spanning the New Jersey communities of Berkeley Heights, Gillette, Millburn, New Providence, Short Hills,

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The Summit Elks and Elks Lodges throughout NJ and the United States work with compassion and dedication to provide programs and services for special-needs children and adults. Local events such as the Extra Special Prom, scholarships, sports programs, and NJ Elks Camp Moore are made possible through donations, fundraising events, and grants from the Elks National Foundation. Please visit Elks.org for more information about the Elks and how to join.

#### ECOME A MEMBER IN THE SUMMIT ELKS

To be eligible for membership in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, you must be a citizen of the United States over the age of 21 who believes in God.

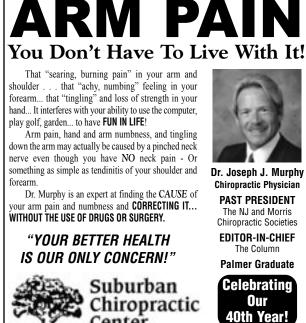
The Summit Elks Lodge #1246 has close to 3,000 members, they predominantly come from these communities: Summit, Berkeley Heights, The Chathams, Millburn - Short Hills, New Providence & Westfield.

For more information visit summitelks1246.org.



(above, l-r) Summit Elks Trustees Mike Helmer, PER, Rich Callaghan, Summit "Y" President Paul Kieltyka, Exalted Ruler Fred Honold, Elks Special Children Committee Co-Chairs Mary Twill and Roger Hughes, past Committee Chair Ted Scallon and Elks Trustee Rick Wolffe, PER.





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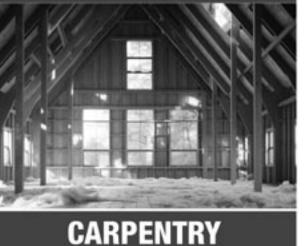
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## **POOL SAFETY TIPS CAN HELP SAVE A LIFE**

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death in children ages 1 through 4, and data released by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) shows that more than 375 children drown in pools and spase each year. Children younger than 5 years old account for 75 percent of these drownings, 56 percent of which are attributed to a gap in adult supervision. Most child drownings (71 percent) happen at home.

In response to these numbers, CPSC's Pool Safely campaign is sharing simple water safety steps that families can take to prevent drownings, especially while many families are spending more time around backyard and portable pools this season.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's Pool Safely campaign urges parents and caregivers to follow the Pool Safely simple safety steps to prevent more drownings: • Never leave a child unattended in or near water, and always designate an adult Water Watcher. This person should not be reading, texting, using a smartphone or be otherwise distracted. In addition to pools and spas, this warning includes bathtubs, buckets, decorative ponds, and fountains.

- If you own a pool or spa, be sure to install layers of protection, including a four-sided fence with a self-closing, self-latching gate.
- Learn how to perform CPR on children and adults. Check forr online CPR training.
- Learn how to swim and teach your child how to swim.
- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments.
- Ensure any pool and spa you use has drain covers that comply with federal safety standards and if you do not know, ask your pool service provider about safer drain covers.

Families can visit poolsafely.gov for additional water safety tips to prepare for a summer that is safer and more fun.

## **ANNUAL COMMUNITY ART EXHIBIT 2024**

The Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library are proud to announce our Annual Community Art Exhibit of 2024. All 23 of the artists exhibiting are residents of, or work in or around the New Providence area. This year's theme is "Color \* Pattern \* Texture" and many of our neighbors submitted works in response to that theme. This three-month community art show began in June, and will be on display until Sept 6, 2024. It is an exciting mix of the arts and crafts. It was juried from many submissions, and

we are pleased with the variety of mediums: painting, photography, quilting, fiber, ceramics, etc. It also reflects the library's objective of creating a "living room for the community."

The works are displayed on the walls of the Adult Reading area, in the front of the library, and in the Conti Family Community Room, through the vestibule by the back door of the library. We also have three-dimensional works displayed on the shelves of the glass cabinet in the front of the library.



#### Michael D Boll, NJVN President

For the last few years, the New Jersey Veterans Network (NJVN) has been helping veterans with resources and assistance with their mental health conditions. Over time we came to realize that the veteran's family was being affected by their struggles as well. Our team had to learn how to include their family members in our outreach efforts. We lose 22 veterans each day to suicide, and they leave behind grieving families. Recently, we decided to make sure all veteran family members can use the same resources that our team has available for veterans. Sometimes we forget about the sacrifices our veteran families have to make and this country should appreciate them for this.

One thing our team decided to do was to have Gold Star families meet disabled veterans at our events, so they can work together and form a bond. This effort was extremely affective and immediately brought joy to both the Gold Star families and to the disabled veterans. By adding veteran family members to the team, it allows us to work together on our peer support and recreational therapy programs. We are honored to have veteran family members to work alongside us and know they are just as committed with helping our veterans live a better way of life.

If you need assistance, or would like to join the team as a volunteer, please send us your name, email, and phone number to NJVN1775@gmail.com.

#### **ABOUT NEW JERSEY VETERANS NETWORK**

We are a group of veterans and volunteers dedicated to helping our veterans and their families live better lives. Our mission is to identify veterans and connect them with resources and programs designed to meet their unique set of needs. Help us save Vets! We are always looking for volunteers, with various skills, to join the team. If you are a veteran or family member that is in need of assistance; or are interested in volunteering, would like us to speak at your event, or contribute to our mission, call 973-332-1556 or email NJVN1775@gmail.com. To learn more visit njvn.org.



(above) Michael D Boll, NJVN President, with Dina and Tom Duffy who lost their son Tom Duffy, a Marine Corporal and Afghanistan War veteran. Courtesy photos



(above) NJVN team members participated in a 22-hour ruck march in Wildwood, NJ in remembers of Tom Duffy, a Marine Corporal and Afghanistan War veteran.



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All events are free and open to the public. For more info,

#### or to register for an event, visit our website. **Knit Night (Adults)**

July 1, 18 at 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Drop by the Conti Room with a knitting or crochet project and chat with the group as you stitch.

### **Movie Matinee (Adults)**

July 2 at 1:00 pm - 3:20 pm When a reclusive espionage novelist's book begin to mirror the covert actions of a real-life spy organization, quiet evenings at home with the author's cat, Alfie, become a thing of the past. This PG-13 film is based on the book Argylle by Elly Conway.

#### **Campfire Stories with Miss Debbie (Kids & Families)**

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 from 7:30 pm - 8:15 pm Join us around our "campfire" on the front lawn for summer-themed stories on each Tuesday in July. Bring a blanket or a beach chair. Inside if bad weather.

#### **DIY Magnet Craft (Adults & Teens)**

July 6 at 10:30 am - 11:30 am Make up to 3 circular magnets of your own design with a magnet making machine. Markers & colored pencils will be supplied. Or you may email a photo or design to RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org no later than July 5, with magnet in the subject line.

#### Yoga (Kids and Parents)

July 8, 15, 22, 29 at 9:30 am - 10:15 am Join Yogi Librarian, Kim Pallant for a special yoga storytime series this summer! Please bring a mat or towel to sit on. The program will be about 45 minutes. Parents must be present for children 10 and under.

#### Batter Up - Let's Talk Baseball (All Ages)

### July 8 at 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Baseball enthusiasts are invited to discuss teams, players and issues of the sport with other baseball fans. Join in person in the Conti Room or over zoom - your choice. \*

#### **Books & Bagels (Adults)**

July 9 at 10:30 am - 11:30 am Join us for a free bagel & tell us about what you've been reading and which books you've enjoyed recently. This program was made possible by NP Bagel Cafe and the

Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library. †

#### Virtual Author Talk: Kate DiCamillo (Kids, Parents) July 9 at 2 pm - 3 pm

Join us online for a conversation with bestselling author Kate DiCamillo. Register online or join us in the Conti Room for a viewing. This program was made possible by the Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library. ††



Jul 11, 18, 25, Aug 1,8,15, 22, 29: 10:30 - 11:30 am Each week, an optional writing prompt is provided and there will be opportunity to read your work aloud.

#### Knitting Workshop (Kids, grades 3 - 8)

July 11 at 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Learn to knit from seasoned knitters. Space is limited and registration is required.

#### **Book Group (Adults)**

July 11 at 7:30 pm The book group will discuss "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks, a saga based on the true story of Lexington, a famous 19th-century racehorse. Copies available.

#### **Summer STEAM Club (Kids)**

July 11, 18 at 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Each week students will participate in hands-on activities to learn about a different aspect of science or art. These sessions will be led by high school students.\*\*

#### **Board Games at the Brewery (Adults)**

July 11 at 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm Buy a beer or soda and play a board game at Untied Brewing! We'll play easy, quick to learn games like Otrio, Ticket to Ride, Catan, Sushi Go, Mysterium, and King of Tokyo. Untied Brewing is located at 140 Spring Street in New Providence. Ages 21+.

#### Cat Behavior & Enrichment Workshop (All Ages) July 13 at 11 am

Humane Society of the US certified cat behavior counselor, Amy Tefft, will speak about cat behavior and enrichment for your feline family member.

**Book Group (Adults)** 

July 16 at 10:30 am - 11:30 am The book group will discuss Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. Copies available at the front desk.

### **Movie Matinee (Adults)**

July 16 at 1:00 pm - 3:20 pm A hilarious and big-hearted sci-fi action adventure about an exhausted Chinese American woman (Michelle Yeoh) who can't seem to finish her taxes. Rated R for some violence, sexual material and language, it won the

Academy Award for Best Picture in 2023. Virtual Author Talk: Max Brallier (Kids, Parents)

#### July 16 at 2 pm - 3 pm

Join us online for a conversation with bestselling author Max Brallier. Register online or join us in the Conti Room for a viewing. This program was made possible by the Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library. ††



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#### New York Botanical Gardens: Amazing Exhibits (Virtual)

July 17 at 7 pm Explore the annual holiday train shows and orchid shows at the New York Botanical Garden, as well as some amazing limited engagement exhibits of the past. This program is free and held over zoom. Email

#### RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org to register by July 16. **Dungeons & Dragons for beginners (Teens)**

### July 22, 23, 24 at 2:30 - 4 pm

Come learn how to play Dungeons & Dragons! Join in a beginners adventure in the Wolves of Welton. For students in grades 5-10.\*\*

### **Silent Book Club (Adults)**

#### July 22 at 7:00 pm

A great way to set aside time to read – bring a book and join us in the reading area. We'll read quietly at 7 pm then stop at 7:50 pm for an optional chat. To register, email RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org.

#### Virtual Author Talk: Elizabeth Acevedo (Teens)

July 23 at 2 pm - 3 pm Join us online for a conversation with Elizabeth Acevedo, National Book Award Winner and New York Times Bestselling Author of The Poet X and Clap when you Land. This program was made possible by the Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library. ††

#### Lego Club (Kids)

July 24 at 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Construct a scene to fit the monthly theme. Creations will be on display in the children's room until the following month.

#### Excel Drop-In (Adults)

July 25 at 6:00 pm - 6:50 pm

Drop in with an Excel or Google Sheets question for Christopher Oh, who competes in Excel tournaments. Please bring your own laptop & a copy of your spreadsheet. Let us know you're coming by sending an

email to RSVP@newprovidencelibrary.org. **Didgeridoo (Kids and Families)** 

#### July 25 at 4:00 - 5:00 pm

The Didgeridoo Down Under Show is an energetic fusion of Australian music, culture, comedy, character building, storytelling and audience participation. It's interactive, educational, motivational and super fun for

> all ages! **Blood Drive (Adults)**

### July 30 at 12:30 pm - 6:30 pm

New Jersey Blood Services will run a blood donation drive in the Conti Room. Walk ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. Make an appointment at https://donate.nybc.org

#### Virtual Author Talk: Dan Santat (Kids, Parents) July 30 at 2 pm - 3 pm

Join us online for a conversation with bestselling graphic novel author Dan Santat. Register online or join us in the Conti Room for a viewing. This program was made

possible by the Friends of the New Providence Memorial Library.

