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EMS TOPPED 200 CALLS IN THE MONTH IN JUNE

Submitted by John Staunton

Summit's EMS volunteers once again topped the 200 calls per month mark by responding to 215 in the month of June.

Calls for the month included 131 medical emergencies; 33 falls; 10 motor vehicle accidents; 16 traumatic injuries; one allergic reaction; one animal bite; nine cases of overdose or poisoning; two responses to a medical alarm; and one pedestrian struck by a vehicle. Squad Volunteers also provided two "lift assists" to patients who did not require transport to a hospital.

Ten emergency calls were answered by an off-duty "back-up crew" of volunteers responding from home or work when the on-duty crew was busy. Summit volunteers also provided mutual aid assistance five times to three neighboring towns. 13 patients transported to a hospital by Squad members also received advanced life support care from hospital-based paramedics who accompanied the Squad's ambulance. During June, Squad volunteers transported 159 patients to five different hospitals.

On at least 2 occasions during June, the Squad had all 3 ambulances responding to emergency calls and on June 12, 11 members participated in an active shooter/reunification exercise at Summit High School and Fountain Baptist Church. The Squad also hosted two CPR classes at their building and provided EMS coverage at 4 community events.

The Squad answers calls for help 24 hours a day and at a variety of locations. June responses included 77 to a patient's home or apartment; 20 for accidents or medical emergencies on streets or highways, including 4 on route 24 or 78; four in a public park; four at Summit's City Hall and three at other public buildings; nine at a local business; three at a bar or restaurant, and five at a health care professional's office. There were also



(above) Summit EMS volunteers at Family Fun Night

32 medical incidents at Summit's train station; 16 at a local behavioral health facility; four on the grounds of Overlook Medical Center; 15 to an assisted living facility, one at a house of worship; 13 on a sidewalk; seven in a parking lot; two at a school; and one at a public pool.

The all-volunteer First Aid Squad, responds to emergency calls 24/7, is entirely funded through private donations and does not bill for service. The Squad is always looking for new volunteers to join its ranks. All needed training, uniforms and equipment is provided. For information on becoming a volunteer, or donating to the squad please call 908-277-9479, or visit their web site at: summitems.org.

Photo by Beverly Brown



(above) Summit EMS volunteers participating in the active shooter/reunification drill.

Courtesy photos

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FOUNDATION GIVES \$330,130 IN GRANTS

Submitted by Dana Turk

The Summit Foundation board of trustees approved \$330,130 in grants to 21 local nonprofit organizations on June 5th, 2024. These grants provide funding to address needs in areas such as accessibility, healthcare and wellness, education and the arts in the Summit, NJ area.

“This spring, our strategic grantmaking includes project funding for time-honored, Summit-based nonprofits that consistently innovate and drive programs to improve people’s lives,” said Dana Turk, president of The Summit Foundation. “We also supported initiatives in our extended area that nurture the health and well-being of youth and children, so they can engage more fully with the world around them.”

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY OUR GRANTS INCLUDE:

Reeves-Reed Arboretum -Accessibility - enable all people, including developmentally, cognitively and/or handicapped people, to safely and directly access all major gardens and amphitheater. Total: \$40,000

Overlook Foundation - Peer Support Specialist for the newly-created EmPATH mental health unit. Total: \$50,000

SAGE Eldercare - Spend a Day adult medical day center. Total: \$40,000

Summit Area YMCA - The Learning Circle - Educational equipment, furniture, and repairs for outdoor toddler area for The Learning Circle. Total: \$23,300

The Connection for Women & Families - Support staffing for youth special needs programming, sensory-friendly and adaptive equipment, and specialized mental health training for summer camp counselors. Total: \$40,000

GRACE - Fresh food and essentials for weekly distribution to families facing food insecurity. Total: \$14,000

Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County - Expanded Family Support Program to include dental, eye, and wellness care for children. Total: \$12,500

Visual Arts Center of NJ - Community outreach programs with Summit area organizations and participants. Total: \$10,000

Also receiving grants are: Always Neighbors Never Strangers, Contact We Care, Inc. (Caring Contact), Crohn's & Colitis Foundation - NJ Chapter, Foundation for Morristown Medical Center, Good Grief, HTTV Inc. (Hometown Television), Literacy New Jersey, Matheny, Our House Foundation, Patriots Path Council - Boy Scouts of America, Trinitas Foundation, Union County College Foundation and YWCA of Eastern Union County.

The Summit Foundation fosters philanthropy to meaningfully improve lives in the Summit, NJ, area through grants, scholarships, donor-advised distributions, and community funds.

For a complete list of grants awarded by The Summit Foundation, please visit: summitforever.org/grantmaking.

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OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2024-25 INDUCTED

The Summit Lions Club

The Summit Lions Club inducted their new officers for the year 2024-25 on June 12th. Lion Past District Governor 16J Nancy Jacubczyk performed the ceremony.

The Summit Lions Club will be celebrating their 98th year as a club whose main mission is to assist the blind and visually impaired. Helen Keller challenged all Lions in 1925 to become

Knights of the Blind. Each year many children in the Summit school system are given eye exams and eyeglasses for those that qualify. Other challenge projects we service are for Diabetes, Environment, Pediatric Cancer, Hunger and Youth. Membership is by invitation. If you're interested contact Peter Twill at 908-565-1694 or visit online at summitlionsclub.org.




(above, l-r) Officers for the year 2024-25: Nancy Jacubczyk PDG; Patty Uzzolino, Secretary; Peter Loeser, Tail Twister; Peter Twill President; Walter Wojcik, Treasurer; Evan Sciarello, Vice President; and Frederick Cuozzo, Immediate Past President and Lion Tamer.

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WARM HEARTS OPENS DURING HEATWAVE

Summit Interfaith Council

During the recent heatwave, Summit Warm Hearts, a program of the Summit Interfaith Council, opened for three additional nights of overnight hospitality. During both the day program and overnight, case management and connection to vital services was provided by Bridges Outreach, Inc.

Summit Warm Hearts completed overnight hospitality for the 2023-2024 season in March. 56 individuals visited the overnight respite since November 1. With case management provided through Bridges Outreach, Inc. and a robust diversion process connecting individuals to services in their municipality of origin, the program saw a high rate of stabilization—20 individuals of the 56 connected to Summit Warm Hearts remain unhoused and in Summit. Overlook Family Medicine visited the overnight program to offer health checks.

Behavioral health is an ongoing challenge within the program; there was a drastic increase this year in need. The Summit Warm Hearts overnight hospitality costs a total of \$90,000.00 per year to operate in order to provide staff and a care coordinator for the safety of the overnight program.

Summit Warm Hearts thanks Beacon UU Congregation, Christ Church, Fountain Baptist Church and St. John's Lutheran for hosting and Zappia's, Tito's, Soup Kitchen 411, and Junior League of Summit for providing meals. In

addition to individual donors and houses of worship, Summit Warm Hearts is supported by vital grants from the Summit Foundation, Union County, Lydia Collins deForest Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee, Summit Luminary Fund, Junior League Summit, Overlook Medical Center, and Black Bear Fund.

Summit Warm Hearts will continue to coordinate with Bridges to support establishing housing for the remaining individuals who are all from Summit. At present, housing inventory

remains an ongoing challenge. A year-round program to provide adequate emergency housing including during extended heatwaves like the present one is not possible given current funding.

The daytime respite program continues throughout the summer on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Beacon UU Congregation and Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bridges. Any resident in need of support is welcome. For more information contact Robin Tanner robin@summitbeacon.org.

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Relax Your Mind and Body Through Meditation

Thursday, August 1 7:00-8:00PM

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Virtual Trivia Night: Around the World Trivia

Friday, August 2 7:00-8:30PM

The theme will be "around the world". The questions are geared for people 18 and older but all ages are welcome to try. Online.

Monday at the Movies

Mondays, August 5 - 26,

12:30-2:30PM & 6:30-8:30PM

Every week, watch a different film in the Lower Level Program Room. All are welcome. No registration required.

Art Talk: Painting Venice

Tuesday, August 6, 7:00-8:00PM

Artists have been inspired to paint the city of Venice for centuries. Their artistic exploration of this fascinating city has left us with captivating images of water, light, architecture, and the glorious coastal landscapes. Speaker:

Janet Mandel. Online.

Summit Toastmasters

Wednesdays, August 7 – August 28,

7:00-9:00PM

Refine your public speaking and leadership skills through prepared speeches, impromptu speaking, and constructive feedback in a group setting. No registration required. In-person.

Virtual Author Talk with NASM's

Dr. Jennifer Levasseur

Wednesday, August 7 2:00-3:00PM

Dr. Jennifer Levasseur of the National Air and Space Museum will be the featured author. The talk will be followed by a live Q&A session.

Online.

Adult Art Class: Lighthouse Drawing

Wednesday, August 7 6:30-7:30PM

Create a lighthouse drawing inspired by the work of Edward Hopper, using watercolor pencils. All materials provided. Instructor: Barbara Freiberg. In-person.

Adult Craft Class

Saturday, August 10, 2:00-3:30PM

Details TBA. Instructor: Marge Barkan. In-person.

Virtual Author Talk with Irena Smith

Thursday, August 15 2:00-3:00PM

Irena Smith, PhD will discuss her book *The Golden Ticket to College Admissions Is Not What You Think: Redefining Success for Parents of Teens*. Online.

Brown Bag Book Club

Friday, August 16 12:30-1:30PM

Lunchtime book group for adults. Book to be discussed: *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. Refreshments served. Registration is not required. In-person.

Virtual Author Talk with Shelby Van Pelt

Wednesday, August 21 9:00-10:00PM

Shelby Van Pelt will discuss her recent book, *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. This virtual author talk will be followed by a live Q&A session where participants can ask questions directly with the author.



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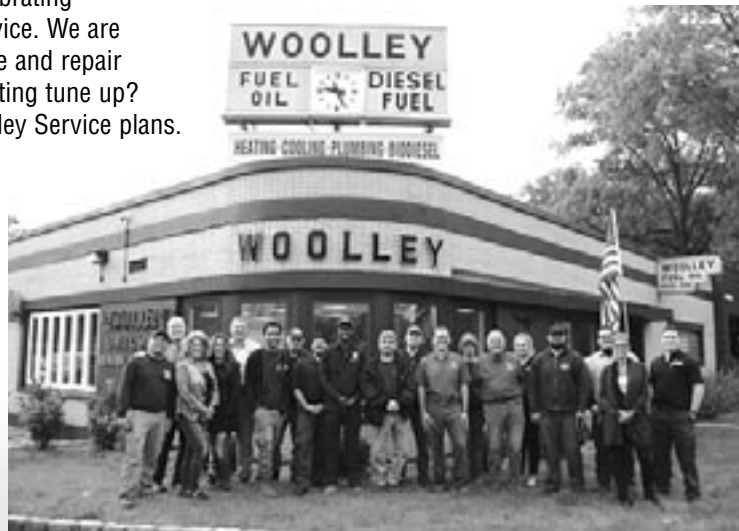
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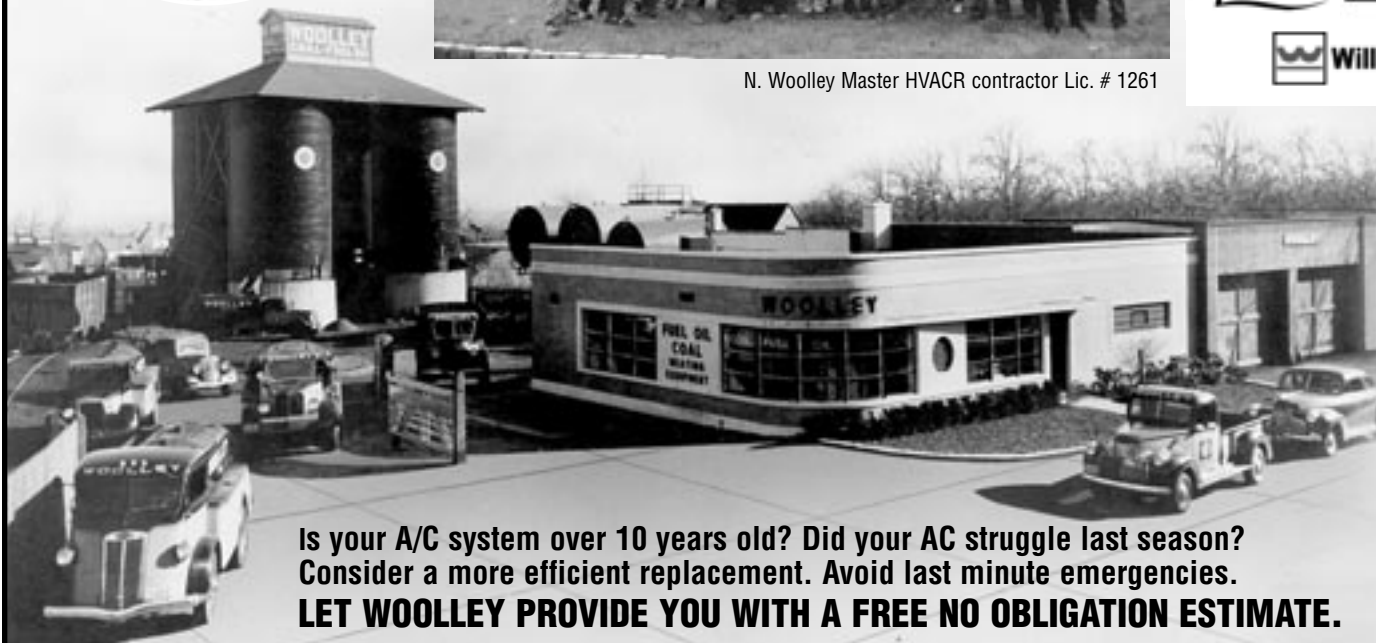


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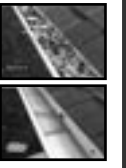
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SANTIAGO ABUT FOUNDATION 2024 SCHOLARSHIP

The Santiago Abut Foundation has awarded the 2024 Santiago Daniel Abut Memorial Scholarship, in the amount of \$5,000, to Yassin Mune, a graduating senior at Summit High School who will attend New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) to study architecture. Yassin was chosen from among several applicants, in recognition of his strong academic achievements and solid record of work within the Summit community.

Santiago Daniel Abut (Santi) was an eighth-grade student at Summit Middle School, when he unexpectedly passed away in 2008 from a misdiagnosed health condition. Now in its

thirteenth consecutive year, the Santiago Daniel Abut Memorial Scholarship is awarded every year to a Summit High School graduating senior who demonstrates academic merit and character/citizenship. The launching of this scholarship in 2012, which would have been

Santi's senior year at Summit High School, adds special meaning to it, as Santi did not get the chance to go to college, but his family likes to think that he attends college, every year, through and with the students that this scholarship contributes to finance.

MUSEUM PASSES AND OTHER UNIQUE BORROWINGS

Summit Free Public Library

In addition to books, the Summit Free Public Library also offers borrowable items like mobile hotspots, high pressure washers, power tools, free museum passes, and much more.

Its "Library of Things" program provides a unique selection of items, perfect for trying new hobbies, tackling DIY projects, or enjoying outdoor adventures. Patrons can browse a diverse collection that includes tools, appliances, telescopes, birdwatching kits, and much more. Its Library's Museum Pass program offers residents free admission to popular cultural institutions like the Turtle Back Zoo, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Storm King Art Center, and the American Museum of Natural History.

The Library is also excited to announce the launch of Lending Key, a user-friendly online reservation system that streamlines the borrowing experience for the Library of Things program. Users can now reserve items from the Library of Things on their preferred dates.

Items from these collections are available to Summit Library card holders over 17, including paid members, those employed in Summit, students in town, property owners, and homebound individuals. These programs are made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Summit Free Public Library.

"Need to power wash the house right before a special party? We've got you covered. Want to take the fam to The Museum of Natural History to celebrate a birthday? The Friends come through again," says Rikki Owen, president of the Friends of the Summit Free Public Library. "You've been able to borrow from the Library of Things and take out museum passes before, but with the addition of Lending Key, you are now able to reserve the items for a specific date, so the house will be sparkling right before your event, and you can be sure that your favorite dinosaur fan will get to visit with the brontosaurus on the big day."

For more information, or to reserve an item, visit the Library's website at summitlibrary.org.



(above) Scholarship winner Yassin Mune (center) with Trustees Sonia and Daniel Abut.

Courtesy photo



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POLICE PROMOTION



(above, l-r) Sergeant John Brunetto

City of Summit

Summit Police Officer John Brunetto was promoted to the rank of Sergeant at a ceremony held at City Hall on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Sergeant Brunetto grew up in Westfield and later attended Kean University and the John H. Stamler Police Academy. He was hired by the Summit Police Department in 2012 and has worked in the Patrol Bureau, Community Policing Unit, and Detective Bureau. Sergeant Brunetto is a certified bicycle patrol officer, and currently serves as one of the department's firearms instructors as well as the Vice President of the Summit PBA Local #55 since 2021.

During his time with the Summit Police Department, Sergeant Brunetto has received a Unit Citation, five Exemplary Performance Notices, and many letters of appreciation from Summit residents and business owners. In 2017 he received the Union County 200 Club Award for his heroic efforts in saving a distressed swimmer at Long Beach Island in the fall of 2016.

Sergeant Brunetto was joined by his wife and children at the swearing-in ceremony.

For more information on the Summit Police Department, please visit cityofsummit.org/police.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR SGT. WERTHMANN'S RECOVERY

Summit Police Department

The Summit PBA #55 asked the Summit community to rally in support of Summit Police Sergeant Brian Werthmann, who recently underwent surgery to remove a large acoustic neuroma tumor from his brain and is facing a long road to recovery. A GoFundMe campaign has been launched to assist Sergeant Werthmann and his family during this challenging time.

On Wednesday, July 12th, Summit PBA President Collin Scarpello accepted a large check on behalf of Sgt. Werthmann from the Summit Elks and Summit PAL which will go directly to Sgt. Werthmann and his family during this time of need as he recovers from major brain surgery to remove a tumor. Sgt. Werthmann and his family are extremely appreciative of our collective efforts and everyone's generosity. The Go Fund Me link is listed below if people would care to donate. The

funds raised through this campaign will go towards medical expenses, rehabilitation, and supporting his family while he focuses on healing.

Brian Werthmann is a dedicated member of the Summit Police Department who has served the Summit community for the past 24 years. Now, he needs our help. Brian has experienced serious postoperative complications, such as partial paralysis of the left side of his body, partial blindness, and the inability to walk without assistance. Although his doctors are hopeful that these complications may resolve over time, it is not guaranteed.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donating any amount, large or small, will make a significant difference. Contributions can be made through the GoFundMe page by visiting: gofundme.com and searching: Support for Sgt. Brian Werthmann's Recovery



(above, l-r) On Wednesday, July 12th, Summit PBA President Collin Scarpello accepted a large check on behalf of Sgt. Werthmann from the Summit Elks and Summit PAL. Pictured are Liz Newell, Rick Wolffe, Collin Scarpello, Carlyle Newell, Stacy Donck, Fred Honold, David Kotiga, and Brian O'Donnell.

Courtesy photo

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OLD GUARD - AUGUST SPEAKERS PROGRAM

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.

August 6th - Jerry DiFrancisco.

His topic will be the theory and practice of international law. Jerry brings extensive experience from the private sector, academia, and eleemosynary organizations to bare on the subject. He holds an MBA and Doctorate in Management and has worked as President,

Humanitarian Services for the American Red Cross, at AT&T for three decades in several senior administrative positions and currently serves as Distinguished Civic Leader in Residence at Siena College. In addition, he has served on numerous non-profit boards.

AUGUST 13TH - GENE PASCUCCI

Owner of Empire Antiques. Gene has lived all over the world and is an expert in appraising and collecting antiques. Much of his inventory is derived from high-end estate sales and he also holds auctions from time to time at his facility. Gene will discuss a wide range of topics about antiques and will be accompanied by an associate, Sonnie Benson, who will review some of their vast inventory.

AUGUST 20TH - LESLIE WORKMAN

On August 20th we will learn about turning an old barn into a community Arts Center. Our speaker will be Leslie Workman, board president, Farmstead Arts in Basking Ridge. Leslie will take us through the roughly three-hundred-year history of a Basking Ridge farm and its ultimate transition into a community cultural center which features many services ranging from art classes to live theatre.

AUGUST 27TH - SYDNEY LEVIT

Finally, our speaker for August 27th will be a 100-year-old (on July 17th), World War II combat veteran, Sydney Levit. Mr. Levit will be interviewed by Summit resident Suzanne Currie and she will ask him about his experiences before, during and after his wartime service – should be fascinating.



(above, l-r) Jerry DiFrancisco, Leslie Workman, Gene Pascucci, Sydney Levit

Courtesy photos



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FUN EVENT RAISES \$125,000 TO HELP GRIEVING CHILDREN

Experience Camps

Hundreds of people attended the “Day of Champions” event held on June 2, 2024, in Warren, NJ for a day of family-friendly fun and fierce competition. It was all tied into one glorious morning of camp-inspired challenges and activities to benefit Experience Camps.

Experience Camps is an award-winning national nonprofit that transforms the lives of grieving children through free, weeklong, summer-camp programs, and innovative, year-round initiatives. There are six million young people in the U.S. who will experience the death of a parent or sibling, and Experience Camps aims to provide as many young people as possible joy, hope and strategies for learning how to navigate their grief journey.

The “Day of Champions” event started in 2018 in Westport, CT. It grew out of the desire to host a different type of fundraiser for Experience Camps, and the idea to do a massive “Color War” (think camp Olympics) was formed. This was the second annual Day of Champions at Camp Riverbend in Warren, NJ.

For the event, 20 teams sign up for an amazing day of fun. They are each assigned a spirit color which they are encouraged to fully embrace (including tie dye, spray paint, body/hair paint, tutus...the wilder, the better). They competed in five activities to earn points. Along the way they were also tasked with fundraising for Experience Camps. A minimum of \$2,500 is expected to be raised by each team.

The day kicked off with Opening Ceremonies, which includes some words from the Event Chair and a camper speaker. The games then ran for about an hour and a half, before finishing the day with Closing Ceremonies, which included the awarding of trophies. Then everyone celebrated with treats, and there was much to celebrate!

"It was incredible to see so many families of Summit join together where the joy of friendly competition met the power of philanthropy, creating a kaleidoscope of fun and goodwill for everyone who participated," said Justine Lelchuk, Day of Champions Team Captain and Summit Resident. Added Ari Landau, Day of Champion Team Captain and Summit Resident, "Bereavement can be a difficult topic to talk about but I felt uplifted knowing so many of us came together to support grieving children and raise critical dollars for much needed bereavement programming."

“The “Day of Champions” is a unique opportunity for friends and families of all ages to come together for an incredible cause,” says Hillary Irwin, Westfield resident and event co-

chair. “I was truly amazed and inspired by all of the people who showed up, dressed-up, volunteered, fund-raised and competed. I am very grateful to be a part of this event and this organization.”

Jenni Hetrick, Assistant Director & Division Head of Camp Riverbend, where the event took place said, “Camp Riverbend has always believed in the magic of camp and is proud to

partner with Experience Camps and other organizations that support grieving children.”

In addition to a lot of smiles and community bonding, the teams raised \$125,000 that will support Experience Camps’ programming and help heal thousands of grieving teens. For those who want to get involved with Experience Camps or make use of their free grief resources, visit experiencecamps.org.

Courtesy photos



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PEP CELEBRATES GRADUATING STUDENTS

Submitted by Maria Shepard

On June 12, 2024, the PEP (Providing Educational Possibilities) Program celebrated the graduation of seven students from college and nine students from Summit High School. PEP is a college-access program that offers academic, social-emotional, and financial support for select, motivated students from Summit, NJ public schools. The program serves students from grades 7 to 12 and continues its support through college. PEP's nine graduating seniors will attend college in and out of state. In

addition, fifteen college students achieved Dean's Lists, nineteen high school students achieved PEP's high honor roll, and five middle school students earned PEP's honor roll.

Dante Ardolino, a 2019 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Science in Cyberpsychology from New Jersey Institute of Technology and is pursuing a Master's Degree.

Joshua Jimenez, a 2019 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Montclair State University. He has enlisted in the New Jersey National Guard,

where he will pursue studies in helicopter engineering.

Julissa Lopez, a 2020 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Monmouth University. She is currently pursuing an M.B.A. at Monmouth University.

Jenny Qiu, a 2020 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. She is pursuing a career in marketing in the technological and pharmaceutical industries.

Aryel Rodriguez, a 2020 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Washington University in St. Louis. He has joined Mastercard as a software engineer.

Isaiah Shakir, a 2020 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Seton Hall University. He has joined Advanced Biotech as a chemist.

Andy Toxtle, a 2020 Summit High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Arts and Design from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. He is pursuing a career in art education and bringing the arts to underrepresented and marginalized communities.

The following PEP students graduated from Summit High School on June 18st and will continue their post-secondary studies in the Fall:

- Kathleen Aquino will attend Utah Valley University and plans to major in Engineering.
- Sebastian Arias will attend Montclair State University and plans to major in Business.
- Kenneth Del Jones will attend Savannah College of Art and Design and plans to major in Graphic Design.
- Maria Gonzalez will attend Lehigh University and plans to major in Biology.
- Brandon Molina will attend Drew University and plans to major in Art.
- David Paz will attend Union County Vocational-Technical Adult School and plans to study Automotive Technology.
- Randy Rodriguez will attend Stevens Institute of Technology and plans to major in Engineering.
- Axel Salas will attend Seton Hall University and plans to major in Business.
- Juan Sanchez will attend Stevens Institute of Technology and plans to major in Engineering.

For more information about the PEP Program, please visit pepprogramnj.org. The program takes applications in late winter.



(above, l-r) PEP Program Graduates Isaiah Shakir, Aryel Rodriguez, Joshua Jimenez, Dante Ardolino, Julissa Lopez, Andy Toxtle, and Jenny Qiu Photo Credit: Melissa Horn



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23RD ANNUAL DRIVE FOR AUTISM GOLF EVENT

Drive for Autism Foundation

The Drive for Autism Foundation is pleased to announce that its annual golf event, Drive for Autism XXIII will be held at Royce Brook Golf Club in Hillsborough, NJ on Monday September 16, 2024.

The Drive for Autism Golf Outing, which has been held since 2002 has raised and distributed over \$855,000 to local school programs. Previous beneficiaries of grants were Morris Union Jointure Commission (New Providence, NJ), Salt Brook School (New Providence, NJ), AW Roberts School (New Providence, NJ), Union County Educational Services Foundation/Crossroads School (Westfield, NJ), Educational Partnership for Instructing Children (Paramus, NJ), Young Life (greater Summit area), Eden II/Genesis Programs (Staten Island, NY), Spectrum360 - formally The Children's Institute (Verona, NJ), and Seton Foundation/Mother Francheska Elementary School (Staten Island, NY).

Grant recipients use money to fund Health and Fitness Programs, Social Skills Programs, educational curriculum and teacher training, a van for community trips and transportation to job training centers, laptop computers, computer touch screens, iPads, video projectors and educational toys and games

The golf event is the main fundraising function for the foundation. Single golfers and foursomes

are welcome as well as, product donations and corporate sponsorships. To register online please go to: birdease.com/DriveforAutismXXIII

ABOUT DRIVE FOR AUTISM FOUNDATION:

Based in New Providence, New Jersey, The Drive for Autism Foundation (EIN#20-1760417), is a 501(3)(c) tax exempt public charity that was created in the Spring of 2002 for the sole purpose of raising and distributing funds for educational facilities specializing in students with autism.

DRIVE FOR AUTISM GOLF OUTING 2024

The Drive for Autism XXIII is scheduled for Monday Sept 16, 2024, at Royce Brook Golf Club in Hillsborough, NJ. The event consists of a morning round of golf followed by a barbeque. Special events include golf contests, raffles and a silent auction of sports memorabilia, game tickets and golf trips.

To register or for additional information please visit birdease.com/DriveForAutismXXIII, call 908-451-8033

or email driveforautism@comcast.net.



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107TH ANNUAL ELKS PARADE

Summit Elks

Summit Elks joined and marched with 1,500 New Jersey Elks in the 107th Annual Elks Parade on Saturday June 8th. Leading Summit were Esquire Lou DeSocio and Exalted Ruler Fred Honold.

Immediately following was Leading Knight Rocco DiPiano who organized two dozen Elks with Summit's 20 x 40 USA Flag. At the reviewing stand of NJ State Elk Parade Judges, Rocco called an "audible" to have Summit Elks closest to the judges stand lower our USA Flag to the ground while those furthest away raised our Grand Ol'Flag on High. The judges, went "Wild in Wildwood!" Summit was awarded 3rd place for parade honors among all 107 NJ Lodges who participated.

BECOME A MEMBER OF 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.

ELKS MISSION STATEMENT

To inculcate the principles of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love and Fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its Members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization, and to provide for its government, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America will serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks Care and Elks Share.

Courtesy photos



(above) Summit Lodge #1246 Leading Knight Rocco DiPiano organizes Summit's Flag Team of 2 Dozen Strong to carry the USA Flag on High @ The NJ Elks State Convention Parade on Saturday June 6 in Wildwood. Summit won 3rd Place Honors.



(above) Summit Lodge #1246 carries the 20 x 40 Flag along the Wildwood NJ State Convention parade route in early June. Among 107 NJ Lodges, Summit Lodge won 3rd Place Honors.

SUMMER HOURS

The City of Summit summer hours schedule is in effect through Friday, August 30, 2024. City offices will open for business at 8 a.m. and close at 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, offices will open at 8 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. The Construction Office in the Department of Community Services will also operate under a modified summer schedule; the office will be open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Fridays from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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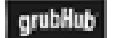
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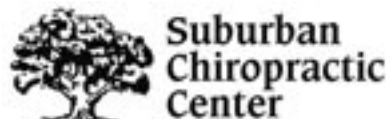
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JLS ANNOUNCES 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Junior League of Summit (JLS) gave out \$32,000 in grants, scholarships, and awards at its General Membership Meeting at the Summit Elks Lodge in May. Additionally, the JLS presented its first ever "Friend of the Year" award to a worthy recipient.

Grants in the amount of \$22,000 were awarded to SAGE Eldercare, Empowering Kids Organization, CASA of Passaic and Union Counties, Family Promise Union County, New Providence Community Service Association, YWCA Union County, Summit Area YMCA, Vivid Stage, and Helping Hands, NJ. The JLS Community Grants Program focused on programming and projects which are meeting the emerging needs of the community arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, and focusing on organizations aligned with the JLS mission. The program enables the JLS to support other nonprofit organizations creating change in the Summit area.

The Jean Hudson Gano Award was given to Sue Fieseler. Sue was honored for her extensive volunteer work in the Summit community, exemplifying dedication and outstanding leadership. This award, established in memory of Jean Hudson Gano following her passing in May 1997, recognizes individuals who, like Sue, significantly contribute to and impact various segments of the community through their volunteer efforts.

Shirley Wight Keeney Scholarships in the

amount of \$3,000 each were granted to Leigha Matter, Manaal Qureshi of Chatham and Maya Sternberg of New Providence. Each student demonstrated academic excellence and has shown significant volunteer work that aligns with the JLS mission. Shirley was a beloved member and Past President of the JLS.

The Amanda Parrish Block Grant winner was Sally Simonfay and the Help4All organization. Sally and her friends collaborate to support the most vulnerable, embodying the spirit of everyday people coming together to make a difference, one act of kindness at a time. The grant was established in 2017 in honor of JLS member Amanda Parrish Block, founder of the JLS's most recent signature project, GRACE (Giving and Receiving Assistance for our Community's Essentials). It is awarded annually to organizations like Help4All that demonstrate a commitment to addressing essential community demands.

Inaugural JLS Friend of the Year Award winner was John Avagliano. John is a local contractor and husband to the JLS Thrift Shop Manager. He served as an enormous helping hand over this past holiday season, quickly getting the Shop floor ready for business after the rugs on the first & second floor were replaced. John also found affordable and effective ways to make various repairs to the Shop over the years, allowing the JLS to minimize costs and maximize the amount of



(above) Rachel Zucker, JLS President 2022-2024, John Avagliano, April Montgomery, JLS Incoming President

money returned to the community. This award recognizes the businesses, organizations and individuals in the community who go the extra mile for the Junior League of Summit to help us fulfill our mission to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact. The winner receives a plaque as a thank you.

"Besides carrying out our own volunteer work, the JLS believes it can also make a real difference by supporting other nonprofits and further promoting volunteerism in the community. The Summit area is so fortunate to have amazing organizations and residents in our area that contribute significant and impactful efforts," commented JLS 2022-2024 President Rachel Zucker. "Through our grants, scholarships and awards, the JLS has the honor of being able to help so many groups and individuals continue their good work and make even more amazing contributions to our community. We are so proud to be able to make a difference, and we can't wait to see our recipients flourish."

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 actions, collaboration and training. For more information about the Junior League of Summit, please visit the website at jlssummit.org or contact the office at 908-273-7349.



(above) Recipients of 2024 Grants and Scholarships as well as JLS members at May 21, 2024 General Membership meeting at Summit Elks.

Courtesy photos



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