

# Summit NJ Times

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Issue 112 • January 2025

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(above) Some JLS members in attendance on Nov 18.

Courtesy photo

### Junior League of Summit

On November 18, 2024 - exactly 95 years from its inception- the Junior League of Summit was awarded a proclamation from the City of Summit. During the Common Council meeting, the proclamation was read by Summit Mayor Elizabeth Fagan and November 18th was declared "Junior League of Summit Day".

On hand at the reading were several members of JLS, including JLS President April Montgomery and JLS Executive Vice President Cristina Curiale, who formally received the proclamation.

The Junior League of Summit is proud of our 95 years of service in Berkeley Heights, Chatham, New Providence, Summit and surrounding communities.

The JLS has addressed critical community issues and created services such as the first Safe Houses in Union County for victims of domestic violence, Summit Childcare Center,

Summit's Senior Bus, SAGE – Meals on wheels Program, Family Service Association – Spanish Speaking Program and Santa Claus Shop, GRACE, Summit EMS and the Mabie Playground and more, leaving a lasting legacy of innovation and meaningful impact.

In addition to the above, Junior League of Summit's Thrift Shop is the oldest surviving business in Summit, having operated for 90 years. It's the primary source of funding for the wonderful services, projects, grants and programs that JLS provides.

Overall, we are thrilled to say we've returned over \$3 million in grants, scholarships, projects and programs to our local communities. It has been and continues to be a pleasure to provide much needed services. We work hard, learn, tackle challenges, enjoy ourselves and make a difference.

Interested in getting involved with JLS? Visit [summit.jl.org](http://summit.jl.org)

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# Summit Times

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Summit Times is published by Renna Media. 9,600 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Summit, NJ. Although great care has been taken to ensure the information contained within is accurate, Renna Media assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

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# SUMMIT HILLTOPPERS – U15 CHAMPS

The Summit Hilltoppers boys won the Suburban Youth Soccer League of NJ ("SYSLNJ") Under-15 tournament, 2-1, over previously unbeaten Bound Brook. This capped an 8-2 campaign for the team, which had a 5-game winning streak to end the season.



(above, l-r) Front row: Ishan Sood, Ryan Shan, Simon Deutsch, Toby Stokes, Nazarae Tannis, Sebastian Stokes, Jaeden Graham, Jaelen Diep; Back row: Coach Nigel Stokes, Allen Shan, David Souza, Maximo Chiu, Nathan Hughes, Tucker Taylor, Billy Henk, Stuart Cheney, Head Coach Tom Henk

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## FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TO NONPROFITS

The Summit Foundation recently awarded \$320,000 in grants to 19 exceptional organizations dedicated to enriching the lives of people residing in the Summit area. These grants will support a wide range of impactful programs, from health and education to the arts and community services.

Highlights of the Fall 2024 grant cycle include:

Community FoodBank of New Jersey (\$50,000): Fresh produce procurement and distribution through local partners and Summit Public Schools.

Child Focus (\$25,000): CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) training for advocates of Union County children in foster care.

Reach Out and Read New Jersey (\$5,000): Literacy and cognitive development program for babies and toddlers at Overlook Healthstart Clinic and Family Medicine.

Arts By The People (\$3,000): Eight-week creative writing workshop for Summit residents held at Summit Free Public Library.

Opportunity Project (\$19,000): Program and facility enhancements for adults with brain injuries to support reintegration into family, work, and community life.

Summit Public Art (\$10,000): Temporary and permanent art installations in Summit.

Center for Hope Hospice (\$29,085): Replacement of medical beds for terminally ill patients.

Paper Mill Playhouse (\$15,000): Fully adapted theater experiences for children with autism and their families.

Other organizations that received grants are Empowering Kids Organization, Foundation for University Hospital, Imagine A Center Coping with Loss, Madison Area YMCA, One World One Love, Sierra House, Summit Chorale, St. Joseph Social Service Center, Summit Speech School, The Craig School, and The Fortnightly Club of Summit. "Through these grants, The Summit Foundation fosters the well-being and participation of all in our community," shared Dana Turk, President of The Summit Foundation.

The Summit Foundation supports the Summit, NJ, area by providing grants, scholarships, and donor-advised distributions to address emerging needs and make a meaningful difference in people's lives. To learn more, visit [summitforever.org](http://summitforever.org).

## AN UNUSUAL GOOSE REHABBED AND RELEASED

### The Raptor Trust

The Brant goose, with its compact size and striking black-and-white plumage, is a remarkable bird. Adapted to drink saltwater, these geese embark on long migratory journeys from their Arctic breeding grounds to coastal winter

habitats. Look for them in estuaries, mudflats, and salt marshes, where they thrive throughout the winter months.

Recently, The Raptor Trust treated a Brant goose (Admit #21-4190) found in Long Valley with wounds from a predator attack. After intensive care, including suturing lacerations, treating an eye injury and parasites, this resilient bird was successfully released at Sandy Hook on November 2nd.

### ABOUT THE RAPTOR TRUST

The Raptor Trust is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located at 1390 White Bridge Rd., Millington, NJ. They provide free care and assistance to injured, sick, or orphaned wild birds. They offer educational programs to the public about wild birds, especially birds of prey. They strive to provide a human example for others. For more information about upcoming events, to make a donation, and volunteer opportunities visit [info@theraptortrust.org](mailto:info@theraptortrust.org). To report an injured wild bird call 908-647-2353.



(above) We're thrilled to see this Brant goose take to the skies (or water) once more! It was a charming patient.

Photo by The Raptor Trust

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## THE JANUARY SPEAKERS PROGRAM FOR THE 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.

### IN JANUARY, WE WILL HAVE FOUR SPEAKERS:

#### JANUARY 7: FRED POLAK

On January 7th, Fred Polak will relate the love story of his parents, Jack and Ina, who nurtured their relationship through the exchange of letters while each was incarcerated in concentration camps during WWII. After liberation, they married and moved to America in 1950. Jack became the president of the Ann Frank Center, USA and lectured extensively on the Holocaust. Jack passed away at the age of 102 and Fred has been dedicated to retelling his parents' story and the lessons to be learned from this awful period.

#### JANUARY 14: SCOTT WALKER

On January 14th, we will learn how Rutgers Provides academic Support Services to Student Athletes. Our speaker will be Scott Walker, executive director of Rutgers' Academic Support Services for Student Athletes program (ASSSA), and a Princeton graduate. Services provided by ASSSA are available to all student-athletes at

Rutgers. During his tenure, which includes entry of Rutgers into the Big Ten, Scott has overseen the expansion and modernization of the program and the unprecedented academic success achieved by individual student-athletes and team sports. Scott will provide an insider's view of the services provided by ASSSA and how it has evolved over the years.

#### JANUARY 21: DR. STANLEY GERSCH

On January 21st, our speaker will be Dr. Stanley Gersch. He will discuss how Invisalign® revolutionized orthodontics and expanded the use of clear teeth aligners and about his early interest in how innovative technologies could enhance treatment for his patients, his early-stage introduction to Invisalign®, and how Invisalign® grew to become the leader in clear teeth aligners. Stan has been a practicing orthodontist in

Westfield, Cranford, and Linden for over 35 years and is the director of Invisalign® training in NYU's post graduate orthodontic department.

#### JANUARY 28: HON. JOEL B. ROSEN

Finally, on January 28th, our speaker will be the Hon. Joel B. Rosen. Joel will discuss the changing landscape in U.S. law, including the notion of the rule of law, federal prosecutions, judicial review, and ethics. Judge Rosen is a former United States magistrate judge, and as a former partner of the law firm Montgomery McKracken, was a nationally recognized leader in the practice of alternative dispute resolution. Over the course of his career, Judge Rosen has overseen thousands of state and federal legal matters, lectured extensively on constitutional principles, and was an adjunct faculty member of Rutgers Law School.



(above) Fred Polak



(above) Scott Walker



(above) Stanley Gersch



(above) Joel Rosen



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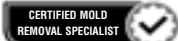
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## 700 COATS, 700 STORIES - GRACE SUPPORTS NEIGHBORS IN NEED

A middle schooler finally gets to wear the cool jacket with the faux fur hood.

A dad who can stay warm when his work shifts to snow removal in the winter, from landscaping in the summer.

A pregnant mom can plan ahead and wear a warm coat that has plenty of room for her soon-to-be big belly.

There are over 700 individual stories to tell about community members who visited the GRACE coat distribution, held recently at The Summit Community Center. Each received a warm new coat and winter accessories, like gloves and hats, at the 9th Annual Coat Boutique.

“Thanks to all our donors who supplied us with coats; thanks to our volunteers who helped us set up, store, and move the coats,” board member Ilyse DiChiara said. While community members were the end beneficiaries of the drive, our volunteers loved the opportunity to help.

Superstar volunteer Anita Tung was just one of the dozens of local residents who helped find “that perfect coat” for the GRACE recipients. “It is thanks to our village that everyone will stay warm this winter,” DiChiara said. “While lines were “out the door,” everyone who wanted and needed a new coat received one. This is thanks to our amazing network of donors and volunteers that we can offer events like this. And GRACE continues to serve where there is a need. This is

why GRACE has never missed a week of distribution since its inception in 2016.” GRACE founder Amanda Parrish Block said. GRACE starts with the philosophy that our community’s resources can fill any need in our community.

GRACE meets community needs with community resources to enable the good health and success of our vulnerable and underserved neighbors by providing a weekly distribution of culturally relevant fresh food and supplies, including milk, bread, eggs and produce, toilet paper, diapers and wipes, period products and

laundry detergent. While providing access and referrals to stabilizing support services at every distribution, GRACE currently serves more than 700 local families every week.

Since 2016 GRACE has been Giving & Receiving Assistance for our Community’s Essentials. As a volunteer run 501(c)3 non-profit organization, GRACE meets community demand with community resources. For more information, visit [gracegivingreceiving.org](http://gracegivingreceiving.org), or email [info@gracegivingreceiving.org](mailto:info@gracegivingreceiving.org).



(above) Dozens of local residents helped find “that perfect coat” for the GRACE recipients.

Courtesy photo

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Wharton Arts in the Community  
**Piano & Cello Faculty Recital** January 26

Performing Arts School  
**The Moors** January 24-February 2

Paterson Music Project  
**Black History Month Concerts** February 1

New Jersey Youth Chorus  
**Men That Matter** February 23

New Jersey Youth Chorus  
**Just Us Girls** March 8

Wharton Arts in the Community  
**Jazz Vespers** March 23

## Wharton Arts Day

March 16

**Wharton Arts** invites students ages 4-18, as well as adults of all ages, for transformative performing arts education programs designed to hone their skills and nurture their personal growth. The depth and breadth of our offerings is unmatched in the Garden State. Our community transcends backgrounds and beliefs: we are united through the universal language of the performing arts.

Our umbrella organization, **Wharton Arts**, encompasses four distinct programs, each founded to advance music and performing arts education and engagement: **New Jersey Youth Chorus**, **New Jersey Youth Symphony**, **Paterson Music Project**, and the **Performing Arts School**. Join us this Season of Joy for life-changing performing arts experiences.

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2025  
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# New Jersey Youth Chorus

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## GRACE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LIBRARY

The Summit Free Public Library is excited to announce a partnership with GRACE (Giving & Receiving Assistance for our Community's Essentials) to provide free food distributions to the community. These distributions will take place at the Summit Library (75 Maple St.) on the following Fridays from 11:30am to 12:30pm: January 10, 2025 & February 14, 2025

Visitors can expect to find fresh produce, bread, dairy products, and other staple nutrient-dense foods at these distributions. No pre-registration is required; all are welcome.

"The partnership with the library presents the opportunity to go where people turn for answers," said Amanda Parrish Block, Founder and Director of GRACE. "When an individual or their family faces hardship, we are in the right place to provide the food and supplies they need right away and the resources to resolve long range issues and help achieve their personal goals."

"We are delighted to partner with GRACE," said Amy Behr-Shields, Library Director. "Library staff work hard to connect our community members with the information, resources, and services that they want and need. By having GRACE distributions here in the Library, we are doing just that."

GRACE is a nonprofit organization committed to providing essential resources to the Summit community. Each week, GRACE distributes approximately 16,000 pounds of food and supplies, including fresh produce, dairy products, and household essentials.

For more information about GRACE, visit [gracegivingreceiving.org](http://gracegivingreceiving.org). For more information about the Summit Library, visit [summitlibrary.org](http://summitlibrary.org).

## SUMMIT PUBLIC LIBRARY JANUARY PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise noted, registration is required, and programs are held in-person at the Summit Library located at 75 Maple St., Summit, NJ.

### ADULTS PROGRAMS

#### Caring for a Japanese Maple

Sunday, 1/5, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Join John Kilby, Shade Tree Committee Chair, to watch and take part in the annual dethatching of the Bryan K Alford-1979 Japanese Maple before the winter snows! In-person on the Summit Green. No registration required.

#### Author Talk: Karen Olson

Thursday, 1/9, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Long-time Summit resident Karen Olson will discuss her recently published book, Meant for More: Following Your Heart and Finding Your Purpose. She describes how one small act of kindness led her to founding a national nonprofit organization that helps homeless and low-income families.

#### GRACE Pop-Up Distribution

Friday, 1/10, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Free food distribution from GRACE (Giving & Receiving Assistance for our Community's Essentials).

#### Adult Craft Class: Decoupage Rope Basket:

Sunday, 1/12, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Join us as we take a small plain rope basket and decorate it using a decoupage method. Choose from many designs to make your own creation. Instructor: Marge Barkan.

#### Virtual Author Talk with TJ Klune

Wednesday, 1/15, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The bestselling author will chat about his fantasy series Cerulean Chronicles, with special emphasis on his newest title, Somewhere Beyond the Sea. Followed by a live Q&A session. Online.

#### Virtual Author Talk with Amanda Montell

Thursday, 1/23, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Bestselling author Amanda Montell will discuss her newest book, The Age of Magical Overthinking: Notes on Modern Irrationality. Followed by a live Q&A session. Online.

#### Understanding Artificial Intelligence

Thursday, 1/23, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

An informative introduction to the world of artificial intelligence (AI). Learn how it's applied in the real world and why people are both excited and concerned about it. Presenter: Eddi Khaytman. Online.

#### Art Talk: The WPA

Thursday, 1/23, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was a New Deal program that employed artists, writers, and performers during the Great Depression. This talk will explore how these artists helped uplift the nation and shaped American culture, featuring works from Federal Project Number One. Speaker: Janet Mandel. Online.

#### Explore Your World: American Women's History

Fridays beginning 1/24, 10:00AM - 12:00PM

A six-week mini course that will explore American women's history, the history of women's history, and the tools to read it. Presented by Professor Angie Kirby-Calder of Drew University. In-person and via Zoom.

#### Virtual Author Talk with Seth Fishman

Tuesday, 1/28, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Join us for an inside look into working with an agent and the beginning stages of the publishing process with Seth Fishman, Vice President and Literary Agent at The Gernert Company. The talk will be followed by a live Q&A session. Online.

#### Motorcycling across Mongolia

Tuesday, 1/28, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Professional world traveler Chris McCormack will describe his 3,200 mile motorcycle journey around Mongolia. He visited the camels and sand dunes in the Gobi Desert, and explored the mountains of Mongolia.

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES PROGRAMS

### Handwriting Workshop

Tuesdays, 1/7 - 1/28, 4:00PM - 5:00 PM

Taught over the course of four one-hour classes, students will learn how to write letters and numbers correctly.

Please attend all four sessions. Space is limited. For Grades K-5.

### Bookworms: Winnie the Pooh Day

Thursday, 1/9, 4:00PM - 5:00PM

Help us celebrate Winnie the Pooh Day by listening to some Winnie the Pooh stories, and creating a craft to take home. For Grades K-3.

### Week of Service

Sunday, 1/12 - Saturday, 1/18

Join us in the Hickok Room all week long and complete service projects for your community. Visit [www.summitlibrary.org](http://www.summitlibrary.org) for more details. For all ages.

### Lunar New Year Celebration

Saturday, 1/25, 1:00PM - 4:00PM

The celebration will feature cultural performances, including traditional Chinese dances, Kung Fu demonstrations, Peking opera, and more, presented by skilled artists at the Summit Area YMCA. Attendees can also enjoy a diverse array of Asian cuisines at the YMCA. At the Summit Library, attendees can view the Lunar New Year Art Show. For all ages.

### Chocolate Truffle Making

Wednesday, 1/29, 4:00PM - 5:30PM

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**OPEN HOUSE: Tuesday, January 14th 4:30pm**

## YOUTH CHOIR of New Jersey

### *Limited Availability*

Chanticleers (Girls Ages 12-14): 2 Openings

Singers (Girls Ages 15-18): 4 Openings

Continuos (Boys Ages 12-18): 4 Openings

**OPEN HOUSE: Monday, January 13th 7:30pm**

## CIVIC CHORALE of New Jersey (Adults)

Sopranos: 1 Opening

Altos: 3 Openings

Tenors: *Are you kidding? Come one come all!*

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# OPPORTUNITY



## CELEBRATING 75 YEARS NIGHT SKY GAZING

Amateur Astronomers, Inc (AAI) of Cranford, NJ celebrated their 75th Anniversary on Sunday, November 17, 2024, at The Westwood Caterers of Garwood, NJ. In attendance were 53 past and current members who range from teenagers to seniors.

AAI has always interested anyone who loves looking and learning about the night sky. Housed in the William Miller Sperry Observatory on the Union College campus in Cranford, the observatory is open to the public every Friday night with their twin domes looking at the heavens. One of the domes houses a 24-inch reflector and the other dome houses a refractor, which was constructed by club members. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, they are on current topics in Astronomy.

Youth lectures are presented by the club at 7:00 p.m. to preregistered scout groups to help them earn their patches in science. If you are interested in preregistering a scout group, please contact [info@asterism.org](mailto:info@asterism.org).

The club also celebrates celestial events such as eclipses by opening the Observatory and having numerous telescopes outside the building. For more information about AAI email, [membership@asterism.org](mailto:membership@asterism.org) or visit [asterism.org](http://asterism.org).

### ASTRONOMY DAY - MAY 17, 2025

Amateur Astronomers, Inc. along with the North Jersey Astronomical Group, two amateur astronomy clubs located in New Jersey, are once again holding their annual Astronomy Day on Saturday, May 17, 2025. The event will be held in 2 locations: Trailside Nature & Science Center in Mountainside in the afternoon and at William Miller Sperry Observatory on the campus of Union College in Cranford in the evening. The theme is "Solar Max, Unlocking the Secrets of the Sun." This is a family friendly event that focuses on learning about our Sun and its impact on us, and also about astronomy and related sciences in a fun and easy to understand atmosphere. This event appeals to both children and adults. The event is free and open to the public and does not require preregistration. So, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 17, 2025, and come out to learn more about the Sun and our universe!



(above) AAI has always interested anyone who loves learning about the night sky. Housed in the William Miller Sperry Observatory on the Union College campus in Cranford, the observatory is open to the public every Friday nights. One of the domes houses a 24-inch reflector and the other dome houses a refractor. Public lectures start at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, on current topics in Astronomy.

## NEW FIRE HEADQUARTERS GRAND OPENING

City of Summit

The Summit Fire Department held a grand opening event at its new firehouse located at 281 Broad Street on Sunday, November 24, 2024. The event began with a closing ceremony at the firehouse at 396 Broad Street, followed by a parade down Broad Street to the new firehouse. Fire officials provided remarks and performed a flag raising ceremony at the new building, and children assisted firefighters with a traditional push-in ceremony with the department's antique fire engine. Attendees were able to tour the new building, participate in a scavenger hunt, and

enjoy refreshments.

"We'd like to sincerely thank everyone who came out to our grand opening," says Summit Fire Chief Eric Evers. "Your support for our department and this new building is greatly appreciated. Our state-of-the-art headquarters will support the health, safety, and well-being of our firefighters as they continue to selflessly serve this community. Thank you for joining us on this special day."

More information on the Summit Fire Department, including photos from the grand opening, is available at [cityofsummit.org/fire](http://cityofsummit.org/fire).



(above) New Fire Headquarters Grand Opening ceremony.

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## SUMMIT EMS RESPONSES TO CARDIAC ARREST CALLS

Submitted by John Staunton

From January through November, the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad has responded to sixteen 9-1-1 calls for cardiac arrest, five of which occurred during the month of October alone. These life-threatening events occurred in patients' homes, exercise facilities, restaurants, public parks, doctor's offices, and in vehicles on the highway.

With any cardiac arrest, time is of utmost importance: minutes matter! Squad Chief George Shepherd reminds everyone, "Initiating CPR, as soon as possible after cardiac arrest, and utilizing an AED increases the likelihood of survival. Thanks to the rapid response of our crews, along with Police and Fire First Responders, we were able to provide lifesaving support and get these patients to the critical care they needed at the hospital. But it is important to remember that anyone on-scene should start CPR compressions."

The Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, founded 62 years ago, continues to thrive despite a number of other volunteer first aid squads struggling with membership and some even closing their doors. "Our members come from a variety of career backgrounds and age groups, yet

we all have one thing in common. Our volunteers joined the squad because they wanted to help others during their time of need and make a difference in people's lives," said Laura Benevento, Deputy Chief of the Squad.

Squad volunteers, with your support, provide 24/7/365 emergency medical coverage for City of Summit.

"The City of Summit is fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who provide critical assistance to residents in times of need. Without the readily available emergency services provided by Summit EMS, response times could be significantly delayed, potentially leading to worse outcomes for those in urgent situations," said Summit Mayor Elizabeth Fagan, MD.

Personnel Lieutenant Kerry Witcher shared her perspective. "Joining Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad means stepping into a community of dedicated individuals who make a difference in the lives of others every day. Our volunteers provide critical, compassionate care when it matters most – whether on the scene of a cardiac arrest, at a public event, or during countless other emergencies. We welcome anyone with the desire to serve and help save lives to join us."

The Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad is

funded entirely by donations, obtained primarily through its Annual Fund Drive. "People are surprised to learn that the First Aid Squad is an independent, nonprofit agency. As such, we do not obtain funding from the City and rely totally on the generosity and the good will of the Summit residents who we serve," says John Christmann, the Squad's Fund Drive Chair. The annual appeal, under way now, is critical to support basic operations, as well as the purchase of ambulances, medical supplies, and equipment.

The strength of the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad lies in our community. To continue delivering the highest level of emergency care, we need passionate, committed volunteers. We also require financial support from those we serve day in and day out. Consider supporting us today. Consider making a difference.

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 visit their web site: [summitems.org](http://summitems.org). or call (908) 277-9479

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT NEW JERSEY BLOOD SERVICES

New Jersey Blood Services (NJBS), a division of New York Blood Center, which provides blood for local patients, is looking for a few good volunteers. The blood drive volunteer is an integral member of our team whose tasks include assisting donors with registration and/or at the refreshment area. No medical background necessary. Volunteers should be outgoing to provide friendly customer service, be able to perform tasks as needed, must provide proof of COVID Vaccination prior to volunteering and must have transportation. All training is provided including additional precautions for the safety of our team and blood donors. For additional information call or text Sharon Zetts, Manager, NJBS Volunteer Services at 732-850-8906, Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To apply online as a blood drive volunteer, please go to: [volgistics.com/appform/2127944197](http://volgistics.com/appform/2127944197)



Summit EMS Volunteers with at least 1 CPR save in the past year (above, l-r) Phil White, Kevin Caropreso, Kate Cooper, Katie Chang, Conor Donnellan, Bob Mendes, Julian Rupkey, Liam Dwyer, Laura Benevento, Paul Raynolds, and George Shepherd. Not pictured: Beverly Brown, John Christmann, Alexis Cohen, Regina Feeny, Kate Getzendanner, Leah Griffith, Mel Harari, Sam James, Kamari Massicott, James Rath, Richard Raymond, Fred Schwarzmann, Anthony Tepitita, Nancy Weeks, Tory Weeks, Kerry Witcher, Jim Wilson, and John Staunton.

Courtesy photo

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## SUMMIT EMS RESPONSES – NOVEMBER 2024

*Submitted by John Staunton*

For the 3rd consecutive month, Summit's EMS volunteers answered over 200 calls with 210 emergency calls in November. Calls for the month included 111 medical emergencies; 26 falls; 18 motor vehicle accidents; 12 traumatic injuries; five pedestrians struck by a vehicle; three allergic reactions; 22 cases of overdose or poisoning; one burn injury; one animal bite; three responses to a medical alarm; and one response to a fire scene. Squad Volunteers also provided five "lift assists" to patients who did not require transport to a hospital.

Twelve 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 to neighboring towns nine times. Fourteen 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 November, Squad volunteers transported 160 patients to five different hospitals.

On November 21 the Squad responded to 2 pedestrian struck incidents simultaneously: 1 in Millburn near the train station, and another on Union Place at Summit's train station.

The Squad also hosted a blood drive and two CPR classes at their building, provided EMS coverage at two community events and provided manpower for the Other Fellow First Foundations' 17th annual Frozen Turkey Drive.

The Squad answers calls for help 24 hours a day and at a variety of locations. October responses included 79 to a patient's home or apartment; 32 for accidents or medical emergencies on streets or highways, including three on route 24 or 78; one in a public park;

three at Summit's City Hall; three at Summit's Public Library; two at Summit's Post Office, and four at other public buildings; eight at a local business; three at a bar or restaurant; one at a hotel, and 13 at a health care professional's office. There were also 18 medical incidents at Summit's train station; 11 at a local behavioral health facility; six on the grounds of Overlook Medical Center; 14 to an assisted living facility, six on a sidewalk; six in a parking lot; and eight at a school.

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](http://summitems.org).



(above) Summit EMS volunteers supporting the Frozen Turkey Drive on November 24, 2024.

Courtesy photo

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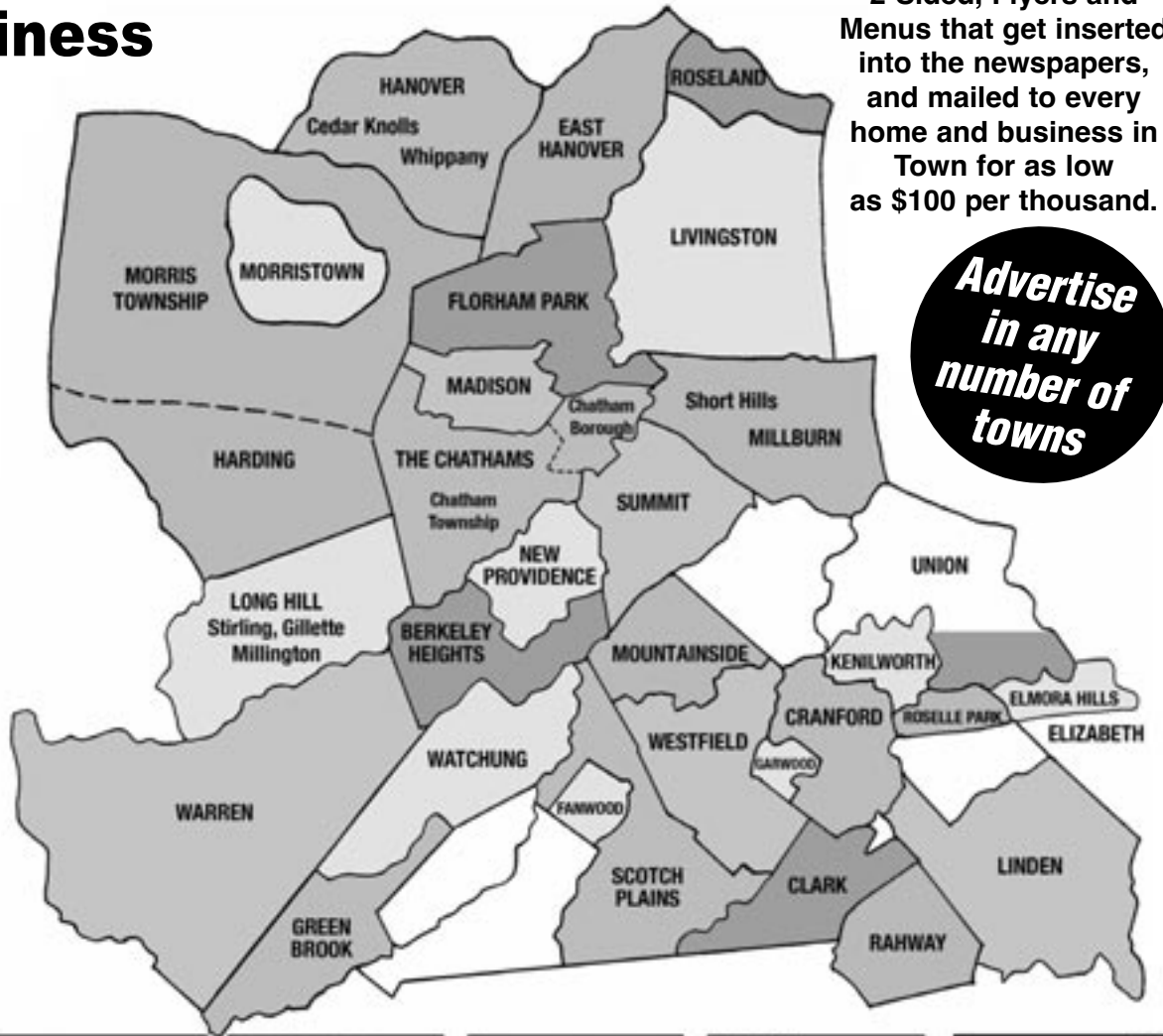
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