

Summit NJ Times

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HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING PRESENTED BY SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL: MARCH 1 - 4, 2017

A satire of big business and all it holds sacred, *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying* follows the rise of J. Pierrepont Finch, who uses a little handbook called 'How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying' to climb the corporate ladder from lowly window washer to high-powered executive, tackling such familiar but potent dangers as the aggressively compliant "company man," the office party, backstabbing coworkers, caffeine addiction and, of course, true love.

OPENING NIGHT DISCOUNT:

All seats for March 1 are \$11
until February 15th.

THURSDAY NIGHT STUDENT GROUPS:

Tickets for student groups of 10+ and their chaperones are \$11. Regular pricing applies to all other attendees.

Performances run Wednesday and Thursday, March 1 & 2 at 6:00 pm, and Friday and Saturday, March 3 & 4 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are on sale now. Show tickets are \$13 for students and seniors and \$16 for adults and can be purchased online at www.showtix4u.com.

To pay with cash or check, visit Summit High School on Saturday, February 25, from 10 am – 12 pm, or at the show each night one hour before curtain time. All ticket sales are final.

How To Succeed In Business

Without Really Trying,

Summit High School,

125 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit, NJ.

*Questions pertaining to ticket purchases
should be directed to:*

Summitshstheater@gmail.com

or (908)918-2122.



(above l-r) Sean McManus
and Mitchell Sink.



(above l-r) Zach Olson
and Ben Errig. Photos by Susan Olson

2016 was the 11th year in a row that a production from Summit High School's performing arts department has been chosen as a finalist in the "Best Overall Production" award category at the Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards. Summit has won "Outstanding Overall Production" Award three times - for "Mary Poppins" in 2016, "Beauty and the Beast" in 2013, and "Titanic" in 2007. In 2016, Summit won a total of five awards. In addition to Best Overall Production, Claire Fitzpatrick, who played Mary Poppins, won the award for Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role, Katherine Winter was recognized for Outstanding Costuming Achievement, and Katherine Recio, the student director, and the costume crew took home Student Achievement Awards.

TEMPLE SINAI PRESENTS: LIVE IN CONCERT: SHIR LA LA!

Temple Sinai in Summit presents: Live in Concert: Shir La La! featuring Shira Kline

Sunday, February 5, 2017 at 3:00 pm.

All are invited, free of charge, to this sing and dance along party for children, ages birth to 7, and their families.

Temple Sinai is located at 208 Summit Ave. in Summit.

For questions or to let us know you are coming, please email Office@templesinainj.org.

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PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email

Editor@rennamedia.com

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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SUMMIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SEEKING APPLICANTS

The Junior League of Summit is pleased to continue its scholarship program in 2017. We will be awarding two (2) \$2,000 Shirley Wight Keeney Voluntarism Scholarships to graduating seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to voluntarism in their community.

All seniors who live or attend school in Berkeley Heights, Chatham, New Providence, and Summit, have demonstrated academic excellence within their academic class, and are continuing their education at an accredited four year or two year college or business/vocational school, are invited to apply. Relatives of members of the Junior League of Summit are not eligible.

Applications must be received or postmarked by Sunday, March 1, 2017. An applicant's submission must include:

- The Application form. Visit www.jlsummit.org/ for application form (you can type right into the form).
 - A letter of recommendation from his/her high school guidance counselor affirming the class standing
 - Two (2) letters of recommendation from members of the community with whom the applicant has worked in a volunteer activity
- Applicants considered as finalists by the Scholarship Committee will be invited to an interview by the Committee to discuss their application. Recipients will be awarded Scholarships in March, 2017.

Please send all completed applications to: JLS Scholarships, Attn: Shannon Dalpe, Chair, 37 Deforest Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901 or jlsummitscholarships@gmail.com.



Congratulations to the Last Year's JLS Scholarship Winners.

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Jennifer Jacobus, Esq.

lower tax bill you may deserve. And since homebuyers are tax conscious too, you will boost your property value by getting your taxes reduced before you hit the market.

Did your tax bill go down with your home's home value since 2007? Or maybe you always thought you were over taxed!

This Free Seminar, February 28th at the Westfield Y will teach you about the tax appeal system to address these issues and get you the

Any homeowner may appeal, with or without an attorney. **All appeals must be filed by April 1st.** To help you understand the process and possibly put you on the path to considerable tax savings, **Jennifer Jacobus, Esq.** will outline all you need to know to consider if a tax appeal is right for you. **The Seminar is Free and Open to the Public** February 28th, 7:30 pm, at the Y—220 Clark St. in Westfield. Sponsored as a public service by Scott Gleason, RE/MAX Properties Unlimited.

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MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY AT THE YMCA

In celebration of the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Summit Area YMCA offered meaningful opportunities for the community to join together in a day of service to give back to those in need and to learn more about diversity and inclusion. Sharing the same values of honesty, compassion, respect, and service, the nonprofit organization ran a Winter Coat Drive to support individuals in need throughout Union County, an annual lunch bag making project named "A Child's Helping Hand" for Bridges Outreach, Inc. to provide meals to the homeless, as well as an impressive Teen Diversity Panel that demystified the thoughts and opinions of teenagers regarding the current social, political and economic climate they live in.

At the core of Dr. King's character were not only his revolutionary leadership skills, but also his dream of a united, multiracial country that celebrated equality, compassion, tolerance, and nonviolence. The Y commemorates his memory daily in practicing his ideals of unconditional

acceptance, love, humility, and service. On his birthday, as a part of The Shaping Summit Together initiative, children and families of all races and ethnicities came together at The Learning Circle YMCA (a branch of the Summit Area YMCA) and made sandwiches, packed snacks, drinks, and more into decorated lunch bags to send to Bridges Overreach, Inc. With the help of dozens of volunteers and children in the child care center ranging from toddlers to school age children, the service project completed making 754 bagged lunches, surpassing their numbers in 2016 of 550 bagged lunches. Children learned the importance of helping those in need and the impact they can make in their communities.

The Winter Coat Drive run at the Summit YMCA collected over 200 winter coats in support of Society of Saint Paul de Vincent by collecting gently used coats for men, women, and children in need throughout Union County. Teens then volunteered to help sort and bag all the donated coats at the Y, providing them a sense of meaningful action and appreciation in helping others.

Lastly, the Y ran its final Martin Luther King Jr. Day event in the Summit YMCA auditorium, spotlighting a diverse teen panel that answered questions from a moderator and from the audience regarding their views on growing up in an ever changing and diverse world. The event began with a series of activities designed to be interactive and educational for teens and adults alike. Stereotypes of teens were explored, asking participants what they thought of a particular teen based on their photograph, and arts and crafts from different countries including China, Africa,

and more were also offered so that participants could learn more about other cultures around the world.

The Teen Diversity Panel then began with the moderator asking questions such as how the teen panel felt about the future with the new President-elect coming into office on January 20, how they felt regarding the current status of racial equality in the United States, as well as how social media affected their way of communication and understanding the world they live in. The teen panel's voices provided intelligent, valid, and honest opinions on each topic, and meaningful discussion took place as both teens and adults in the audience asked questions to better understand the viewpoints of an often misunderstood generation.

The Teen Diversity Panel was an exemplary way of observing Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy in getting closer to reaching a united, multi-racial country through meaningful discussion and genuine efforts in understanding those who are different from who we are and what we know. Teen Diversity Panelists were also Achiever's program participants at the Summit Area YMCA, a program that provides free college preparation, tutoring, career workshops, college tours and more.

For more great events, visit the Summit Area YMCA event calendar: <http://bit.ly/SAYCalendar>

The Summit Area YMCA is one of area's leading 501c3 organizations. Our programs and services are open to all through our financial assistance programs made possible through the generosity of our members, donors, staff and partners. To help us help others, please make your donation today at www.thesay.org.



(above l-r) Teen Diversity panelists Nkozi, Mariam, and Tara. Photo by Summit Area YMCA

Lose 20lbs! OUR GUARANTEE*



I was out of shape, overweight, and it was beginning to really effect my way of life. I have had 4 babies in five years, and I just wasn't able to get the weight off. I had tried dieting and other expensive programs and nothing worked. I wanted my life back and wanted to be able to have the energy to keep up with my 4 boys. So what did I have to lose by trying Nutrimost, so I jumped right in.

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Dinner 3:30pm - 10:30pm

Adult\$11.59
Kids 7-10.....\$6.99
Kids 3-6.....\$5.99
2 & Under.....FREE!

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SQUAD ANSWERS RECORD NUMBER OF CALLS IN 2016

The year 2016 ended for the Summit First Aid Squad much in the same way as it began: with multiple ambulance calls. Squad volunteers rang in 2016 by answering 15 emergency calls between New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, 3 of which were covered by off duty members answering a "back-up call" for assistance. A "back-up call" for off duty members is transmitted via radio, pager and phone, when there are multiple emergencies and the on-duty crew needs help. Squad volunteers answered a total of 2,268 calls for help in 2016 and 195 of those were back-up calls.

The Squad bid farewell to 2016 with 3 simultaneous calls early on New Year's Eve and a total of 9 for the day. Among the calls answered by the First Aid Squad during 2016 were 242 requests for mutual aid from surrounding communities, 46 non-emergency transports and non-emergency stand by at 41 community and athletic events.

Photo by Rich Raymond



(above) All 3 Summit ambulances at Overlook Medical Center after transporting patients from 3 separate calls on New Year's Eve.

FIRST AID SQUAD INSTALLS 2017 LEADERSHIP

Mayor Nora Radest paid a visit to the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad to administer the oath of office to the Squad's 2017 officers and Trustees.

President Mike D'Ecclessis, Vice President John Buscaino, Recording Secretary Chris Raymond and Chief Kari Phair were all re-elected by the Squad's Board of Trustees. Dave Bernstein is the new Treasurer and is joined by Bob Flanagan as Corresponding Secretary.

All of the Squad's 2016 Line Officers are returning. Personnel Lieutenant John Christmann, Training Lieutenant Jane Mahoney,

Records Lieutenant Mel Harari, Equipment Lieutenant Matt Raymond and Maintenance Lieutenant Rich Raymond will all serve again in 2017.

New Trustees Katherine Ganger and James Rath join Paul Reynolds, George Shepherd, and Nancy Weeks on the Squad's Board of Trustees.

The all-volunteer First Aid Squad is always looking for new members to join its ranks.

All needed training, uniforms and equipment is provided.

For information, please call 908-277-9479, or visit their web site at: www.summitems.org.



(above l-r) Mayor Nora Radest swears in the 2017 Summit First Aid Squad officers: Kari Phair, Chris Raymond, Kathleen Ganger, James Rath, Dave Bernstein, Mel Harari, Bob Flanagan, Mat Raymond, Rich Raymond, Nancy Weeks, Mike D'Ecclessis, George Shepherd, Jane Mahoney, John Buscaino, and Mayor Radest.

Photo by John Staunton

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DOES YOUR STAFF NEED SPECIALIZED TRAINING?

Summit Times • Page 7 • February 2017

Summit Free Public Library and the Industry Business Institute at Union County College are offering classes in Excel 2013 and Customer Service Skills to businesses and non-profit organizations in the Summit area.

Classes are taught by professionals and are free of charge to Summit employees. All classes will be held at the Summit Free Public Library.

Space is limited. Register on-line at summitlibrary.org or visit the Library. Employees are expected to attend both sessions for registered programs.

For further information and requirements visit or contact the library at: 908-273-0350, ext. 3 or email: rebeccacohan@summitlibrary.org.

Classes offered:

MS Excel Level 1 (8 hours)

Wednesday and Thursday, March 1st and 2nd, 2017, 8:00 am-12:00 noon

Create and edit basic MS Excel spreadsheets and workbooks, perform calculations, modify, format, and print the content of an Excel workbook.

MS Excel Level 2 (8 hours)

Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21st and 22nd, 2017, 8:00 am-12:00 noon

Customer Service Skills (8 hours)

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 9th and 10th, 2017, 8:00 am-12:00 noon

The program funded by a grant to the NJ Community College Consortium for Workforce & Economic Development from the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

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SUMMIT'S MARY KITSOS AMONG NEW FOSTER CHILD ADVOCATES

On December 14, 2016 Union County Superior Court Judge Daniel R. Lindemann administered oaths to two graduating classes of community members — among them Mary Kitsos of Summit — who've stepped up to serve as extra eyes and ears for Family Court judges on cases involving the county's abused, neglected or abandoned children currently in foster care. Of the two classes, one had 19 participants, including CASA of Union County's new executive director, Marla Higginbotham. The second is the result of the nonprofit offering for the first time a five-session, intensive day training at its offices, and included nine volunteers.

The new CASA volunteers completed 30 hours of training. After performing the oaths, Judge Lindemann stepped off the bench and personally thanked each advocate for committing to serve children in need of a voice. Members of the organization's board participated, and each new advocate received a commemorative pin and certificate. During celebratory luncheons that followed, advocates were matched to their new case and learned about their youth.

Volunteers with varied backgrounds and experiences make successful advocates, and these

classes are no exception: They range in age from 22 to 75 and most have no prior knowledge of the foster system. They include parents, non-parents and empty-nesters; a recent college graduate and recent retiree; careers include health professionals, school personnel, counselors, legal professionals, former military, business entrepreneurs and homemakers. Languages spoken in addition to English include Spanish, German, French and Yoruba. Several experienced abuse in their own childhoods.

William "Joe" Goodson of Plainfield, a CASA volunteer years ago who returned to help another child now that his own schedule allowed, said this work is a calling. "I know the situation in the African-American community, and I want to give back. I've been there and done that. We need more positive role models for these children who need us. I can make a difference and be someone they relate to, and that's what I'm looking for." Goodson added that on Thanksgiving, his CASA youth weighed heavily on his mind: "I'm looking

at a table full of food and family and thinking of him, wondering, 'Is he ok, today?'"

CASA volunteers have court-ordered access to all parties in a child's life, including foster parents, doctors, caseworkers, therapists and teachers, and incorporate into court reports findings from these contacts as well as time spent with the youth. Volunteers advocate both in the community and court to ensure their youth's needs are met and time in care is as short as possible. There are 600 Union County children currently in foster care; CASA of Union County serves approximately one-third of those and its mission is to provide an advocate for every child that needs one.

For details on future training sessions, several of which incorporate new, flexible options and timeframes, contact Lisa at 908-527-7048 or lporis@casaoofunioncounty.org. To inquire about other ways to support CASA of Union County, contact Marla at 908-527-7041 or marlah@casaoofunioncounty.org.



(above) New CASA volunteers are Mary Kitsos of Summit; Adesoye Aladegbami of Roselle; Theresa Brown, Michele Higgins, Noreen Horgan, Cheryl Kelesoglu and Marcela Wolff of Westfield; and Mike McMahon and Deana Washburn of Cranford.

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FABULOUS INFERNOS VALENTINE'S DANCE TO BENEFIT DOMINICAN NUNS

Brush off your dancing shoes, invite your sweetheart, and get ready to celebrate at a fun-filled Valentine's Day Dance to benefit the Dominican Nuns of Summit Centennial Campaign. The Dance, which will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2017 at Our Lady of Peace School Gymnasium in New Providence, will feature America's #1 show band, the fabulous INFERNOS Band, who will keep the music (and the guests) hopping from 7:00-11:00pm.

Reservations for the dance are \$100 per person and include a "fun food buffet" (BYO beer and wine only, please). For reservations, visit www.501auctions.com/valentinesdance (please note that there are no physical tickets).

For more information, email development@summitdominicans.org, or call 201-452-4996.

ABOUT THE DOMINICAN NUNS OF SUMMIT CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

The Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary is approaching its 100th anniversary in 2019. In recent years, the Dominican Nuns of Summit have been experiencing an increase of young

women attracted to the cloistered Dominican life—it's joy; its commitment to prayer and study; its preaching of the Gospel through a hidden life of prayer and petition. To accommodate this growing community, a \$4 million fundraising campaign to build a 5,500 s.f. new wing was launched in 2014. The Centennial Campaign is very close to reaching its goal; to date, over \$3.3 million has been raised. It is the hope of the nuns to break ground this year.

The plans also include an expanded gift shop that will allow the nuns to more efficiently offer their handcrafted Seignadou Soaps, candles and a variety of woodwork and needlecraft gifts for sale, which will help towards their daily expenses. But most importantly, the success of the Centennial Campaign will allow critical safety upgrades to be made to their 78-year-old building, and provide safe, handicapped access to the Chapel and Monastery. "We are so close to our goal, and we hope that our Valentine's Day Dance—an evening that promises to be fun for all—will help bring us even closer," says Maryann Coccoziello, the Centennial Campaign's Director of Development.

For more information or reservations, visit www.501auctions.com/valentinesdance, or contact Maryann Coccoziello, Director of Development at development@summitdominicans.org, or 201-452-4996.



(above) America's #1 show band, the fabulous INFERNOS Band



(above) The Dominican Nuns of Summit community (and Sabina, their faithful golden retriever), photographed in the Cloister Garden in June 2016

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NEW SPRING PROGRAMS WITH DCP

Summit Community Programs has recently opened registration for all Winter / Spring 2017 programs. A variety of programs are offered for children in grades K – 8 including Karate, Lego Robotics Oceans, Minecraft Medieval Redstone and Junior Scratch Programing / Makey Makey. This season for ages 8-15 there is All About Decorating and Baking and for those 18+ there is an Intro to Ayrvedic Cooking.

The free after school “Share the Fun Club” will continue this spring for children in grades 3 – 8. This daily program welcomes children to participate in arts & crafts activities, homework

help, and open gym play from 3:00 – 4:30 PM at the Community Center.

The Community Center also has open gym times for both young children and adults.

For gym schedule, program information, please visit summitcommunityprograms.com. For registration, contact the Summit Department of Community Programs at 908-277-2932.

Summit Community Programs strives to provide recreational and other related programs and services to meet the community's needs, with a special consideration for seniors and youth.

SUMMIT GARDEN CLUB

The Summit Garden Club's yearly conservation meeting is scheduled for February 23rd at 7:30 p.m. at the First Aid Squad Building in Summit. This is a guest meeting, and is open to the public. Come learn about conservation goals and initiatives planned for the Summit community from Mayor, Nora Radest, Environmental Commission Chairperson, Beth Lovejoy and AP environmental science students from Summit HSI. Refreshments will be served.

The Summit Garden Club meets 8 times a year from September to June with the mission to stimulate knowledge and love of gardening among its members and the community. It promotes an active interest in all branches of horticulture, in the conservation of native plants, wildlife and photography. Members learn through lectures and hands-on civic projects such as enhancing landscapes at schools, parks and city buildings.

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FREE TAX RETURN HELP

Summit residents can obtain free assistance in preparing and filing their individual 2016 tax returns. There are no age or income limitations for participation in the program, but taxpayers with complex returns may be advised to seek paid assistance. Free assistance will be provided at the New Providence Senior Citizens Center (NPSCC), 15 East Fourth Street, New Providence, by volunteer tax counselors under a program sponsored jointly by the AARP, the Internal Revenue Service, and the New Jersey State Division of Taxation.

Assistance will cover individual federal and NJ state income taxes, the NJ Homestead Property Tax Rebate, and the Property Tax Reimbursement Program (PTR – 1 & 2), as applicable. All returns will be filed electronically, resulting in refunds being received typically in about four weeks after filing. Any taxes due would not be payable until April 18, 2017. Taxpayers will be provided with vouchers to be submitted by that date with any payments due.

Tax counselors will be available on Mondays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., from

Monday, February 6, 2017, through Monday, April 17, 2017. Beginning January 25, 2017, taxpayers seeking assistance in preparing and filing their returns may call the NPSCC at 908-665-0046, between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, for an appointment, or they may sign up at the center. The Internal Revenue Service is again advising taxpayers to file their returns as early as possible to reduce the potential for identity theft.

Taxpayers must bring government-issued photo identification, social security cards of persons filing the return and of any dependents listed on the return, copies of their 2015 federal and state returns, and any 2016 federal forms W-2, 1099-R, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, SSA-1099, etc., documentation of the amount of rent or real estate taxes paid in 2016 and of other expenses if the taxpayers wish to itemize deductions; and, if they wish to have any refund directly deposited to their bank account, a check showing their bank's routing number and their account number. In the case of taxpayers filing joint returns, both taxpayers should be present to authorize the electronic filing.

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