

## New Year's Greeting

*Dear Summit College Club Members:*

**Happy New Year** and welcome to the **100th year of Summit College Club!** As we reflect on the successes of our branch over the years, let's be sure to remember who the real winners are - the young women and girls who have benefited from the fundraising efforts of our members past and present. We've given close to a million dollars in scholarships to young women from our area through our always anticipated book sale each year. Last year, for the first time, we sponsored a past scholarship recipient to participate in AAUW's National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). In 2020, we will be sponsoring two past scholarship recipients.

Summit College Club was formed at a time of significant change - just 16 days after New Jersey ratified the 19th amendment. Challenges also lie ahead in 2020 as we focus on our strategic goals of gender equity and keep SCC a vital, thriving branch of AAUW.

Our 100th anniversary celebrations were well underway during the first half of the 2019-2020 year. Highlights included a program on women's suffrage at our kickoff luncheon, a program on women composers followed by an orchestra concert featuring Florence Price, an African American composer, and a workshop on salary negotiations for women spearheaded by **Karen Kaplan**. The New Year brings more memorable programs! In January we will be screening and discussing the film *The Pieces I Am*, which examines the life and works of Nobel Prize winning novelist, Toni Morrison. In partnership with the Madison AAUW, the February program will address "The Changing Environment of Higher Education," and in March, Janet Mandel will tell us about the works of artist Georgia O'Keefe. **April 5** is our exciting 100th anniversary celebration brunch at the Grand Summit Hotel, and the Book Sale collection starts on April 17. Please consider donating your time to help.

With the New Year comes the beginning of our process to find new officers for next fall. My term as President will be ending, and a new Board will be elected to run SCC/SCCF. Being a part of the Board is both important and rewarding. Two important members of our team are stepping down - Bulletin Editor, **Marylou Motto**, and Treasurer, **Bernie De Guzman**. They have both worked tirelessly and are so appreciated by all! But the time has come to replace them so they can do other things. We will need to find willing, interested people to fill these positions and put their own stamp on them. Please consider taking a role! Speak to me or anyone else on the Board about your preferences.

Thank you all for everything that you do to contribute to the life of our branch. I hope to see you all on April 5 at our 100th anniversary gala celebration brunch.

*Best wishes for a healthy and happy 2020!*  
*Hedy Tukey, President*

## Abigail Goodwin 1793-1867



Abigail Goodwin "lived her entire life in the same house in the same town, never traveled outside her neighborhood, never married or had children, made no speeches, and wrote no books. But her ceaseless, unselfish humanitarianism saved thousands of lives when no one else would help."

Born in Salem County, Abigail had Quaker parents who had freed their slaves during the American Revolution. We know little of her youth or education (if any), but for at least 30 years, she worked tirelessly as an abolitionist. Her house was among the most widely used stops in NJ's active Underground Railroad. Over and over, she gave shelter, clothes, food, and money to slaves fleeing north---and then begged others for more to give away. She herself wore rags; a mob attacked her home; she was often denounced and vilified in public. It made no difference. Goodwin lived just long enough to see the war end and the 13th Amendment pass. --Abstracted from *New Jersey's Remarkable Women*, by Lynn Wenzel and Carol J. Binkowski

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## College Club Huddle



All were happy at Erna Hoover's home for Holly Berry. Left to right:  
Front Row: Leslie Carson, Erna Hoover, Becky Kerns,  
Second Row: Kathy Tatlow, Judy Gaudino, Madeline Brown-Paris, Camila Flores (SCC-sponsored alumna of Tech Trek), Suzan Cox, Hedy Tukey, Paul Tukey  
Third Row: Anita Meritt, Lynne Rogerson, Janice Hartman, Bernie De Guzman  
Back Row: Eddie Flores (Camila's dad), Jim Fleischmann, Adrian Hartman, Kathy Music-DeProspero, Joe DeProspero

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## One Woman's Brush

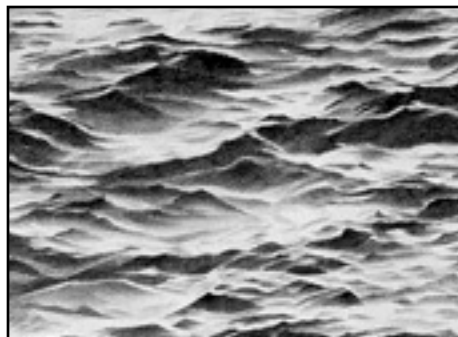
Vija Celmins (pronounced VEE-ya SELL-muns) was born in 1938, in Latvia. Her family fled the Soviets in 1940 and spent time in an U.N. refugee camp before coming to the U.S. and settling in Indianapolis in

1948. At 10, Vija spoke no English, so she turned to drawing. Eventually she earned a BFA, then an MFA, travelled to Venice, and finally moved to NYC.

Celmins rejected the abstractions of her peers. She "cleared house" by

making extraordinarily realistic works on paper of everyday objects in her studio. In a later phase, she painted the sky or sea, working in dozens of painstaking layers of paint on each canvas.

Celmins has had over forty solo exhibitions and has been shown at MOMA, the Whitney, LACMA, and ICA. Currently her work fills *two entire floors* of the Metropolitan Museum's Breuer building. To stare at one of her small, meticulously painted works for any length of time is to lose yourself completely in the image.





# Half Full?

Marylou Motto

From Nicholas Kristof in the *New York Times*, 12/29/19, comes my favorite annual column discussing more than a few things that the world has gotten right of late. Since the bias in newspapers is toward identifying problems--and appalling diseases, poverty, and inequities are problems---we tend not to hear about the world's humanitarian accomplishments, maintains Kristof.

For example, in 1950, just 70 years ago, about half of all human children died in childhood. The figure is now 4%! Diseases like polio, leprosy, river blindness and elephantiasis are all on the decline. The tide has turned on AIDS, too.

In 1981, 42% of earth's people endured "extreme poverty," defined by the U.N. as less than \$2 per day. Today less than 10% lives at that level. (The number of people living on **more** than \$10 a day is increasing by about 245,000 each day.)

Every single day in recent years, 320,000 more people get electricity for the first time; 200,000 receive piped water for the first time; and 650,000 go online for the first time.

Today a child dies somewhere every six seconds, a horrifying figure, but 20 years ago that statistic was every 3 seconds, or twice as often. As Kristof concludes: "*Since modern humans emerged about 200,000 years ago, 2019 was probably the year in which children were the least likely to die, adults were least likely to be illiterate and people were least likely to suffer excruciating and disfiguring diseases.*"

Thank you, Nicholas , whose article, "This Has Been the Best Year Ever (Again)," contains all the information cited above.

And now please let's turn some of our energies toward climate change.

The New Providence Memorial Library & LWVBHNPS & SCC/AAUW invite you to...

## TONI MORRISON: THE PIECES I AM

MOVIE MATINEE  
JANUARY 19, 2020  
New Providence Memorial Library  
1:30PM

*This artful and intimate meditation on the legendary storyteller examines her life, her works and the powerful themes she confronted throughout her literary career. A discussion and Q&A to follow.*

**new providence memorial library**  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
SUMMIT COLLEGE CLUB

*This event is free and open to the public at:  
The New Providence Memorial Library  
377 Elkwood Ave., New Providence, NJ*

In partnership with the League of Women Voters, Summit College Club will screen *The Pieces I Am*, a critically acclaimed documentary on the life and work of Toni Morrison. A discussion will follow the film. Those who have seen the film say that this film should not be missed.

# The State of the State: Sexual Violence in New Jersey

*A presentation by Patricia Teffenhart,  
Executive Director of NJ CASA*

The League of Voters Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit invite you to attend this informative presentation by Patricia Teffenhart

Thursday, March 19th at 7:30PM  
DeCorso Community Center  
15 E 4th Street, New Providence, NJ 07974  
Questions? 908.294.7004

*Patricia Teffenhart is the Executive Director of NJCASA. Under her leadership, NJCASA has a record of success, including expansion of the sexual assault forensic evidence timeline; successfully advocating for the passing of the Sexual Assault Survivors Protection Act of 2015, which increased access to protective orders for survivors of sexual violence; creating and Co-Chairing the Governor's appointed Campus Sexual Assault Task Force; mandating regular training for law enforcement; closing loopholes in the hiring practices of school employees to protect our children from sexual predators; expanding New Jersey's civil statute of limitations for sexual assault; and increasing appropriations for sexual violence services in the New Jersey State Budget by over 733%.*

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
SUMMIT COLLEGE CLUB

# Updated SCC Calendar

## JANUARY 2020

- 9 **Lunch Bunch.** Huntley Tavern, 12:30. Reserve your place by 1/6 with Anita Meritt, [anita.meritt@gmail.com](mailto:anita.meritt@gmail.com) or by phone.
- 13 **Board Meeting.** NP Library. 6:30
- 19 ***The Pieces I Am: Award-winning film about Toni Morrison, followed by discussion. See poster, page 3. New Providence Memorial Library, 1:30 pm*** In partnership with LWV.

## FEBRUARY

- 3 **Dr. Vivian Bull, former president Drew University, "The Changing Environment of Higher Education.** Madison Library, 7 pm. In partnership with Madison AAUW.
- 5 **Great Decisions.**
- 10 **Board Meeting.** NP Library
- 13 **Lunch Bunch** Venue TBA.
- 13 **Great Decisions.**
- 19 **Great Decisions.**
- 26 **Great Decisions.**

**Proclamation by Mayor Nora Nora Radest at a Summit City Council Meeting to celebrate SCC's founding date.**

## MARCH

- 4 **Great Decisions.** See p. 3.
- 9 **Board Meeting.** NP Library
- 12 **Lunch Bunch.** Venue TBA
- 12 **Great Decisions.**
- 18 **Great Decisions.**

- 22 **Janet Mandel, "Georgia O'Keeffe."** 2 pm, Mondo. In partnership with Madison AAUW.

- 25 **Great Decisions.**

## APRIL

- 5 **SUMMIT COLLEGE CLUB's 100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA BRUNCH.** 12:30 - 3 p.m. Grand Summit Hotel.
- 13 **Board Meeting.** NP Library
- 18 **AAUW of NJ Annual Meeting.** 8:30--2:30, The Rutgers Club, Piscataway. (*April Lunch Bunch cancelled*)

**April 17 -19 Book Collection**  
**April 28-May 3--BOOK SALE**

## MAY

- 11 **Board Meeting.** NP Library.
- 14 **Lunch Bunch.** Venue TBA.
- 15 **DAYTRIP: The Alice Paul Institute, Mt. Laurel, NJ.** An outing that celebrates women's heritage and leadership. With LWV.

## JUNE

- 7 **Scholarship Reception** 2:00-4:00 pm, Lile Hall, Christ Church.
- 8 **Board Meeting.** NP Library.



Look for physicist-astronaut Sally Ride on your invitation to the April gala and on other mailings from SCC. That's because **Susan Scher Kogan** has gifted us with 200 U.S. stamps featuring Ride's image. This is the second time Susan has donated stamps. We appreciate it mightily,

## HELP NEEDED

*on the Gala Committee  
for our 100th anniversary.*

*If you are willing to join in for a few  
hours or more, please email  
[mlmotto@outlook.com](mailto:mlmotto@outlook.com).*

Below, left: **Erna Hoover** at Holly Berry Brunch telling Camila Flores about life as a scientist at Bell Labs. **Jerry English** and **Anita Meritt** are listening with interest.

Below, right: Just a few of the dessert goodies prior to decimation.

