

## POLICE & FIRE

### Teapot Sparks Fire on West End Avenue

Summit, Millburn and Berkeley Heights fire departments respond.

By **Jeff Halverstadt** November 16, 2009

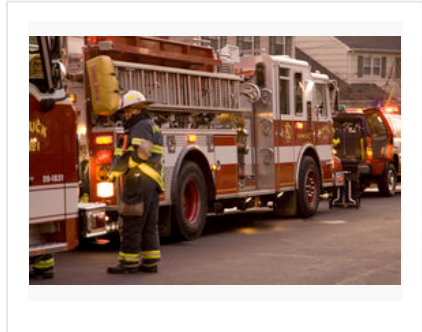
Late Sunday afternoon, with children and parents alike enjoying an unseasonably warm afternoon outside, a forgotten teapot on a stove sparked a fire. Both neighbors and the homeowners summoned the [Summit Fire Department](http://summit.patch.com/listings/summit-fire-department-2) (<http://summit.patch.com/listings/summit-fire-department-2>). The homeowners attempted to put out the fire several times with fire extinguishers they have on hand for just such an emergency.

The emergency response was rapid and large in scope with six engines from Summit, Millburn and Berkeley Heights on scene in a matter of minutes, along with incident command and support vehicles. The fire was quickly brought under control. The Summit Police Department and the [Summit Volunteer Ambulance Squad](http://summit.patch.com/listings/summit-volunteer-first-aid-squad-inc) (<http://summit.patch.com/listings/summit-volunteer-first-aid-squad-inc>) were on scene in a matter of minutes as well. Other than some smoke inhalation, there were no injuries.

Battalion Chief Wayne Smith said that the Summit Fire Department has cooperation agreements with neighboring communities whereby they respond mutually in force to calls in any of our communities so that they have the manpower and equipment on site in minutes to handle emergencies of virtually any scope.

The emergency responders were not the only ones mobilizing. Immediately, neighbors were organizing bedrooms, meals, clothes and anything else the homeowners might need for as long as they might need help.

Barb Flynn, director of Emergency Services for the Colonial Crossroads Chapter of The [American Red Cross](http://summit.patch.com/listings/american-red-cross-4) (<http://summit.patch.com/listings/american-red-cross-4>), and Sue Feisler, a volunteer from the same chapter, were on scene as well. According to Barb Flynn, the American Red Cross responds to approximately 70,000 single family fires a year and provides, as financial need dictates, shelter, clothing and food for the victims of those fires as well as other emergencies.



#### IN THIS ARTICLE



[Summit Fire Department](#)  
396 Broad St



[Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, Inc.](#)  
56-58 Elm St (NJ Center for Visual Arts)



[American Red Cross](#)  
695 Springfield Ave

