

Green Brook Gazette

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ISSUE 48 • SEPTEMBER 2017



Heritage Irish Dance Company

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OPEN HOUSE NEW STUDIO

Sept. 6th, 7th, & 8th
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FORMER "RIVERDANCE" CAST MEMBER AND WORLD CHAMPION OPENS IRISH DANCE SCHOOL IN GREEN BROOK

Irish dancing comes to Green Brook this fall, when Heritage Irish Dance Company opens its doors to dancers of all levels at its new studio located in Sansone Plaza, 319 Rt. 22 East, Green Brook.

The school will offer several free classes including a demonstration of hard and soft-shoe dancing, a trial class for prospective new students and a discussion with parents on September 6th, 7th and 8th at 6 pm. Classes are open to boys and girls ages 2.5 to 18.

Classes will be taught by Amy Siegel Loxley of Bridgewater, formerly of Warren, World Champion Irish Dancer and former cast member of "Riverdance the Show" and "Riverdance on Broadway," and her team of licensed Irish dance teachers. Ms. Siegel Loxley, one the few American women to have won the World Championships of Irish Dance, has performed in countless cities across the United States and Canada. She studied Irish dance under the tutelage of Peter Smith for 18 years before passing her Irish Dance Teacher's and Adjudicator's Exams in 2001 and 2009 respectively.

Heritage Irish Dance Company dancers have performed at Radio City Music Hall, Carnegie Hall, The New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, Rutgers Athletic Center, The Prudential Center, Madison Square Garden and at countless local venues.

After winning the All-Ireland and North American Championships, Heritage Irish Dance Company alumna and assistant teacher, Sarah Oldam, is currently touring with "Riverdance." Each year Heritage Irish Dance Company sends between 15 and 20 dancers to Ireland or Scotland to compete in the World Championships of Irish Dance.

Irish dance is a cultural art form made popular by such long-running shows as "Riverdance" and "Lord of the Dance." As well as being enjoyable, Irish dancing is a way for young people to make friends, keep fit and learn about Irish culture. "Organized physical activity has been shown to be an important part of every child's social, intellectual and physical development," said instructor Loxley. "Boys and girls who take



(above) Amy Siegel Loxley, with champion student and assistant teacher, Sarah Oldam.



Students performing at the Somerville St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Irish dance learn valuable skills such as team work, goal setting and discipline that will follow them well into adulthood. It has been a lifelong dream of mine to open an Irish dance studio and I look forward to many years of teaching future generations of 'Riverdancers!'"

Call Amy at 732-690-4098 or email info@heritageirishdance.com for more information.

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Green Brook Gazette is published by Renna Media. 3,000 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and home in Green Brook, NJ and the balance are distributed for free pick-up throughout town.

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Renna Media welcomes the comments and concerns of its readers put into writing and sent via fax or email to:

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Email: joerenna@rennamedia.com

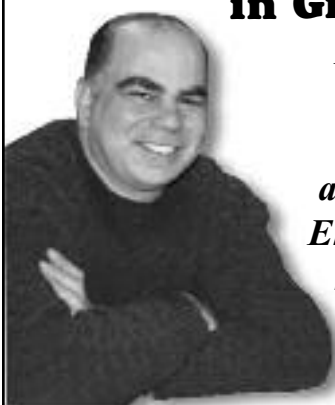
Community service organizations and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos on recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content can email info@rennamedia.com



Check out local photo albums at www.rennamedia.com

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3,000 are printed and mailed to every home and business in Green Brook.



Reserve space in the next issue.
 Call Joe Renna at (908) 447-1295
 Email: joerenna@rennamedia.com

WATCHUNG HILLS CORNHOLE CHAMPIONSHIP AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

Please join Watchung Hills for Warriors at the Stirling Elks #2392 at 1138 Valley Road in Stirling, New Jersey on September 23rd from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. for the Watchung Hills Cornhole Championship and Music Festival in support of the Semper Fi Fund.

The net proceeds of the event will provide assistance to wounded, injured and critically ill veterans to aid in their recovery and transition back to their communities. Social and competitive tournaments will be held for cash

prizes with multiple games guaranteed.

The cost per two-person team will be \$80 and include tournament entry, a beer, a burger and a bag of chips. General admission to the music festival will be \$5 per adult and free for those under 17, veterans and military personnel. Bone Daddy, 94 Proof, Animal Masks and Anthem are scheduled to perform.

Please go to www.WH4W.org to register, sponsor, or donate and to learn more about our charity and the event. Thanks for your support!"



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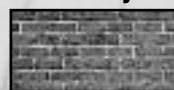
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THE FOOT FACTOR

by Jyotsna Thapar, DPM

Many individuals are guilty of neglecting the health of their feet. And, although we tend to scrutinize our feet in the warmer weather when they are exposed, an ongoing regimen of foot care can be overlooked in colder weather. Our feet serve a critical role in supporting our body weight. Every step we take has an impact on them. Whatever we wear on our feet can cause repeated pinching and rubbing. Over time, we can develop a wide range of foot issues. A podiatrist can help manage foot disorders employing a variety of procedures. A podiatrist will also give helpful advice to ensure that other foot issues are avoided. Be sure to make regular appointments with a podiatrist.

The entire staff at ANKLE & FOOT SPECIALIST OF NJ, LLC, is pleased to welcome you to our column. Of considerable significance in caring for feet of any age, or any gender, is choosing the right podiatrist. Bearing in mind how much our feet do for us, the least we can do is to provide them with a comfortable environment, preventive care before problems occur, and professional care when they do. Comprehensive, compassionate foot care is available at:

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COUNTY RESIDENTS ASKED TO SUBMIT PHOTOS DEADLINE IS SEPT. 15

Whether you are a professional or amateur photographer living in Somerset County, you are invited to submit photos that showcase the beauty and attributes of this area.

The Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, in cooperation with the Somerset County Business Partnership, is sponsoring its third annual "Show us Somerset County Through Your Camera Lens" photo contest for residents and county staff. Entries will be accepted through Sept. 15.

"We enjoy featuring images on our website that depict Somerset County as a great place to live, work and play," said Freeholder Director Peter S. Palmer. "People have submitted stunning photos in the past couple of years and we look forward to seeing more unique and beautiful images this year."

The Somerset County Business Partnership is looking for images that showcase people enjoying attractions, amenities and workplaces within the county for its 2018-2019 Somerset County Destination Guide.

Photo Contest entries should reflect one of five themes:

- Community – e.g., neighborhoods, important local places, health & wellness, golf, etc.
- Natural Environment – for example, lakes, rivers, forests, parks and golf courses, or wildlife
- Architecture and Urban Design – including plazas, buildings, boulevards, work places, hotels, etc.
- Transportation – for example, streets, buses, trains, bicycle and pedestrian paths
- Arts & Culture – including museums, events, entertainment, public art, agritourism, restaurants, etc.

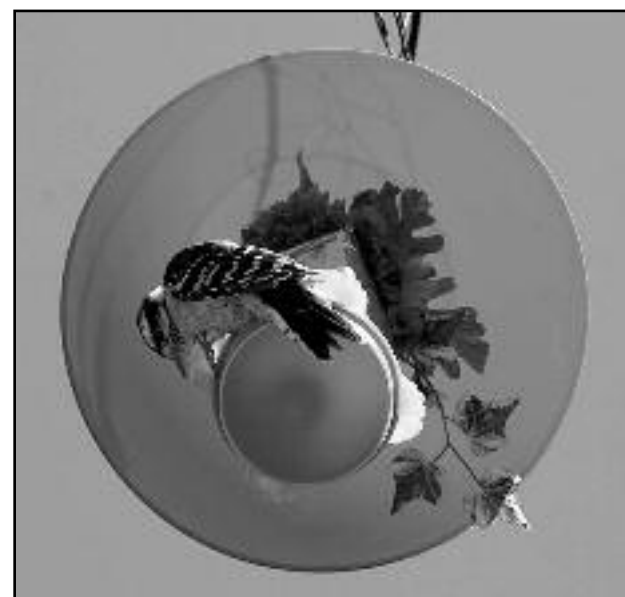
Submissions must be the original work of the

applicant and not previously entered in the photo contest. A panel of judges will select two winners for each theme, as well as an overall contest winner in both the professional and amateur categories.

To enter the contest, individuals must complete the form on Somerset County's website at: <https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/residents/photo-contest>. One person can submit up to five images; the maximum size for each image is 10MB. See photo contest instructions for more information.

Contestants are responsible for acquiring subject release forms from identifiable people featured in the photographs. All images must be received by 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 15. No late submissions will be accepted.

For more information, contact Linny Kosensky at photocontest@co.somerset.nj.us or call (908) 231-7081.



(above) The above image, submitted in 2016 by Ghanshyam Patel, is an example of the "natural environment" theme.

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TRAVEL BEFORE ROUTE 22

Submitted by The Green Brook Cultural Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee

While we currently think of travel as our basic Route 22 main road, of course that is a relatively new addition to the Green Brook lack of scenery. When the first white settlers arrived in our area during the early and mid-1700's, the main means of transportation was by water. One has to envision that the water table was feet higher and the Green Brook was more riverish rather than brookish.

Early on the settlers had made their way up the Raritan River from the shore and then branched out onto the Cedar Brook and Green Brook and other interlocking streams.

After settling on their land farms, they found it easiest to follow the careful planning the Indians had done that they could utilize. The Native Americans always created the best trails. Hills were ascended at the easiest grades and the waters forded at the best spots. Following them saved the settlers a great deal of time and allowed for faster and further exploration. One of the known trails over the Watchung was the path which Warrenville Road now follows.

The paths were narrow walking ways and not conducive for use by wagons or other multi-person conveyances, so into the 1700's passage was only on foot or by horseback. There are no records to show whether or not Greenbrook Road was an Indian trail but it makes sense since the trails often followed water sources. The main trails were eventually widened for horse drawn vehicles.

Early automobiles in Green Brook were faced with impossible and impassable road conditions. Finally about 1922-1924 the roads began to be repaired and improved. King George Road used

to run all the way from Sebring's Mill across what is now Route 22 and all the way up over the mountain to current Morning Glory Road. It now ends in the large housing development at the base of the mountain. When Sebring's sawmill and gristmill were active, that road was used constantly. The modern bridge just south of Route 22 which is currently seeing a lot of activity for the Army Corp of Engineers flood control project is the site of an original crossing bridge dating back into the 1700's.

Then comes the railroad to Dunellen about 1867 when the station was built. And at that time several stagecoach lines from east to west were popular. The travel opportunities for the future seemed endless !

The Green Brook Cultural Heritage and Historic Preservation Committee and The Green Brook Historical Society meet the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Green Brook Town Hall located at 111 Greenbrook Rd., Green Brook, NJ. We are always looking for people interested in history and culture to join our group, as a guest or a member. For more information about the Green Brook Historical Society, visit www.gbhsnj.org.



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COMMUNITY CELEBRATES NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



On August 1, 2017 the Green Brook Police Department invited the community to join millions of neighbors across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide for National Night Out. Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

This year's event included activities for children, a meet and greet with local police officers, giveaways and music from Party People Promotions. There were also representatives from local businesses and community groups on hand, and local supporting businesses including Carrabba's

Italian Grill, Capital Craft, Crystal Motors, Outback Steakhouse and Starbucks Coffee, offered free refreshments.

Said Chief G. Christopher Kurz, "Hosting National Night Out has been a very rewarding experience. Our officers truly appreciate this opportunity to speak with the residents, and each year it brings a greater response from the community. As always, we look forward to spending time with the

participants, businesses and community groups who contribute their time and resources to making this a great event."

Photos from this and other events can be found online at rennamedia.com and on the Green Brook Gazette page on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/greenbrookgazette). Feel free to "Like", "Tag" and "Share"



(above) Green Brook Hockey Club Bonnie Elbaum and players Lucy & Clara Chen.

(above) Somerset Youth Services Commission, Beth Stanton & Maggie Silver.

(above) Green Brook Historical Society: Denise Wolf, Christine Napolitano & Jill Abramo.



(above) Green Brook PBA 398.

(above) Green Brook Pack 129.

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RAPTOR TRUST SEPTEMBER EVENTS

The Raptor Trust, located in Millington, NJ, would like to announce two upcoming public events in September. This non-profit wild bird rehabilitation center has a mission to provide care to injured, sick, and orphaned wild birds and to educate the public about these birds, especially birds of prey. Their location includes an avian medical infirmary, education building, a gift shop, and exterior cages and aviaries. The Trust gets about 6,000 birds brought to them per year. Thousands of these birds are able to receive medical attention, be rehabilitated and released back into the wild.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND 11:00 A.M. AND 1:00 P.M.

RAPTOR TRUST "TOUR TALKS"

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Take a guided tour of our outdoor display aviaries with one of our educators. Visit with our resident hawks, eagles, falcons, owls and vultures and learn about some of their fascinating stories

as well as the mission of The Raptor Trust.

Please park in the visitor's lot, check in at the Gift Shop and meet one of our resident education raptors before the tour. To register, visit www.TheRaptorTrust.org

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 6:00 P.M.

"NATURE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD –

THE BIRDS ALL AROUND US" WITH IVAN KOSSAK

Join us for an evening lecture with long-time TRT friend and volunteer, Ivan Kossak. Ivan is an expert birder and has birded in over 30 states and in Canada. He leads bird walks in his native and beloved New Jersey. Ivan has been a member of the Hackensack Riverkeeper for over 15 years and currently serves as President of the Board of Trustees there.

This program will reveal the magic that allows all birders – from beginner to advanced – to identify birds in the field. Learn who is living in your backyard and living in your trees! The program focuses on the physical attributes of

NJ's wild birds (plumage, size, shape), as well as behavior, range, habitat preferences, and vocalizations.

Come early to the Trust and enjoy a self-guided twilight tour of the aviaries prior to the talk. Light refreshments will be served.

FREE – REGISTRATION REQUIRED

AT WWW.THERAPTORTRUST.ORG

The Raptor Trust is located at 1452 White Bridge Road in Millington, New Jersey and is open to the public 7 days a week to visitors who can come see and learn about some of the facility's avian residents such as hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls. They also offer outreach educational programs for children and adults by appointment. The organization runs on donations in order to provide its services year round, every day of the year. Visit their website at www.theraptortrust.org to find out more about their organizations, visiting and program schedules, or to donate.

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