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NJ

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ISSUE 152 • JULY 2025

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ROTARY CLUB KEEPS ACTIVE WITH SERVICE PROJECTS

Submitted by Club President Kirti Reddy

The Watchung Warren Rotary Club has had a busy year with a lot of service projects, food drives and various speakers at their club meetings. Rotary is a global network of more than 1.2 million leaders and problem solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change- across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Kirti Reddy, President of the Watchung Warren Rotary Club says "I joined the Rotary Club to give back to the community that I have lived in for 10 years. We have a lot of fun planning and executing our service projects. We do a wide range of service projects from providing dictionaries to the 3rd graders at both Warren and Watchung to making donations to the Animal Shelter, from conducting food drives to

supporting eagle scout projects and many more. Together, we can join hands and make a difference in making this world a better place".

Visit our website, wwrotaryclub.com, or follow us on instagram @wwrotaryclub.



(above) Kicking off Maternal and Child Health Month with the Founder of Baby Bundle



(above) President Kirti Reddy delivering animal shelter donations to the PlainField Animal Shelter



(above) Our Club at the Warren Winter Festival



(above) President Kirti Reddy distributing dictionaries to our elementary schools



(above) Halloween Celebrations at our Club



(above) President Kirti Reddy presenting a check to the Executive Director of the Food Bank Network of Somerset County for our Thanksgiving Food Drive



(above) At the Holiday Breakfast for Children with Disabilities

Courtesy photos

Ashley's May Watchung Market Update



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\$1,089,000
Average Sales Price

▲ Increased from last month



5 # of sales

▲ Increased from last month



21 Average Days
on Market

▼ Decreased from last month



8 # of houses on
the market

No change from last month



COMPASS

Watchung Post

Renna Media, LLC, Publishers
202 Walnut Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

Watchung Post is published by Renna Media. 2,700 newspapers are printed monthly and mailed to every business and resident in Watchung, 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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POLICE CARRY THE TORCH FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Watchung Police joined police officers from across the state in the 42nd Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics New Jersey. Over 3,000 police officers took to their local streets to raise funds and awareness for this incredible organization.

ABOUT THE ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY:
Torch Run began in New Jersey in 1984 as a way to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics New Jersey. The run is a day-long event, split into 26 legs (or starting points) with

some legs beginning as early as 4:45 a.m. The run travels through more than 300 towns, covering 750 miles on-foot. About 3,000 runners participated in 2025. Representing over 450 police departments. To learn more, visit NJTorchRun.org.



(above) Watchung police officers participated in the 42nd Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Courtesy Photo



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WATCHUNG LIBRARY JULY 2025 EVENTS

20 Stirling Rd. Some programs require registration. Visit SCLSNJ.org to register today. For additional assistance, call (908) 845-8400.

BIRTH TO 3 YEARS

(with caregiver)

Baby/Toddler Storytime

July 21, 10:30 - 11 a.m.

Introduce your child to the beginnings of storytime in this interactive program featuring rhymes, movement, songs, and stories.

BIRTH TO 5 YEARS

(with caregiver)

Music with Miss Donna

July 7, 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Take time to bond with your children while making music in this interactive session. Enjoy music, fingerplays, and playing instruments. Hosted at Wilson Memorial Church.

AGES 4 AND UP

Bingo with Miss June

July 23, 4:30 - 5:00 p.m

Share your love of Bingo with other players as you compete to win prizes.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Family Storytime: Move and Groove

July 14, 10:30 -11 a.m.

Discover songs, stories, and movement in this active storytime.

Family Storytime: Yoga

July 28, 10:30 -11 a.m.

Discover songs, stories, and yoga poses in this active storytime.

GRADES K AND UP

Drop-In STEAM: Collage Making

July 19, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m

Create a collage with clippings from magazines, glue, and construction paper

GRADES K - 4

Read to a Therapy Dog

July 15, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m

Practice your reading skills by reading a story to a certified therapy dog. Registration is required. Registration begins June 24.

GRADES K - 5

Paint and Snack: Crayon Resist Art

July 8, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m

Discover how to paint step-by-step using watercolors. Pre-packaged snacks and drinks will be served.

Giant Games

July 9, 4:30 - 5:00 p.m

Play fun classic games that are giant.

LEGO® Fun

July 16, 4:30 - 5:00 p.m

Join the fun if you like building with LEGO® bricks. Bring your creativity and prepare for a challenge.

Bluey Meet and Greet

July 18, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m

Meet Bluey, take a picture with her, and enjoy a Bluey celebration! Light refreshments served.

Amusement Park Physics

July 22, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m

Learn about effects of force and motion as they relate to theme park rides. Hosted at Wilson Memorial Church.

STEAM: Pizza Fraction Party

July 29, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m

Discover how fun and educational fractions can be in this pizza party fraction party.

GRADES K AND UP

Drop-In STEAM: Collage Making

Saturday July 9, 10:30 - 1:30 p.m.

GRADES 6-12

Teen After Hours Lock-In: Broadway

July 11, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m

Dress to the theme and get locked in the library after hours! Work together with other teens to complete a scavenger hunt. Then play video games, and watch a movie. Pizza served.

Teen Volunteer Afternoon

July 17, 24 & 31, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m

Write letters to local community helpers. Attendees will earn one hour of service time.

ADULT

Watchung Library Writers Group

July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 10:30am - 12:30 pm

The Watchung Library Writers Group welcomes experienced writers interested in providing and receiving direct, constructive feedback. Hosted at Wilson Memorial Church.

Adult Book Discussion

"How to Age Disgracefully"

July 10, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m

"How to Age Disgracefully" by Clare Pooley moderated by Manny Miracle.

Painted Wood House Plaque

July 12 & 16, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m

Paint a wood house plaque.

Dot by Dot:

A Hands-On Introduction to Mandala Art

July 30, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m

This class will be led by Ruchi Gupta Creating art can be a form of meditation that helps us relax and feel calm.



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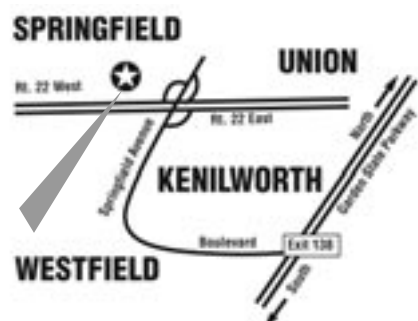
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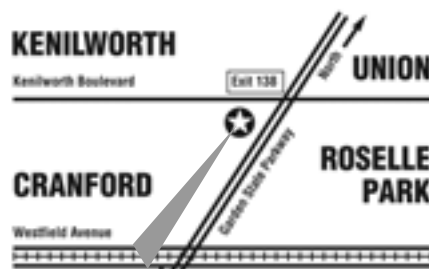
**July 14 thru 18
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FARMERS MARKET KICKS OFF SUMMER SEASON

Community Invited to Shop Local and Support Sustainability

The Watchung Green Team

The Watchung Farmers Market is back for another vibrant season, bringing farm-fresh produce, artisanal goods, and community spirit to the heart of Watchung. Kicking off Tuesday, June 3, 2025 the market will once again take place every Tuesday at the Best Lake Parking Lot from 3 - 7 p.m., and the public is warmly invited to attend.

Now a beloved seasonal tradition, the Watchung Farmers Market features a growing roster of local vendors offering everything from organic vegetables and baked goods to handmade crafts and specialty foods. Several favorite vendors from previous years are returning, ready to greet familiar faces and share their high-quality, locally-sourced products.

The market is organized with the support and dedication of the Watchung Green Team – a passionate group of local volunteers committed to sustainability and community engagement. Their efforts ensure the market continues to be a welcoming space where residents can connect with small businesses and support eco-friendly practices.

“The Watchung Farmers Market is about more than just food – it’s about strengthening our community and encouraging sustainable living,” said Mayor Ron Jubin. “We’re thrilled to welcome back returning vendors and introduce some new faces this season.”

The market is also seeking new vendors who are interested in joining this growing event. Whether you’re a local grower, baker, artisan, or small business owner, this is an excellent opportunity to showcase your goods and connect with the Watchung community.

For vendor applications and market details contact the Green Team via email at Greenteam@watchungnj.gov

For a list of participating vendors check out: watchungnj.gov/farmers-market

Come join your neighbors, meet local makers, and support a greener future at the Watchung Farmers Market – where community and sustainability meet every week.

ABOUT THE WATCHUNG GREEN TEAM

The Watchung Green Team is a volunteer-driven initiative focused on promoting sustainability, environmental education, and community wellness through local action and engagement.



(above, l-r) Councilman Marano, Councilwoman Abi-Habib and Mayor Jubin.



(above, l-r) CFO Bill Hance, Councilwoman Abi-Habib and Green Team Member, Denise Soppas. Courtesy Photos

COUNTY JURIED SENIOR ART SHOW

Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission is accepting applications for its juried 2025 Senior Art Show. To be eligible, artists must be Somerset County residents and at least 60 years of age. Acceptable artwork mediums include acrylics, oils, pastels, watercolors, crafts, digital/computer art, mixed media, works on paper, photography, and sculpture. The deadline for registration and submission is Monday, July 14.

“Our senior residents have tremendous talent and Somerset County is proud to showcase their amazing artwork,” said Somerset County Commissioner Deputy Director Melonie Marano, liaison to the Cultural & Heritage Commission. “Last year, 19 outstanding artists were selected to move on to the state competition. Two participants were over 100 years old, which proves that creativity can spark at any age. This contest is a great way for older adult artists to receive recognition.”

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO CREATE

“Entering the Somerset County Senior Art Show was a wonderful opportunity to showcase my passion for digital art,” said Ed Caravana, who received First Place for Digital Art in the County Senior Art Show. “I have been exploring the convergence of art and technology since retirement, so winning was an amazing affirmation that it’s never too late to learn, grow, and create.”

COUNTY SENIOR ART SHOW GUIDELINES

The artwork will be displayed from Aug. 1 to Sept. 8 in the Cultural & Heritage Gallery, located at the Somerset County Administration Building on 20 Grove St., Somerville, NJ and will be available virtually on the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage website.

First-place winners of the 2025 Somerset County Senior Art Show will compete at the 2025 New Jersey State Senior Art Show. The state art show exhibit will take place at the Meadow Lakes Senior Center in East Windsor from Sept. 29 to Nov. 6, and virtually on the state’s website at njseiorarts.com.

MUST COMPLETE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM.

- Applicants who wish to display their artwork in the virtual gallery or potentially feature their artwork on promotional materials must submit a digital image of their artwork using the online form.
- Only one photo per piece of artwork will be accepted.
- Artwork must have been completed within the past three years (April 2022 to 2025).
- Artwork previously shown in the Somerset County Senior Art Show will not be accepted.

If applicants experience issues submitting their artwork, contact the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Office at 908-203-6145 or email CulturalHeritage@co.somerset.nj.us.



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1 1/2-3 Riverbed.....	\$120
3/4 Red Stone	\$84
3/4 Goose Egg.....	\$125
2-4 Goose Egg	\$135
3/4 Arctic White.....	\$120

Prices subject to change without notice.



FORMER STUDENT NOW CEO AND FOUNDER OF INSPIRING NONPROFIT



(above) Julia de Montagnac, Founder and CEO of Coloring Confidence

Photo by Warren Township Schools

Warren Township Schools

Julia de Montagnac, a proud alumna of Angelo L. Tomaso School, Warren Middle School, and Watchung Hills Regional High School, returned to her roots to share her inspiring journey from struggling student to successful nonprofit founder and Princeton University scholar. Diagnosed with dyslexia, Julia is now the Founder and CEO of Coloring Confidence, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting children with dyslexia through art-integrated, curriculum-aligned lesson plans and mental health resources, including guided meditations and classroom worksheets, designed to support student wellness and academic growth.

The concept of Coloring Confidence was created from Julia's Girl Scout Gold Award project during high school. What started as a personal passion has grown into a nationwide program. Now an established nonprofit, Coloring Confidence reaches children in all 50 states and over 50 countries, providing school districts with dyslexia-friendly curriculum designed to build self-esteem and literacy skills

through creativity and structured support.

Julia recently joined the students at Central School and Warren Middle School to give a presentation about the nonprofit organization she now leads. During her presentation, Julia offered valuable insights into the process of identifying real-world problems, conducting effective research, and translating ideas into action, providing students with both inspiration and practical guidance. By observing her approach and problem-solving mindset, students can learn to apply similar strategies in their own projects, starting with recognizing issues in their communities, gathering data, and developing solutions that create real impact. After each presentation, the 5th graders and 8th graders had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in meaningful discussions.

Warren Township Schools is proud to celebrate Julia de Montagnac's accomplishments and is inspired by her commitment to giving back to the community that helped shape her.

For more information about Coloring Confidence, visit coloringconfidence.com.

FIRST SATURDAY AND E-WASTE EVENTS - JULY 12

Somerset County residents are invited to attend the First Saturday and E-Waste Drop-Off events on Saturday, July 12, 2025.

Proof of Residency is required at both events. Residents must have a current driver's license, valid lease, tax bill or any other bill that shows proof of their Somerset County address for both events. Pre-registration is not required. Businesses and commercial vehicles are not permitted at either events.

FIRST SATURDAY

Residents can bring recyclables such as newspapers, junk mail, and other acceptable items to the First Saturday of the Month Drop-off on Saturday, July 12 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Somerset County Recycling Center, located at 40 Polhemus Lane, Bridgewater, NJ. Residents should remain in their vehicles: Staff will be available at every station to help residents remove their items.

Items Accepted: Drop off up to eight tires – with or without rims – scrap metal, used motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, and the usual curbside materials, including chipboard items, plastic bottles and containers marked #1 through #7. Chipboard items include gift, shoe, shirt- and all retail boxes, as well as cereal, cookie, pasta, cake and cracker boxes without the plastic liners, poster board, backing from writing pads, and empty dried-out steel paint cans.

Items NOT Accepted: Somerset County does NOT accept textiles at First Saturday of the Month Drop-off. Residents should continue to recycle used textiles at any local charity donation bin.

To learn more about First Saturday events, call the Somerset County Recycling Center at 732-469-3363. For a complete listing of recyclable items, recycling events and more visit somersetcountynj.gov/recycle.

ELECTRONIC WASTE DROP-OFF

Dispose of items cluttering the home at the Electronic Waste Drop-off event to be held on Saturday, July 12, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the South County Public Works Garage, located at 410 Roycefield Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844.

Residents should remain in their vehicles unless otherwise instructed and may need to remove items without assistance and place them on pallets as instructed by the staff.

Items Accepted: Computers (desktops and laptops), monitors (cathode-ray tube and flat panel), televisions (cathode-ray tube and flat panel), copiers, digital cameras, DVD players, e-book readers, fax machines, MP3 players, personal digital assistants (PDAs), printers, stereos, radio equipment, VCRs, audiovisual equipment, typewriters, camcorders, telephones, cellular phones, circuit boards, modems,

telephone mainframes, keyboards, mice, scanners, cables, wiring, power supplies, mainframe equipment and controllers.

Items NOT Accepted: Batteries are not accepted. Residents can recycle household hazardous waste, including lithium and rechargeable batteries at scheduled Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off events.

For a complete list of items accepted at the Electronic Waste Drop-off, contact the Somerset County Division of Solid Waste Management at 908-231-7109 or send an email to solidwaste@co.somerset.nj.us.

A complete listing of recyclable items, recycling drop-off events (First Saturday of the Month, Household Hazardous Waste, Rx Medicine, E-Waste) and more, are available at www.somersetcountynj.gov/recycle.

Free Recycle Coach app is available.

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WARRENBROOK SENIOR CENTER JULY EVENTS

500 Warrenville Road. All the programs are FREE for the registered members. Call (908) 753-9440 for more information.

Chair Yoga with Kartika

Mondays, 10 a.m. & Thursdays at 1 p.m.

This class is open to all levels of skill. No fee for this ongoing class.

"Walk With Ease" Program:

Mondays, 1 p.m. (June 16 – July 21).

Weekly Check In and Presentation with Rutgers University Doctoral Occupational Therapy Students. Walk with Ease is 6-week evidence based structured walking program

Mahjong for Intermediate Players

Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Intermediate mahjong players play this game of skill, strategy, and calculation.

Take control with Exercise

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

This is an ongoing exercise program, in video form, for all skill levels that can be practiced while either standing or sitting.

Zumba Gold with Judith

Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.

The cost is \$40 for the 8-week program.

Bridge Group with Ronnie

Tuesdays, 1 – 4 p.m.

Welcome new members and beginners (lessons available).

Geri-Fit

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Geri-Fit is a unique and evidence-based seated (standing optional) exercise program.

Project Healthy Bones

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

This peer-led, 24-week exercise and education program is for individuals who are at risk of osteoporosis or have it.

Craft Activities

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1 – 4 p.m.

This is a great opportunity for artists & crafters to meet new people while creating an art piece or craft. All supplies will be provided.

Advanced Bridge

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 1 – 3:30 p.m.

This is a closed group and is available by invitation only.

Line Dancing with Linda Hyland

Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

You don't need a partner. Suitable for participants with limited mobility.

Card/Table Games

Thursdays, 1 – 4 p.m.

Join in and play some of your favorite games such as Mahjong, Bridge, Dominoes, Left-Right-Center Dice games, Rummikub, Canasta, Mexican Train, and more.

Tai Chi with Roger Hsu

Fridays, 10 a.m.

This program can be practiced while either standing or sitting.

Bridge

Fridays, 1 – 4 p.m.

Bridge is a mentally challenging card game that offers intellectual and social stimulation.

Technology for Seniors

Fridays, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

"Technology for Seniors" is focused on helping elderly people stay connected, informed, and independent in a rapidly changing digital world.(June 27 – August 15)

Boggle with Warrenbrook Staff

July 1, 11 a.m.

Join us as we try to find as many words as possible.

Bingo

July 2, 11 a.m.

It promotes socialization, strengthens hand-eye coordination, and improves listening and short-term memory skills.

Independence Day Songs

July 3, 11 a.m.

Let's bring joy and nostalgia by singing patriotic songs and honor the holiday.

Senior Center Closed

July 4

Independence Day

Lighthouses of New Jersey

July 7, 11 a.m.

NJ has many lighthouses with interesting history, mystery & stories.

Somerset County Traveling Library

July 7, 1 p.m.

Sign up for a library card, get help troubleshooting technology, check out a book.

Wheel of Fortune

July 8, 11 a.m.

Spin the colorful wheel and watch the anticipation build as participants try to match clues and solve word puzzles.

Monthly Book Club

(Hybrid) July 8, 1:30 p.m.

Meets Every Second Tuesday of the month.

Patriotic T-shirt Craft

July 9, 11 a.m.

A fun and creative way to celebrate your love for the USA by designing a T-shirt. Registration is required, and supplies are provided.

Breathing Techniques for Mental Wellness

July 10, 11 a.m.

Dr. Srinivas will be teaching some practices that can be used to distract the mind and induce calm during an anxiety episode.

How to manage Arthritis

July 11, 11 a.m.

Engaging and empowering session where you will share simple and effective ways to manage arthritis pain, improve mobility, and maintain an active lifestyle.

Christmas in July Musical Entertainment

July 14, 11 a.m.

This event offers a special musical performance that blends the magic of Christmas with the warmth of summer.

Wordle with Warrenbrook Staff

July 15, 11 a.m.

Wordle is a word-based brain game where participants have six chances to guess a five-letter word.

Estate Planning

July 16, 11 a.m.

This presentation explains why it is important for you to have a "Last Will and Testament", and what other documents are needed.

Healthy Feet

July 17, 11 a.m.

An informative presentation that will cover topics such as foot care, common foot conditions, choosing the right footwear and tips for maintaining mobility & comfort.

Diabetes Education Bingo "Diagingo"

July 18, 10 a.m.

Fun and educational event as we learn about diabetes through Diabetes Education Bingo.

Wheels on the Bus, Part 2

July 21, 11 a.m.

True stories will be presented by seniors to the fellow seniors which include laughter, games, exercises, videos & meals.

Home Care

July 22, 11 a.m.

Information about home care services with the goal to enhance the individual's quality of life.

Vision Screening

July 23, 10:30 a.m.

Be screened for distance visual acuity and glaucoma. Get recommendations on their specific follow-up.

Bingo

July 24, 10:30 a.m.

Promotes socialization, strengthens hand-eye coordination, and improves listening and short-term memory skills.

Summer Trivia

July 25, 11 a.m.

Enjoy a friendly competition filled with laughs, memories, and maybe even a few surprises!

Musical Summer Dreams

July 28, 11 a.m.

The Discovery Orchestra staff member and violinist Michael Avagliano, joined by Executive Director Rick Kaller on piano.

Jeopardy

July 29, 11 a.m.

Test your knowledge and have some fun with Jeopardy as led by center client.

Picnic on the Patio

July 30, 10:30 a.m.

While we listen, we will also have an opportunity to play outdoor games like corn hole, badminton and frisbee.

Recycled Plastic Flowers Craft

July 31, 11 a.m.

In this enjoyable and sustainable crafting activity, participants will transform everyday plastic items such as bottles, lids, and containers into beautiful, colorful flowers. Pre-registration is required, and supplies are provided.

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1 Unit (Business card)	3.25"x2"0	100	260	360	460	560	600	660	700	800	900	1000
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4 Units	3.25"x8" or 6.5"x4"	240	560	900	1000	1300	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000	2100
6 Units	6.5"x6.25" or 10"x4"	320	760	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200	2400	2600	2800
9 HALF PAGE	6.5"x9" or 10"x7"	360	860	1300	1600	1900	2200	2400	2600	2800	3000	3200
12 Units	6.5"x14"	400	960	1400	1800	2100	2400	2700	3000	3300	3600	3900
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This September, Drew University's Concert Hall in Madison, NJ, transformed into a powerhouse of live entertainment as Gene DiNapoli Presents delivers six unforgettable nights of tributes and laughter. From heartland rock and Southern soul to mystical classics and offbeat comedy, each event brings a unique and electrifying experience to audiences of all ages.

9/13 – HUMAN WHEELS: THE ULTIMATE MELLENCAMP EXPERIENCE

Feel the pulse of heartland rock with Human Wheels, New Jersey's premier Mellencamp tribute band. Featuring hits like Pink Houses and Jack and Diane, this seven-piece ensemble brings Americana to life with authentic, high-energy performances.

9/19 – A BROTHER'S REVIVAL: A TRIBUTE TO THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND

Led by former Allman Brothers Band bassist David "Rook" Goldflies, this faithful tribute captures the spirit of Southern rock with jam-infused renditions of classics like Midnight Rider and Ramblin' Man.

9/20 – GYPSY: A TRUE STEVIE NICKS EXPERIENCE

Sabrina Staats leads this enchanting tribute that channels the haunting voice and ethereal style of Stevie Nicks. Backed by a top-tier band, audiences can expect faithful renditions of Rhiannon, Edge of Seventeen, and more.

9/26 – SOUTHERN STEEL: CLASSIC SKYNYRD LIVE

Relive the golden age of Southern rock with Southern Steel, known for their pitch-perfect performances of Lynyrd Skynyrd favorites like Sweet Home Alabama and Free Bird

9/27 – RODNEY NORMAN: COMEDY, INSIGHT, AND LAUGHTER

TikTok sensation and viral comedian Rodney Norman brings his signature blend of quirky wisdom, deadpan delivery, and philosophical hilarity to the stage for one night only.

9/28 – LIGHTS OUT: THE JERSEY BEACH BOYS

Imagine the sun-soaked sounds of The Beach Boys, with the signature swagger of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. LIGHTS OUT brings that fantasy to life in The Jersey Beach Boys—a coast-to-coast musical mashup where you'll sing, sway, and relive the golden age of harmony.

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