April 2015

Is it Spring yet!? With the weather FINALLY starting to warm up, spring activities jump into high gear in Cumberland County. The next several weeks bring multi-cultural activities of every kind. Get out and enjoy the warmth and sun!

PLEASE NOTE: We are working on our website, and during this period some functions may not be available. Please bear with us as we refresh our online presence. You can always stay connected by checking out one of our social media pages - just click one of the social media sites to the lower left.

Cinco de Mayo in Bridgeton

Hola, mis amigos! Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Mexican army's victory over French forces at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. Without delving too deeply into the imperial machinations of the period, this victory by the Mexicans played a huge role in United States history, as it curtailed Napoleon III's interest in backing the Confederacy in our Civil War. Today, Cinco de Mayo in America is less about military commemoration and more about celebrating Mexican-American culture. One of the biggest celebrations of Cinco de Mayo in South Jersey is located in Bridgeton, this year being celebrated on Sunday, May 3rd.

Dancing, music and delicious food will be the order of the
day along with a parade of horses and vaqueros, linking the southwest traditions of cowboys and herding with our own region’s strong interest in equine activities. Organized by Bridgeton Main Street and its partners, you can learn more by visiting www.getbridgeton.com or visiting Bridgeton Main Street’s Facebook page, here.

Living and Sustaining a Creative Life Forum

Time is running out to RSVP for the upcoming Saturday Artists’ Talk on Saturday, April 25th at Cumberland County College. The event will center around how to flourish as an artist and includes conversations with fabulous regional artists, great food and drink, and a copy of author and artist Sharon Louden's newest book, "Living and Sustaining a Creative Life" - all for only a $10 registration fee payable at the door. Sponsored by the N.J. State Council on the Arts and the Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission, please take a moment now and reserve your seat by emailing mattpi@co.cumberland.nj.us.
Sunday, April 12th marks the seasonal grand re-opening of the Cumberland County Historical Society. The 1730 Gibbon House in Greenwich will re-open for the year, located at 960 Ye Greate Street. Visitors can tour the house from noon to 2 PM, experience hearthside cooking and enjoy light refreshments. Also open will be the Red Barn Museum, the Alan Ewing Carman Museum of Prehistory, the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical and History Library, and the John DuBois Maritime Museum.

The Lummis Library will host a very special "Meet the Author" event at 2 PM. Author Joseph A. Grabas will discuss his recently published book, Owning New Jersey: Historic Tales of War, Property Disputes & the Pursuit of Happiness. Free and open to the public, join the discussion and discover the hidden drama of landownership in New Jersey. The state's land records and deeds reveal fascinating tales, including sprawling estates, Revolutionary War intrigue, and heroes and villains of all kinds.

Mr. Grabas is a nationally certified land title professional who has spent over three decades researching real property records in New Jersey. He serves on the Monmouth County Historical Commission and the New Jersey Tidelands Resource Council. Light refreshments will be served and books will be available for sale and signing.
OWNING NEW JERSEY

Historic Tales of War, Property Disputes & the Pursuit of Happiness

JOSEPH A. GRABAS
Not To Miss Events in Cumberland County

**April 12**

WheatonArts will host Paws for Art! at its campus in Millville. Celebrate dogs and the joy and enrichment they bring to our lives. Created in partnership with the Cumberland County SPCA, this free community day event opens WheatonArts' gates to humans and canines alike. Pet owners are invited to bring their dogs onsite to engage in various animal-themed activities. Click the image for more information.

**April 15**

The Levoy Theatre presents Suzanne Vega in concert at 8 PM. This supremely talented folk/alternative musician will perform some of her favorite hits. With her sultry voice, she seamlessly joins her poetry and contemporary folk song with a sound that is utterly unique and identifiable.

**April 16**

A free concert by the Next Chapter will be held in the Union Hall, 904 Main Street, Dividing Creek at 7 PM. This group is a mixed a cappella chorus directed by Gene Tubertini. For more
April 16-19
The Cumberland County College Arts and Humanities Division presents Little Shop of Horrors under the direction of Broadway alum, Deborah Bradshaw. This charmingly tongue-in-cheek comedy sci-fi musical tells the story of a meek floral assistant who stumbles upon a new breed of plant which speaks and sings and whose favorite meal is people.

April 17-19
Cumberland Players will present Goldilocks and the Three Pigs, a fun play for all ages, at its theater on East Sherman Avenue in Vineland. The action in this playful adventure begins with Goldilocks rushing into a house owned by three pigs - the same three pigs who lost two of their three houses to the Wolf! This hodge podge of fairy tales includes hilarious mayhem, a classic chase scene and a little bit of a moral to create a delightful take on several old storybook standbys.

April 17-26
The Off Broad Street Players present the rock musical "Rent" at the Levoy Theatre. With music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson, this Pulitzer and Tony Award winning play tells the story of a group of impoverished young artists trying to survive in New York’s East Village.

April 30
The Glenn Mill Orchestra, an 18-member musical ensemble best known for its predominantly big band sound, will perform at the Levoy Theatre starting at 7:30 PM. The legendary Glenn Miller was one of the most successful of all dance bandleaders back in the Swing Era of the 30's and 40's and his reconstituted band continues to play the big band hits that makes us all tap our feet.