



New Jersey Hills Media Group

# Out & About

GUIDE TO THE ARTS AND LEISURE





## Centenary Stage presents summer musical ‘Grease’ from July 11-21 in Hackettstown

The Centenary Stage Company (CSC) presents its summer musical series beginning with the Broadway musical “Grease” running from Thursday, July 11, through, Sunday, July 21, in the Sitnik Theatre of the Lackland Performing Arts Center of the Centenary University campus at 715 Grand Ave. in Hackettstown.

The show follows Rydell High’s senior class of 1959: duck-tailed, hot-rodding “Burger Palace Boys” and their gum-snapping, hip-shaking “Pink Ladies” in bobby socks and pedal pushers, evoking the look and sound of the 1950s in this musical.

Head “greaser” Danny Zuko and new (good) girl Sandy Dumbrowski try to relive the high romance of their “Summer Nights” as the rest of the gang sings and dances its way through such songs as “Greased Lightning,” “It’s Raining on Prom Night,” “Alone at the Drive-In Movie” recalling the music of Buddy Holly, Little Richard, and Elvis Presley that became the soundtrack of a generation. An eight-year run on Broadway



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and two subsequent revivals, along with innumerable school and community productions place Grease among the world’s most popular musicals.

The cast of “Grease” will include Centenary University students, alumni, CSC veterans, and a few brand-new

faces. The cast includes Raymond Ocasio IV, Mackenzey Reilly, Nicole Boscarino, Megan Schmiedhauser, Stacie Michelle, Lauren Nock, Dan F. Sims, Ryan Griffin, Josh Crowley, Billy Mills, Cody Jackson, Griffin Gartlgruber, Deirdre Bryant, Erin Clark, Arianna Cacioppo,



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Najee Tariq, Jeremy Ashton, Maximus Klevence, Kyle Hendricks, Saquan Williams, Sophie Belkin, Cherise Graham, Sam Lewis, Hope Keil, and Pamela Welsch.

Directing this production of “Grease” is Michael Restaino. Restaino is a multi-hyphenated creative with a diverse background in working on theatrical experiences world-wide. Previous Centenary Stage Company works include “Rock of Ages” as director/cho-

reographer and “The Little Mermaid” as co-director/choreographer.

Performance dates and times for “Grease” are 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, July 11 and 18; 8 p.m. on Fridays, July 12 and 19 and on Saturdays, July 13 and 20; and 2 p.m. on Sundays, July 14 and 21. Tickets range from \$29.50 – \$35. for adults with discounts available for seniors, students, and children under 12 for select performances. The Summerfest musical will also

feature family night on Thursday evening performances, with a Buy One, Get One ticket special beginning at 5:30 p.m. in person at the box office.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit [centenarystageco.org](http://centenarystageco.org) or call the Centenary Stage Company box office at (908) 979-0900. The box office is located in the Lackland Performing Arts Center on the campus of Centenary University at 715 Grand Ave. Hackettstown.

## New Jersey Conservation Foundation will host free summer butterfly walks

New Jersey Conservation Foundation will hold two free butterfly walks at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 19, and Friday, Aug. 9, as part of its “Coffee & Conservation” series of morning educational events.

Held at the Bamboo Brook Outdoor Education Center at 170 Longview Road, in Chester Township, the walks begin with coffee provided by Black River Roasters and a brief discussion about species that may be spotted.

Bamboo Brook, owned by the Morris County Parks System and home to New Jersey Conservation Foundation’s main office, is 100-acre park with a mix of wooded trails and open meadows.

The group will then take a leisurely stroll through the meadows of Bamboo Brook with experts from the North American Butterfly Association. The walks will end by about 11:30 a.m.

“This is a great opportunity to enjoy a cup of

coffee, learn about New Jersey’s variety of butterflies, and take a walk in a beautiful setting,” said Bill Lynch, organizer of the Coffee & Conservation series, which also includes spring and fall bird walks.

Among the colorful butterfly species that have been spotted on previous walks are monarchs, eastern tiger swallowtails, coral hairstreaks, great spangled fritillaries, summer azures, little wood-satyr and silver-spotted skippers.

Coffee & Conservation events are free and open to the public, but advance registration is requested for planning purposes.

To register online, visit New Jersey Conservation’s events calendar at [www.njconservation.org/events/](http://www.njconservation.org/events/). Walks are generally held rain or shine, but may be cancelled in the event of heavy rain or lightning.

To learn more about the butterfly and bird walks, contact Lynch at



Photo by Bill Lynch

New Jersey Conservation Foundation will hold two free butterfly walks at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 19, and Friday, Aug. 9, as part of its “Coffee & Conservation” series of morning educational events. Shown is the coral hairstreak butterfly.

[blynch@njconservation.org](mailto:blynch@njconservation.org).

For more information about butterflies, visit the North American Butterfly Association web-

site at [www.naba.org](http://www.naba.org).

For more information about the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, visit [www.njconservation.org](http://www.njconservation.org).

## Red Horse by chef David Burke presents murder mystery dinner on Friday, July 12, at Bernards Inn

Mystery lovers can test their problem-solving skills while having a three-course dinner at a live Murder Mystery Dinner from 7 to 10 pm. on Friday, July 12, at Red Horse by David Burke at Bernards Inn, 27 Mine Brook Road, Bernardsville.

Guests can have a champagne greeting and a three-course dinner while trying to solve a crime through a series of clues and interactions with the cast members.

A professional host, along with a detective and professional cast

members will guide guests through evening.

Keith O’Leary and Margo Morrison are the creators behind Murder Mystery USA.

Since 1985 they have been responsible for more than 7,000 live and virtual mystery productions worldwide. They have been featured in the print and television media in more than 35 different countries.

Tickets are \$110 and up per person.

To purchase online visit [www.redhorsebydb.com/mystery](http://www.redhorsebydb.com/mystery) or call (908) 766-0002.



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Photo by Judi Whiting

Rachel Ziegler, 7, of Madison plays on the lawn of the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts during Family Fun Day on July 16, 2022. This year’s iteration of the event will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 13 at the museum at 9 Main St., Madison.

## Family Fun Day among July events at Museum of Early Trades & Crafts

The annual Family Fun Day and a puppet-making event will be among the activities offered at the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts throughout July.

Family Fun Day is free and will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 13 at the museum at 9 Main St. The event will include interactive activities, crafts for the whole family, a bounce house and water games.

Food trucks will include Bucky’s Pizza, Rose City Wurst and Kona Ice.

The event also features music and entertainment from Andy Wang. Registration can be done at [metc.org/events](http://metc.org/events).

The puppet making event, aimed at kids ages seven to 12, will take place from 3 to 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, July 30 at the museum’s Education Annex at 23 Main Street.

Kids will get the chance to create and decorate animal marionette puppets.

A reading of “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” by Eric Carle will take place from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Tuesday, July 2 at the Education Annex at 23 Main Street.

This event is for caregivers and children ages six and younger.

The museum’s “Workspace Wednesday” collaborative workspace will take place Wednesday, July 3 and Wednesday, July 31 at the Education Annex at 23 Main Street.

The event for caregivers and children ages six and younger will be from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and the drop-off events for kids ages seven and 12 will be from 2 to 4 p.m.

The events for younger kids will include building with Legos, painting and making jewelry, and the event for older kids will include all that plus experimenting with coding robots.

Registration can be done in advance online at [metc.org/events](http://metc.org/events).



# Summer adult classes, youth camps underway at The Center for Contemporary Art in Bedminster

Summer Art Camps are underway through Friday, Aug. 30, at The Center for Contemporary Art at 2020 Burnt Mills Road in Bedminster Township. Weekly camps are offered for children ages 5-15 in half-day or full-day sessions. Summer Art Camps are led by professional, experienced, and creative teaching artists; provide a curriculum tailored to three individual age groups; and allow students to enjoy small class sizes with projects and themes which vary weekly. Each week children ages 5-8 and 9-11 will

spend the morning exploring drawing, painting, collage and other mixed media projects, and pottery in the ceramics studio. In the afternoon, children ages 5-8 will use a variety of media to complete hands-on art projects that encourage self-expression and develop creative problem solving while having fun in mixed media art camps. Young artists ages 9-11 will explore a wide range of subjects in depth such as drawing, painting, pottery, upcycled art, cartooning, manga/anime and more.

Teens ages 12-15 may choose to spend their mornings or afternoons in an intensive art camp studying a single subject. Adult summer classes and workshops began on Monday, June 24, and will be offered in person, virtual, or in a hybrid format. Classes are offered for all levels of experience in a variety of mediums, including watercolor, oil and acrylic painting, colored pencils, drawing, ceramics, inking comics, digital storytelling, and more.

For further information, visit <https://www.ccabedminster.org>.



Summer Art Camps are now underway through Friday, Aug. 30, at The Center for Contemporary Art at 2020 Burnt Mills Road in Bedminster.

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Lebanon 4th Of July Parade:** Lebanon will host its 77th annual 4th of July Parade down Main Street from 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 4 on the east end of Main Street. This free and fun event brings families and friends together for an iconic small-town celebration, alive with civic pride and patriotic displays, and followed by an afternoon of music, family-friendly games, and complimentary food and drink at Holjes-Shepard Memorial Park. Roads into Lebanon Borough will close at 8:30 a.m. "Best Decorated" House Judging begins at 7 a.m. The Children's Parade steps off on Sutton Place near Cherry St. at 9:30 a.m. for little ones 10 and under. Registration begins at 8 a.m. The Main Parade steps off at 10 a.m., following its traditional route west on Main Street, turning onto Myrtle Avenue, then again onto Brunswick Ave, and ending at Holjes-Sheppard Memorial Park. The annual picnic begins immediately after the parade ends. The parade will go on rain or shine. Obviously, safety is the most important concern, so be careful and use best judgement with regards to thunder and lightning or other serious weather conditions. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/LebanonBorough4thOfJulyParade>.

**Clinton Come Together Music Festival:** The Guild of Clinton will host its 17th annual Come Together Summer Music Festivals from 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday, July 5 and every Friday through Sept. 27, at four locations in the downtown shopping district. The music will feature jazz, soft rock, country, acoustic and there will be shopping and dining as always. Free entry. Sponsored by the Guild of Clinton, Hunterdon Health, Courtyard Luxury Senior Living and Unity Bank. For the complete lists of musicians, times and places, visit local store or visit [www.visitclintonnj.com](http://www.visitclintonnj.com).

**Mars The Ultimate Voyage:** The Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) Planetarium will offer a new show called "Mars: The Ultimate Voyage," at 8 p.m. on Friday, July 12, and on Friday, July 19, at 118 Lamington Road in Branchburg. Recommended for ages eight to adult, the show explores the question: What will it take to get to Mars? This animated experience highlights actual NASA research and initiatives that are preparing the next generation of astronauts to travel to Mars. It illuminates how creativity, collaboration, and expertise in a diverse number of fields are key for the success of deep space travel — while also inspiring the next generation of STEM professionals. The show is produced by the Bell Museum, in partnership with NASA and UNC Morehead Planetarium and Science Center. Weather permitting, the 3M Observatory — located just outside the RVCC Planetarium — will be open for visitors after the show. Planetarium

laser shows include loud music, flashing lights, and rapidly moving graphics, all in a dark environment, and therefore may not be recommended for those who are sensitive to these conditions or have a medical condition that could be exacerbated by them. Planetarium tickets cost \$10 for one show, \$18 for two shows back-to-back on the same day. Reservations are recommended, but all ticket sales are done at the door on the day of the show. Late admission to Planetarium shows is not permitted. For reservations and information, call (908) 231-8805 or email [planet@raritanval.edu](mailto:planet@raritanval.edu). For additional information, visit [www.raritanval.edu/planetarium](http://www.raritanval.edu/planetarium).

**Larry Friends & Family Concert:** Larry Friends & Family will perform an evening of original songs and curated covers at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 13, at Flemington DIY, 26 Stangl Road in Flemington. Larry Friends & Family was founded in 1970 by three Hunterdon Central Regional High School seniors as a folk-rock act showcasing original material and unique covers as an acoustic guitar and bass trio originally named simply "Larry." The band grew audiences by bringing together classical, jazz, rock and folk elements. "Larry" became "Larry Friends and Family" with the addition of piano, keyboards and multipart harmonies. Larry Friends & Family reunited in 2009 for select live stage performances of originals and covers of Moody Blues, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, Cat Stevens, The Mamas and The Papas and many others. Now, in 2024, Larry Friends & Family is performing select reunion concerts, celebrating 50-plus years. Band members playing at this event will be Rosemary Eads, David Baughn, Ed Warner, and Michael Wolf. The Aloft Trio, also appearing, blends a variety of genres, weaving elements of Americana music — folk, country, blues, rock and jazz. To learn more, visit [flemingtondiy.org](http://flemingtondiy.org).

**Great Hunterdon Ducky Race:** The Clinton Sunrise Rotary will sponsor the Great Hunterdon Rubber Ducky Race at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 14, at the waterfalls near the Hunterdon Art Museum at 7 Lower Center St. in Clinton. Ducks will be leaving the starting gate at 2 p.m. rain or shine. One thousand or more ducks need sponsors. Winning ducks waddle away with a first place prize \$1,000 travel voucher from Mary Beth Sullivan-Cruise Planners World Traveler Vacations; second place prize is a \$500 travel voucher from Mary Beth Sullivan-Cruise Planners World Traveler Vacations and third place prize is a gift basket from the Clinton Guild worth \$450; fourth place prize is an 8-inch by 10-inch framed print of The Red Mill from Alchemist Art & Framing; fifth and sixth place prizes are \$50 gift certificates from Nourish to Heal in Clinton; seventh to 16th place prizes are \$10 gift cards from the Stone Bean at Riverside Coffee & Tea in Clinton. And, as always, the last duck over the finish line is far from a loser. The last duck wins its sponsor a \$100 gift certificate sponsored by Gansfuss Insurance Agency and the Last Ducky Trophy. All proceeds support the charitable projects of the Clinton Sunrise Rotary through educational & service projects, student scholarships and crisis needs in the community. On Race Day, race duck sponsorships, duck hats, beads, shirts and 'baby ducks' go on sale at 11 a.m. along Main Street in Clinton. Ducks will also be on sale in downtown Clinton prior to the race day. Ducks sponsorships are \$10 each. To sponsor a duck visit the Clinton Sunrise website at [www.ClintonSunriseRotary.org](http://www.ClintonSunriseRotary.org) or call (908) 279-0112.

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**Hunterdon Art Museum Art Bar:** The museum presents a blend of culture, cocktails and community with Art Bar on the Toshiko Takaezu Terrace at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 26, and Friday, Aug. 23 at 7 Lower Center Street in Clinton. Guess can elevate Friday evenings and quench that adult thirst with an array of crafted cocktails, wine, refreshing beers, and spiked seltzers. Situated on the Toshiko Takaezu Terrace, ArtBar also offers the best seats in the house for Clinton's Come Together Friday

Night Music. ArtBar is now open to the public, welcoming everyone to enjoy the atmosphere and views. Previously exclusive to museum members, the museum invites all to experience it.

**High Bridge's Got Talent:** The Women For High Bridge are calling all local talent up to the age of 18 to participate in High Bridge's Got Talent Youth Talent Show at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 27, at Commons Park, Main Street, High Bridge. Women for High Bridge said they want to make this talent show/concert all about the kids. For safety reasons of the children and audience, the show will not allow acts with fire, sharp objects, vulgar music or gymnastics. The organizers will provide the sound system and the remainder is up to the participant. Anyone with questions is encouraged to email [womenforhighbridge@gmail.com](mailto:womenforhighbridge@gmail.com). For a registration form with liability agreement, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5y9uhv5m>.

**Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Second Sunday Program,** will present "a target=blank">Landscaping with Native Plants/a," from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 14, in person in the Pavilion at the Helen C. Fenske Visitor Center, 32 Pleasant Plains Road, Harding Township, or virtually via Zoom. Bruce Crawford, Morris County Park Commission Manager of Horticulture and former Director of Rutgers Gardens, will present ideas for home gardeners with limited space and time. There has been a tremendous surge in the use of native plants which also provide food through pollen, nectar, or foliage that will benefit the native insect population and all the animals that feed upon these insects. Crawford will highlight numerous selections that will enhance the home and garden throughout the year while sustaining the natural environment. This program will be available in person in the Pavilion at the Helen C. Fenske Visitor Center, 32 Pleasant Plains Road, Harding Township, or virtually on Zoom. Registration is required for both and can be done online at [tsu.me/landscaping](http://tsu.me/landscaping). Zoom log-on information will be sent to everyone who registers at noon on Sunday, July 14. Second Sunday programs are hosted by Friends of Great Swamp NWR and USFWS with generous support from the Marta Heflin Foundation. For information, visit [www.friendsofgreatswamp.org](http://www.friendsofgreatswamp.org) under Events.

**Mars The Ultimate Voyage** is a new show being presented by The Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) Planetarium at 8 p.m. on Fridays, July 12 and 19, at 118 Lamington Road in Branchburg. Recommended for ages eight to adult, the show explores the question: What will it take to get to Mars? This animated experience highlights actual NASA research and initiatives that are preparing the next generation of astronauts to travel to Mars. It illuminates how creativity,

collaboration, communication, and expertise in a diverse number of fields are key for the success of deep space travel — while also inspiring the next generation of STEM professionals. The show is produced by the Bell Museum, in partnership with NASA and UNC Morehead Planetarium and Science Center. Weather permitting, the 3M Observatory — located just outside the RVCC Planetarium — will be open for visitors after the show. Planetarium laser shows include loud music, flashing lights, and rapidly moving graphics, all in a dark environment, and therefore may not be recommended for those who are sensitive to these conditions or have a medical condition that could be exacerbated by them. Planetarium tickets cost \$10 for one show, \$18 for two shows back-to-back on the same day. Reservations are recommended, but all ticket sales are done at the door on the day of the show. Late admission to Planetarium shows is not permitted. For reservations and information, call (908) 231-8805 or email [planet@raritanval.edu](mailto:planet@raritanval.edu). For additional information, visit [www.raritanval.edu/planetarium](http://www.raritanval.edu/planetarium).

**Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Summer Guided Walk** will explore Bockoven Trail from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 20, with Friends volunteer naturalists. The Bockoven Trail is a half mile loop that circles a vernal pool and offers a glimpse of the Passaic River. The Nature Detective Trail, with eleven interpretive signs, is geared toward young children and is a shorter walk. Both trails are easy, and for the most part dry. Dogs are not allowed on these Refuge trails. Registration is not necessary. Walkers will meet at the Helen C. Fenske Visitor Center, 32 Pleasant Plains Road, Harding Township. Call the Visitor Center at (973) 425-9510 for weather cancellations. More information about the Friends of Great Swamp NWR can be found at [www.friendsofgreatswamp.org](http://www.friendsofgreatswamp.org).

**Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge Friday Walks** will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. on Friday mornings. Walkers can join Friends volunteers for a walk down Pleasant Plains Road. In the spring months while guests get exercise and fresh air they can watch for migrating birds as well as the usual inhabitants of Great Swamp NWR, listen for the spring calls of frogs, observe the greening of the views from the road, walk their dog on the road. Dogs should be accompanied by a leash and a doggie bag. Guests will walk at their own pace, as far as they want. The planned walk is two and a half to three miles. It is suggested to bring binoculars and friends. The group will meet at the Helen C. Fenske Visitor Center, 32 Pleasant Plains Road, Harding Township. More information about the Friends of Great Swamp NWR can be found at [www.friendsofgreatswamp.org](http://www.friendsofgreatswamp.org).

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**The Hackettstown Historical Society Museum** is open for group visits from 2 to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Sundays. Masks are required. To arrange a visit, call (908) 852-8797. The museum is located at 106 Church St. in Hackettstown, next to the Hackettstown Free Public Library. For more information on the Historical Society and its events, call (908) 852-8797, email [info@hackettstownhistory.com](mailto:info@hackettstownhistory.com) or visit <http://hackettstownhistory.com/>

**The Shadowfax Bridge Club,** 679 Bartley Road, Chester Township, is open for face-to-face duplicate bridge sessions. Beginners are always welcome, and private lessons with an ACBL certified teacher are available. Pairs or singles are invited — friendly, suitable partners (including Life Masters) are guaranteed if you need one. Games limited to players with less than 500 masterpoints start at 10 a.m. every Tuesday, preceded by a free intermediate-level practice hand and lesson at 9:30 a.m. and followed by Open Game at 1 p.m. Full length Open games for all levels of players also start at 10 a.m. every Wednesday and Friday — bring a lunch. Card fees are \$10 per player for all regular games. Attendees must provide proof of being COVID-19 vaccinated. As schedule changes are possible because of Covid, call (908) 879-3895 to verify sessions are on. For more information, visit <https://shadowfaxbridgeclub.com/> or call us at (908) 879-3895.

**Macculloch Hall Historical Museum** gardens are now open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily for free visits. The hall itself is open to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays for the summer. The museum is located at 45 Macculloch Ave., Morristown. For more information, visit <https://maccullochhall.org/>.

**Trails of New Jersey Audubon's Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary,** 11 Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville, are open for trekking seven days a week. Now, visitors can hike into the bookstore from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, visit <https://njaudubon.org/>

**Outdoor Single Friends** is a social club for single, active men and women age 50 and over. During the cooler months of October through April, monthly meetings are held indoors at Camp Jefferson, in Jefferson Township During the warmer weather, the monthly meetings are held at different state parks. Since each venue is unique, the club takes advantage of the surroundings whenever possible with impromptu hikes, bocce ball, volleyball. Events usually begin or end at either an historic landmark and/or a place for a bite to eat. For more information, call Pat at (973) 770-1910.