



Joe Sent M.D.E.

The Mercer Dance Ensemble (M.D.E.) will premier **Joe Sent M.D.E.**, a series of dance cycles set to Vanessa Daou's music **Joe Sent Me**, at Kelsey Theatre on the Mercer County Community College (MCCC) campus in West Windsor. Dance Program faculty Janell Byrne will choreograph and direct, with guest choreography by Elixir Productions' co-founder Jody P. Person and others.

Founded in 1981, the Mercer Dance Ensemble is the performing troupe of MCCC's dance program. The Ensemble presents dance concerts at the West Windsor Campus each year and tours area junior and senior high schools, clubs, and colleges to perform, give lectures and demonstrations, master classes, and concerts. MDE features a group of MCCC's most talented students and alumni, plus some special guests. This year's concert will be a landmark collaboration between MDE and critically acclaimed singer-songwriter Vanessa Daou.

Ms. Daou has gained international recognition for her unique blend of jazz, house, and poetry/spoken-word. Her songs have been remixed by some of today's most cutting edge DJs, placing her in the Top 10 of Billboard's Dance Chart five times and earning her three number ones.

Joe Sent M.D.E. features music from Ms. Daou's new album, **Joe Sent Me**, which she named after a code-phrase that was used to gain entry into Prohibition-era speakeasies. She says the album is about the transmission of ideas through time, the secret ranges of the voice, fleeting nights of love and desire, the archiving of dreams, memory, and the imagination. **Joe Sent M.D.E.** transforms Ms. Daou's ideas into a suite of dances constructed around the central metaphor of the album—to discover secret codes, in a language of the body, that will open doors into illicit places of rebellion and abandon.

Joe Sent M.D.E. will premier on May 16, at 8 p.m. and May 17 at 2 p.m. in the Kelsey Theatre on the Mercer County Community College campus at 1200 Old Trenton Road in West Windsor. Tickets are \$10-\$14. For more information, please call the box office at (609) 570-3333 or visit www.kelseyatmccc.org. For more information about Vanessa Daou, please visit www.daourecords.com.

The Dryden Ensemble Courts Music & Intrigue

Named in honor of John Dryden, the English poet laureate whose words inspired composers such as Purcell and Handel, the Dryden Ensemble specializes in performing music of the 17th and 18th centuries on period instruments. A line from Dryden's *Song to St. Cecilia* captures the essence of baroque music and the ensemble's philosophy: "What Passion cannot Musick raise and quell."

The chamber music ensemble, incorporated in 1994, is dedicated to educating and entertaining audiences with music from the Baroque and early classical periods with an awareness of the stylistic conventions of the time.

The use of period instruments reflects their belief that those are the most suitable tools that continually shed new light on the music. The artistic director carefully researches each program that the ensemble performs, often incorporating recent musical finds and reviving great works which have been neglected for centuries. Their programs combine works by well-known composers, such as Bach and Handel, with those of little-known composers whose music is of high musical quality and historical importance. One of the ensemble's concerts of four Bach cantatas was combined with an exhibition of original manuscripts from the Scheide Library at Princeton.

Dryden Ensemble is known for programs, which combine music with readings from contemporaneous letters and diaries. An example is "Buxtehude's Daughter (and the men who wouldn't have her), which featured music by Buxtehude and youthful works by Bach and Handel, and readings about their youthful escapades, and reluctance to become Buxtehude's successor at St. Mary's in Lubeck since marrying his eldest daughter was a condition of getting the job.

Jane McKinley, artistic director, plays baroque oboe, received a Bachelor of Music degree from Northwestern University and a Masters of Fine Arts from Princeton



The Dryden Ensemble features: Jane McKinley, Virginia Brewer & Stephen Bard, oboes; Marilyn Boenau, bassoon; Rachel Evans, Vita Wallace & Mark Zaki, violins Andrea Andros, viola; Mollie Glazer, viola da gamba; Lisa Terry, violoncello & viola da gamba; Motomi Igarashi, violone; Webb Wiggins, harpsichord & chamber organ.

University, where for ten years she coached the Renaissance recorder ensemble. She studied Baroque oboe in Vienna with the late Jurg Schaefflein of Concertus Musicus. Her professional credits include appearances at the Washington Bach Consort, Capriole in Williamsburg, the Arcadia Players in Massachusetts, and ARTEK in New York, Smithsonian Concerto Grosso, Tafelmusik, the Baltimore Consort, the Philadelphia Classical Orchestra Concert Royal, and New York State Baroque Orchestra.

Ms. McKinley has been seriously engaged in writing poetry, and was a featured poet in the reading series at the Princeton Public Library.

The Dryden Ensemble concert, *Versailles: Music & Intrigue at the French Court*, will present a program of music with readings from the letters of Elisabeth Charlotte, Duchesse d'Orléans, sister-in-law to Louis XIV. Music is by Marais, Couperin, Rebel, and Sainte-Colombe and features Vita Wallace on violin, Jane McKinley on oboe, Lisa Terry and Mollie Glazer on bass viols, and Webb Wiggins on harpsichord.

The concert will be performed on March 8 at 4 p.m. in Trinity Church at 33 Mercer Street in Princeton. Tickets are \$15 to \$35. For more information about the concert or the Dryden Ensemble, please call (609) 466-8541 or visit www.gemsny.org. (wv)

Exploration of Art, Science and Technology At Rider University Art Gallery

Ellen K. Levy Selected Works exhibition takes on the subject of human fallibility and the consequences of technological hubris. Tracing parallels between biological and cultural evolution, she casts a critical eye on humanity's place during the early stages of the 21st century. The rapid-fire, experimental content of her work can be traced in the selections of art on view at Rider University Art Gallery. Ms. Levy's art reflects developments in new media along with technological developments in the world-at-large. She has been a pioneer in exploring interrelationships among art, science, and technology in her art and publications. She portrays a world where genteel metaphors yield to the harsh realities of surveillance, cognitive 'enhancement,' and environmental destruction.

Having studied painting in Boston at the School of the Museum of Fine arts at a time when Formalism held sway, she looked to science as a way to introduce content accessible to the general public. She received training in both art and science at Mount Holyoke College and gained contact with cutting-edge scientific developments through lab work as a research assistant at Harvard Medical School while major developments in understanding perception were underway.

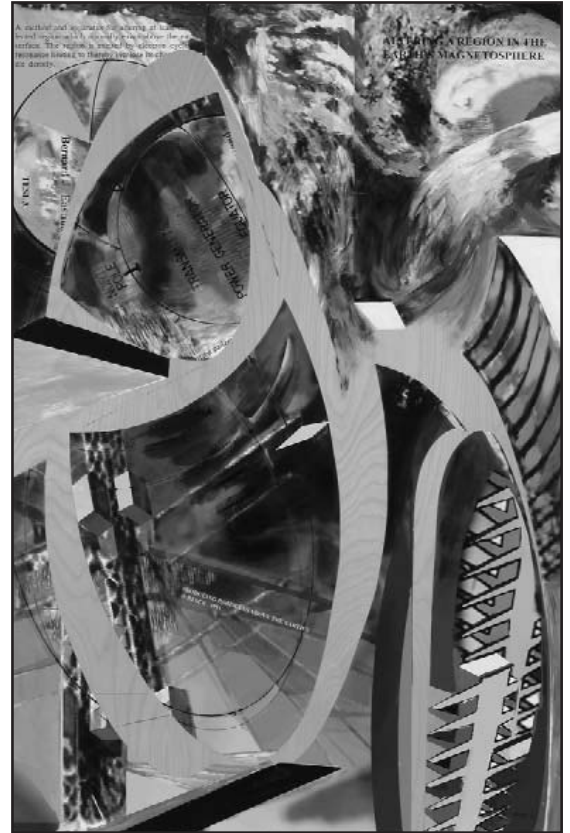
In the work pictured here, **Altering the Magnetosphere (for N. Tesla)**, Levy explores an invention that Tesla patented, namely his plan to alter the sphere of magnetism surrounding the earth. Ms. Levy cuts, displaces, and disrupts the paper surface, 'enacting' the title of Tesla's invention through

engaging the materials and underlying wood support as significant components. The curved section of the print depicting the ionosphere is pulled apart and rotated. This causes the wood, gesso, and paint to literally play an active visual role in shaping the new 'reality' claimed by the inventor.

Rider University Art Gallery presents a diverse range of high quality exhibitions and lectures to provide participants with important insights into the visual arts and creative process. The Gallery's programs have become an important forum for integrating various disciplines such as: African-American Studies, Women's Studies, Multicultural and Holocaust/Genocide programs, thereby adding to the total education development of the University student and community at large.

Selected exhibitions are by established as well as lesser-known artists working in a variety of mediums and styles. Each exhibition has a public opening reception, and an artist talk. The Gallery also presents free musical concerts performed by professional musicians from Westminster Conservatory.

Ellen K. Levy Selected Works will be on display from March 12 through April 19 at the Rider University Art Gallery in the Bart Luedeke Student Center at 2083



Altering the Magnetosphere (for N. Tesla) by Ellen K. Levy, mixed media on wood panel on exhibit at Rider Art Gallery.

Lawrenceville Road. An opening reception will be on March 12 at 5 p.m.; and an artist's talk will be on March 26 at 7 p.m.

The gallery is open Tuesday to Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, please call (609) 895-5588 or visit www.rider.edu/888_1371.htm.

Youth Art Month

Youth Art Month is a national annual observance each March to emphasize the value of K-12 art education for all children and to encourage support for quality school art programs.

The Art Educators of New Jersey (AENJ) celebrate Youth Art Month with a statewide flag and poster design contest. Each county is asked to submit 6 pieces of student artwork to be judged and exhibited.

This year's theme is **Celebrate Art**. More than 100 pieces will be on exhibit in the Trenton Statehouse Annex Tunnel and Goldfinch Square from March 14 through March 20.

A reception on March 13 from noon to 2:30 p.m. in Trenton Statehouse Annex Tunnel Committee Room 4 will include an awards ceremony at 12:30 p.m. For more information, please visit www.aenj.org. To register for the reception please send an email to aenjrsvp@yahoo.com.

MCC&HC Begins Long Range Planning Process

Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission has hired ArtsMarket, Inc. founder Louise Stevens to facilitate and develop a 5-year long range plan (LRP).

Louise Stevens has led planning, evaluation, and special initiatives for over half of the US state arts agencies, and has consulted for the National Endowment for the Arts as well as scores of local arts and cultural agencies in cultural development planning, agency planning, feasibility analysis and audience development. Ms. Stevens' audience development analysis has resulted in major funding by government agencies, foundations and corporations in cities across the United States.

She is founder and president of ArtsMarket, Inc., which has for 25 years led cultural development studies and plans throughout the US and Canada. ArtsMarket has been honored twice by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) for

its research for cultural development projects, and its projects have been the focus of past If you Build it They Will Come panels. Ms. Stevens is author of numerous books and articles on cultural planning, and teaches cultural development planning at Rutgers University Bloustein School of Planning and Policy.

"Preliminary work began in January," according to Idamis Perez Margicin, Chief of the Culture and Heritage Division, "when Ms. Stevens launched the planning process meeting with the department, commissioners and other county agencies.

"With information she will be gathering at an upcoming summit we will develop a survey, to be distributed throughout the county by email, and made available on our website. The survey is an important tool for us to gauge how our programs and services meet the needs of the community and to help us develop our goals, objectives and strategies."

Senior Art Show

Mercer County Culture and Heritage is partnering with the Office on Aging to present the The Mercer Senior Art Contest and Exhibition in June. The show is open to any non-professional artist 60-years or older who resides in Mercer County. Applicants may not have sold their art through commercial channels, exhibited in a professional gallery or held a professional membership in a guild or association.

All work must be original and created within the last three years. Applicants may submit one piece of art in one of the following categories: acrylic, oil, pastel, watercolor, drawing, photography, including digital, prints and mixed media.

Deadline for submission of application is May 29. The exhibit will be held in early June. Application and specifications will be available online at www.mercercounty.org or by calling (609) 989-6111.

Kelsey Review

The Kelsey Review, Mercer County Community College's county-wide literary journal, which appears in early September is soliciting manuscripts and artwork.

The journal welcomes stories, poetry, personal essays, pieces of novels, and line drawings. Fiction and essays should be limited to 5,000 words. Poetry should be limited to no more than six pieces. Material can be on any topic at all but should not have been previously published or be simultaneously submitted to other journals for their consideration. Submissions should be hard copies of written work only, no electronic files.

For art submissions, the editors ask that for photocopies rather than originals. Once material is accepted, the artist will be asked to send the originals in for scanning, which will be returned.

The deadline for art and literary submissions is May 1. Eligibility is limited to people who live, work, or give literary readings in Mercer County. Decisions on which material will be published are made by the five-person editorial board in June and July. Contributors will be notified by the second week of August as to whether their work has been accepted.

Send disposable copies of all materials along with a cover letter to: Ed Carmien and Holly-Katharine Mathews, editors, The Kelsey Review, Liberal Arts Division, Mercer County Community College, P.O. Box B, Trenton, NJ 08690.

Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for reply. For more information, please visit www.mccc.edu or email kelsey.review@mccc.edu.

Dear Friends,

As you review this quarterly newsletter, you will see just how much there is to do right here at home in culturally rich Mercer County.

Our reputation as a wonderful place for living and working is growing, and so are the opportunities for close-to-home entertainment and relaxation. From museums to sculpture gardens, State parks to County parks, and art exhibits to historical sites, we have much to offer.

I urge you to make time to attend the many festivals, observances, and performances scheduled for March, April and May in public and privately owned venues throughout the County, including our upcoming Teen Arts Festival May 15 at Mercer County Community College, which promises to showcase the rich and diverse talents of Mercer County's budding young artists.



Sincerely,

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

TEDI Celebrates a Milestone!

Trenton Education Dance Institute (TEDI) uses the many disciplines of dance to provide Trenton public school students with quality arts education programs that encourage their eagerness to accept challenges and achieve personal excellence. Based on the belief that the arts have a unique ability to encourage curiosity, determination and individual ability, TEDI classes are offered in participating elementary schools as part of the students' regular day and all fifth graders participate regardless of personal challenges. The fun, highly disciplined classes culminate in a performance at the War Memorial.

This year marks TEDI's twentieth year of service to the Trenton community. The Event of the Year will be **TEDI Turns 20 - the Best of The Best**, highlighting some of the most popular TEDI signature pieces presented over the past twenty years.

Artistic Director Duffin Garcia and his staff are creating a fantastic tribute to the TEDI program. Students are learning about the history of this unique program, its development and the value of the particular dance numbers.

A sampling of the TEDI favorites to be



TEDI dancers run, jump and share the joy of life and dance.
photo by Victoria Yokota

presented at the May concert will include: **Jump**, which celebrates the sheer joy of life and dance; **Early Eugene**, part of TEDI's Celebration of Literature Program, a piece based on the early work and memoirs of playwright Eugene O'Neil; **Wade in the Water**, a moving traditional spiritual; **Free Rides of the Planets**, based on a poem by E.L Doctorow (Ragtime), which allows the dancers to literally defy the confinement of gravity and soar.

TEDI Turns 20 will burst upon the Patriots Theater stage in Trenton's War Memorial on May 28 at 7 p.m. Tickets and more information are available by calling (609) 638-1556 or by emailing TEDIkid@aol.com. (wv)



Calendar of EVENTS

The Mercer County Culture and Heritage Commission cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Call ahead to confirm times and prices. For an expanded listing, visit www.mercercounty.org/CH/nl.htm. Deadline for spring issue, which covers June, July and August is April 10, 2009.

Art Happenings

Fine Arts Show, March 6-April 24, Straube Center, Route 31, Pennington. Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat 12-4 p.m. (908) 319-8957; www.straube-center.com/art. (wv)

Mercer County Artists, March 10-April 9, MCCC Gallery, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. Reception March 5, 5-7:30 p.m. (609) 570-3588; www.mccc.edu. (wv)

Ellen K. Levy paintings, March 12-April 19, Rider University Art Gallery, Student Center, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. Artist talk March 26, 7 p.m. (609) 921-2663; www.rider.edu/arts. (wv)

Threads, March 13-May 2, Gallery 125, 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. Reception March 13, 6-9 p.m. (609) 989-9119; www.gallery125.com.

Etudes: Tasha O'Neill & Jeffery Yuan photographs, March 20-April 19, Gallery 14, 14 Mercer Street, Hopewell. (609) 333-8511; www.photosgallery14.com.

Jerry Farber oils, March 21-May 9, Queenstown Gallery, 24 West Broad Street, Hopewell. Reception March 21, 5:30-8 p.m. (609) 466-0817; www.thequeenstowngallery.com.

Tom Rutledge watercolor, March 28-May 2, Gallery at Chapin, 4101 Princeton Pike, Princeton. Reception April 1, 5-7 p.m. (609) 924-7206; www.chapinschool.org. (wv)

Illustrations Exhibit, March 30-April 24, Princeton Day School, The Great Road, Princeton. Reception March 30, 5-7 p.m. Anne Reid Gallery hours: Mon-Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (609) 924-6700; www.pds.org.

Harry Gordon, meet the artist, April 2, 12:30 pm, Taplin Gallery, Paul Robeson Center for the Arts, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. (609) 924-8777; www.Artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Jason Gandy sculpture, April 3-24, CAPPs, Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Reception and gallery talk April 3, 6:30-8 p.m. (609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org. (wv)

Luster of Lenox, April 4-Sept. 6, New Jersey State Museum, 205 West State Street, Trenton. (609) 292-6464; www.newjerseystatemuseum.org. (wv)

Art Student Exhibition, April 8-22, TCNJ Art Gallery, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. Reception April 8, 5-7 p.m. Hours: Tue-Thur 12-7 p.m.; Sun 1-3 p.m.

(609) 771-2198; www.tcnj.edu. (wv)

Carl Geisler photo, April 24-May 31, Gallery 14, 14 Mercer Street, Hopewell. (609) 333-8511; www.photosgallery14.com. (wv)

Art Student Exhibition, April 28-May 14, MCCC Gallery, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. Reception April 29, 5-7:30 p.m. (609) 570-3588; www.mccc.edu. (wv)

Student Thesis Exhibit, April 28-June 6, Anne Reid Gallery, Princeton Day School, The Great Road, Princeton. Reception April 28, 5-7 p.m. (609) 924-6700; www.pds.org.

BFA Thesis Exhibition, April 29-May 13, TCNJ Art Gallery, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. Reception May 1, 5-7 p.m. (609) 771-2198; www.tcnj.edu. -/tcag. (wv)

Student Exhibit, May 8-June 7, Gallery at Chapin School, 4101 Princeton Pike, Princeton. (609) 924-7206; www.chapinschool.org. (wv)

Fine Arts Show, May 8-June 26, Straube Center, Route 31, Pennington. Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat 12-4 p.m. (908) 319-8957; www.straube-center.com/art. (wv)

Renee Kumar mixed media, May 16-July 4, Queenstown Gallery, 24 West Broad Street, Hopewell. Reception May 16, 5:30-8 p.m. (609) 466-0817; www.thequeenstowngallery.com.

Serendipitous Moments, Carl Perl photos & paintings, April 3-23, Silva Gallery, Pennington School, 112 West Delaware Avenue. Reception April 3, 6-8 p.m. (609) 737-1838, ext. 317; www.pennington.org. (wv)

Student Exhibition, April 24, Considine Gallery, Stuart Country Day School, 1200 Stuart Road, Princeton. (609) 921-2330; www.stuartschool.org.

Outstanding Student Sculpture, thru April 26, Grounds for Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. \$6-\$10. (609) 586-0616; www.grounds-forsculpture.org. (wv)

Student Art Exhibit, April 30-May 29, Silva Gallery, Pennington School, 112 West Delaware Avenue. Reception April 30, 6-8 p.m. (609) 737-1838, ext. 317; www.pennington.org.

Honors Thesis Exhibit, May 1, 6:30-8 p.m., CAPPs, Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. (609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org. (wv)

Spring Term Exhibit, May 20, 6:30-8 p.m., CAPPs, Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown.

(609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org. (wv)

Ellarslie Mansion

Phil McAuliffe photos, thru April 19

J. Chein & Co. Toys, thru March 22

Deborah Raven photos, Eric Schultz, assemblage, Natalie Featherston, trompe l'oeils, thru April 19. Reception March 7, 7-9 p.m.

American Belleek, Cybis & Boehm Porcelain, April 4-June 20

Ellarslie Mansion, Cadwalder Park, Parkside Avenue. (609) 989-3624. www.ellarslie.org. (wv)

Grounds for Sculpture

Artists in Action, March 28, 11 a.m.

Marie Sturken paper kimonos, April 11-July 5, Toad Hall Gallery. Reception April 10, 5-7 p.m.

A Day at the Fair, April 26, 11 a.m.

Jesus Moroles, granite, Steven Madsen wood sculpture, May 10-Sept. 29. Reception May 9, 2-5 p.m.

Workshops

Tots on Tour! with Joslyn Johnson, March 21, April 18, May 16, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. Ages 3-5.

Cool Creators with Marilyn Keating, April 6-10 OR April 13-17, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$375

Adults at Play Workshops, March 28, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. & 2:30-4 p.m. \$20-\$45.

Photography with Sally Davidson, April 2, 16, 23, 30, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$55-\$65.

Garden Art with Margareta Warlick, April 4, 18, 25, May 2, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$205-\$215.

Stone Carving with Steve Flom, April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$245-\$260.

Plaster Casting with Clifford Ward, May 16, 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$205-\$215.

Sculptural Ceramics with Trudi Clark, May 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$170-\$185.

Grounds for Sculpture, 14 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Register (609) 586-0616; www.grounds-forsculpture.org. (wv)

Benefits

Dinner Dance, March 7, 6 p.m., Hyatt Regency, Route 1 North, Princeton. Benefits MCCC Foundation scholarship program. \$200. (609) 570-3617; www.mccc.edu. (wv)

Women's History Month commem-

oration, March 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Mercer County Boat Marina, 334 South Post Road, West Windsor. Latina Women's Council of Mercer County. \$30. Register (609) 443-4836.

Art Auction Gala, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation, 1958 Lawrenceville Road. \$8. Register (609) 896-4977; www.adathisraelnj.org.

HiTops Gala, May 8, 6:30 p.m., Trenton Country Club, 201 Sullivan Way, West Trenton. \$175. (609) 683-5155; www.hitops.org.

ARB Gala "Jubilee" March 22, Patriots Theatre, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. Performance 4 p.m., reception to follow. \$75-\$175. (732) 249-1254 x 25; www.arballet.org.

Dance

Flamenco, first & third Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Malaga Restaurant, 511 Lalor Street, Hamilton. \$10. Register (609) 396-8878; www.malagarestaurant.com.

American Repertory Ballet, March 26-28, 8 p.m., Stuart Country Day School, 1200 Stuart Road, Princeton. Register (609) 462-9397; www.arballet.org.

I'll Have What She's Having, March 27, 8 p.m.; March 28, 2 & 8 p.m., Yvonne Theatre, Rider University campus, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. \$15-\$25. (609) 497-2100; www.ywcaprininceton.org. (wv)

DanceVision Youth Ensemble, March 28, 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, MarketFair, 3535 US Route 1 South, Princeton. (609) 520-1020; www.dancevisionnj.org. (wv)

Joe Sent MDE, May 16, 8 p.m.; May 17, 2 p.m., Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. \$10-\$14. (609) 570-3333; www.kelseytheatre.net. (wv)

TEDI Turns 20, May 28, 7 p.m., Patriot's Theatre, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. (609) 638-1556; TE-DIKid@aol.com. (wv)

McCarter Theatre

Swan Lake-Russian National Ballet, April 9, 7:30 p.m. \$39-\$42.

Nederlands Dans Theater II, April 21, 8 p.m. \$41-\$54.

Momix, May 7, 8 p.m.; May 8, 7:30 p.m. \$35-\$48.

Compagnia Nacional de Danza 2, May 19, 8 p.m. \$39-\$52.

McCarter Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. (609) 258-2787; www.mccarter.org.

Dancing

Scottish Dancing, Mon, 7:30 p.m., Meadow Lakes, Etra Road, Hightstown. \$3. (609) 584-9764; www.rscds-nj.org.

Salsa Lessons, March 3, 10, 17, 7 p.m., International Arts Collaborative, Arts Council of Princeton, 102 Witherspoon Street. Intermediate-7 p.m.; Beginners-8:30 p.m. \$20. (609) 333-0266; www.iartsc.org.

Dance Party, Wed, 7-9 p.m.; Fri, 8-11 p.m., American Ballroom, 569 Klockner Road, Hamilton. \$10-\$15. (609) 931-0149; www.americanballroomco.com.

Argentine Tango, Black Cat Tango, Thur, intermediate 9 p.m.; beginner 9:45 p.m., Suzanne Patterson Center, Monument Drive, Princeton. \$10. (609) 406-0531; www.theblackcattango.com.

Dance Improv, March 13, April 17, May 8, 8 p.m., All Saints Church, 16 All Saints Road, Princeton. \$15. (609) 924-3767; www.danceimprov.com.

Princeton Country Dancers, Mixed-Age, March 1, April 5, 3-5 p.m.; **Contra**, Wed, 8-10:30 p.m.; 4th Sat, 8-11 p.m.; **English Country**, 2nd Sat, 8-11 p.m., Suzanne Patterson Center, Route 27 at 206, Princeton. \$4-\$7. (609) 924-6763; www.princetoncountrydancers.org.

Film

Italian Film Series, Siamo uomini or caporali?, (Are We Men or Corporals?), 1955, March 15; **Un turco napoletano, (A Neapolitan Turk)**, 1953, April 19, 3 p.m., Dorothea's House, 120 John Street, Princeton, (609) 924-8275; www.dorotheashouse.org.

Classic Movies, second Sun, 2 p.m., **Foreign Films**, second Thur, 7 p.m., Mercer County Library, Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville. (609) 989-6922; www.mcl.org. (wv)

Quark Park Documentary, March 13, 8 p.m., Paul Robeson Center, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Student Film/Video Festival, entry deadline June 15, festival, July 22 & 23. (609) 924-9529; www.princeton-library.org/teens/media/index.html.

Trenton Film Society

Compulsion, 1959, March 4
Scandal, 1989, March 11
Reversal of Fortune, 1990, March 18
Four Little Girls, 1997, March 25
Dog Day Afternoon, 1975, April 6
Vera Drake, 2004, April 13
Catch Me If You Can, 2002, April 20
Let Him Have It, 1991, April 27
A Civil Action, 1998, May 6
Patty Hearst, 1988, May 13

Trenton Film Society, Café Ole, 128 S. Warren Street, Trenton. Screening 7 p.m. \$3-\$5. (609) 396-6966; www.trentonfilmfestival.org.

TCNJ

Noble Struggle of Amina Wadud, March 3, Library Auditorium, 7-10 p.m. Discussion to follow.

Home, March 4, 5:30 p.m., Forcina Hall
Promises, April 1, 5:30 p.m., Forcina Hall
The House is Black, March 18, 7-9 p.m., Library Auditorium. Guest speaker.
LunaFest, March 26, 7-10 p.m., Mayo Concert Hall, Music Building.
Documentary of Angela Shelton, Library Auditorium, April 7, 7 p.m.

The College of New Jersey, 2000 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. (609) 771-2539; www.tcnj.edu. (wv)

Holiday/Heritage

St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 14, 12:30 p.m., St. Anthony's Church, Olden Avenue to Hamilton, to Chestnut. Raindate March 21. (609) 588-4744; www.trentonparade.com.

Jewish Choral Festival featuring Sharim v' Sharot, March 22, 3:30 p.m., Congregation Beth Chaim, 329 Village Road, Princeton Junction. (609) 371-9036; www.SharimvSharot.org.

Greek Festival, May 14-17, St. George Church, 1200 Klockner Road, Hamilton. (609) 586-4448.

Memorial Day Parade, May 25, 9 a.m., Hightstown. (609) 490-5100; www.hightstownborough.com.

Egg-Stravaganza, April 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Mercer County Park, Edinburg Road, West Windsor. (609) 452-0100.

Communiversity, April 25, noon-5 p.m., Nassau Street, Palmer Square, Witherspoon Streets, Princeton. Arts Council of Princeton. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

Memorial Day Parade, May 25, 11 a.m., Nottingham Way to Hughes Drive, Hamilton.

Spirit of Princeton Parade, May 23, 10 a.m., Princeton Avenue @ Nassau Street to Borough Hall. mark.freda@verizon.net; spiritoof-princeton.homestead.com.

German American Club

Schlachtfest, March 1, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 \$7-\$14.

St. Patrick Day Dance, March 14, dinner 6 p.m.; dancing 8 p.m. \$9.

Spring Dance, April 18, dinner 6 p.m.; dancing 8 p.m.-12 a.m. \$9.

Schnitzel Fest, April 19, 1-5 p.m., \$7-\$14.

American Oldies Dance, April 25, dinner 6:30; dancing 8 p.m. \$7.

Anniversary Dance, May 16, dinner 7 p.m.; dancing 8 p.m. Black Tie. \$35. Register (856) 764-3106.

German-American Club, 215 Uncle Pete's Road, Yardville. (609) 585-5200; www.gak.org.

History Activities

John Abbott House, weekends noon-5 p.m., 2200 Kuser Road,

Hamilton. (609) 585-1686.

Brearley House, first Sat, 10 a.m.-noon; Baseball Seminar, May 17, 2 p.m., Meadow Lane, Lawrenceville. Lawrence Historical Society. (609) 895-1728; www.thelhs.org. (wv)

Civil War/Native American Museum, second & third weekends, 1-4 p.m., Camp Olden, 2202 Kuser Road, Hamilton. (609) 585-8900; www.campolden.org.

Drumthwacket, Wed, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5. Register (609) 683-0057; www.drumthwacket.org.

Ely House Library, Tues, 7-9 p.m., 164 North Main Street, Hightstown. (609) 799-8598; www.hewhs.org.

Princeton Doll & Toy Museum, 8 Somerset Street, Hopewell. (609) 333-8600; www.princetondollandtoy.org.

State House, Mon-Fri, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sat, noon-3 p.m., 125 West State Street, Trenton. (609) 633-2709; www.nijleg.state.nj.us. (wv)

Benjamin Temple House Library, Wed, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Drake Farm Park, 27 Federal City Road @ Violet Cox Drive, Ewing. (609) 883-2455; www.ethps.org.

Schenck House, Hearth Cooking with Mercy Ingraham, March 2, 7 p.m.; tour April 12, 1-4 p.m.; **Women's Crafts Exhibit**, April-June, West Windsor Historical Society, 50 Southfield Road. (609) 799-1278.

Tour and Tea, Wed, 11:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m.; **Garden Party**, May 1, 5-7 p.m.; May 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Morven Museum, 55 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$15. Register (609) 924-8144; www.morven.org. (wv)

Camden & Amboy Railroad Historical Group, Bob Farrell photos, March 6, 7:30 p.m., Hightstown Freight Station, 164 North Main Street. www.trainweb.org/camdenandamboyrhistoricalgroup.

Capital Ball, March 7, 5:30 p.m., Old Barracks Museum, 101 Barrack Street, Trenton; Dinner, dancing, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple. Black Tie, Period or Military Dress. \$200. (609) 396-1776. www.barracks.org.

British Troops March Out, March 21-22, 10 a.m., Old Barracks Museum, 101 Barrack Street, Trenton. \$6-\$8. (609) 396-1776; www.barracks.org.

Four Views of Trenton bus tours, April 18, 9:30 a.m., Contemporary Victorian Townhouse, 176 West State Street, Trenton. \$20-\$45. (215) 295-1498; cgkuronya@msn.com.

Founders Day, May 3, 12:30 p.m., Plainsboro Historical Society, Township Municipal Complex, 641 Plainsboro Road. (609) 799-0909; www.plainsboronj.com.

Howell Farm

Maple Sugaring, March 7
Horse Doctor, Dentist, Shoer, March 14

Workhorse Rides, March 21
Sawmilling/Tree Planting, March 28
Beekeeping/New Faces Day, April 4
Henhouse Visits, April 11
Spring Tillage Wagon Tours, April 18
Potato Planting, April 25
Sheep Shearing, May 2
Pleasant Valley House Tours, May 9
Corn Planting, May 16
Hayrides, May 23
Haying, May 30

*Howell Farm is a Mercer County Park System facility, Valley Road, Titusville. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. *Wheelchair accessible hayride available by calling (609) 737-3299; www.howellfarm.org.*

Literary Events

Storytelling Workshop, March 14, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Hamilton Township Library, 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Way. (609) 890-3378; gardenstatestorytellersleague.org. (wv)

Poetry Reading with Alicia Ostriker, March 19, 3-4:30 p.m., Library Auditorium, The College of New Jersey, 2000 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. (609) 771-1855; www.tcnj.edu. (wv)

Poetry in the Park, May 17, 3 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Register (609) 586-0616; www.grounds-forsculpture.org. (wv)

Mercer County Library

Ewing Branch

Ivan Wright, author, March 3, 7 p.m.
Intro to Genealogy, March 12, 7 p.m.
Reading Tea Leaves with Judith-Krall Russo, March 29, 1 p.m. Bring shallow teacup-no coffee mugs.
Book Sale, May 14-16, 9:30 a.m.
Ewing Branch, 61 Scotch Road, Ewing. 882-3148; www.mcl.org.

West Windsor Branch

Human Comedy film, March 14, 7:30 p.m. West Windsor Arts Council.
Poetry Reading, April 26, 3 p.m. West Windsor Arts Council.
WW-P Schools Art Show, March.
Amber Paecel, mixed media, April.
John Weary photographs, May.
West Windsor Branch, 333 N. Post Road, Princeton Junction, 799-0902.

Hickory Corner Branch

Intro to Genealogy, Part 1, March 8; Part 2, March 15, 2-4 p.m.
Actors reading Mark Twain's Wonderful Words, May 19, 7-8 p.m.
Hickory Corner Branch, 138 Hickory Corner Road, E. Windsor, 448-7699.

Lawrence HQ Branch

Peter Fletcher, guitar, March 29, 2 p.m.
Robert Dipira, guitar, April 26, 2 p.m.
One-Act Play Festival, April 17-19.
Book Sale, May 16, 9:30 a.m.

Lawrence Headquarters Branch, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. Register (609) 882-9246; www.mcl.org.

Musical Performances

American Boychoir Rehearsals, March 6, 13, 27, April 17, 3 p.m., 19 Lambert Drive, Princeton. (609) 924-5858; www.americanboychoir.org.

Music of the French Court with Dryden Ensemble, March 8, 4 p.m., Trinity Church, Princeton. \$15-\$35. (609) 466-8541; www.gemsny.org.

Nassau at Four-Soul Purpose, March 15, 4 p.m., Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. \$5. Register (609) 924-0103; www.nassauchurch.org. (wv)

PSO Eastern Europe Folk Traditions, March 15, 4 p.m., Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, Princeton University campus. Lecture 3 p.m. \$16-\$64. (609) 497-0020; www.princetonosymphony.org. (wv)

TCMS Faculty Recital, March 15, 4 p.m., Trinity Cathedral, 801 West State Street, Trenton. (609) 392-3805; www.trinitycathedralnj.org. (wv)

Eric Houghton, piano, March 19, 12:15 p.m., Westminster Choir College, Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 921-2663; www.rider.edu. (wv)

Trio Solisti with Amy Burton, soprano, March 20-21, 8 p.m., Wolfensohn Hall, Institute for Advanced Study, Einstein Drive, Princeton. (609) 734-8228; www.ias.edu air.

La Musica dei Palazzi-Artek, March 27, 8 p.m., All Saints' Church, 16 All Saints' Road, Princeton. \$20-\$40. (212) 967-9157; www.artekearlymusic.org.

Spring into Song with Hopewell Valley Chorus, March 29, 2-4 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church of Washington Crossing, 268 Route 546, Titusville. Benefits Trenton Children's Chorus. (609) 737-3177; www.princetonol.com/groups/hvchorus.

Timothy Harrell, organist, March 29, 4 p.m., 801 West State Street, Trenton. \$10. (609) 392-3805; www.trinitycathedralnj.org. (wv)

Voices Family Concert, March 30, 7:30 p.m., Music Together Building, 225 Pennington-Hopewell Road, Hopewell. \$5-\$10. (609) 637-9383; www.VoicesChorale.org. (wv)

I Have Had Singing with Princeton Singers, April 4, 4:30 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, 33 Mercer Street, Princeton. (609) 896-0374; www.princetonosingers.org. (wv)

Westminster Conservatory at Nassau, April 16, 12:15 p.m., Westminster Choir College, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 921-2663. (wv)

Madame Butterfly, April 17, 8 p.m., April 19, 3 p.m., Boheme Opera, Patriots Theater, War Memorial, Trenton. \$28-\$73. (609) 581-7200; www.bohemeopera.com. (wv)

Haydn Heyday with Voices Chorale, April 25, 8 p.m., St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton. \$15-\$25. (609) 637-9383; www.voiceschorale.org.

Fireworks Classical band, April 25, 8 p.m., CAPPs, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. (609) 490-7550; www.peddie.org capps. (wv)

Guild for Early Music Medieval concert, April 26, 3:30 p.m., Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street. (609) 924-9529; www.princeton.lib.nj.us. (wv)

Princeton Symphony Orchestra Final Bows, April 26, 4 p.m., Richardson Auditorium, Princeton University. Lecture 3 p.m. \$16-\$64. (609) 497-0020; www.princetonosymphony.org. (wv)

Family Concert, May 3, 10:30 a.m., Trenton Community Music School, Mt. Bethel Church of God, 491 Bellevue Avenue, Trenton. Register (609) 394-8700; www.tcmusicschool.com.

Steinway Musicales Society, May 3, 3 p.m., Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. Benefits scholarship program. \$18. (609) 434-0222; www.princetonol.com/groups/steinway.

Hopewell Valley Chorus, Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra, May 15, 8 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 268 Route 546, Titusville. (609) 737-3177; www.princetonol.com/groups/hvchorus. (wv)

Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, May 17, 3 p.m., 7 p.m., West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North, 90 Grovers Mill Road, Plainsboro. \$5-\$10. (609) 275-5042; www.yocj.org. (wv)

Volanti Flute Quartet, May 21, 12:15 p.m., Westminster Choir College, Niles Chapel, Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 921-2663; www.rider.edu. (wv)

Princeton Girlchoir Gala Concert, May 30, 6:30 p.m., Patriots Theatre at the War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. (609) 688-1888; princeton-girlchoir.org. (wv)

Jazz / Blues / Rock

Indie Music Night, March 7, 6-9 p.m., Griggstown Pavilion, 373 Bunkerhill Road, Princeton. (609) 672-1813; www.sarahdonner.com.

Philip Orr, jazz piano, March 8, 3 p.m., Steinway Musical Society, Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. Benefits scholarship program. \$18. (609) 434-0222.

Regina Sayles, March 25, 8-10:30 p.m., The College of New Jersey, Rathskeller, 2000 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. (609) 771-1855; www.tcnj.edu.

Afro Cuban All Stars, March 26, 7:30 p.m., Patriots Theatre at the War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. \$18-\$45. (609) 984-8400; www.thewarmemorial.com. (wv)

Tony Vacca World Rhythms, March 27, 8 p.m., Paul Robeson Center, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org.

Cafe Improv, Arts Council of Princeton, March 28, 7 p.m., 102 Witherspoon Street. Register \$2. (609) 924-8777; www.cafeimprov.com.

Billy Strich sings Mel Torme, March 29, 2 p.m., CAPPs, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. \$25. (609) 490-7550; www.peddie.org capps. (wv)

El Eco Jazz, April 3, 8 p.m., CAPPs, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. \$25. (609) 490-7550; www.peddie.org capps.

Honeyboy Edwards, April 9, 7 p.m., Patriots Theatre at the War Memorial, Memorial Drive, Trenton. \$25. (609) 984-8400; www.thewarmemorial.com.

Carol Woods, Broadway, April 19, 2 p.m., CAPPs, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Hightstown. \$25. Register (609) 490-7550; www.peddie.org/capps. (wv)

First Presbyterian Church

Emily Sensenbach-Gopal, organ, March 6, 12:15 p.m.

Eve Miedel, soprano, Westminster Choir College, April 3, 12:15 p.m.

Carrie Gelnar, soprano, Westminster Choir College, May 1, 12:15 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, 120 East State Street, Trenton. (609) 396-1712; www.oid1712.org.

Folk Music

Cosy Sheridan, March 20, 8:15 p.m., Princeton Folk Music Society, Christ Congregation Church, 50 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944; www.princetonfolk.org. (wv)

Kate Taylor, March 28, 8 p.m., Concerts at the Crossing, Unitarian Church at Washington Crossing, Route 546, Titusville. \$25. (609) 510-6278; www.crossingconcerts.com. (wv)

John Lilly, April 17, 8:15 p.m., Princeton Folk Music Society, Christ Congregation Church, 50 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944; www.princetonfolk.org. (wv)

Graham Parker, April 25, 8 p.m., Concerts at the Crossing, Unitarian Church at Washington Crossing, Route 546, Titusville. \$25. (609) 510-6278; www.crossingconcerts.com.

Steve Gillette, Cindy Mangsen, May 15, 8:15 p.m., Princeton Folk Music Society, Christ Congregation Church, 50 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944; www.princetonfolk.org. (wv)

Grounds for Sculpture

Jonatha Brooke, folk rock, April 17, 8 p.m. \$24-\$27.

Princeton School of Rock: A Tribute to Frank Zappa, May 2, 12 p.m.

Tom Rush, May 29, 8 p.m., \$27-\$32. *Grounds for Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 584-7800; www.groundsforsculpture.org.*

Theatre

Café Improv, last Sat, 7-10 p.m., Paul Robeson Center, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Mid-Life: The Crisis Musical, March 6-April 4, Fri-Sat 8 p.m.; Sun 2 p.m., Off-Broadstreet Theatre, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$28-\$30. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com. (wv)

Play Reading: Love & Communion, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Paul Robeson Center, 102 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. (wv)

Man of La Mancha, March 26-28, 8 p.m., Kendall Hall Mainstage, The College of New Jersey, 2000 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. Lyric Theatre. (609) 771-2552; music@tcnj.edu.

Marionette Shows, Urashimo Taro from Japan, March 29; **Sleeping Beauty**, May 9, 2 p.m., Waldorf School, 1062 Cherry Hill Road, Princeton. \$5. Register (609) 466-1970; www.princetonwaldorf.org.

Wait Until Dark, April 17-May 23, Fri-Sat 8 p.m.; Sun 2 p.m., Off-Broadstreet Theatre, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$28-\$30. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com.

Sister Rain & Brother Sun, April 19, 2 p.m., Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$5. (609) 394-8018; lisa@citysmiles.org. (wv)

Performing Arts Festival, May 14-16, Princeton Day School, The Great Road. (609) 924-6700; www.pds.org.

Kelsey Theatre

Sunshine Boys, March 1, 2 p.m. \$12. **The Wiz**, Mar. 6-7 & 13-14, 8 p.m.; Mar. 8 & 15, 2 p.m. \$12-\$16.

Godspell, Mar. 27-28, Apr. 3-4, 8 p.m.; Mar. 29, Apr. 5, 2 p.m. \$12-\$16.

Angels in America: Millennium Approaches, Apr. 17-18 & 24-25, 8 p.m.; Apr. 26, 2 p.m. \$10-\$14.

High School Musical, May 1-2 & 7-9, 7:30 p.m.; May 3 & 10, 2 p.m. \$16.

Sweeney Todd, May 29-30, June 5-6, 8 p.m.; May 31 & June 7, 2 p.m. \$12-\$16.

Kelsey Kids

Little Red Riding Hood, Mar. 21.

Songs From The Soul, Mar. 28.

The Frog Prince, April 25.

Junie B. Jones, May 30.

Showtimes 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10.

Kelsey Theater, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. (609) 570-3333; www.kelseytheatre.net. (wv)

Women's History Month

National Women's History Month's roots go back to March 8, 1857, when women from New York City clothing and textile factories staged a protest over poor working conditions and low wages. In 1908, voting rights was added to the list of demands. The first U.S. observance of National Women's Day was February 28, 1909.

International Women's Day (IWD) was launched in 1911 by Clara Zetkin, Leader of the Women's Office for the German Social Democratic Party, on March 19 (not 8 March). March 19 was chosen because, in the 1848 revolution, the Prussian king had promised but failed to introduce the vote for women.

As the tenor of IWD commemorations changed 1913 saw peace rallies in Europe and 1917 demonstrations proved to be the first stage of the Russian Revolution. In the West, IWD dwindled in the 1930s, then was revived with the rise of feminism in the 1960s.

The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County, CA Commission on the Status of Women initiated a Women's History Week in 1978 and chose the week of March 8 to coincide with International Women's Day. In 1981, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Rep. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) cosponsored the first Joint Congressional Resolution proclaiming Women's History Week.

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the celebration to a month. Since then, the National Women's History Month Resolution has been approved every year with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

Sayen House and Garden Hosts Azalea Festival

Every Mother's Day, Hamilton Township hosts an Azalea Festival at Sayen Gardens featuring an exhibition of artists' renderings of the gardens in various mediums.

In 1912, Frederick Sayen, an avid gardener and world traveler, purchased a 30-acre parcel of land not far from the family rubber mill in Hamilton Square. He and his wife, Anne Mellon Sayen, of the Philadelphia Mellon family, built an Arts and Crafts style bungalow on the property and surrounded it with plants and flowers acquired during their world travels. The principal collections included species from China, Japan, and England and many are still flourishing today.

Sayen Garden contains more than 1,000 azaleas, nearly 500 rhododendrons, and more than 250,000 flowering bulbs for spring display. There are ponds, bridges, gazebos along walking trails. It is a favorite place for brides to have wedding photos taken.

The Sayen House, a one-and-a-half story structure, is consistent with the Arts and Crafts esthetic, which swept this country in the early 1900's. The style was a dramatic rebellion against the formality and the excesses of the Victorian period, which made the Sayen's choice of interior design with a strong Victorian-inspired motif, a curious break with the movement.



Azaleas surround Sayen House and overflow into the gardens.

The home includes a large porch with three walls of windows. Due to the Tuberculosis epidemic and health philosophy of the times, many houses were built with TB rooms or sleeping porches that are completely surrounded by windows so that fresh, healing air can circulate freely.

In 2006, Governor Corzine designated Hamilton as the Azalea Capital of New Jersey and Hamilton held its first azalea contest, awarding Best Home Azalea Displays, which were selected by Friends of Sayen House, a non-profit organization that oversees the historic Frederick Sayen home.

The Azalea Festival will be held on Mother's Day, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Sayen Gardens at 155 Hughes Drive in Hamilton Township. For more information, please call (609) 890-3874 or visit www.sayengardens.org.

A Place in Time **First Presbyterian Church of Ewing**

The First Presbyterian Church of Ewing sanctuary was constructed in 1867. It is the fourth worship building to continually occupy this site since the 58 acres of land were originally deeded by Alexander Lockhart to Richard Scudder and 19 other early settlers of the region on March 15, 1709.

The 300-year history of this congregation and its original site is unique. Its leaders were involved in the "Great Awakening" of 18th century church history. At least one member was a scout for General Washington on the march to Trenton in December 1776, and its Clerk was killed that fateful night as he tended, and was accidentally burned to death, by a hearth fire for weary, worn and sleeping soldiers of the regiments that marched along the Scotch Road.

The Rev. John Witherspoon, an ardent patriot and the only clergy signer of the Declaration of Independence, filled the pulpit on occasion during the years that he

also served the Constitutional Convention.

This church's Session (congregation's governing body), together with members of the Trenton (city) Church Session, petitioned the State Assembly in 1792 to abolish slavery. Its first full-time pastor, Rev. Eli Cooley, a co-founder of the American Bible Society, also served to oversee planning and construction of the State Lunatic Asylum (now Trenton Psychiatric Hospital) in the mid-1800s, as well as serving as a Trustee for the College at Princeton.

Members served as missionaries in China and elsewhere, and contributed the land and money towards the construction of a Trenton hospital (Mercer Medical) in the late 1800s. The congregation, and the church building, was the social center of this primarily rural area for literally hundreds of years.

Since March 2007 the sanctuary building has been closed after engineering studies confirmed that the truss system and stone



walls were failing and would require extensive repair and/or rebuilding and restorative work, at a cost ranging from \$1.2 to \$3 million. If the Session cannot raise sufficient funds within the next six months, they may have no recourse but to demolish the sanctuary building.

For further information or to help, please visit www.ewingpresfund.us.



Culture & HERITAGE NEWS

Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission
640 South Broad Street • Trenton, NJ 08650

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To have your events listed in our newsletter and online calendar, please write or email the following information: type of event; sponsor; location with street address and municipality; fees; phone number for public inquiries; a phone number for the staff to contact for questions, a web site and/or email address, funding credit and ADA compliance. Please mail to: Mercer County Division of Culture and Heritage, Box 8068, 640 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08650, or email to: runyon@mercercounty.org. If you feel that your event merits a longer story, please write, email or call (609) 989-6899.

Please refer to this chart for ADA accommodations codes.

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