

News Release

Somerville District Management Corporation
For Immediate Release May 20, 2009
Images Available upon request

Media Contact
Cynthia Hollod
908-541-1600
cynthiahollod@findsomerville.com

Downtown Somerville's Friday Night *Connie Tarantino Summer Concert Series* Schedule Announced

Free 15-week outdoor concert series begins Friday, May 22, 2009

The Somerville District Management Corporation (DMC) is pleased to announce the 2009 schedule for the outdoor free Friday night "Connie Tarantino Summer Concert Series" which will begin on Friday, May 22 and continue through August 28, 2009. The concerts will begin at 7:00 p.m. and last for approximately one hour.

This season the concerts will be held on the steps of the historic Somerset County Courthouse located on East Main Street near the corner of Grove Street.

The only exception to the location will be the June 12th concert honoring Somerville's Centennial, which will be held on the lawn of Somerville's Borough Hall located at 25 West End Avenue in the triangle bounded by Mountain Avenue, Somerset Street and West End Avenue. Prior to the concert at 6 pm, there will be a Somerville Centennial Celebration and Time Capsule Opening followed by the Whitehouse Wind Symphony's Centennial Concert at approximately 7 pm.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own folding lawn chairs to this "weather-permitting" event. Should a concert be rained out, it will not be rescheduled.

Artistic Director Millie Thompson of the Somerville School of Music and Somerville DMC concert event coordinator Michael Tarantino have put together a diverse lineup of performers for the 2009 season. The series features an eclectic range of music including jazz, swing, country, folk, classical, and rock.

Connie Tarantino's musical legacy of giving back to the community has become a family tradition with his son Michael serving as the DMC concert event coordinator. The concert series is named in memory of Connie Tarantino, a WW II combat pilot, a local businessman and a professional musician who was actively involved in community projects for decades. As the leader of the professional "Connie Knight Orchestra," he entertained thousands throughout New Jersey.

This year's concert season is made possible through the generosity of the following sponsors: Connie's Music Center, LaFontaine & Budd, Inc., Somerset Savings Bank, SSP Architectural Group, Inc., Lloyd's Furniture, Redelico's Paint and Decorating Center and Skylands Community Bank.

(more)

Friday, May 22: Immaculata High School Jazz Ensemble

Jazz Band

Friday, May 29: Dixie Mix

Dixieland

Friday, June 5: John Nobile's Summer Swing Orchestra

This seventeen-piece big band features the music of Glenn Miller, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Count Basie, and Duke Ellington, among others. Read more about them at <http://www.summerswingorchestra.com/>

Friday, June 12: Whitehouse Wind Symphony

Somerville Borough Hall

Somerville's Centennial Celebration and Time Capsule Opening is at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Whitehouse Wind Symphony's Centennial Concert at 7:00 p.m.

<http://www.whitehousewindsymphony.org/>

Friday, June 19: Somerset Valley Orchestra & Raritan Valley Choral

Orchestral & Choral

The Somerset Valley 50-piece Orchestra (<http://www.svorchestra.com/>) features light music for a summer evening.

Friday, June 26: Chip & Annie

Fun Family Folk

Chip Mergott and Annie Bauerlein perform mostly original tunes, but their performances are sprinkled with duets, gospel songs, and a few eclectic cover songs as well. Their music can be described as "fun family folk."

Annie writes songs that are both humorous and heartwarming reflections on life in a big family. Chip has been a performing songwriter for most of his adult life. Bonnie Raitt has described Chip as "one of my favorite songwriters."

Together Annie and Chip have opened for Livingston Taylor, Tom Paxton, Christine Lavin, Ellis Paul, Vance Gilbert, Cliff Eberhardt, Aztec Two Step, Catie Curtis, Rosalie Sorrels, The Lewis Family, and Jack Hardy, among others.

Visit <http://www.notebookrecords.com/> for more information.

Friday, July 3: Raritan Valley Symphonic Band

Symphonic "Pops"

The Raritan Valley Symphonic Band is now in their 26th season, this is a community band of 70+ amateur and professional musicians who are dedicated to making and enjoying music. Visit www.rvsb.org for more information.

Friday, July 10: Marshall's Dixieland Band

New Orleans Jazz

(more)

Friday, July 17: Somerset Hills Somertones

Barbershop Chorus

Founded in 1949, the Somerset Hills, NJ Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society has a rich musical history. Originally known as the Hounds of Harmony, they have sung their way into many a heart since 1949. For more information visit www.somertones.org.

Friday, July 24: John Harrity

Jazz/Rock

John Harrity has been performing jazz, rock, and classical guitar in the tri-state area since 1973, performing at such venues as the PNC Bank Arts Center, Harrah's, and Trump Casino.

Friday, July 31: Tom Klimchock

Country

An eighteen-year veteran of the country music scene, Tom Klimchock plays an ideal mix of contemporary artists such as George Strait, Toby Keith and Lonestar as well as classics by country icons like Gene Autry, Hank Williams and George Jones.

Friday, August 7: Ginny Johnston & Mosaic

Folk Rock

Ginny Johnston & Mosaic fuses the soul of folk music with the rhythms and energy of rock to create a unique contemporary sound featuring original and cover songs.

Driven by Ginny Johnston's powerful lyrics and haunting voice, Mosaic's unique sound comes from its experimental approach to creating new music in semi-traditional forms. This can be heard in the unusual combinations of instruments (...everything from piano, clarinet and viola, to dobro and electric guitar), or in the unexpected turns of musical phrase in their melodies. Visit www.ginjohn.net for more information.

Friday, August 14: Heather Mulvey

Americana /Celtic/ Acoustic Folk

Heather Mulvey is a New Jersey-based musician who plays finger-picking acoustic guitar and sings traditional Americana, Celtic and contemporary folk songs, entertaining audiences of all ages since the early '90's. A history of the songs she performs is incorporated into the programs, and interaction and participation by her audience is always encouraged. Visit www.heathermulvey.com for more information.

Friday, August 21: Evangel Church

Rock

Friday, August 28: The Pilgrim Sons

Rock

Photos available upon request

end