



## News from the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

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### Weekend Journey Through the Past: Oct. 10 & 11 *Close to Home – Free Admission!*

Looking for a unique but inexpensive family outing? **Somerset County's Weekend Journey through the Past** not only offers you and your family admission to 27 historic sites absolutely free of charge, but all sites are close to home.

This autumn weekend features interpreted tours led by costumed docents; special collections and exhibitions; period military drills and re-enactments; traditional blacksmithing; 19th-century firefighting wagons and apparatus; a gravestone carver re-enactor discussing the folk art of gravestone carving and the significance of traditional motifs; history of golf and the Works Project Administration initiative to create golf courses in the U.S. during the Depression; music, arts and crafts; period dance performances; antiques sales; guidance for genealogical research; daily chores of 18th-century life; colonial games for children; military history; demonstrations; local history videos; participatory activities, interesting architecture; and access to some sites not generally open to the public.

With the money you'll save on admission and gasoline, you might consider stopping along the way between site visits for a leisurely lunch or dinner as you journey through Somerset County's beautiful countryside in its autumn splendor.

So, mark your calendar and invite your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors to join you on this special journey back in time.

"This is a wonderful way to explore Somerset County's rich history, and an especially engaging way to introduce children and teens to local history in a memorable way," said Freeholder Patricia Walsh, liaison to the county Cultural & Heritage Commission.

Participating sites, listed below, will be open from **10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11.** Admission to all sites is free of charge.

Be sure to enter the wayfarers' quiz to win one of ten \$25 pre-paid gasoline gift cards. Anyone who visits four or more participating historic sites on Oct 10 and 11 is eligible for the prize drawing. Answers to the wayfarers' quiz are posted at individual participating sites. Offered again this year will be a convenient on-line entry form at [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com)

Printed guides identifying participating sites, locations and interesting facts about each will be available at all participating sites during the weekend to guide your journey. For advance comprehensive details, along with suggested tours, travel directions and contest information, visit the official event Web site at [www.SCHistoryWeekend.com](http://www.SCHistoryWeekend.com).

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**Rick Fontana, Freeholder Director \* Jack M. Ciattarelli, Freeholder Deputy Director**  
**Peter S. Palmer, Freeholder \* Robert Zaborowski, Freeholder \* Patricia L. Walsh, Freeholder**  
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**2009 Weekend Journey Through The Past – Participating Sites**

- Brick Academy, Basking Ridge (Bernards)
- Codington Farmstead, Warren
- Farm Museum, Skillman (Montgomery)
- First Reformed Church of Rocky Hill
- Gen. John Frelinghuysen House/Raritan Public Library, Raritan
- 1830 Griggstown School House, Princeton (Franklin)
- Kennedy-Martin Stelle Farmstead, Basking Ridge (Bernards)
- Kirch-Ford House, Warren
- Mount Bethel Meeting House, Warren
- New Cemetery, Somerville
- Old Millstone Forge Blacksmith Shop & Museum, Millstone
- Old Presbyterian Graveyard, Bound Brook
- Relief Hose Co. No. 2/Raritan Firehouse, Raritan
- Daniel Robert Mansion/Somerville Borough Hall, Somerville
- Somerset County Courthouse Green (two sites), Somerville
  - Somerset County Historic Court House & Lord Memorial Fountain
  - First Dutch Reformed Church
- South Branch School House, Branchburg
- Abraham Staats House, South Bound Brook
- Andrew Ten Eyck House, Branchburg
- U.S. Golf Association Museum/Frothingham Mansion, Far Hills
- Jacobus Vanderveer House, Bedminster
- Van Horne House, Bridgewater
- Van Veghten House, Bridgewater
- Vermeule Mansion, North Plainfield
- Vermeule-Mundy House, Green Brook
- Wallace House, Somerville
- Wyckoff-Garretson House, Somerset (Franklin)

This popular annual event, now in its fourth year, is an initiative of the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission in collaboration with representatives of many local historical organizations and municipalities, the Somerset County Board of Freeholders, the Somerset County Business Partnership, artists and arts organizations and the local tourism industry.

Funding has been made possible, in part, from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, through the State/County Partnership Local Arts Program/Arts in Non-Traditional Venues.