



News from the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT! FREE DOCUMENT-SHREDDING PROGRAM

There are three remaining dates for the free "Operation Secure Shred" document-shredding program sponsored by the Somerset County Board of Freeholders.

Shredding events are scheduled for Sept. 30, 2017, at the Branchburg Municipal Building; Oct. 28, 2017, at the Green Brook Municipal Building; and Jan. 20, 2018, at the Bernards Township Engineering Services Building. All events will be held rain or shine from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., or until the trucks are filled to capacity, at which time they leave and the event is over for that day.

Residents from all 21 Somerset County municipalities are invited to have personal documents shredded at as many free, on-site mobile paper-shredding events as they wish to attend. Residents do not have to reside in a town hosting an event to participate.

"Properly disposing of personal documents is a necessary step in safeguarding and protecting your personal information and credit and in preventing identify theft," said Freeholder Mark Caliguire. "We are pleased to be able to provide this very popular service to our residents again this year, in collaboration with our municipalities."

Documents will be commercially shredded safely, privately and properly by trained, licensed and bonded document-destruction specialists. Staples and paperclips do not have to be removed. Residents may bring documents in up to six boxes, containers or bags per visit and will be asked to take back their receptacles. You may stay and watch as your documents are shredded.

Junk mail, magazines and newspapers will not be accepted. This shredding opportunity is not open to businesses.

For more information about locations of the municipal shredding events, contact the towns directly. A listing of towns in Somerset County can be found on the county's website at <http://bit.ly/SCTowns>. A schedule of shredding events and more is available at <http://bit.ly/SCShred>.

Since the program began in 2007, over 1.4 million pounds of materials have been dropped off for shredding by more than 19,000 residents, thereby keeping personal information out of the hands of unauthorized people who could potentially wreak financial havoc. In 2016, the number of cars increased by 560, for a total of 4,136, and the volume of paper shredded increased by close to 19,000 pounds, for a total of 231,303.



Washington Rock Park, Green Brook, offers a stunning fall view.

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DID YOU KNOW... ?

- Somerset County was founded in May 1688 by splitting off from Middlesex County.
- Somerset County's population has grown in the past 30 years from 219,351 to 333,654.
- Somerset County maintains and repairs about 262 center-line miles of county-owned roads and 752 county bridges.



2017 Board of Chosen Freeholders



PETER S. PALMER
Director

PATRICK SCAGLIONE
Deputy Director



PATRICIA L. WALSH
Freeholder

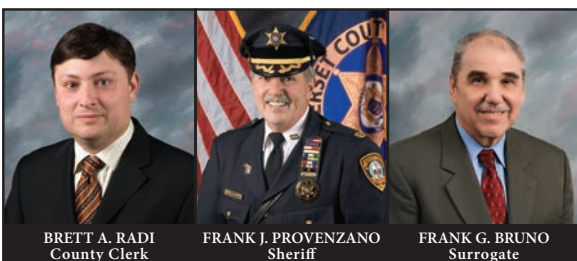


MARK CALIGUIRE
Freeholder



BRIAN D. LEVINE
Freeholder

Constitutional Officers



BRETT A. RADI
County Clerk

FRANK J. PROVENZANO
Sheriff

FRANK G. BRUNO
Surrogate

MEET YOUR COUNTY OFFICIALS

Board of Chosen Freeholders

Elected to Three-Year Terms

Peter S. Palmer - Freeholder since January 1997; Freeholder Director in 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2017. Chairs the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and Raritan Valley Rail Coalition. Former Bernardsville Mayor. Celebrating 55 years of public service, he will retire at the end of this year after 20 years on the Freeholder Board.

Patrick Scaglione - Former Bridgewater Township Council President. Joined the Freeholder Board in January 2010; Freeholder Director in 2014, Deputy Director in 2013 and 2017. Centerbridge II Senior Housing Board President, 1997-present. Former North Plainfield resident; moved to Bridgewater in 1991. Owns a financial consulting business.

Patricia L. Walsh - Joined the Board in January 2008; Freeholder Director in 2012 and 2016. Former Green Brook Mayor. Chaired the Green Brook 9/11 Memorial Committee. Member of New Jersey Federation of Republican Women. Somerset County resident for 36 years. Registered nurse employed as a visiting nurse.

Mark Caliguire - Freeholder since 2011; Freeholder Director in 2015. Former Montgomery Mayor. Liaison to Somerset County Open Space Advisory Committee. Lawyer and former New Jersey Deputy Attorney General.

Brian D. Levine - Former Franklin Township Mayor. Freeholder since January 2015. Member of the Governor's Red Tape Review Commission and the Building One New Jersey Board of Directors. Licensed certified public accountant; owns an accounting and financial consulting practice.

Constitutional Officers

County Clerk Brett A. Radi - Elected every five years. Records land records and related legal documents; processes passport applications; administers oaths to notaries public; records business trade names. Resident of Somerville.

Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano - Elected every three years. Responsible for the County Jail; courthouse security; Sheriff's Sales; and K-9 Unit. Resident of Raritan.

Surrogate Frank G. Bruno - Elected every five years. Probates wills; acts as custodian of funds for minors' estates; handles adoptions. Resident of Branchburg.



Revolutionary War re-enactors will be part of the Weekend Journey through the Past.

FALL 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 1

1770s Festival

Environmental Education Center
Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge
908.766.2489

www.somersetcountyparks.org

October 14 & 15

12th Annual Weekend Journey through the Past

Sponsored by the Cultural & Heritage Commission
908.231.7110

www.SCHistoryWeekend.com

November 4

13th Annual Adopt A Boulder

Join us for something completely different! Spend your Saturday doing some trail work and area cleanup around the bouldering areas in the Somerset County Park Commission's largest park. Registration at 9 a.m. Sourland Mountain Preserve, Hillsborough/Montgomery
908.231.0802, ext. 22

www.somersetcountyparks.org

November 7

General Election

Your vote counts! Polls will be open from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m.
908.231.7084

www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections

December 1-23

40th Festival of Trees

Environmental Education Center
Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge
908.766.2489

www.somersetcountyparks.org

Find other events and a Weekend Top 10 at www.VisitSomersetNJ.org

COUNTY CLERK HAS EXPANDED HOURS FOR PASSPORTS & BALLOTS

Need a passport? The Somerset County Clerk's Office is making the application process easier for residents by offering weekend hours.

Located on the first floor of the Somerset County Administration Building at 20 Grove St. in Somerville, the office is open from 9 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday of the month to accept passport applications. Remaining dates this year include Oct. 14 (second Saturday due to the Columbus Day holiday), Nov. 4 and Dec. 2. Street parking is available on weekends.

"I hope residents will take advantage of our Saturday passport hours," said Somerset County Clerk Brett A. Radi. "I think that parents who are applying for passports for their children will find it especially helpful."

Information about applying for a passport can be found on the County Clerk's webpage at <http://bit.ly/CC-Passports> or on the U.S. Passports & International Travel website at www.travel.state.gov

Ballots for the general election will be available after Sept. 25 during regular business hours (8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) at the County Clerk's Office. The office will remain open until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 1, for residents who need a mail-in ballot. Registered voters can take advantage of the County Clerk's Saturday hours on Nov. 4 to pick up a mail-in ballot.

The Somerset County Clerk's Office administers the oath to notaries public, processes passport applications, and records land records and related legal documents that deal with land situated in Somerset County. For more information, call 908-231-7013 or email CountyClerk@co.somerset.nj.us



YOUR VOTE COUNTS!



The general election for national, state, county and local government representatives will be held **Tuesday, Nov. 7**. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Here are upcoming deadlines pertaining to this election:

October 17, 2017

Voter Registration Deadline, *last opportunity to register to vote in the General Election.*

October 31, 2017

Deadline to apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Mail for General Election

November 3, 2017

Deadline for Application to Receive General Election Mail-In Ballots by Electronic Means for Qualified Overseas Civilian and Military Voters

November 6, 2017

Deadline (**by 3 p.m.**) for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Applications for General Election



For more information, contact the **Somerset County Board of Elections at 908-231-7084 or ElectionBd@co.somerset.nj.us** or visit either: **www.co.somerset.nj.us/elections** or **www.njelections.org**

'VETS IN TUNE' MUSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

Freeholder Brian D. Levine, human services liaison, was on hand for a presentation of guitars to the new Vets in Tune program offered at the Richard Hall Community Mental Health Center.

The volunteer-run music program, which began in August, is for combat veterans who are looking to connect with other veterans and explore the healing powers of music. Funding for the purchase of 10 guitars, music room supplies and a computer was provided by the Gerald and Elizabeth Geiger Foundation.

To register for Vets in Tune or for more information, contact county Veterans Services Officer Betsy Haluszczak at 908-704-6328.



Pictured left to right are Priscilla Schmitt of RHCMHC, Vets in Tune instructor Jim Hilt, Freeholder Levine, county Veterans Services Director Peter Niemiec, RHCMHC Executive Director Nicci Spinazzola, Laura Koller of RHCMHC, Mario DiBartolo of Monmouth Music, county Human Services Director Michael Frost, and Mike Nittoli of RHCMHC.

COUNTY BUS ROUTES NOW ON GOOGLE MAPS

Somerset County's public bus routes are now just a click away on Google Maps.

Go to Google Maps on desktop or mobile (<https://maps.google.com>) and select the transit icon, enter your start point and destination within Somerset County, and get county bus route information to guide you to your destination.



Google relies on agencies such as the Somerset County Transportation Division to provide routes and stop schedules to feed into Google Maps. So for instance if you're in Hillsborough and want to go to Somerville, you can get directions from Google Maps and it will tell you where the nearest SCOOT bus stop is and what time the next bus will arrive, then tell you what stop to get off at and what time you will arrive.

To report technical issues with the Google Transit function, email GIS@co.somerset.nj.us. For information about the county's transportation services, contact the Transportation Division at 908-231-7116 or toll-free at 1-800-246-0527.

OFFICIALS DEDICATE NEW RARITAN VETERANS PARK

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Sept. 12 at the new Veterans Park on West Somerset Street in Raritan.

Veterans and members of the Basilone Parade Committee were in attendance along with state, county and municipal officials. The park is located adjacent to the statue of World War II hero John Basilone.

“This park is dedicated to all Somerset County veterans, from all branches of the military and from all wars and conflicts,” said Freeholder Director Peter S. Palmer. “We thank you for your service and your sacrifice.”

The Somerset County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard presented the colors at the start of the ceremony. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano.

Speakers included former Gov. Donald T. DiFrancesco, president of the Somerset County Park Commission; Sen. Michael Doherty, a West Point graduate and retired U.S. Army captain; Freeholder Brian D. Levine, veterans’ services liaison; Raritan Mayor Chuck McMullin; and Basilone Committee Chairman John Pacifico. A prayer concluding the ceremony was offered by the Rev. John Rozembajgier of St. Ann’s Parish.

The park consists of a landscaped semi-circle of brick pavers with nine flags representing the U.S., New Jersey, Somerset County and the branches of the service. There are three monuments as well: one recognizing all service men and women, one dedicated to all veterans from Raritan Borough, and a plaque in memory of borough men killed in action during World War I, World War II and the Korean War. The two Raritan monuments previously were located at the municipal building.

The \$293,156 contract was awarded in June to Neto Contractors Inc. of Middlesex; the design engineer was Keller & Kirkpatrick Inc. of Morris Plains. Ground was broken on Sept. 16, 2016. The project was managed by the county Engineering Division.



Somerset County Freeholder Director Peter Palmer cuts the ribbon at the new Raritan Veterans Park.

Pictured left to right are state Sen. Michael Doherty, Park Commission Vice President Bill Crosby, Freeholder Brian Levine, Freeholder Deputy Director Patrick Scaglione, County Clerk Brett Radi, former Gov. and Park Commission President Donald DiFrancesco, Surrogate Frank Bruno, Freeholder Palmer, Raritan Mayor Chuck McMullin, Freeholder Patricia Walsh and Sheriff Frank Provenzano.



Every sector of the Somerset County community needs adult leaders – people who are informed, engaged, connected and willing to lead positive change.

Adults who live or work in Somerset County are invited to apply for the **Leadership Somerset Class of 2018**. The application deadline is **October 31, 2017**.

Benefits of the program include networking with community leaders, discovering Somerset County resources, exploring capacities of positive leadership, enhancing team and leadership skills and making an impact in the community.

Leadership Somerset meets once a month, on a weekday, starting in January. Sessions are full days, starting between 8-8:30 a.m. and ending by 5 p.m.

The majority of the cost to attend the year-long adult leadership program is underwritten by the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Leadership Somerset participants are asked to contribute a program fee of \$350 for the year, which covers participation in all sessions, materials and meals. Limited scholarships based on financial need are available. Applicants will be notified by December.

Learn more at www.leadershipsomerset.org

PARTNERSHIP TO SAVE ON HEALTH CARE COSTS

The Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders has awarded a contract to Princeton-based Integrity Health, LLC to establish, manage and operate an on-site health, wellness and care coordination center for county employees, employee dependents and retirees who are covered under the county's health plan. The center will become known as the Somerset County Partnership Health Center, or SCPHC.

"Somerset County is always looking for first-class innovation in the way we spend taxpayer money and deliver services, so I am proud and excited to announce this new partnership with Integrity Health," said Somerset County Freeholder Mark Caliguire. "We understand that one of the biggest factors associated with our county budget is the rising cost of health care and we have worked hard over the years to control these costs. By partnering with Integrity Health, we are going to provide better health outcomes for our employees at a lower cost to our taxpayers."

Integrity Health will offer eligible employees multiple primary care services at one location close to where they work and live. This eliminates expensive and unnecessary emergency room charges, provides convenient access to care so medical needs are not compounded, and allows primary care to be coordinated with hospitals and specialists to minimize repeat doctor visits.

All services offered at the SCPHC will be provided on a no-copay basis, which will result in hundreds of dollars saved per eligible family per year. The SCPHC will provide primary care physicians, lab services, and a full pharmacy. The center is scheduled to open in Somerville later this year.

FALL DONATION PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT LOCAL RESIDENTS

Two charitable programs this fall will benefit less-fortunate children and adults in Somerset County.

The Somerset County Commission on the Status of Women is conducting its annual "Project Warm Your Heart" collection of new and gently used children's winter coats, hats, mittens, gloves and scarves.

Donations may be dropped off to the Somerset County Freeholders' Office on the third floor of the county administration building at 20 Grove St., Somerville, through Oct. 31. The office is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Columbus Day. Free parking is available in the adjacent Bernie Field Parking Deck off East High Street.

"Somerset County residents, organizations and businesses have been so generous to our many initiatives that support families in our communities," said Freeholder Patricia Walsh, commission liaison. "Project Warm Your Heart is another opportunity to help Somerset County children in need."

The annual "Adopt-A-Family" program, which provides the cost of a Thanksgiving dinner for needy families and individuals, will get underway next month. For a donation form, visit the county website at www.co.somerset.nj.us



The Commission on the Status of Women collects hundreds of "Project Warm Your Heart" donations each year thanks to the public's generosity.

A Guide to Somerset County Government Offices

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3000, Somerville, NJ 08876-1262

Main Offices: County Administration Building, 20 Grove Street, Somerville, NJ

Human Services Offices: 27 Warren Street, Somerville, NJ • **Website:** www.co.somerset.nj.us

For other county offices not listed below, call 908-231-7000 or email publicinfo@co.somerset.nj.us

ELECTED OFFICIALS & COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

	EMAIL ADDRESS or WEBSITE	TELEPHONE
Board of Chosen Freeholders*	FreeholdersOffice@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7030
County Administrator / Clerk of the Board	AdministratorsOffice@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7040
Deputy Clerk of the Board	FreeholdersOffice@co.somerset.n.us	908-231-7030
Public Information Office	PublicInfo@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7020
County Clerk*	CountyClerk@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7006
Sheriff*	Sheriff@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7140
Surrogate*	SurrogatesOffice@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7003

*elected county officials

HUMAN SERVICES

Office on Aging & Disability Services	OfficeAging@co.somerset.nj.us NJ EASE toll-free senior hotline:	908-704-6346 1-888-747-1122
Community Development	CommDev@co.somerset.nj.us	908-541-5756
Human Services	HumanServices@co.somerset.nj.us	908-704-6300
Mental Health Center	MentalHealth@co.somerset.nj.us Toll-free number:	908-725-2800 1-888-744-4417
Rutgers Cooperative Extension	http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu	908-526-6295
Veterans Services	VeteranServices@co.somerset.nj.us	908-704-6329
Volunteer Services	Crosby@co.somerset.nj.us	908-704-6358
Youth Services	Youth@co.somerset.nj.us	908-704-6333

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Finance / Treasurer	FinanceDiv@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7631
Human Resources	HumanResources@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7120
Purchasing	PurchasingDiv@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7045

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering	EngineeringDiv@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7024
Planning		
Planning Board	PlanningBd@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7021
Cultural & Heritage Commission	CulturalHeritage@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7110
Solid Waste Management	SolidWaste@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7109
Recycling Center / Curbside Program	RecyclingDiv@co.somerset.nj.us	732-469-3363
Roads / Mosquito Control / Traffic Safety	RoadDiv@co.somerset.nj.us	908-541-5021
Transportation	TransportationDiv@co.somerset.nj.us Toll-free number:	908-231-7116 1-800-246-0527

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Emergency Management	EmergencyMgmt@co.somerset.nj.us	908-725-5070
Health	HealthDiv@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7155

AFFILIATED AGENCIES

Business Partnership	www.scbp.org	908-218-4300
College, Raritan Valley Community	www.raritanval.edu	908-526-1200
Election Board	ElectionBd@co.somerset.nj.us	908-231-7084
Library	www.sclsnj.org	908-526-4016
Park Commission	www.somersetcountyparks.org	908-722-1200
Prosecutor	www.scpo.net	908-231-7100
Social Services & Food Stamps	SocialServices@co.somerset.nj.us	908-526-8800
Superintendent of Schools	www.co.somerset.nj.us/schools	908-541-5700
Tax Board	TaxBd@co.somerset.nj.us	908-541-5701
Vocational & Technical Schools	www.scvths.org	908-526-8900

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

County Dispatch / Communications (police / fire / medical emergencies only)	9-1-1
Psychiatric Emergency Screening Service (24/7 mental health line)	908-526-4100

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage Paid
New Brunswick, NJ
Permit # 1

**SOMERSET COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

20 Grove Street
P.O. Box 3000
Somerville, New Jersey 08876

Phone: 908-231-7030
Fax: 908-231-8754

FreeholdersOffice@co.somerset.nj.us

Website: www.co.somerset.nj.us



**SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF
CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

Somerset County is governed and managed by a Board of Chosen Freeholders. The board consists of five members; one or two are elected each year from the county at large to serve three-year terms.

Unlike a mayor or municipal elected official, a Freeholder represents all 333,654 county residents.

The Board of Freeholders holds regular public meetings the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the county administration building at 20 Grove St. in Somerville. Agenda sessions, which also are open to the public, are held the same days at 4:30 p.m. Items discussed at each agenda session will be voted on at the regular meeting that takes place two weeks later.

To view minutes and agendas, select the Government tab on our website at www.co.somerset.nj.us

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<http://bit.ly/SCNixle>

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