

# Arts & Entertainment

## Parents Topple Teens in Daniel Berke's Final Charity Softball Game

By BETSEY BURG DORF  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD - On September 25, Westfield High School senior Daniel Berke, 17, held his sixth and final charity softball game at Tamaques Park. This year, Daniel raised approximately \$4,000 to benefit Furniture Assist Inc., based in Kenilworth, who provides furniture and household items to individuals in need.

The annual event, called Daniel's Charity Softball Game, started as his Bar-Mitzvah project in 2006 at which time, according to Daniel, he was required to "do a good deed." Over the past several years, Daniel continued that good deed and has succeeded in raising thousands of dollars for several different charities.

Daniel told *The Westfield Leader and The Times* that this year, the weather held and the game, which featured parents against students, "had a great turnout." At the end of the game, the parents ended up with bragging rights with a final score of 7-3.

Both Daniel's parents were involved in the event with his mother,

Meg, taking a behind the scenes role and his father, Evan, playing in the game. Daniel stated that his father was "a little rusty, but definitely held his own" during the game.

"We are very proud of Daniel for having continued this tradition for six years, from 7th grade to 12th grade," Mrs. Berke told *The Leader and The Times*. "He has invested a lot of energy in the planning and organization through the years and has made each event bigger and better than previous ones. We are also touched by the generosity of local businesses, who have supported this event by donating raffle items and food for the concession."

Other charities that have benefited from Daniel's big heart include: Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside; St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth; Hannah Peretsman-Beene Foundation; Friends of Jaclyn, a foundation that helps cancer-stricken children; and Canine Companions for Independence, based in Long Island.

"I had no idea when I planned it that it would go on this long," Daniel



HEART OF GOLD...Daniel Berke, pictured top left, distributes raffle tickets at Daniel's Charity Softball Game held September 25 at Tamaques Park. Daniel started the game six years ago and has successfully raised thousands of dollars to help local charities.

said about the charity game. Participants in his first game in 2006 approached him and encouraged him to continue the event. "People came up to me and said, 'You have to continue...you have to make this an annual event,'" Daniel said. And that is exactly what he did.

Daniel stated that he felt bitter-sweet about the culmination of his charity event. "It was hard for it to end," he said. He remains hopeful that someone will pick up where he left off and keep the event going, adding that a friend has expressed an interest in "keeping up the game."

"Daniel has grown and benefited as a human being, as have the many participants who have supported Daniel's efforts through the years," his mom added. "In a world full of disappointing news, Daniel's charity game has proven that young people can, and are making a difference."



PLAYERS...Parents and teens faced each other in Daniel's Charity Softball Game held September 25 at Tamaques Park. The parents beat the kids 7-3, but the real winner proved to be Furniture Assist Inc., who received the proceeds raised at the event.

## Tamborlane's 'Fiesta' In UMDNJ Fall Arts Festival

NEWARK - Theodosia A. G. Tamborlane, a Cranford artist, has joined other artists in the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey's (UMDNJ) "Fall Arts Festival 2011." This art show currently is being held at the New Jersey medical school, 185 South Orange Avenue in Newark. The public is invited to the Artists' Reception on Thursday, October 20, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and free parking will be available. The show can also be seen daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through January 4, 2012.

Ms. Tamborlane's painting, "Fiesta," is an abstract oil diptych which is 48 inches high by 72 inches wide. In the midst of last year's many world problems, Ms. Tamborlane conceived and executed this happy, dynamic, colorful, and compelling imagery to evoke smiles and feelings of joy by those who view the painting. Visions of dancers, musical instruments, con-

fetti, balloons, streamers and much more flow throughout the painting inviting the viewer to remember life's fun times and celebrations.

Ms. Tamborlane is a member of the Art Students League, the New Century Artist Gallery, and the Pen and Brush, all located in New York City. In New Jersey she is affiliated with the New Jersey Contemporary Art Group, Studio Montclair, the Arts Council of the Morris Area and the Woodbridge Artisans' Guild.

Since obtaining her Fine Arts Degree in 2008 from Union County College, she has shown her paintings and collages in 12 solo shows and 43 juried and non-juried group shows in New Jersey, New York and Florida. Her paintings have won three first prizes and have appeared in "The Sheaf Literary Arts Magazine" of Union County College.

Her website is Tamborlane.com and her email Tamborlane@aol.com.



Theodosia A. G. Tamborlane's "Fiesta"

Daniel will graduate from WHS in June 2012 and according to his mom, "has dreamed of attending UNC (University of North Carolina) Chapel Hill."

For more information on Daniel's charity or to make a donation, visit [danscharitygame.blogspot.com](http://danscharitygame.blogspot.com). For information on Furniture Assist Inc. visit [furnitureassist.com](http://furnitureassist.com).

## Delaware Train and Toy Show Announced

NEW CASTLE, De. - On Saturday, October 29, the annual Delaware Train Show will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Nur Shrine Center in New Castle, De. Admission is \$3, children under the age of 12 are free, \$10 early buyers 8 a.m. admission.

The event will feature over 150 tables of trains, accessories, slot cars, and toys. Toyshows.org Delaware Train Show will have a diversity of trains in all scales and makes, as well as a variety of unique dealers coming from up and down the east coast. The train show will be held on Saturday only.

On Sunday, October, 30, Octoberfest Toy Show, the east coast largest toy show, will move in. It will feature over 175 tables of new, collectible and antique toys from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$4.00, children under the age of 12 are free, \$10 Early Buyers 9 a.m. Admission.

Collectors will not want to miss this show. There will be refreshments and free parking. The event is rain or shine. The Nur Shrine Temple, is located at Route. 13 / 198 South DuPont Highway, convenient to I-95, I-295 and US Route 40, three miles from the Delaware Memorial Bridge.

For a map or information on attending or participating in this show, visit [toyshows.org](http://toyshows.org) or call (856) 302-3606 The next show is the first ever Philadelphia Antique Toy Convention, to be held on Sunday, December, 4, at the Penny Flea Market located at 1600 South Warfield Street, Philadelphia, Penn. 19145.

## Musical Club Of Westfield Kicks Off 96th Season

WESTFIELD - The opening performance of the new season of the Musical Club of Westfield will be held on Wednesday, October 12, at 1 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm Street, Westfield. Featured on the program will be music for solo organ, a string quartet, and a flute, violin, and piano trio.

Organist Marie-Danièle Mercier will perform J. S. Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in B Minor, BWV 544*, followed by the *Suite Carmelite* by 20th Century French composer Jean Françaix. This suite, written in neo-classical style, contains six movements, each a portrait of a holy woman from the order of Carmelite nuns.

A string quartet, comprised of violinists Lubove Schnable and Debra Biderman, violist Robert Paoli, and cellist Linda Fink, will perform works of two Spanish composers. They will begin their portion of the program with Isaac Albéniz' *Tango in D*, arranged by local pianist (and frequent guest performer with the Musical Club) Paul Kueter. They will follow with Joaquín Turina's *La oración del torero*, (The Bullfighter's Prayer). This brief tone poem, one of the composer's most popular works, shows influences of Debussy and Andalusian gypsy music.

Flutist Jenny Cline and violinist Alexandra Jenkins will perform duos by composers C. P. E. Bach, W.

Bernhard Molique, and Jean Baptiste Loeillet de Gant, being joined by pianist Mary Beth McFall for the last of those selections. Jenkins, a recent graduate of the State University of New York at Purchase with a violin performance degree, was the recipient of a scholarship from the Musical Club of Westfield.

The performance is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served after the program, to give those in attendance the opportunity to meet the performers.

The Musical Club of Westfield, now in its 96th season, offers scholarships to promising young musicians who are pursuing a musical education. Membership in the club is open to anyone who is interested in music. Those wishing information about membership in the Musical Club of Westfield as a performer or an associate member may call the membership chairman at (908) 232-2173.

## Holy Trinity Announces Hearth and Home Kitchen Tour

WESTFIELD - Holy Trinity Interparochial School is hosting its Third Annual Hearth and Home Kitchen Tour on October 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Tour will showcase seven of the area's finest homes, and give the public the opportunity to meet with contractors, designers, and sample local cuisine. There will also be a raffle house and gift bags to the first 400 guests.

Tickets are \$35 (\$40 the day of the event) and can be purchased at the following stores: Baron's Drugs, The Town Book Store, Cristoffers Flowers, Periwinkles Gifts, and online at [www.htisnj.com](http://www.htisnj.com).

## The Westfield Memorial Library presents The Jose Obando Salsa Trio Wednesday, October 12 7:00 pm



Come and listen to the exciting Salsa music of the Jose Obando Salsa Trio. Experience the sounds of Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico. Mr. Obando is one of the incorporators of the Salsa Museum in Spanish Harlem and its former executive director. This promises to be one lively night!



Open to Westfield Memorial Library and MURAL cardholders. Sign up online at

[www.wmlnj.org](http://www.wmlnj.org) and click on

Online Calendar, or call

908.789.4090 x7951

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## Calling All Food Entrepreneurs

AREA - Rock Shrimp Productions is currently developing a new Food Network series and is looking for food entrepreneurs; specifically people who have left their previous career and have little-to-no prior professional food experience, but are taking a risk to pursue their passion of launching their own food business.

Candidates must be planning to open a brick-and-mortar space (restaurant or singular food ideas welcome) before the end of 2011. Those chosen will receive culinary and business coaching from a major celebrity chef and restaurateur, as well as invaluable national publicity.

Any interested party should contact Heather Briggs by calling (646) 747-4735 or by email at [hbr@embassyrow.com](mailto:hbr@embassyrow.com).