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# Arts & Entertainment

## The Westfield Historical Society Announces 10th-Annual AppleFest



**AS AMERICAN AS APPLE PIE...** The traditional apple pie baking contest is back again at AppleFest, this year featuring a historic recipe category. The Westfield Historical Society will celebrate its 10th-annual AppleFest on Saturday, September 29, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center, located at 314 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

WESTFIELD – Mark your calendars for AppleFest. The Westfield Historical Society's Apple Fest committee invites local communities to the 10th-annual AppleFest, to be held on Saturday, September 29, from noon to 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Reeve History and Cultural Resource Center, located at 314 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

AppleFest is a history-themed event, meant to entertain, educate, and bring together young and old in a

fall afternoon spent outdoors. 2018 marks the 10-year anniversary of AppleFest, but also the 50-year anniversary of the Westfield Historical Society, the 100-year anniversary of Mindowaskin Park, and the 150-year anniversary of the Fairview Cemetery. The events and activities planned for AppleFest 2018 will take you back in time, to celebrate the culture and history of the highlighted years.

For AppleFest 2018, the celebrated Apple Café will feature an All-Ameri-

can BBQ, presented by chef Greg Hichok. The traditional apple pie-baking contest will include a historic recipe category. The Westfield-grown band "Save Mary" will play cover tunes from the 1970s, while the Westfield Ballroom dancers will swirl around. Movie clips from 50 years ago, historic-themed displays, a school art contest and a Westfield High School essay contest along with more of last year's popular Lightning Talks on Teddy Roosevelt's campaign in Westfield, and the era of Tesla, Marconi and Edison will round up the day's activities. Of course, there will be an assortment of old-fashioned kids' games, a magician's booth and several quizzes for young and older! Westfield-native, award-winning artist, Danny Schwartz, will create our commemorative AppleFest poster.

AppleFest is an opportunity to explore history with friends and neighbors, while setting traditions that will hopefully mark the future of the area. All are welcome to attend the event.

The Westfield Historical Society is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Since 1968, the 501(c)(3) non-profit Westfield Historical Society has worked to preserve, interpret and encourage interest in history, Westfield, and its residents through educational efforts and community outreach programs.

For further information on the Westfield Historical Society and its activities, or to volunteer, call (908) 654-1794 or visit [www.westfieldhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.westfieldhistoricalsociety.org); and like us on Facebook.

## Six Local Youngsters to Perform In Hello, Dolly! This Weekend

AREA – Six students from Westfield, Cranford and Mountainside are among the fourteen New Jersey young people who will perform in *Hello, Dolly!* this year's presentation by Theater Project Jr. The show will be presented at the Hamilton Stage in Rahway, from August 10 to the 12.

Each summer, the program takes students ages 8 and up through an eight-week course that culminates in four performances for friends, family and the community.

Along the way, students sing, dance, act, build confidence in themselves, make friends and have a wonderful time.

"The kids are thrilled about performing in such a prestigious environment," said the program's Director/Producer Mary Iannelli, who has helmed the program for over 10 years. "Doing the show in such a beautiful venue really validates their hard work."

Theater Project Jr. has been getting rave reviews from parents and children, who return to the program year after year. "Mary challenges each of her kids, and every year they learn and grow as actors. Mary has also created a family atmosphere where the kids all look out for one another and enjoy performing together," said one parent. "I just can't say enough wonderful things about the program."

The young people performing in the show are drawn from Union County and beyond by the program's reputation for providing a happy, supportive setting for budding actors.

This year's cast includes: from Westfield: Gerard Lang; from Cranford: Danny Pierce, Kayleigh Pierce, Kayla Lugo, Keira Coakley; from Mountainside: Toby Pasternak; from Union: Dominic Cerreto and Iviannah Cooper; from

Long Hill: Shaye Bundonis; from Iselin: Lily Torri; from Berkeley Heights: Sasha Raab; from Hillside: Vanessa Faria; from Elmwood Park: Nick Koloski, and from Rahway: Victor Ferreira.

*Hello, Dolly!* tells of the romantic and comic exploits of Dolly Gallagher-Levi, turn-of-the-century matchmaker, as she pursues Horace Vandergelder while doing a little match-making on the side.

The Theater Project, a professional theater company presenting events in Cranford, Maplewood and Union, is celebrating 24 years of bringing productions of the best contemporary plays to New Jersey. Their mission is to enhance the cultural richness of the community by producing new or lesser-known plays on challenging themes, intro-

duce children to the joys of live theater, and provide avenues for creative expression for New Jersey's playwrights, actors and directors as they entertain and inform the community.

The Hamilton Stage, part of the Union County Performing Arts Center, is located at 360 Hamilton Street in Rahway. Performances will take place on Friday, August 10, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, August 11, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, August 12, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$18. Tickets to the production are available at the Hamilton Stage Box Office or [www.ucpac.org/events](http://www.ucpac.org/events), or at [www.theaterproject.org](http://www.theaterproject.org).

For more information on Theater Project Jr., call (908) 809-8865 or visit [www.theaterproject.org](http://www.theaterproject.org).



HELLO DOLLY!...Six students from Westfield, Cranford and Mountainside are among the fourteen New Jersey young people who will perform in *Hello, Dolly!* this year's presentation by Theater Project Jr. The production will take place this weekend. Pictured, back row, are: Shaye Bundonis, Gerard Lang of Westfield, Kayla Lugo of Cranford, Dominic Cerreto, Kayleigh Pierce of Cranford, Nick Koloski of Cranford, Danny Pierce of Cranford, Vanessa Faria, Sasha Raab; front: Iviannah Cooper.

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