

Holiday Craft-Gift Boutique To Be Held at Hetfield House

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside Historic Committee will hold its annual Holiday Craft and Gift Boutique on Saturday, December 6, from 3 to 6 p.m., at the historic Deacon Andrew Hetfield House. The Hetfield House is opening this year for a special “children’s day of shopping” for their family members. A large selection of handmade crafts, seasonal decorations and collectibles will be featured.

The borough tree lighting also will take place that day, starting at 4:30 p.m., near Mountainside Borough Hall. Visitors are invited to stop by the Rescue Squad Building for the annual “Cookies and Hot Cocoa” sale benefiting the maintenance and restoration of the Hetfield and Levi Cory houses.

This year the Holiday Boutique will be open two days — Saturday,

December 6, from 3 to 6 p.m., and Sunday, December 14, from 1 to 4 p.m., during the annual Gingerbread Open House, a borough holiday tradition.

The Deacon Andrew Hetfield House is located on Constitution Plaza (Watchung Avenue, off Birch Hill Road), adjacent to the Mountainside Public Library. Parking is available at the library.

The Mountainside Historic Committee is a 501(c)(3) charity and a committee of volunteers governed by the Borough of Mountainside. Its purpose is to maintain the circa 1760 Deacon Andrew Hetfield House, restore the circa 1818 Levi Cory House and collect and save historic information and items from destruction. For further information, call (908) 789-9420 or go to mountainsidehistory.com.



HOLIDAY SALE...Westfield Service League (WSL) volunteers Jackie Conover Rogers, left, and Betty Cagnassola display merchandise that will be available at the WSL Thrift Shop Holiday Sale on Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The thrift shop and the WSL Consignment Shop are at 114 Elmer Street, Westfield.

WSL Thrift Shop Schedules Biggest Sale on December 6

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Service League (WSL) will hold its biggest sale of the year at its thrift shop on Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hundreds of holiday items, including new toys, clothing and bric-a-brac, will be available at discounted prices. Shop racks and shelves will be replenished throughout the day due to the large volume of merchandise on hand.

In preparation for this event, both the downstairs thrift shop and the upstairs consignment shop will be closed on Friday, December 5, as the WSL restocks for the sale. The thrift shop also will have large discounts on Fall/Winter merchandise for sale on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, December 2, 3 and 4, to make room for holiday merchandise.

Additionally, the consignment shop will feature special prices on holiday items. Both shops carry women’s, men’s and children’s clothing as well as shoes, toys, books, household items, jewelry and holiday gift selections.

The thrift and consignment shops are open Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended hours for the holiday sale. The shops are located at 114 Elmer Street, Westfield.

For more information, call the thrift shop at (908) 233-2530 or the consignment shop at (908) 232-1223. A non-profit, volunteer-based organization, the WSL donates its sale pro-

ceeds to various community groups. Through community support, the WSL has been able to donate almost \$2.5 million back to the community in its 81-year history.

Miller-Cory to Salute Gingerbread Dec. 7

WESTFIELD — Families are invited to “Gingerbread Sunday” on December 7, from 1:30 to 4 p.m., at the Miller-Cory House Museum. The museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield.

During the program dedicated to this sweet treat, which has long been a part of the holiday season, children will make a decorative, non-edible gingerbread house and one additional craft to take home and will hear “gingery” stories. Light refreshments will be served.

Admission is \$4 per child; accompanying adults may attend for free. Advance reservations must be made. Requests will be accepted via phone or e-mail no later than noon on Thursday, December 4. Since space is limited, the museum cannot guarantee that all requests will be filled.

The remaining program of the museum’s autumn season will be “Italian Christmas Customs” on Sunday, December 14. For Gingerbread Sunday reservation requests or for information on any of the museum’s educational programs, call (908) 232-1776 or e-mail millercorymuseum@gmail.com.

Local Synagogue to Present Gala Concert of Jewish Music

SCOTCH PLAINS — Congregation Beth Israel will host a gala concert of Jewish music featuring the New Jersey Cantors Concert Ensemble (NJCCCE), as well as the synagogue’s own choir, on Sunday, December 7, at 3 p.m. This family-friendly concert will be free and open to the public.

The concert will showcase a wide variety of music intended for an audience of all ages, including pieces in Hebrew, Yiddish and English, plus multiple contemporary and participatory selections.

The NJCCCE is the performing group of the New Jersey Region of the Cantors Assembly, the professional organization of cantors in the Conservative Jewish movement, numbering more than 500 members throughout the world. The NJCCCE donates all funds that it raises towards scholarships for cantorial students.

Music Director Cantor Sheldon Levin will conduct the Cantors Ensemble, while Cantor Matt Axelrod of Congregation Beth Israel will conduct the synagogue’s choir as well as perform in the Cantors Ensemble. David Schlossberg will accompany the Cantors Ensemble on the piano and Debra Shapiro will be the piano accompanist for Congregation Beth Israel’s choir.

This concert is made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Wyckoff and Finkelstein families in memory of Bob Wyckoff, a beloved longtime member of the Congregation Beth Israel choir.

For more information, contact Cantor Axelrod at cantor@cbsp.org or call the synagogue office at (908) 889-1830.

Congregation Beth Israel is located at 18 Shalom Way, at the corner of Martine Avenue, in Scotch Plains.



THANK YOU, WESTFIELD...Boy Scout Troop No. 73 from the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church joined fellow Cub Scout packs and Boy Scout troops in Westfield for this year’s Scouting for Food, an annual town-wide service project. Cubs and Scouts distributed bags to each home in Westfield and then picked up donated food and delivered it to the Westfield Food Pantry at Holy Trinity. The donations filled the shelves of two rooms at the food pantry and will serve many families in need. Any boys interested in joining or who have questions about Troop No. 73 may e-mail Scoutmaster Henry Hom at henryhom73@gmail.com.

Wednesday Morning Club Reveals December Events

CRANFORD — The Wednesday Morning Club will celebrate the holidays with a Philanthropic Tea/Luncheon on Wednesday, December 10, at 1 p.m. It will be held at Il Giardino Restaurant, located at 103 Miln Street, Cranford. Co-Presidents Dot Conheaney and Barbara Jackson of Westfield will introduce The Madrigal Singers, who will perform under the direction of Anthony Rafaniello.

The club’s Literature and Public Affairs Departments will meet in Lee McArthur’s home at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, for a joint Christmas party. Sharing Christmas stories will be the theme of the party. Members are asked to bring

sandwiches.

On Tuesday, December 16, members of the American Arts and Crafts Department will design and make pottery at Fire Me Up on North Union Avenue in Cranford. The meeting time is 11 a.m.

The Wednesday Morning Club is geared toward mature women living in Union County who have recently retired or left the workplace and are looking for new activities. Participants get together several times a month to exchange ideas and explore areas of interest in the arts, literature and public affairs. For more information or to attend a meeting, call Diane Hickey at (908) 272-8665.

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The Westfield Memorial Library presents Two Creativity Workshops To Revitalize You During the Holidays!

Memories in Full Color
Wednesday, December 3 at 7:00 pm

In this workshop, Creativity Coach Wendy Rosenberg guides you through an engaging process that uses color to help you re-connect to significant memories in your life and see them through a different lens or viewpoint. Create a piece of art that honors your memories.

The Art of the Mini-Memoir: Honor your Life Story in Six Words
Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm

Get to the heart of what matters in your life. Coach Rosenberg introduces a deceptively simple art form through different exercises and techniques, inviting personal reflection, gratitude, and a new perspective on your life’s journey.

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CELEBRATING TRADITION...The New Jersey Cantors Concert Ensemble, pictured above, will be featured at a gala concert of Jewish music on Sunday, December 7, at 3 p.m., at Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains. The synagogue’s own choir also will perform. There is no charge to attend.

Trinity Church Charity Sale To Offer Jewelry, Accessories

CRANFORD — The Trinity Episcopal Church will host a charity jewelry and accessory sale on Saturday, December 6, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. It will be held in the church’s Witherington Hall, located at 119 Forest Avenue, Cranford. The merchandise will include bracelets, earrings and rings.

“Proceeds from the sale will benefit The Good Shepherd Home in Cameroon that cares for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS,” said Marion Nechuta, Trinity’s Outreach Team Leader. “We are happy to help support such an important, life-saving effort.”

The Good Shepherd Home is the branchchild of Sister Jane Mankaa,

who has dedicated her life to nurturing the orphans of her country. Sister Jane saw a small boy sleeping on the street in Yaounde, the capitol of Cameroon. “I asked him why he was sleeping there and he told me that’s where he lived,” she said. “I brought him some rice, and when I came back to see him the next morning, there were ten other boys with him.”

She learned that the street children were all orphans whose parents had died of AIDS. “I knew then that caring for these children was what I was called to do,” Sister Jane recalled.

All are welcome. For more information, contact Marion Nechuta at (908) 245-1892.

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