

# Out & About

Recorder Community Newspapers

GUIDE TO THE ARTS AND LEISURE • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

## A 'DOWN HOME' CHRISTMAS

New Jersey native, Sterban, and the Oak Ridge Boys coming to Morristown

By **PHIL GARBER**  
STAFF WRITER

It's been a long ride for Richard Sterban, from his roots at Collingswood High School in Camden County to a position on the Country Music Hall of Fame.

And it's not likely to end soon, said Sterban, who since 1972, has been the deep bass voice of the Oak Ridge Boys, known for their four-part harmonies and upbeat songs that have earned them Grammy, Dove, CMA (Country Music Association) and ACM (Academy of Country Music) awards.

Sterban is most memorable with his "oom papa oom papa mau mau" refrain on the group's biggest hit, 1981's "Elvira." The song brought them one of their five Grammy Awards and went double Platinum.

"Our longevity is because we still love what we do," said Sterban, 74. "For us, we still feel good. As long as that continues, we'll continue doing what we're doing."

The Oak Ridge Boys are on their 29th annual Christmas tour. They will be performing their "Christmas Celebration" concert at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 27, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown. For tickets, go to [www.mayoarts.org](http://www.mayoarts.org).

Sterban said he was raised a Christian and early on, developed a love for gospel music. He graduated from the same high school that Michael Landon had attended.

Next, he attended then-Trenton State College for a year. And while a student, Sterban formed a gospel band, the "Keystone Quartet." One member of the band was a singer from Philadelphia, Pa., Joe Bonsall, who also later joined the Oak Ridge Boys.

Sterban and Bonsall also have since been inducted into the Philadelphia Music Hall of Fame.

Sterban's trademark bass voice gained



The Oak Ridge Boys' Christmas Celebration Tour 2017 will be staged at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown. The show will include songs from their six best-selling Christmas CDs. From left, are Richard Sterban, Duane Allen, Joe Bonsall and William Lee Golden.

the attention of another famous bass singer, a gospel singer, songwriter and music promoter, J.D. Sumner. Sumner called and said he would be leaving his band, the "J.D. Sumner and the Stamps Quartet" to join the Blackwood Brothers band. Sumner

asked if Sterban would replace him on the "Stamps Quartet" and the singer from Camden County, accepted in a heart beat.

His decision led to the opportunity of a lifetime, to sing in the backup band for Elvis Presley. Sterban toured, sang and re-

corded with Presley and appeared in one of the king's movies, "Elvis on Tour."

The first time Sterban met Presley was while rehearsing for a show in Minneapolis,

PLEASE SEE COUNTRY, PAGE 2



# COUNTRY: Oak Ridge Boys bring sounds of season to Mayo Center

FROM PAGE 1

Minn.

"We kept waiting and waiting but no Elvis," Sterban said. "Elvis enjoyed being fashionably late."

There was a sudden commotion in the hall when the door flew open and in came Elvis and his entourage.

"When he walked in the room you could feel his presence," Sterban said. "He had such magnetism and I realized why he was the biggest star in the world."

Sterban said he had fond memories of singing gospel with Elvis and that only Johnny Cash could match Elvis for pure excitement.

In 1972, Sterban was still singing with Elvis when he got a call from Lee Goldman of the Oak Ridge Boys. Their bass singer was leaving and Goldman asked if Sterban would take his place. The next year, Bonsall joined as the group's replacement tenor.

"I always wanted to be part of the Oak Ridge Boys," Sterban said. "So I decided to leave Elvis and join the Oak Ridge Boys. That was 45 years ago and it was a pretty good decision."

The Oak Ridge Boys have played with various megastars, like Merle Haggard, who wrote a song for the group that won the 2015 Country Gospel Song of the Year award. The band also drew notice of Paul Simon who asked if they would sing backup vocals in 1977 on his song, "Slip, Sliding Away," that would become a major hit.

Each of the Oak Ridge Boys was raised in Christian homes, steeped in gospel music.

"Having an experience with Jesus is not



The Oak Ridge Boys will be performing their Christmas show on Monday, Nov. 27, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown. From left, are William Lee Golden, Richard Sterban, Joe Bonsall and Duane Allen.

a bad thing," Sterban said.

Growing up, Sterban said he listened to such gospel groups as the "Blackbird Brothers" and the "Statesmen Quartet." And he enjoyed the classic country and western sounds of Hank Snow and dreamed of playing at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville. That dream came true many times in later years.

Sterban said he listens various kinds of music, from country to the sounds of Italian tenor, Andrea Boticelli, "about as far as

you can get from gospel."

Baseball is another longtime passion for Sterban. He was a part owner of the Nashville Sounds (Milwaukee Brewers AAA club) and is now the team's "official ambassador." He also does color commentary for the team and for Vanderbilt University Commodores.

The Oak Ridge Boys were originally the Oak Ridge Quartet, formed during World War II in Oak Ridge, Tenn., where the atomic bomb was being developed.

The latest iteration of the Oak Ridge Boys includes Sterban, Bonsall, baritone William Lee Golden and lead singer Duane Allen.

The Christmas tour includes "Elvira" and the band's other hits and secular holiday music for the first half and more religious songs in the second part of the concert.

"We close with the sacred side of Christmas," Sterban said. "The real meaning of Christmas is the birth of Jesus."

## 'Newsies The Musical' set to take Centenary Stage Nov. 24-Dec. 10

This holiday season, Centenary Stage Company is set to "seize the day" with their family holiday spectacular production of Disney's "Newsies The Musical" from Friday, Nov. 24, through Sunday, Dec. 10, in the Lackland Performing Arts Center on the campus of Centenary University in Hackettstown.

"Newsies," based on the 1992 motion picture, features a score by eight-time Academy Award winner Alan Menken ("Beauty and the Beast," "Aladdin," "Sister Act") and Jack Feldman and a book by four-time Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein ("La Cage aux Folles," "Torch Song Trilogy"). While on Broadway, "Newsies" received 23 major the-

atrical nominations – including eight Tony Award nods – and won Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Score and Choreography.

Set in New York City at the turn of the century, "Newsies" is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a ragged band of teenaged "newsies," who dreams only of a better life far from the hardship of the streets. But when publishing titans Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst raise distribution prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack finds a cause to fight for and rallies newsies from across the city to strike for what's right.

"Newsies" is inspired by the re-

al-life "Newsboy Strike of 1899," when newsboy Kid Blink led a band of orphan and runaway newsies on a two-week-long action against Pulitzer, Hearst and other powerful newspaper publishers. Timely and fresh, the fictionalized adaptation of "Newsies" addresses age-old themes of social injustice, exploitative labor practices and David-versus-Goliath struggles as the young learn to harness their power against a corrupt establishment, organizers said. High-energy with non-stop thrills and featuring eight brand-new songs by the original team of Menken and Feldman while keeping many of the songs from the film, including "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," "King of

New York" and "Santa Fe."

Featuring a cast of more than 50 performers from across the tri-state area, Centenary Stage Company's production is directed by Broadway, film and television veteran Michael Blevins.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and 8, Saturdays, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 9; at 2 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 and 10, and Wednesdays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6; and at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7. Ticket prices are \$29.50 for adults and \$20 for children under 12 for matinee and Friday evening performances. Saturday evening performances cost \$32 for adults and \$20 for children under 12. Thursday evening performances are \$29.50 for

all seats with a Buy One/Get One Rush Ticket Special only when purchased at the Centenary Stage Company box office in person as early as two hours prior to performance time. The Buy One/Get One deal is not valid for advance ticket sales and not available via phone or internet sales.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.centenarystageco.org](http://www.centenarystageco.org) or call the box office at (908) 979-0900. The box office is located in the Lackland Performing Arts Center at 715 Grand Ave. in Hackettstown. The box office is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and two hours prior to each performance. Centenary Stage Company can also be found on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



# N.J. Festival Orchestra celebrates the season with Holiday Tenors

The New Jersey Festival Orchestra kicks off the holiday season at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at The Concert Hall in The Dorothy Young Center for the Performing Arts at Drew University in Madison, with "Return of the Holiday Tenors," a family festival of traditional and contemporary songs and music, sing-alongs and more.

The concert features last year's award-winning tenor Cody Austin, who returns with friends to celebrate and captivate with a dazzling selection of renowned tenor classics, traditional carols, signature versions of familiar fare and a host of wintertime curiosities, organizers said.

"We are thrilled to welcome these gifted performers to help us welcome in the Holiday season," said Maestro David Wroe. "We believe there is something for everyone in this performance. Our program is a vessel for children, parents, grandparents and friends – indeed the entire community – to come together through music at this unique time of the year."

American tenor Austin is quickly becoming one of the most promising singing actors of his age. A graduate of the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia, Austin has undertaken a variety of leading roles in opera houses throughout the U.S. Recent engagements include the Duke in "Rigoletto" for Opera Santa Barbara, Alfredo in "La Traviata" for the NJFO, Pittsburg opera, Virginia Opera and Utah Opera and Don Jose in "Carmen" for Shreveport Opera. He was recently featured as tenor solo-



MATTHEW WHITE



CAMERON SCHUTZTA



CODY AUSTIN

ist with Peter Nero and the Philly Pops in a program entitled "The Great American Tenor."

Praised for his "ringing high notes" and "clarity of tone," Metropolitan Opera's Cameron Schutzta was the 2016 winner of the top Robert Lauch Memorial Fund Endowment Award from the Wagner Society of New York. His recent highlights include: the Narraboth in "Salome" with the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional in Mexico City, Manrico in "Il Trovatore" with both Portland Summerfest and the Astoria Music Festival, Don José in "Carmen" with the Walla Walla Symphony, and Pollione in "Norma" with Opera in the Heights.

Grand prize recipient of the Mario Lanza Vocal Competition, acclaimed tenor Matthew White is in his second year at the Academy of Vocal Art in Phila-

delphia. Recently heard as Edgardo in "Lucia di Lammermoor," and in the title role in the Massenet's "Werther," White was featured in the Metropolitan Opera National Council of Florida Gala concert. He has also performed with the Ocean City Pops, Palm Beach Opera, Vero

Beach Opera and PORTopera.

Also joining NJFO is Madison's Central Avenue School Chorus, an elective group of fourth and fifth grade students under the direction of Kiera Chiarino. The students will perform "Somewhere in my Memory," the award-winning "Home Alone" movie soundtrack song by John Williams and Tiomkin's "It's a Wonderful Life."

This seasonal stroll of timeless classics and sentimental favorites, sure to bring joy,

smiles, and distinctive holiday memories to one and all, has been made possible in part by a Union County Heart (History, Education and Arts Reaching Thousands) grant, and support from The Westfield Foundation.

Tickets for "Return of the Holiday Tenors" cost \$28 to \$76 for adults or \$15 for students in grades K-12.

Tickets are also on sale for NJFO's New Year's Eve musical celebration, "Puttin' on the Ritz," a revue of American musical theater classics from stage and screen presented by guest vocalists direct from the Broadway stage and beyond. The concert takes place at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, at Westfield High School, 550 Dorian Road in Westfield. Tickets cost \$40, \$55 or \$70. Tickets for children under 18 cost \$15 with the purchase of an adult ticket.

This concert has sold out for the past five years and attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets as early as possible.

Tickets for both concerts are available online at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org), by calling (908) 232-9400 or by visiting the office at 224 E. Broad Street in Westfield.

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## COVERED BRIDGE ARTISANS



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or visit us on Facebook: [facebook.com/CoveredBridgeArtisans](https://www.facebook.com/CoveredBridgeArtisans)



# Covered Bridge Artisans tour returns Nov. 24-26

The Covered Bridge Artisans Studio Tour and Sale will take place Friday through Sunday, Nov. 24 to 26, in six artists' studios in southern Hunterdon County.

The 23rd annual event, a self-guided tour, features stops in the Lambertville, Stockton and Sergeantsville areas with 10 guest artists at the Cultural Arts Center in Sergeantsville. Hours for the tour are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Visitors will discover new art work and crafts, have the opportunity to see inside the studios on historic properties and talk to the artists behind the creativity. New work is presented every year.

The idea of the group grew out of a desire to bring visitors into the countryside to see high quality work being produced by studio artisans in their historic and architecturally interesting home environments. A detailed map can be downloaded at [www.coveredbridgeartisans.com](http://www.coveredbridgeartisans.com).

Among the studios on the tour are: Bill Jersey, located on the canal in Lambertville. Jersey is new to the tour but has shown widely in the area. Jersey is a filmmaker and winner of two Peabodies and Emmys and an Oscar Nominee. He has been a full-time landscape artist since 2008 and has received numerous awards from



"Autumn Colors," above, by Bill Jersey and "Birch Trees," right, by Sunflower Glass Studios are among the works on view Friday through Sunday, Nov. 24 to 26, during the 23rd annual Covered Bridge Artisans Studio Tour and Sale.



Phillips Mill, the Prallsville and Stover Mill.

Katherine Hackl of Swan Street Studio in Lambertville, has expanded her pottery work to include the new technique of water etching. This is a process that combines subtle texture and the visual character of brushstrokes. She makes each piece using a porcelain clay that is then layered

with a colored underglaze. Once dry, the piece is painted with a resin such as wax or shellac and allowed to dry. The background is then washed away with a water solution. This leaves a layered look that combines some of the traits of her traditional sgraffito work and the more recent porcelain hand painted brushwork.

The studio of Annelies vanDommelen is located at the north end of Lambertville on North Union Street. As a painter, printmaker and box maker, vanDommelen's styles remain the same when crossing into each of these mediums, organizers said.

Moorland Studio in Stockton is the collaboration of Constance Bassett and David Cann. They are moving in the direction of manufacturing more furniture and lighting along with a continued development of sculpture and paintings. Cann mainly works in metals while Bassett works in ceramics, oil paintings and mixed media assemblages.

Karen and Geoff Caldwell of Sunflower Glass Studio outside Stockton are continuing to pursue their new passion of mixing many forms of glass into their pieces; fused, painted, beveled and stained glass, organizers said.

Karen's fused botanical work is taking on new levels with exploring many native flowers while Geoff is trying new painting techniques with his hand-painted work. Many of these glass techniques are being transformed into small windows and table top collectibles as well as custom windows. And bevels are always found among each item that Sunflower produces since it was the first love of the art form.

Phoebe Wiley of the Long Lane Farm Studio outside of Sergeantsville is moving around from three to two dimensions, and back. She has painted canvasses that reflect what she has learned from making marks on pots. And also she is making pots that reflect 50 years of making marks on canvas.

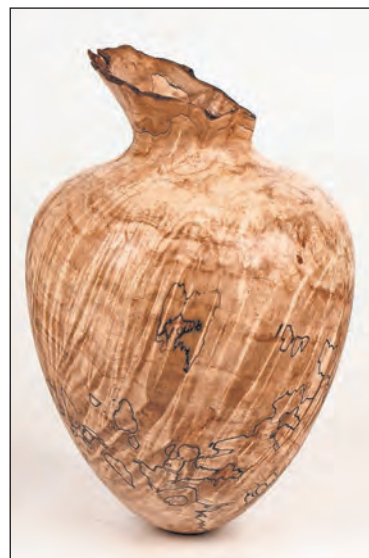
Ten additional artists will be showing their work this year in Sergeantsville at The Virginia Napurano Cultural Arts Center, a restored church located close to the school. The new artist this year will be painter Helena van Emmerik-Finn. Her recent paintings depict animals in both pastel and oil. Fabric artist Teri Nalbone of

Solebury, Pa., will be showing her handmade wall quilts and Karen Wychock of Warrington, Pa., will display her traditional hand-woven baskets.

Also showing are Sheila Fernekes of Flemington with contemporary one-of-a-kind jewelry, interweaving beads, silver, and gems, and glass blower Drew Montesano of Solebury, Pa. Diana Contine of Dakota Moon in Solebury designs jewelry in silver with natural themes in combination with gemstones.

Other artists will be Amy Turner of Doylestown, Pa., who makes one-of-a-kind hand-dyed scarves and shawls with beading or tapestry, Bernard Hohlfeld of Roundwood Studio in Doylestown, Pa., maker of a large variety of turned and hollow formed bowls. Sheila Coutin of Sandbrook Pottery in Sandbrook makes sculptural pottery and functional ware. Susan Nadelson of West Amwell shows hand-dyed and handspun yarn from fine wool, silk, mohair, kid, and alpaca.

For more information and a map visit [www.coveredbridgeartisans.com](http://www.coveredbridgeartisans.com).



Spalted Maple Burl Vase, left, by Bernard Hohlfeld and Moonface Necklace, right, by Diana Contine are among the works on view during the 23rd annual Covered Bridge Artisans Studio Tour and Sale.



# Winter whites: Not intuitive but surprisingly delicious

*"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." — Marcel Proust*

Marcel, Seriously. Can we do both? Seek new landscapes and have new eyes? With implied consent from the great essayist, I am going to embark on making this month's column as much about discovery, that mystique element of human behavior, as it is about wine. As humans, we tend to cuddle up to our comfort zones and safe harbors. Discovery to most of us is like a xylophone to a rock band, intriguing but rarely used. Yet we are in awe of the Columboes, the Vasco da Gammass, the Magellans and to think, if Chris just hunkered in with his paella in his native Spain, you and I would never seen Oreos or peanut butter. Or all things Americana. So follow this pied piper on a grape discovery and repeat after me, Goodbye Mac and Cheese, Hello Rata-touille!

Hello whites over reds this winter season. Armed with the poetic license of an economist to make assumptions, I assume you love Cabernet, Pinot Noir, Zin and Rhone as your comfort reds for the winter. All delectable beauties in their own right, so addicting to the souls of your taste buds. Yes, taste buds have souls. A gentle hiatus from those "blanky" reds will only make your buds grow fonder.

## See You Later Cab; Back In A While With Chenin

Hard to resist the warm, lush, satiny feel of a big cab, be it with steak or lamb and by a fireplace. No question that marriage



**Ash Rajan**

**READ BETWEEN THE WINES**

The writer is a French-certified Maitre Du Vin Du Bordeaux from the Ecole Du Vin in France. While his hobby passion is wine, Ash, a former Wall Street Strategist, is currently a V.P. Investments at Janney Montgomery Scott. Contact him at [arajan@janney.com](mailto:arajan@janney.com).

is made in heaven. You can't break up with this red by text. It will be a teary farewell even if its for one winter. But try a spray of fresh cut grass, peach, pineapple and herbs of its white sister, Sauvignon Blanc. It's like imbibing all of New Zealand in a gulp.

Or the other winter white, Chenin Blanc from the Loire Valley in France. The climate is moody and volatile and gets it family face from its elder brother to the West, the Atlantic Ocean. Honey, nuts, ginger, fig and the ubiquitous apple are the common notes but the texture is acidic and firm, not a goose-down bed but futon. The limestone-dressed hamlet of Vouvray happened on me when I took a wrong fork in the road back from Chateneuf Du Pape. The 16th century Nitrav Castle was the a gatehouse to the discovery of Vouvray, with its loft tasting room above the chapel, the stables and the barrel cooperage. The heady elixir of horses, leather, oak, mesquite and the breezes from the castle's rose garden played like a thousand flutes to the stark purity of the chenin blanc. As I imbibed the last drop

of a miserly tasting pour, the chapel bell chimes, as if by divine invitation and Vouvray was etched in my soul forever.

Ask Domaine Huet in France and Pausanok Vineyards on the North Fork of Long Island, if they will sell you a bottle. They are usually gone. Loire is where it began but good Chenins come from Argentina, New Zealand and even Israel while the bounty is South Africa. However, you have to pick the princes from the plonk. The Winery of Good Hope and Ken Forrester are consistently good producers. Simon-sig under \$12 and a Chenin-Vignonier blend from Pineridge under \$10 are usually available at Gary's in Bernardsville. And if your fling with Chenin fades, boomerang back to the Zealand Marlboroughs, but also soak in the crystalline minerality and the aromatic intensity of the sauvignon blancs from the Alto Adige region of Italy. My favorite, introduced to me by a dear friend, is Quarz from Cantina Terlan.

## Press Pause On Pinot Noir; Press Play On Gewurtztraminer And Gruner Vetliner

Before you fret looking at these Uniden-

tified Written Objects (UWO), let alone mouthing them, watch a fifth grader spelling bee to get inspired and cure your resultant low self esteem by pronouncing GUH-woorts-TRAH-minner and GREW ner VELT lee ner. Now that you have it down Fritz, expect a blue ribbon in the mail from the Alsace and Austrian Chambers of Commerce.

The Trams are intensely floral, aromatic, spicy wines that range from bone dry to decadently sweet. They are a crisp, grapefruit-rinsed, oak-agnostic wines that pair as well as the overused Riesling and spicy Asian food pairing. Perhaps because I am a vintage car geek, Trams from Hugel and Helfrich top my list from Bugatti's birthplace, Alsace.

Closer home is the well structured Clai-borne & Churchill from California and Bidell, in the North Fork of Long Island. As for the Gruners, the Austrians pack gobs of juice coated with a veneer of acidity that makes for a summer wine that is as upbeat as a tour guide with the austerity of a librarian. The usual flavor cavalry of peach,

PLEASE SEE WINE, PAGE 16



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# The Dalles, Columbia Gorge and Multnomah Falls

*Editor's Note: This is the 19th in a monthly series detailing the discoveries made during the author's road trip following the trail of Lewis and Clark.*

The town of The Dalles, Ore., is on a narrow bend in the Columbia River. Clark describes the water passing through this area as "gut swelling, boiling and whorling in every direction..." (DeVoto edition of Lewis and Clark Journals, pg. 264) Somehow they managed to float their boats down the rapids to the astonishment of the natives watching them.

While the American Empress paddle-wheel boat was docked in The Dalles, my husband, Richard, and I visited the Fort Dalles Museum, which is housed in the former Surgeon's Quarters. This fort was an army post in the 1850s and 1860s when Oregon was a territory. A re-enactor told us about the family that had lived there and artifacts from pioneering days, including tools, clothing and furniture. In the barn is a collection of historic vehicles: wagons, carriages, and a horse-drawn hearse. We certainly gained more and more respect for the hearty pioneers who traveled this way.

We also visited the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum. The exhibit about Lewis and Clark showed the myriad amount of supplies they packed for the ex-



**Jennifer Fischer**

## ROAD TRIP OF DISCOVERY

The writer has been traveling and writing about her adventures on the road for many years. Formerly a resident of Chatham, she and her husband Richard now live in Basking Ridge. She may be reached at: jwfisher.nj@gmail.com.

pedition. They carried 30 tons of supplies, including medicines, tents, arms and ammunition, sheet lead for bullets, clothing, fish hooks, surveying equipment, glass beads, kettles, opium and Epsom salts, needles, thread etc. All these supplies had to be transported on horses over the mountains and in canoes when on the rivers.

The next morning found us gliding down the beautiful Columbia River Gorge through the Cascades, passing the 800-foot-high Beacon Rock, the second highest monolith in the world. Clark mentions passing this rock on Oct. 31, 1805, and the dangerous rapids in this area, which are now covered by the waters backed up by the Bonneville Dam. They portaged around the rapids with the help of the local inhabitants.

We docked in Stevenson, Wash., and visited the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center, where we learned about the ice age and what geological forces shaped the area, along with the geography and culture of the region.

This museum also contains the largest rosary collection in the world, containing nearly 4,000 rosaries collected by Don Brown, a resident of North Bonneville, Wash. Many were gifts from notable people, including Father Flanagan of Boys Town, Lawrence Welk and John F. Kennedy. The smallest consisted of beads the size of a pinhead and the largest was 16 feet long. What a surprise!

Another interesting exhibit was a 37-foot fish wheel. The water current propels the paddles and the baskets catch the upstream swimming fish. They were used extensively from the 1880s until the 1930s, when they were outlawed for commercial fishing on the Columbia River.

Soon after that stop, we arrived at the Bonneville Dam. There is a concrete fish ladder beside the dam and 24-hour human counters monitor how many fish swim up the ladder and how they are doing as they swim by the windows. There were many small personal fishing boats catching salmon as they collected at the bottom of the fish ladders. And we passed many Native American fishing platforms where the fishermen



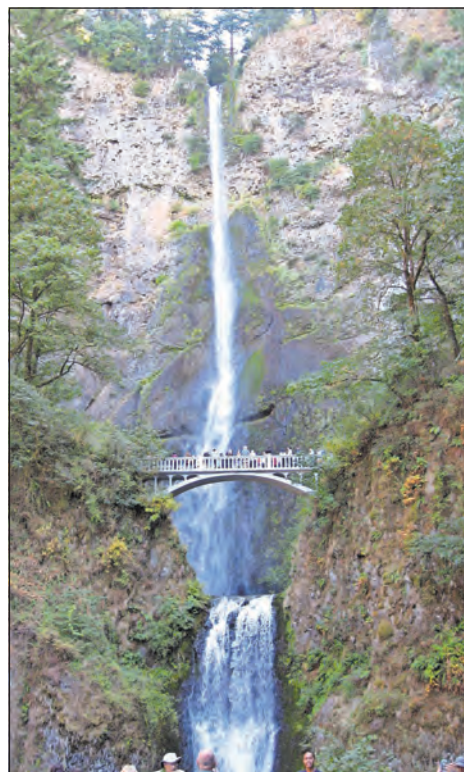
**Above:** Scenic Route 30 in Oregon offers spectacular views of the Columbia River. The Vista House monument is shown in the distance and at **left**. Vista House is a rest stop built in the early days of automobile pleasure driving along Scenic Route 30. In 1918, it was dedicated as a monument to the early pioneers of Oregon. It is 55 feet high with marble floors and a limestone rotunda.



still use nets and spears.

In the afternoon, we boarded a bus for a tour to Multnomah Falls, which is often shown on travel brochures. The falls are pencil thin and about 620 feet high. We walked up a trail to the Benson Bridge, named after the man who owned the falls in the early 1900s. Here we had an awe-inspiring view of both tiers of the spectacular falls as well as the Columbia River.

The first scenic highway in the United States, a beautiful and amazing engineering feat, was completed in 1922 through the Columbia Gorge on the Oregon side of the Columbia River. Seventy miles of the road is still in use today as Scenic Route 30, and we were on it! Scenic indeed! Cliff overlooks, waterfalls, tunnels through mountainsides, and the Columbia River below. No wonder it was designated an Historic Landmark.



The pencil-thin Multnomah Falls measure 620 feet tall and are located on the Oregon side of the Columbia River Gorge.

Along the route is "Vista House," essentially a \$100,000 comfort station built for ladies who were accompanying their husbands on an automobile outing into the beautiful countryside back in the day when cars were becoming affordable to the public. In 1918, it was dedicated as a monument to the early pioneers of Oregon. It is 55 feet high with marble floors and a limestone rotunda. And, yes, it does have restrooms and a breathtaking view of the Columbia River.

As Lewis and Clark traveled down the Columbia River toward the Pacific Ocean they began to see signs that the ocean wasn't very far. Some of the natives were wearing the clothing of sailors to whom they had traded fur pelts. And they also knew some familiar English words, such as: "powder, knife and damned rascal."

Next stop on the Road Trip of Discovery: Arriving at Fort Clatsop, where the Corps of Discovery made their winter quarters of 1805-06.



# 'LBJ' offers hope from the past

By **MICHAEL S. GOLDBERGER**  
FILM CRITIC

Viewers uninterested in politics and American history probably won't enjoy the insight and philosophical ruminations ventured by director Rob Reiner in his savvy biopic, "LBJ." Detailing the momentous ebb and flow of the times just before and after the ascension of Lyndon Baines Johnson to the presidency of the United States in 1963, Mr. Reiner, working from a script by Joey Hartstone, studiously puts forth a thesis worthy of an honorary master's degree. If it had new information about the man behind the Civil Rights Act of 1964, I'd of considered a Ph.D.

Now, I won't attempt to pull away those who would much prefer the couch, the football game, a six pack, a family-sized bag of barbecue potato chips and speculation as to who will and who will not kneel when the national anthem is played. I like a good bowl of chips myself...preferably with a bottle of grape soda. But pity is, they'll miss an eye-opening epiphany or two that just might make them better citizens. While Reiner paints a responsibly accurate portrait of both the man and the era, it's in the clever subtext where he realizes the true and noble purpose of history.

You see, just in case you don't remember or you weren't yet a taxpayer, good old Lyndon wasn't, well, quite the genteel sort of person we were accustomed to seeing in the oval office. In fact, to underline his legendary crassness, the movie makes a point of including the storied toilet scene. However, before you cite the present day and the greatest crassness the world has ever seen, note that the movie winkingly knows what you're thinking. For all his earthiness, there is never a moment when we doubt that LBJ was a devoted American.

True patriotism should of course be a given. So as LBJ switches from human steamroller to devious finagler to charmer-in-chief to get his humanitarian legislation passed, it is refreshing in that his ego is put to traditional heroic use, and not just in service to himself. It is end-justifies-the-means politicking in its finest form. Embodied in a superb performance by Woody Harrelson, we witness the talented governing experience, knowledge of history and gifted touch of altruism it takes to be a real dealmaker.

It is entertainingly reminded that we Americans have woven quite a story for ourselves...a sort of Greek myth wherein the Founding Fathers bestowed this light of liberty it has become incumbent upon us to keep burning bright. Not just for ourselves, mind you, but as a hope for the world. Call it an international version of looking out for

## >> MOVIE REVIEW: 'LBJ'

"LBJ," rated R, is an Electric Entertainment release directed by Rob Reiner and stars Woody Harrelson, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Richard Jenkins. Running time: 98 minutes

★★★★☆

the other guy. Even those sworn to tear us down would be sad to see the ideal they secretly envy dashed upon the scrap heap of virtuous ideas.

It is our vision, our chutzpah, our conglomeration of heritages and all that corny good stuff that they covet. If it never existed, you'd have to make it up, to give the human spirit something to hope for in the face of authoritarian rule. Hence it is sadly painful when the film details the tragic event that led to LBJ's near impossible challenge. Many Americans felt they were standing on a threshold of a dream, and then it was stolen from them. JFK was killed, and his seeming antithesis was charged with mending a wound that to this day has never really healed.

Reiner deals with the tragedy of Dealey Plaza via flashbacks and fast-forwards ominously interspersed into the scenario. It is the portion of the oral epic poem that has assumed its place in our consciousness. Though we still don't really know anything, except that conspiracy theorists have made a veritable career of it, it was doubtlessly the same Bad that has been trying to oust Good right from the beginning.

Harrelson sublimely etches Johnson's understanding of the resultantly complicated domestic agenda that would ultimately define his presidency. He is the master carpenter who, faced with a structure nearly shaken from its foundation, rolls up his sleeves and gives us a tutorial in social reform that might have even impressed Mr. Machiavelli. That it is all realized in the shadow of a grand heartbreak and, like Roger Maris's 61 homers, wasn't completely appreciated until history said so, further impresses upon us the fickleness that attends the human pageant.

Unfortunately for us and Lyndon Baines Johnson, life, as my Mom oft inversely noted, isn't all cream and peaches. After the printed epilogue affirms the president's great domestic legacy, it alas notes his failure, as Washington had warned, to beware of foreign entanglements. Almost 60,000 Americans died in Vietnam. Relating these facts and letting them fall where they may in the service of history, "LBJ" is A-OK.

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# Vanderveer House to host 15th annual Colonial Christmas

A Colonial Café, an array of holiday merchants, musical performances, reindeer, gingerbread workshops for children and a holiday decorating workshop for adults are just a few of the highlights in store for visitors to the 15th annual Colonial Christmas from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 25-26 and Dec. 2-3, at the Jacobus Vanderveer House and Museum in Bedminster Township.

The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House invite visitors of all ages to experience Christmas past and present when the circa 1772 Dutch Colonial home opens its wreath-clad doors.

The popular fundraiser features tours of the museum, which will be decorated for the holidays by Lynn and Jessica Angelone of Angelone's Florist in Raritan, Gail Whiting of Design Consultants in Bedminster, Susan Miniman of Susan Laura Interior Design in Bedminster along with her daughter Sara Miniman, broker/manager of Weichert's Bedminster office and Jeanne Galbraith, of Mendham. The event features boutique merchants and artisans; Colonial musicians, re-enactors and crafters; pet photos with Santa Paws; military demonstrations; a reindeer program; Santa visits; a gingerbread house workshop for children; and a holiday decorating workshop for adults.

A tree lighting, sponsored by Investor's Bank, will kick off this year's two weekend-long event at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25. The tree lighting is free to the community and features caroling with the Harmonium Choral Society, hot pretzels and hot chocolate.



**Above:** A tree lighting, sponsored by Investor's Bank, will kick off this year's two weekend-long event at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25. The tree lighting is free to the community and features caroling with the Harmonium Choral Society, hot pretzels and hot chocolate. **Right:** Colonial re-enactors will conduct artillery demonstrations and more during the 15th annual Colonial Christmas celebration at Jacobus Vanderveer House & Museum in Bedminster Township.



pretzels and hot chocolate.

"Colonial Christmas has grown to be one of Central New Jersey's signature holiday events, attracting nearly 2,000 visitors of all ages, cultures, and interests in a festive atmosphere of hospitality, history and friendship," said Craig Sutherland, president of The Friends of the Jacobus Vanderveer House Board of Trustees. "Proceeds benefit exhibit development, historical interpretations, educational

events, and leadership programs offered throughout the year. This fundraiser is a vital means of preserving this extraordinary piece of Revolutionary War history for future generations."

"Whether you come to shop, grab a bite to eat at our Colonial Café, get decorating tips for the holidays, listen to musical performances, visit Santa, get an up-close look at a reindeer, make a gingerbread house with your

child, or learn more about Dutch Colonial life during the American Revolution, there's something for everyone at Colonial Christmas," he said.

The schedule of events includes:

## Friday, Nov. 24: 7 p.m.

Tree Lighting Sponsored by Investors Bank

## Saturday, Nov. 25:

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Museum tours; holiday shopping with Design Consultants, Classic Home & Garden, Stanton Sweets, Christine Pane, India Hicks, Le Fashion Cottage, B.J. O'Connor, White Birch Candle Company, Lace Creations, Mac Jac, Posh and Lei Lei; colonial re-Enactors and crafters;

PLEASE SEE COLONIAL, PAGE 10

## Colonial Cocktail attendees, readers may savor Baked Lobster Dip

The Colonial Christmas Cocktail Reception, planned for 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, will feature holiday libations served by Colonial barkeeps, sumptuous seafood and hors d'oeuvres by Metropolitan Seafood of Lebanon, and musical entertainment by The Practitioners of Musick. In addition, a special veterans appreciation presentation will be held and attendees may indulge in some holiday Shopping with Design Consultants, Classic Home & Garden, Stanton Sweets, India Hicks, Ward Vintage, Portraits, Inc., and J. McLaughlin.

Tickets to the soiree cost \$150 per person

or \$100 per person for junior patrons ages 25 and under. Reservations required. For ticket information, phone (908) 396-6053 or visit [www.jvanderveerhouse.org](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.org).

Metropolitan Seafood has shared their Baked Lobster Dip recipe, which will be a featured selection at the Colonial Christmas Cocktail Reception:

### BAKED LOBSTER DIP

Serves 4 to 6 for appetizers

**1¼ lb. lobster, steamed and meat taken out (Metropolitan Seafood does this**

**free of charge)**

**½ cup sweet red pepper, diced fine**  
**½ cup flat leaf parsley, chopped**  
**2 scallions, green part only, sliced thin**  
**¼ cup mayonnaise**  
**¼ cup of Lebni or Greek style yogurt**  
**4 ounces cream cheese, room temperature**  
**juice of one lemon**  
**½ teaspoon hot sauce**  
**¼ cup panko bread crumbs**  
**½ teaspoon grated lemon zest**

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Chop lobster meat into even pieces and

place in a medium bowl. Stir in the red pepper, parsley, and scallion greens. Using a rubber spatula, gently stir in the mayonnaise, Lebni, cream cheese, lemon juice, and hot sauce. Transfer to a 1-quart shallow baking dish. In a small bowl, combine the panko and lemon zest. Just before baking, sprinkle the panko mixture on top and bake until the panko is toasty brown and the dip is bubbling at the edges, about 12 minutes. Serve hot.

The dip can be made one day ahead. The panko mixture should be added right before baking. Serve with Crostini or crackers.



# Take an historical 'Holly Walk' through Morris County

The Morris County Tourism Bureau will host its annual Holly Walk, a long-standing Morris County tradition that offers visitors the opportunity to visit six local historic sites decorated for the holidays, with one admission ticket, over two days, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3.

Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holly-walk-2017-tickets-39015392088>

This year the event will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3. Participating sites include:

- The Morris County Historical Society at Acorn Hall, Morristown
  - The Ford Mansion at Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown
  - Macculloch Hall Historical Museum, Morristown
  - The Museum of Early Trades & Crafts, Madison
  - The Schuyler-Hamilton House, Morristown
  - The Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms, Parsippany
- Each site will offer something special for visitors.

Acorn Hall will be decorated in Victorian fashion. "Dr. Britton D. Evans," long-serving director of Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (1890-1920), will be on hand to discuss his philosophy that all patients should receive a Christmas gift. Visitors can tour the current exhibit "The Cutting Edge: Medicine in Morris County, 1876-1976."



The Morris County Tourism Bureau is offering the Alexander Hamilton-Elizabeth Schuyler Christmas ornament for sale to commemorate their "Match Made in Morristown." Ornaments are available online for a \$10 donation at: [morristourism.org/Christmas-ornament](http://morristourism.org/Christmas-ornament) but must be picked up in person at 6 Court Street, Morristown.

Acorn Hall will only be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

At the Ford Mansion at Morristown National Historical Park in Morristown, visitors will see the conference room "decorat-

ed" as though General George Washington and his staff have just finished a sumptuous holiday meal and have gone to make merry in town.

Outside the Ford Mansion soldiers in period costume will stand guard. On Saturday, guests will enjoy entertainment, games and storytelling.

On Sunday, there will be festive live music. The site is open both days.

Macculloch Hall will fully deck its halls with a tree in every room. Visitors can make an ornament on Saturday for the Drawing Room tree in memory of famous presidents celebrating Christmas at the White House. Tour the current exhibit of Thomas Nast's famous holiday drawings including many images of Santa Claus. The site is open both days.

At the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts in Madison, this historic building will be decorated for the holidays and offer musical entertainment throughout the day. Tour their exhibit "Spark: The Explosive and Dirty History of Light" and learn how early New Jersey residents lit their holiday homes with lights, lamps and early electric devices. Winter artifacts from the collection will also be on view. The site is open both days.

At the Schuyler-Hamilton House, there will be an exhibit of historic quilts gathered from four historic houses owned and managed by the Daughters of the American Revolution throughout New Jersey. Dating from 1821 to 1976, quilts are coming from The Isaac Watson House, Buccleuch Mansion, the Van Bunschoten Homestead, and Schuyler-Hamilton's own collection. The site is open both days.

At the Stickley Museum, tour the 1911 Log House festooned in period Arts-and-Crafts style. The museum is suspending guided tours for the day so that visitors may stroll through the former Stickley family home at their own pace. Enjoy jazzy holiday tunes courtesy of the Aubrey Anne Trio. Stickley will only be open on Saturday.

In addition to the sites being open, their gift shops will be brimming with unique merchandise, so bring your holiday gift lists, and support local historic sites and preservation efforts.

Advanced sale Holly Walk tickets are \$30.00 per person and may be purchased online through December 1st at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

The Morris County Tourism Bureau has an Alexander Hamilton-Elizabeth Schuyler Christmas ornament for sale commemorating their "Match Made in Morristown." Ornaments are available online for a \$10 donation at: [morristourism.org/Christmas-ornament](http://morristourism.org/Christmas-ornament) but must be picked up in person at 6 Court Street, Morristown.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

1				6	3			2
	7			9		5	4	
		5	8			9		
3			1	5				4
		2			7	1		9
4	1		6				5	
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		8			5		2	
	2			4		8		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★**

★ Moderate    ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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**>> SEE ANSWERS ON PAGE 16**

## 'The Fibers of Time' exhibit on view Nov. 17 to Jan. 19

An opening reception for an exhibition of Mira Sasson's recent works of art will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17 at The Linda Grandis Blatt Gallery of Temple B'nai Or, 60 Overlook Road in Morristown. The show, "The Fibers of Time," runs through Friday, Jan. 19, 2018. Gallery hours are during Temple B'nai Or functions and by appointment during business hours, Monday through Friday. Call 973-532-2268 to arrange a private viewing.

Also on exhibition is a debut photography show by Sasson's daughter, Maya Sasson, "Instincts." Maya Sasson studied animation at New York School of Visual Arts and is pursuing her bachelor's degree at Montclair State University.


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# COLONIAL: Experience Christmas of yore at Vanderveer House

FROM PAGE 8

demonstrations by the Hunterdon County Rug Artisan's Guild  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Enslows perform Colonial American Christmas Music

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Colonial Café open – serving traditional American soups, salads, sandwiches, sides and desserts

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Reindeer Magic and Miracles Program  
2:30 p.m.

Laura Clare Holiday Decorating Workshop for adults: Decorate a sweet-smelling lemon cypress tree under the guidance of acclaimed floral and event designer Laura Clare. 1 ½ hours. \$55 per person. Register at [www.jvanderveerhouse.org](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.org) or by calling (908) 396-6053.

## Sunday, Nov. 26

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Museum tours; holiday shopping with Design Consultants, Classic Home & Garden, Stanton Sweets, Christine Pane, India Hicks, Le Fashion Cottage, B.J. O'Connor, Mac Jac, Posh and Lei Lei; colonial re-enactors and crafters; "The Evolution of the Gingerbread Man" with Susan McLellan Plaisted; John Lamb's Artillery Company Demonstrations; demonstrations by the Hunterdon County Rug Artisan's Guild  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Colonial Café Open – serving traditional American soups, salads, sandwiches, sides and desserts

1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Ridge High School A Cappella Choir performs

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Santa Visit



Knowledgeable docents, re-enactors and volunteers will be available to provide information on the history and furnishings of the circa 1772 Jacobus Vanderveer House.

## Friday, Dec. 1

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

School Group Tour Day featuring "Betsey Ross;" presentations by Lady Ellen Ruck and Militiaman Joshua.

6 to 8 p.m.

Cocktail reception featuring holiday libations served by Colonial barkeeps, sumptuous seafood and hors d'oeuvres by Metropolitan Seafood, and musical entertainment by The Practitioners of Musick; special veterans appreciation presentation; holiday Shopping with Design Consultants, Classic Home & Garden, Stanton Sweets, India Hicks, Ward Vintage, Portraits, Inc., and J. McLaughlin.

Tickets cost \$150 per person or \$100 per person for junior patrons ages 25 and under. Reservations required. For ticket infor-

mation, phone (908) 396-6053 or visit [www.jvanderveerhouse.org](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.org)

## Saturday, Dec. 2

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Museum tours; holiday shopping with Design Consultants, Classic Home & Garden, Stanton Sweets, India Hicks, Le Fashion Cottage, White Birch Candle Company, and Lace Creations; colonial re-enactors and crafters; demonstrations by the Alice Beatty Chapter of the Association of Traditional Rug Hooking

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Gingerbread house workshop for children accompanied by an adult, courtesy of Ms. Gail's Kids Cooking. Cost of the program is \$40 per kit, limited to one child and one adult per kit, and includes admission to

the house tour for one (1) adult. Walk-in registration costs \$50 per kit. Pre-registration is required. Visit [www.jvanderveerhouse.org](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.org) or call (908) 396-6053 to sign up.

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Enslows perform Colonial American Christmas Music

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Colonial Café open – serving traditional American soups, salads, sandwiches, sides and desserts

12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Pet Photos with Santa Paws – Bring your pet for a holiday photo with Santa.

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Bedminster School Hand Bells

## Sunday, Dec. 3

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Museum tours; holiday shopping with Design Consultants, Classic Home & Garden, Stanton Sweets, India Hicks, Le Fashion Cottage and Lace Creations; colonial re-enactors and crafters; "The Evolution of the Gingerbread Man" with Susan McLellan Plaisted; demonstrations by the Alice Beatty Chapter of the Association of Traditional Rug Hooking

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Colonial Café open – serving traditional American soups, salads, sandwiches, sides and desserts

1 to 3 p.m.

Santa Visit

3 to 4 p.m.

Bernards High School Madrigals Performance

Colonial Christmas admission costs \$10 at the door and is free for children ages 12 and under. Museum members are also admitted free. For tickets to workshops, the cocktail reception or for more information, call (908) 396-6053 or visit [www.jvanderveerhouse.org](http://www.jvanderveerhouse.org).

# Singer/Songwriter John Sebastian plays Bickford Theatre Nov. 30

Singer/songwriter John Sebastian will make his only New Jersey appearance this year on Thursday, Nov. 30, at the Bickford Theatre at the Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road in Morris Township.

For almost 50 years, songs by Sebastian have been a permanent part of our American musical fabric.

From The Lovin' Spoonful to Woodstock to "Welcome Back Kotter," this Rock and Roll Hall of Fame singer/songwriter and virtuoso musician was responsible for a host of hits: "Do You Believe in Magic," "You Didn't Have To Be So Nice," "Daydream," "Younger Girl," "Did You Ever Have To Make Up Your Mind," "Summer



JOHN SEBASTIAN

In The City," "Rain On The Roof," "Nashville Cats," "Darling Be Home Soon," "Younger Generation," and, of course, "Welcome Back."

Raised in Greenwich Village by a mother who wrote for radio and a father who was a famed classical harmonica player, Sebastian honed his performance skill in New Jersey at Blair Academy. Making his professional debut with the Even Dozen Jug Band, Sebastian quickly became a much sought-after accompa-

nist, working with Fred Neil, Tim Hardin, Mississippi John Hurt, Judy Collins, and Bob Dylan.

With his group, The Lovin' Spoonful, he became an international star and had a string of smash hits which led to writing music for films such as Francis Ford Coppola's "You're A Big Boy Now" and Woody Allen's "What's Up Tiger Lily." And then came "Welcome Back," a chart-topping solo recording for the popular television show.

Since then he has not slowed down, recording, touring, writing and even creating a series of instructional materials for guitar. He was the subject of a PBS special "Do You Believe in Magic: The Music of John

Sebastian" and his music is heard everywhere, in movies, on television, in commercials, and on the radio.

Dick Boak, the legendary head of Artist Relations at Martin Guitar, who created more than 150 signature guitar series for the greatest guitarists of the past half century, will be on hand to introduce Sebastian. Dick's acclaimed book, "Martin Guitar Masterpieces" tells the stories of those collaborations. In addition, he continues to pursue his art and his music.

Tickets cost \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door and are available at [www.morrimuseum.org/la-carte-series](http://www.morrimuseum.org/la-carte-series) or by calling (973) 971-3706.





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*Fri • Sat • Sun ~ November 24, 25, 26*

# Clinton's Annual Dickens Days

## WEEKEND PERFORMANCES & SCHEDULE

### Friday, November 24th

Throughout day in downtown - Horse Drawn Carriage Rides,  
Visits from Charles Dickens and Scrooge, Father Christmas & Storytelling

- 11am-1pm.....North Hunterdon High School Brass Band  
Outside of Towne Restaurant
- 12noon-4pm.....Thomas Johnston, Singer/Songwriter  
Corner of Leigh & East Main Street
- 1pm-3pm..... Hunterdon Harmonizers Roving Choral Group  
Throughout Downtown
- 2pm-4pm ..... Star Maker School's Pro-Kids Holiday Vocal Troupe  
Holiday Tree Courtyard on Main Street
- 6:30pm..... Community Tree Lighting & visit from Santa  
Clinton United Methodist Church Choir  
Holiday Tree Courtyard on Main Street

### Saturday, November 25th

Throughout day in downtown - Horse Drawn Carriage Rides,  
Visits from Charles Dickens and Scrooge, Father Christmas & Storytelling

- 12noon-4pm.....Thomas Johnston, Singer/Songwriter  
Corner of Leigh & East Main Street
- 12noon-3pm.....Rebecca Burrell / Main Street Musicking
- 1pm-3pm..... SKIT Performance of Mary Poppins  
Terrace of Art Museum  
Children Carolers throughout town
- 1pm-3pm..... Hunterdon Hills Ballet performances from "The Nutcracker"  
Holiday Tree Courtyard on Main Street
- 2pm-4pm..... Faith Chapel/Church of Nazarene Carolers  
Throughout downtown

### Sunday, November 26th

Throughout day in downtown - Horse Drawn Carriage Rides,  
Visits from Charles Dickens and Scrooge, Father Christmas & Storytelling

- 11am-5pm....."Drop-In" Embroidery. Learn by Watching or Doing!  
Hunterdon Art Museum
- 12noon-4pm.....Violenta Dutch Street Organ  
East Main Street
- 1pm-2:30pm....Brownie Troop 80446  
Selling Hot Chocolate and Baked Goods next to Santa's Workshop  
(Terrace of Art Museum). All proceeds go to Meals on Wheels.
- 1:30pm-3:30pm.Carolers - Franklin Theatre Works

**Festival of Trees at The Red Mill Museum**  
**November 24th - December 10th**



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Ritika Bakhru, M.D.

(Dr. Bakhru does not see patients in Bridgewater.)

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## • KIDS CALENDAR •

### CHRISTMAS



**"The Nutcracker,"** presented by the New Jersey Civic Youth Ballet, will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, at 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 at the Sitnik Theater of the Lackland Center. There's magic in the air and a sparkle in every smile when The Nutcracker comes to town. In this dramatic presentation, the audience is invited to Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum's Christmas Party. Tickets \$28 for adults and \$15 for children under 12. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.centenarystageco.org](http://www.centenarystageco.org) or call the Centenary Stage Company Box office at (908)979-0900. The box office is open 1 to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and two hours prior to every performance and is located in the Lackland Performing Arts Center on the campus of Centenary University.

### HANDS-ON



**NJ Audubon: Turkey Talk** will be held from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Sat-

urday, Nov. 18, at the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary, 11 Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville. Join Dorothy Smullen, Audubon teacher/naturalist, for a special seasonal program all about turkeys. Designed for families with kids ages four to eight years old, the program contains a short, illustrated, kid-friendly presentation on turkey behavior, anatomy and general facts, as well as an investigation of turkey feathers and making turkey sounds with a turkey "caller". After a walk outside looking for turkey food, participants will create a pine cone turkey for a Thanksgiving table. This program costs \$5 per child for members or \$7 for non-members. Register by Thursday, Nov. 16. Call (908) 396-6386 to register. Class size is limited to 15.

**Outdoor Skills: Shelter Building**, for ages 10-15, will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center, 247 Southern Blvd, Chatham Township. Expand your wilderness and survival skills by learning about primitive shelters, and building your own shelter in the woods. This program costs \$10 per person.

### NATURE FUN



**Apple Cider Demonstrations** will take place at 1 or 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 25 and 26, at the Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center, 247 Southern Blvd, Chatham Township. Learn the amazing apple's place in history and in the natural world, as locally grown apples are pressed to make sweet cider right before your eyes. Attendees will take part in the hands-on process by helping to

prepare and grind the apples, turning the old-fashioned press, and collecting the cider. These indoor, hour-long demonstrations cost \$3 per person and are designed to engage, involve, and educate all ages. Preregistration is not necessary. Admission is first-come, first-served, and the demos often fill up quickly. For more information, call (973) 635-6629.

**Baby and Me Hike** will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, at the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary, 11 Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville. Put your baby in a backpack, and explore one of many wonderful Morris County area trails. All adults are welcome to join. This hike costs \$2 per adult. For more information, call (973) 635-6629.

**Trail Treasure Hunt**, for all ages, will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center, 247 Southern Blvd, Chatham Township. Calling all treasure hunters! Enjoy a seasonal nature scavenger hunt where families work together to follow clues and find the answers to nature riddles along the trails. This hike costs \$2 per person, ages three and up.

**NJ Audubon: Winter Animal Signs** will be presented by Dorothy Smullen, a N.J. Audubon Teacher/Naturalist, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018, at the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary, 11 Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville. Daylight is short and nights are long and cold. How do animals cope? After an indoor introduction, we'll walk the trails to look for signs and tracks. Dress for the weather. Craft activities included. Pre-registration is required and can be made by calling (908) 396-6386. Class size is limited to 15. This program costs \$5 per child for members or \$7 for non-members.

### SKATING

**Friday Night Skate with DJ Earl** is held from 8 to 10 p.m. every Friday through April 27 at the Mennen Sports Arena, 161 Hanover Avenue, Morris Township. Have a blast with your friends while the DJ plays the newest hits and some



The Laurie Berkner Band Holiday Concert will be staged at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South Street in Morristown. The Laurie Berkner Band celebrates the season with traditional holiday songs, originals from her well-loved album A Laurie Berkner Christmas, Hanukkah music and an array of Laurie's greatest hits. Tickets for ages two and up cost \$19 to \$39. Children under age one who sit on laps are admitted free.

of your favorite throw-backs all with the bonus of theme-nights, giveaways, shout outs, and disco lights. Meet up with your friends or gather your family on the ice every Friday night for skating, arcade games, and great eats from the snack bar. Admission is \$8 and skate rental is \$4. Call (973) 326-7651 for more information.

### THEATER

**"Cinderella: A Holiday Musical"** will be staged at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays from Nov. 24 – Dec. 17, at the Growing Stage in Netcong. Cinderella's cruel Stepmother and Stepsisters are plotting to win the heart of The Prince, but a spunky and barefoot servant girl may just become the belle of the ball. This swashbuckling Cinderella just needs a little help from her Fairy Godmother and one ratty Footman to find her happy ending. The show runs 75 minutes and is recommended for all ages. Purchase tickets at [www.growingstage.com](http://www.growingstage.com).

**"The Great Russian Nutcracker"** will be performed by the Moscow Ballet at 4 and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Theater at Raritan Valley Community College, 118 Lamington Road, Branchburg. Moscow Ballet's production features new characters and larger-than-life puppets set against a stunning backdrop. An ethereal Dove, a messenger of peace, leads Masha and the Nutcracker to the peaceful kingdom. Beloved Russian fairy-tale characters, Father Christmas and his granddaughter the Snow Maiden, add to storytelling. As is the custom, the students of Gotta Dance, with studios in Martinsville, Warren Township, Basking Ridge and Branchburg, will perform along with the professional dancers of the world-renowned company. Tickets cost \$40 and \$50. The production will be enhanced by a special Nutcracker Tea Party event at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in the RVCC Conference Center (Room A). Tickets for the tea party cost \$30 for adults, \$25 for children. For information or to purchase tickets, call (908) 725-3420 or order at [www.rvccArts.org](http://www.rvccArts.org).



## • COMING UP ON CAMPUS •

### CENTENARY UNIVERSITY

Centenary Stage Company is a professional regional theatre in residence on the campus of Centenary University in Hackettstown.



• Fringe Festival: "My Name Is Gideon: I'm probably going to die eventually," **above**, will be staged in four performances from Thursday to Sunday, Nov. 16-19, in the Kutz Theatre of the Lackland Performing Arts Center in Hackettstown. A theatrical couch-surfing troubadour, Gideon has hopped from one town to the next on bike, rollerblades, and automobiles, performing and sleeping in 504 homes of perfect strangers. Now, with his banjo, Rossana, under his arms, Gideon invites audiences into his own living room on the stage. Tickets cost \$15 to \$27.50.

• Disney's "Newsies The Musical" will be staged from Friday, Nov. 24, through Sunday, Dec. 10, in the Lackland Performing Arts Center. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and 8, Saturdays, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 9; at 2 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 and 10, and Wednesdays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6; and at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7.

• The Young Performers Workshop Winter Festival of Shows begins on Saturday, Dec. 9, and runs through Sunday, Dec. 17, with performances of "The Pajama Game," "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and "A Class Act." Tickets cost \$12.50 for adults and \$10 for children under 12.

• "The Nutcracker" presented by the New Jersey Civic Youth Ballet will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, at 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 at the Sitnik Theater of the Lackland Center. There's magic in the air and a sparkle in every smile when The Nutcracker comes to town. In this dramatic presentation, the audience is

invited to Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum's Christmas Party. Tickets \$28 for adults and \$15 for children under 12.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.centenarystageco.org](http://www.centenarystageco.org) or call the Centenary Stage Company Box office at (908)979-0900. The box office is open 1 to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and two hours prior to every performance and is located in the Lackland Performing Arts Center on the campus of Centenary University.

### COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS

214 Center Grove Road, Randolph Township

• "East of Eden" will be staged in three performances at 7:30 pm Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 16-18, at the Dragonetti Auditorium on campus. Set during the first two decades of the 20th century, "East of Eden" tells the tale of the doomed Trask clan, Adam and Cathy and Caleb and Aron. Tickets cost \$15 or \$10 for students, seniors, and children under age 12. Purchase them at the door or at <http://www.ccm.edu/east-of-eden/>

### DREW UNIVERSITY

• The GrooveBarbers will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at The Concert Hall at Drew University, 36 Madison Ave. in Madison. Each member of this all-vocal powerhouse quartet is a bona fide star in his own right: Sean Altman, Charlie Evett and Steve Keyes are former members of the pioneering contemporary a cappella group, Rockapella, and Kevin Weist is a renowned bald vocal guru, organizers said. This concert is appropriate for ages 10 and up. Tickets cost \$40, or \$30 for seniors, students ages 10 to 18, or groups of 10 or more. They can be purchased at [www.discoveryorchestra.org](http://www.discoveryorchestra.org).

• Return of the Holiday Tenors, presented by New Jersey Festival Orchestra, will be staged at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at The Concert Hall at Drew University, 36 Madison Ave. in Madison. Last year's darling, award-winning tenor Cody Austin, returns with friends to celebrate and captivate with a dazzling selection of renowned tenor fare to welcome in the holiday season, organizers said. Tickets cost \$76 to \$28, or \$20 for students. Buy tickets online at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org) or call (908) 232-9400.

### RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

118 Lamington Road, Branchburg.



Christmas With The Annie Moses Band will be staged at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg. From the spirited renditions of "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen" and "Deck the Halls" to "O Holy Night," the Annie Moses Band's unique combination of chamber strings, soaring vocals and infectious rhythms transform everyone's favorite holiday songs into pure excitement.

• "The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)" will be staged by the Reduced Shakespeare Company at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2. Welcome to the Annual Holiday Variety Show and Christmas Pageant at St. Everybody's Non-Denominational Universalist Church, where all faiths are welcome because people will believe anything. But there's a problem: None of the acts scheduled to perform has arrived, so the three crazy guys of the Reduced Shakespeare Company are pressed into service to perform the entire Variety Show and Christmas Pageant by themselves. An irreverent yet heartwarming trip through the holidays, Tickets cost \$25 and \$35.



• "Live from WVU Radio Theatre: It's a Wonderful Life," **above**, will be presented at 2 and 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5. It's Christmas Eve in 1945, and only a handful of WVU Radio's actors have braved the blizzard to perform that evening's broadcast of "It's a Wonderful Life" and keep the station afloat. A small

but intrepid band of employees masterfully conquers multiple characters and creates sound effects using everyday household items, and saves the radio station from a winter blizzard's doom. This clever 1940s radio-style stage adaptation of Frank Capra's heartwarming film classic breathes new life into the poignant story of George Bailey and Bedford Falls, a tale that remains as fresh and relevant as ever. Tickets to the 2 p.m. performance cost \$15 and \$20 for the 7 p.m. show.

• "A Christmas Carol" will be presented by Nebraska Theatre Caravan at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. This Broadway-style adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" has been created to tell this great and enduring tale in a manner that people of all ages can enjoy. Beautiful new renditions of holiday songs such as "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Wassail Wassail," "Good Christian Men Rejoice," "Away in a Manger," "Greensleeves" and many more are woven throughout the classic tale. This touring show, which features a cast of 24 performers, live musicians and lavish scenery and costumes, has been seen by more than three million audience members. Tickets cost \$40 and \$50. The performance will include a "Show Starter" holiday shopping event. Beginning at 12:30 p.m., a pop-up store will feature craft vendors and artisans offering a variety of unique and handcrafted gift items.

To purchase tickets, call the box office at (908) 725-3420, or order online at [www.rvcArts.org](http://www.rvcArts.org).



# WINE: So long summer reds, it's time for a 'white' Christmas

FROM PAGE 5

citrus and apple show up here too but the better producers extract white pepper and a gaggle of minerals to the spectrum.

## Red Zin, Goodbye To You My Trusted Friend, We Have Known Each Other Since Nine Or Ten

Breaking up is really hard to do with this hardy grape. Even for one winter. Knowing Zin devotees for years, it is next to impossible to wean them off those waves of red and black fruit, tamarind and leather.

I am already hearing a loud Fuggedaboutit. Jump ship, I say and drop anchor in the quaint hamlets of white wine territory: Viognier, Sancerre and Furmint.

Viognier's (Vee-own-yay), straw-gold color dates back to the Roman Empire. Legend has it that one emperor ripped up an entire viognier vineyard when the locals, fueled by viognier, revolted. Grown in Roussillon Languedoc and Northern Rhone in France, its reputation of being a finicky grape, much like a pinot, delivers, when done right, powerful aromas of peaches, apricots, and violets with a rich mouth feel

and an occasional flash of honey. All that with one of the longer finishes for a white. I recall the geo-mystical phenomena of the vivid ochre, crimson and magenta hills of Roussillon and my utter fascination for a home near the village square, gobbled up entirely by an old vine like the tentacles of a giant squid around a small row boat. Michel Gassie, French and Anthony Nappa, North Fork Long Island are ideal starting points for your Viognier discovery.

Sancerre, a fraternal twin of sauvignon blanc, is the antidote to the forgiving Zin and is an acquired taste for recovering

fruit bombers. Its austerity comes from it being on the same chalk fault line as Chablis and some Epernay champagnes. I pair Sancerres with over-the-top gooey fruit pies and cobblers, its dry, crisp demeanor contrasting the moist decadence.

Furmint (Furwho?) from Hungary's Tokaj (pronounced Tokai or Tokay) region is a relatively unknown but versatile grape, whose late harvest dessert avatar, Aszu, was Wednesday wine at Versailles when Louis XV was in residence. There it earned the immortal moniker, "Vinum Regum, Rex Vinorum" ("Wine of Kings, King of Wines"). The Furmint that debuted on my palate by way of the gracious Hungarian Ambassador to the U.S., made a lasting impression. The "grape of many faces," Furmint is bits of white burgundy meets Riesling meets sauvignon blanc. Patricius, at sub \$15, is summer's left field discovery. The lychee, white pear, flint, honeysuckle and sourdough mélange of notes is screaming to be tried. So this winter take a break or at least mix up your reds with winter whites. You will not regret it.

*"Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore."*  
— André Gide

THANKSGIVING Dining

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Thanksgiving Benefit Menu

Entrees

(Includes: soup or salad, rolls & butter, coffee or tea, dessert)

Organic Roast Tom Turkey (Hormone free) with chestnut stuffing, giblet gravy, sweet potatoes and cranberry sauce

Baked Sugar Cured Spiral Ham with pineapple & honey Dijon mustard sauce

Organic Rosemary Roasted Chicken with chestnut stuffing & cranberry sauce

(No children's portion available)

Roast Duck Ala Orange with chestnut stuffing

Baked Vegetable Lasagna with tomato basil sauce

Children's Menu

Roast Tom Turkey with giblet gravy, mashed potatoes & sweet corn

Chicken Tenders with French fries & honey mustard sauce

Macaroni & Cheese served with broccoli

Soup: Cream of Turkey

Salad: Tossed greens w/ tomatoes, shredded carrots & Bermuda onion (choice of dressing)

Vegetable Choices: Sweet kernel corn, Baby carrots, homemade mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes

Desserts Choices: Pumpkin Pie OR assorted Fruit Pies \*

Ala mode 2.95 extra \* Other Desserts 3.95 extra

Adults \$32.95 \* Children \$10.95  
(12 and under) (tax & gratuity not included)

100% of the proceeds will be donated to St Peter's Orphanage

## Harvest wraps up at markets

*Editor's note: The following is a list of farmers markets now open. Enjoy!*

**Boonton:** 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 18, Upper Plane St. Parking Lot.

**Chatham Borough:** 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 18, located in Railroad Plaza South off Fairmount Avenue.

**Denville:** 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Sundays through Nov. 19, Bloomfield Ave. parking lot.

**Flemington:** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturdays indoor, year-round at Stangl Factory Farmers' Market, Mine Street and Stangl Road.

**Morristown:** 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Sundays through Nov. 19, in the municipal parking lot at Spring and Morris Streets.

**Raritan Township:** 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Sundays through Nov. 19, at Dvoor Farm, 111 Mine St.

Weekly SUDOKU															
Answer															
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## 'Some Paintings, Some Drawings' on view in Nov.

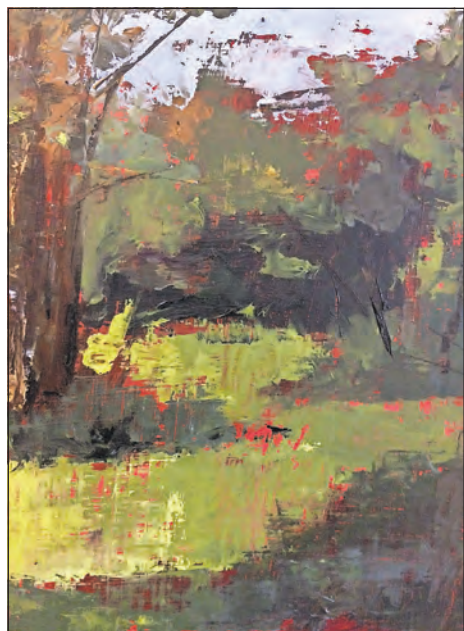
"Some Paintings Some Drawings," an art show and sale featuring work by Oscar Peterson, will be on view through Sunday, Nov. 26, at Farmstead Arts, 450 King George Road in the Basking Ridge section of Bernards Township.

Peterson, a fine arts painter who specializes in portraiture and a Farmstead Arts faculty member, was born in Harlem, N.Y., raised in Brooklyn, and is now a resident of Millburn Township. He uses traditional methods and techniques while incorporating new ideas and personal observations. His preferred medium is oil, although he frequently uses many mediums.

Peterson describes his paintings as "realistic with an impressionistic feel," his artistic style is inspired by the Impressionists and the Old Masters.

Also on display will be works by several of Peterson's students.

Most works will be available for purchase and Peterson will attend the opening reception. Gallery hours will be 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 19 and 26, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays while the show is running. The Farmhouse is wheelchair accessible. For information, contact Kathy Harris at (908) 636-7576 or email her at admin@farmsteadarts.org.



"Plein Air Abstract Landscape" by Oscar Peterson is among the works included in "Some Paintings Some Drawings," on view from Sunday, Nov. 5, to Sunday, Nov. 26, at Farmstead Arts in the Basking Ridge.

# THANKSGIVING Dining

## Enjoy a Scrumptious Thanksgiving at the Olde Mill Inn & the Grain House Restaurant



### Olde Mill Inn Thanksgiving Buffet

11:30am-5:30pm (last seating)

**Reservations Required**  
**908-696-2335**

\*Adults: \$58

Children 4-11: \$24

\*Pricing subject to NJ Sales Tax & 20% service charge

— OR —

### Grain House Thanksgiving Dinner

11:45am-7:15pm (last seating)

**Reservations Required**  
**908-696-2335**

\*Adults: \$58

Children's Menu: \$24

\*Pricing subject to NJ Sales Tax & 20% Service Charge

For menus and details, please visit  
**OldeMillInn.com**



**OldeMillInn.com**  
**225 Rt. 202**  
**Basking Ridge**



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## Thanksgiving

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STUFFING & CRANBERRY SAUCE  
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### Happy Thanksgiving



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HOMEMADE STUFFED  
CABBAGE,  
BUTTERNUT SQUASH  
RAVIOLI,  
FRIED CHICKEN,  
BBQ SPARE RIBS,  
MASHED POTATOES,  
SWEET POTATOES,  
TURNIPS  
& VEGETABLES



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## • ART CALENDAR •

**The Covered Bridge Artisans Studio Tour and Sale** will take place Friday through Sunday, Nov. 24 to 26, in six artists' studios in southern Hunterdon County. The 23rd annual event, a self-guided tour, features stops in the Lambertville, Stockton and Sergeantsville areas with 10 guest artists at the Cultural Arts Center in Sergeantsville. Hours for the tour are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information and a map visit [www.coveredbridgeartisans.com](http://www.coveredbridgeartisans.com).



**The Art League of the Chathams Winter Friends and Family Show** will include a solo show featuring the watercolor paintings of Deborah Fennelly, including "Waverly Holiday," **above**, in the Lundt-Glover gallery. Fennelly is an actor, lawyer and musician as well as an artist. The exhibition features art by the general membership and invited guests. New this year will be a display of mini paintings – 6-inch-by-6-inch – by members. The opening reception for all three shows will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 in the Lundt-Glover gallery in the Chatham Township municipal building, 58 Meyersville Road. Refreshments will be served. The league also will host a holiday boutique during the reception. Members will be selling cards, prints, mugs, jewelry, hand-painted Christmas ornaments and books. Chatham artist Philla Barkhorn will give an oil painting demonstration using a 6-inch-by-6-inch format. The winter exhibit runs from Dec. 3 through mid-March and is free and open to the

public. For information about the Art League of the Chathams, go online to [www.artleagueofthechathams.org](http://www.artleagueofthechathams.org).

**"The Fibers of Time,"** an exhibition of Mira Sasson's recent works of art, will be on view from Sunday, Nov. 17, through Friday, Jan. 19, 2018, at The Linda Grandis Blatt Gallery of Temple B'nai Or, 60 Overlook Road in Morristown. An opening reception will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17. Gallery hours are during Temple B'nai Or functions and by appointment during business hours, Monday through Friday. Call 973-532-2268 to arrange a private viewing. In the last three years, Sasson has developed an original technique to invent unique works of art. Nails, threads, and fibers are woven on wood to create beautiful images. Included in her current show, "The Fibers of Time," Sasson not only unveils her latest works but also exhibits her art from 25 years ago. Also on exhibition is a debut photography show by Mira Sasson's daughter, Maya Sasson, "Instincts..." Maya Sasson has previously studied Animation at New York School of Visual Arts and is pursuing her bachelor's degree at Montclair State University.

**"Nature is the Fountain's Head,"** an exhibition of paintings by contemporary artists Jessica Bottalico and Wes Sherman, along with new sculptures by Jim Perry, will be on view from Friday, Dec. 1, through Friday, Jan. 5, 2018, at J. Cacciola Gallery W, 35 Mill St. in Bernardsville. An opening reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1.

**"Perceptions,"** an exhibit of oil paintings by new artist Peter Fiore, will be on view at Studio 7 Fine Art Gallery, 5 Morristown Road in Bernardsville through Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018. Fiore is an American landscape painter who is best known for painting light with his striking use of color and his exploration of the implied narrative. Artist receptions will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Fridays, Nov. 10 and Dec. 1. The gallery is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays to Saturdays. For information, contact Kathleen Palmer, director, at (908) 963-0365. Sign up for show announcements



at [www.studio7artgallery.com](http://www.studio7artgallery.com).

**N.J. Audubon: Wayrick Gallery Volunteer Art Show** will be on view from Friday, Dec. 1, through Monday, Feb. 26, at the Wayrick Wildlife Art Gallery at the Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary, 11 Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville. The exhibit will feature a variety of artworks showcasing the talents of New Jersey Audubon volunteers, staff, and board members, such as "Ringed Kingfisher," **right**, by Phil Witt. Admission is free. The gallery is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. It is closed Mondays.

**"Eterna,"** featuring the artwork of Chatham artist, author and architect Maia Kumari Gilman, will remain on view through Tuesday, Nov. 28 in the Lundt-Glover Gallery at the Chatham Township Municipal Building, 58 Meyersville Road in Chatham. In addition to "Eterna," the Art League of the Chathams also will host a strolling gallery displaying art of its member artists. Both exhibits run concurrently. For more information, visit [www.artleagueofthechathams.org](http://www.artleagueofthechathams.org).

**"icandy"** is on view now through Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018, at Gallery at 14 Maple, located at 14 Maple Ave. in Morristown. The exhibit features 28 works created between

2009 and 2017 by Morristown artist Dan Fenelon, including paintings, mixed media, prints on wood and sculpture. Fenelon's dramatic imagery references ancient tribal petroglyphs and reflects his study of and interest in mythology, art history and early civilizations, organizers said. A free opening reception will be held at the gallery from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28. The exhibit is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and by appointment. Visit [www.morrisarts.org](http://www.morrisarts.org) or call (973) 285-5115 for additional information, including the exhibit catalogue which contains details and sale prices for all works. The Gallery at 14 Maple is a barrier-free facility. Individuals needing special accommodation should contact Kadie



Paintings by Wes Sherman, including the image at **left**, and new sculptures by Jim Perry, including "Hakuin's Dream, 2," **above**, will be on view in "Nature is the Fountain's Head" at J. Cacciola Gallery W in Bernardsville.

Dempsey at (973) 285-5115, ext. 17 or [kdempsey@morrisarts.org](mailto:kdempsey@morrisarts.org).

**Morris Arts' Fall/Winter 2017-18 Invitational Exhibit** is on view through Friday, Jan. 5, 2018, at the Atrium Gallery, located on Floors 2 to 5 of the Morris County Administration and Records Building, 10 Court St. in Morristown. The artists on display utilize oils, acrylics, mixed media, ink, and other media and range in style from the abstract to hyper-realism to pop surrealism. Most works are available for sale, with details and pricing provided in the free catalogues found in the elevator lobby areas on floors 2 to 5. The Atrium Art Gallery is free and open to the public during business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., from Monday to Friday and will be open from 7 p.m. to midnight at First Night Morris County on New Year's Eve. For more information, contact Lynn L. Siebert, gallery director, and director of Arts Participation and Communication for Morris Arts, at (973) 285-5115, ext. 10 or [lsiebert@morrisarts.org](mailto:lsiebert@morrisarts.org).

**"All that Jazz,"** an exhibit of paintings by Sam Bleecker of Millington, will be on exhibit at the Bernardsville Public Library, 1 Anderson Hill Road, in November. This exhibition will be on view in the community room during regular library hours unless a meeting is in progress. For more information, call the library at (908) 766-0118.



## • MUSIC CALENDAR •

### A CAPPELLA



**The GrooveBarbers** will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at The Concert Hall at Drew University, 36 Madison Ave. in Madison. Each member of this all-vocal powerhouse quartet is a bona fide star in his own right: Sean Altman, Charlie Evett and Steve Keyes are former members of the pioneering contemporary a cappella group, Rockapella, and Kevin Weist is a renowned bald vocal guru, organizers said. This concert is appropriate for ages 10 and up. Tickets cost \$40, or \$30 for seniors, students ages 10 to 18, or groups of 10 or more. They can be purchased at [www.discoveryorchestra.org](http://www.discoveryorchestra.org)

### CHORAL

**The Hickory Tree Chorus** will present its annual show, "Barbershop Breakout... Can they Escape the Room?" at 3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 18, at West Morris Mendham High School, 65 E. Main St. in Mendham. The chorus will perform with special guests, "Lustre — Sweet Adelines." The chorus had 15 second place medalists at the 2015 Greater New York Regional competition, including baritone, Patricia Danner, choir director at Mendham High School. Danner's students also will perform. Advanced tickets are available online at [hickorytreechorus.org](http://hickorytreechorus.org) through Nov. 15 for \$20 adults and \$15 for students. Tickets at the door area for an additional \$5 per ticket. The Hickory Tree Chorus, an award-winning chapter of Sweet Adelines International, performs popular music in four-part a cappella harmony, barbershop style. The chorus was founded 1968 in the Hickory Tree section of Chatham Township and rehearses in Stirling. For more information visit [hickorytreechorus.org](http://hickorytreechorus.org).

### CHRISTMAS

**Sal Valentinetti Christmas Concert** will be staged at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St. in Morristown. Golden voiced crooner Sal "The Voice" Valentinetti returns to MPAC to perform standards and holiday favorites with

the panache and swagger that has made him a widely popular entertainer ever since he rose to fame on America's Got Talent. Tickets cost \$29 to \$69.

**The Hanover Wind Symphony** will present a concert of Christmas music, titled "Christmas Presence," at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1 at Our Lady of Mercy Church (OLM), 90 Whippany Road in Hanover Township. The wind band will perform traditional plus new arrangements of Christmas favorites, including: "A Christmas Festival," by Leroy Anderson; "And the Mountains Echoed: Gloria!" by Robert Longfield; "Suite from the Nutcracker," by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, arranged by James Curnow; "Carols from the British Isles," arranged by Douglas E. Wagner; "Christmas Reflection: Shepherd's Pipe Carol;" "Christmas Meditation," by Gary Gilroy; "Gesu Bambino;" "Irving Berlin's Christmas," arranged by Michael Brown; "Old Scottish Melody," arranged by Charles Wiley; and A Christmas Sing-Along. Tickets to the "Christmas Presence" concert are \$15 apiece. Children under 12 are admitted free. For further information or to reserve tickets, call 973-887-0050 or email [olmchwhip@aol.com](mailto:olmchwhip@aol.com).

**Mannheim Steamroller Christmas by Chip Davis** will be staged at 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St. in Morristown. The spirit of the season comes alive with the signature sound of the top-selling Christmas music artist in history. America's favorite holiday celebration for over 30 years features the beloved Christmas music of Mannheim Steamroller along with dazzling multimedia effects that bring the magic of the holidays to life. Tickets cost \$59 to \$99.

**Gifts of the Season** presented by The Masterwork Camerata will be presented at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Chatham United Methodist Church, 460 Main St. in Chatham. Tickets at the door cost \$15.

**A Broadway Holiday** will be staged at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St. in Morristown. Join us for an afternoon of holiday favorites starring Broadway performers Kevin Kern ("Finding Neverland," "Wicked," "The Wedding Singer"), Tony-nominee Megan Lawrence ("The Pajama Game," "Holiday Inn," "Hair"), Trent Armand Kendall ("Into the Woods," "Five Guys Named Moe") and Joanna Young ("The Drowsy Chaperone," "National Tour of Les Miserables"). Tickets cost \$20 to \$35.

**Free Annual Messiah Sing-Along** presented by The Masterwork Chorus will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 215 Boulevard in Mountaintain Lakes. Admission is a \$10 suggested donation.

**The New Jersey Festival Orchestra** kicks off the holiday season at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at The Concert Hall in The Dorothy Young Center for the Performing Arts at Drew University in Madison, with "Return of the Holiday Tenors," a family festival of traditional and contemporary songs and music, sing-alongs and more. Tickets are available online at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org), by calling (908) 232-9400 or by visiting the office at 224 E. Broad Street in Westfield.

**Handel's "Messiah"** will be performed by The Masterwork Chorus and Orchestra at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, at the Ridge Performing Arts Center in Basking Ridge and at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, at Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage, in New York City. Tickets for the Basking Ridge performance cost \$75, \$48 and \$31 and tickets for the Carnegie Hall show cost \$13.50 to \$94. Both can be purchased at [www.masterwork.org](http://www.masterwork.org).

### CLASSICAL

**Metropolitan Orchestra of New Jersey Fall Concert** will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at Madison High School, 170 Ridgedale Ave. in Madison. Maestro Michael Stratechuk will lead the orchestra in the performance of Nicholai Rimsky-Korsakov's "Russian Easter Overture," Claude Debussy's "Nocturnes," and Georges Bizet's "Symphony No. 1 in C Major." Suggested donation is \$20. For more information, visit [MetropolitanOrchestraNJ.org](http://MetropolitanOrchestraNJ.org); email [info@MetropolitanOrchestraNJ.org](mailto:info@MetropolitanOrchestraNJ.org) or call (917) 282-6900.

### INDIE



**The Michaela McClain Band** will perform at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Bernardsville Public Library, 1 Anderson Hill Road. This is a free concert with Michaela McClain, winner

of the 2013 "Best Indie Act" at the Jersey Acoustic Music Awards. Born and raised in Bernardsville, she is a critically-acclaimed, folk-soul singer/songwriter with a "warm groove" and rich mezzo-soprano voice, and she tours with drummer Meredith Foreman, guitarist Raul Abbad, and bassist Brad Schwartz. This concert will feature her original music and covers ranging from jazz, folk, rock, R&B, and, of course, that with which she resonates most: the singer/songwriter genre. Doors open at 2:45 p.m.

### INTERNATIONAL



**Celtic Thunder Symphony Tour 2017** will be staged at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St. in Morristown. Irish vocal powerhouse Celtic Thunder, backed by a full orchestra, returns to perform holiday classics, fan favorites and music from their newest release Inspirations. Tickets cost \$69 to \$109.

### JAZZ

**Evolving Jazz with "Perfessor" Bill** will be presented from 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at the Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road, Morris Township. Join "Perfessor" Bill at the Bickford Theatre for a glimpse into the evolution of American music, from the early 1900s, particularly ragtime, popular song and early blues, to the music known as "jass" or "jazz." Bill Edwards, music historian and performer, will describe the growth of jazz in popular media, and its infusion into the public eye and ear. This will be accompanied by visuals such as newspaper accounts, sheet music covers and some short film clips. Following an intermission, "Perfessor" Bill will perform a short concert of rag, stride and jazz. Tickets cost \$17 for museum members or \$18 for non-members in advance.



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## • POTPOURRI •

### ARTS AND CRAFTS

**Holiday Swag Workshop** will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Ave. in Morris Township. Get a jump on your holiday decorating by making an outdoor swag under the expert tutelage of Marge Hulstrunk and Russell Gatzke. All materials are provided, but attendees should bring their own pruners and a box to carry the swag home. This program costs \$40 per person. Registration is required and can be made by calling (973) 394-1100 or at [www.arboretumfriends.org](http://www.arboretumfriends.org).

### BOOKS



**Novelist Sapphire**, author of the best-selling novel, "Push" — adapted into the Academy Award-winning film, "Precious," will speak at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 20, in the Nash Theatre at the Raritan Valley Community College Branchburg campus at 118 Lamington Road. For information, contact Charlie Bondhus at [charlie.bondhus@raritanval.edu](mailto:charlie.bondhus@raritanval.edu) or (908) 526-1200, ext. 8307, or visit [www.raritanval.edu](http://www.raritanval.edu).

### CRAFT SHOWS

**The 19th annual Brookside Community Club Holiday Boutique** will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Brookside Community Club, 1 East Main Street in Mendham Township. Admission is free. The event will feature clothes to fit American Girl dolls, photos on cards, jewelry, Mendham Township blankets, hats, choco-

late, bookmarks, journals, paper goods and gifts, board games, scarves, handcrafted organic soaps, baby items, snowmen, knit and crochet items, Thirty-One Gifts, hand-painted silk scarves, small watercolors, silk jackets, tapestry bags, pashmina/cashmere scarves, gift baskets, pottery and much more.

**Gingerbread Wonderland Craft Show** will be held from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3, at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Avenue in Morris Township. Holiday shopping is easy at the Gingerbread Wonderland Craft Show. Find local crafters offering beautiful handmade and affordable gifts, perfect for that special someone on your list. Admission is \$2 per person.

### EDUCATIONAL

**Essential Weeds at Our Feet: Presentation & Salve-Making Workshop** will be presented by Rachel Mackow from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Haggerty Center at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Avenue in Morris Township. Mackow, owner of Wild Ridge Plants, shares her wealth of knowledge as she weaves together the ecology of common native and non-native plants with their modern and historical uses as food and medicinal remedies. The presentation is followed by a salve making workshop. This program costs \$25 per person.

**Winter on the Home Front: A Civil War Christmas** will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at Historic Speedwell in Morristown. Learn what life was like on the home front during the Winter months of the Civil War. Visit the encampment of the 2nd New Jersey Brigade as they prepare for a holiday away from home. Enjoy a Civil War era Officer's Ball with period music, costumes, and dance. Create a craft to take home. Admission costs \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$5 for children ages 4 to 16. Children under age three are admitted free.

**Breakfast Briefing: Got Salt? More than One Way to Break the Ice** will be held from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the Great Swamp Watershed Association Headquarters, 568 Tempe Wick Rd. in Harding Township. Before heading out to purchase snow clearing supplies, learn about the impacts of traditional rock salt to the environment and its organisms, and some environmentally safe alternatives. Steven Vernik, vice president of Gaia Enterprises and director of operations, sales, and marketing, will provide relevant information for homeowners, businesses, and municipal leaders

alike. All who attend will leave with some product samples, and a grab-bag of winter necessities generously provided by Long Hill Township. This event is free to GSWA members. Non-members are asked to make a \$10 donation. Registration required. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

**"The Jewish Perspective on Immigration and the Refugee Crisis"** will be discussed by Rabbi Steven Bayar, spiritual leader of Congregation B'nai Israel in Millburn, at noon Tuesday, Dec. 5, at the Morris County Library, 30 E. Hanover Ave., in Whippany. The



RABBI STEVEN BAYAR

talk is free and open to the public and is part of a three-part series. The rabbi will also address "The Law of the Land Is the Law: Jewish perspectives on the Current Political Dynamic in the United States," at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, also at the Morris County Library. In a third session at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018, at the library, the rabbi will explore "The State of Israel Today: Uniting or Dividing Us?" Pre-registration is required and can be made by emailing [melanielevitan@gmail.com](mailto:melanielevitan@gmail.com).

### FLAVORS



**Cooking Demonstration: Genius Ginger** will be presented from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at the Haggerty Center at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum, 353 East Hanover Avenue in Morris Township. Go beyond gingerbread, and work with ginger in its many forms. Candied, fresh, and powdered ginger are used in dishes both sweet and savory. This program costs \$25 per person. Registration is required and can be made by calling (973) 394-1100 or at [www.arboretumfriends.org](http://www.arboretumfriends.org).

**Homemade Holiday Sweets and Savories tasting event** will be held from

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at the Great Swamp Watershed Association Headquarters, 568 Tempe Wick Rd. in Harding Township. Whether you're entertaining for the holidays or looking for some unique and inexpensive gift solutions from your kitchen, we've got some exciting ideas for you. Come sample eight tasty appetizer and adult beverage pairings, and take home the recipes to recreate them for your family and friends. This event is free to non-members and members who bring a non-member friend as a guest. Members coming alone or with other members can join in on the fun too, for a donation of \$25. Registration is required. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

### OUTDOORS

**Taking Inspiration from the Swamp Hike** will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, 32 Pleasant Plains Rd., in the Basking Ridge section of Bernards Township. Participants should meet at the Bluebird Parking lot on Pleasant Plains Road. We will focus on looking at nature through the lens of art — whether that is a physical lens of a camera (attendees may bring their own), or a metaphorical lens. We will have art inspiration ideas to get your creative juices flowing, and you can practice art journaling, sketching, and 5-minute inspirations. With your permission, we will display the finished artworks on our website. This event is free to Great Swamp Watershed Association members. Non-members are asked to make a \$10 donation. Registration required. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

**Holiday Workout Hike**, for ages 16 and up, will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the Morris County Parks Commission's Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area in Boonton. Take a break from the holiday celebrations, and get moving. Enjoy a strenuous winter hike with a naturalist on the trails. This hike costs \$1 per person.

**Members-only Hike at the Refuge** will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 16, at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, 32 Pleasant Plains Rd., in Basking Ridge. Participants should meet at the Bluebird Parking lot on Pleasant Plains Road. See the beautiful winter stalks of a variety of plants that call the refuge home. Many different species of wildfowl can be found making their winter homes in the impoundments of the Great Swamp Refuge, as do mammals such as coyote and fox. Lots of resident birds will also be busy searching for seeds and berries in the area. Participants should dress warmly. Registration required. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.



## • THEATER CALENDAR •

### CHRISTMAS



**"The Great Russian Nutcracker"** will be performed by the Moscow Ballet at 4 and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at the Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg. Moscow Ballet's spectacular scenic design, gorgeous costumes and the exquisite artistry of 40 top Russian dancers have made "The Great Russian Nutcracker" an American holiday tradition not to be missed. This critically acclaimed production features new characters and larger-than-life puppets set against a stunning backdrop. An ethereal Dove, a messenger of peace, leads Masha and the Nutcracker to the peaceful kingdom. Beloved Russian fairytale characters, Father Christmas and his granddaughter the Snow Maiden, add to the whimsical and imaginative storytelling that sets this Nutcracker apart. As is the custom, the students of Gotta Dance will perform along with the professional dancers of the world-renowned company. Caroline Hidalgo and Gillian Peterson coordinate the auditions and rehearsals for the 95 young dancers from Gotta Dance, which has studios in Martinsville, Warren Township, Basking Ridge and Branchburg. Tickets cost \$40 and \$50. The production will be enhanced by a special Nutcracker Tea Party event at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in the RVCC Conference Center (Room A). Tickets cost \$30 for adults, \$25 for children. This unique holiday event, perfect for children and their families, will be held between performances of "The Great Russian Nutcracker." Guests will enjoy a sumptuous assortment of home-baked sweet treats, seasonal tea and homemade

hot cocoa. And, as an extra-special treat, each child can have his or her picture taken with a Moscow Ballet ballerina. The photo is included in the ticket price. The event is recommended for children ages four and older. To purchase tickets, call the box office at (908) 725-3420, or order online at [www.rvccArts.org](http://www.rvccArts.org).

**"A Christmas Carol"** will be presented by Nebraska Theatre Caravan at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg. This Broadway-style adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is rich with thrilling ensemble music, color and movement. The production has been created to tell this great and enduring tale in a manner that people of all ages can enjoy. Beautiful new renditions of holiday songs such as "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Wassail Wassail," "Good Christian Men Rejoice," "Away in a Manger," "Greensleeves" and many more are woven throughout the classic tale. This touring show, which features a cast of 24 performers, live musicians and lavish scenery and costumes, has been seen by more than three million audience members. Tickets cost \$40 and \$50. The performance will include a "Show Starter" holiday shopping event. Beginning at 12:30 p.m., the Theatre's pop-up store will feature craft vendors and artisans offering a variety of unique and handcrafted gift items. To purchase tickets, call the box office at (908) 725-3420, or order online at [www.rvccArts.org](http://www.rvccArts.org).

### DANCE



**Carolyn Dorfman Dance** will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, at the Bickford Theatre inside the Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road in Morris Township.

Carolyn Dorfman Dance returns to the Bickford Theatre, celebrating its 35th season of providing bold, athletic and dramatic works. Carolyn Dorfman Dance welcomes back the incomparable storyteller, narrator, and librettist Charlotte Blake Alston who will perform live during Dance/Stories, featuring a selection of folk tales and authentic stories from around the world. Interweaving thought-provoking choreography with the power of the spoken word. Also on the evening's program are Dorfman's left and agile "Sextet," and former lead dancer Ae-Soon Kim's, sinuous and rhythmic "Unfolding." Advance tickets cost \$30 or \$15 for students with a valid ID. At the door, members pay \$30 and non-members pay \$35. Purchase advance tickets by calling (973) 971-3706 or by visiting [www.morrimuseum.org](http://www.morrimuseum.org).

### MUSICALS

**Disney's "Newsies The Musical"** will be staged from Friday, Nov. 24, through Sunday, Dec. 10, in the Lackland Performing Arts Center. Performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and 8, Saturdays, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and 9; at 2 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 26, Dec. 3 and 10, and Wednesdays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6; and at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.centenarystageco.org](http://www.centenarystageco.org) or call the box office at (908) 979-0900. The box office is located in the Lackland Performing Arts Center at 715 Grand Ave. in Hackettstown. The box office is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and two hours prior to each performance. Centenary Stage Company can also be found on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

**"Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge"** will be staged in six performances at Brundage Park Playhouse on Carrell Road in Randolph Township. Performances will be at 8 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 1 and 8, and at 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 2, 3, 9 and 10. This is a musical parody by Christopher Durang with a very different Mrs. Cratchit than the long-suffering goody-goody wife in the original story. Throw in a Ghost who can't



**"A Christmas Carol"** will be presented by Nebraska Theatre Caravan at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. This Broadway-style adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is rich with thrilling ensemble music, color and movement. Tickets cost \$40 and \$50.

seem to get Scrooge to the right places in neither the past, present nor the future, and two or three other characters not in the original story, and you have a new definition of "Binge" watching. Visit [www.brundageparkplayhouse.org](http://www.brundageparkplayhouse.org) for performance and ticket information. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors, children under age 12, and military personnel. All seats are general admission. Visit [www.brundageparkplayhouse.org](http://www.brundageparkplayhouse.org) for more information or call (973) 989-7092 for questions about ticketing.

### PLAYS

**"It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play,"** staged by the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, will open Thursday, Nov. 30, and run through the holiday season, with a final performance at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31. As adapted by Joe Landry, a group of actors and technicians gather in a 1940s radio station to perform a live broadcast of the holiday classic, replete with Foley sound effects, commercials from the era, music and humor. For tickets, call (973) 408-5600 or visit [www.shakespearenj.org](http://www.shakespearenj.org).



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By Deb McCoy

As has long been the case, The Stirling Hotel sticks to its popular traditions, but always adds a new twist or two to keep things interesting.

Monthly Community Suppers continue to give back to communities in need. The most recent Supper event benefited "Christmas for Children" and was a great success. The owners of both The Stirling Hotel and Stirling Tavern have planned the next Community Supper for December 20th. A portion of the evening's funds will go to "Moms Helping Moms."

Mondays are Music Nights at the Hotel. Upcoming events include a "Tom Petty Tribute" on November 20th and the "Spare Tire Band" on November 27th. Music Mondays will thankfully continue in December. Check the website for further details. Don't forget that Wednesdays are music nights at the second location, the Stirling Tavern in Morristown.

While The Stirling Hotel is closed on Thanksgiving Day, the restaurant is a welcoming place to get together with families and friends to celebrate the entire winter season filled with holiday spirit. Weather permitting, the outdoor fireplaces will be lit and the outside bar will be open, through Thanksgiving.

Seasonal holiday beers both in bottle and on draft will be featured over the next 2 months. A few of the recent offerings include "Demented Out of Your Gourd," Dogfish Head Carobock" and "Ironbound Devil's Harvest" hard cider, all on tap. Bottled selections include Anchor Steam Beer, Chimay Premiere (Red) and Duvel, just to name a few.

Looking for a red wine to warm you up? Try the Leese-Fitch 2014 Cabernet, a Jaboulet, Grenache/Syrah or one of my favorites, the Tilia Malbec from Argentina.

Recent lunch specials have included a Shrimp Bisque with sherry and garden chives to start and a juicy Fried Chicken Sandwich with chipotle mayo.

For dinner, the restaurant recently offered Eggplant Parmesan Stacks as an appetizer and a Sesame-Crusted Tuna as a main dish.

The Stirling Hotel is located at 227 Main Avenue in Stirling within walking distance from the Stirling Train Station. In fact, there is a link to the train schedule right on the restaurant's website. This favorite eatery is open Monday through Saturday from 11:30 am until 10 pm and Sunday until 9 pm. The bar closes later. The restaurant can be reached by calling 908-647-6919. Details about events and daily specials can be found by visiting the websites. The Stirling Tavern is located at 150 South Street in Morristown and can be reached by calling 973-993-8066.

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