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GLHS HOSTS 52ND ANNUAL PAGEANT OF CHAMPIONS MARCHING BAND TOURNAMENT

Governor Livingston High School hosted the 52nd Annual Pageant of Champions Marching Band Tournament in October.

Seven marching bands, including Governor Livingston, were in attendance. GLHS was scored in a judged exhibition with a 90.2, their highest score this season. The GLHS marching band, led by Band Director Nicholas O'Sullivan, performed a show that was themed 'Moments in the Park' and featured Eleanor Rigby by Cody Fry, Come Together by The Beatles/Gary Clark Jr., I Hear a Symphony by Cody Fry,

To Build a Home by The Cinematic Orchestra, arranged by Jeff Chambers.

According to the event program, the 2023 Field Show, "Moments in the Park", tells a story through music and dance of a tranquil afternoon, the rain slowly starting to subside, when strangers convene in a park, finding themselves drawn to the same weathered benches. As the day goes on strangers find their paths intersecting in the serene park. As strangers meet, momentary awkwardness dissolves into conversation, laughter, and sharing tales of interests and dreams. As the sun dipped below the horizon, the park transformed into their unexpected rendezvous, reminding them that sometimes, beautiful connections bloom when strangers cross paths.

In addition, this past summer the Highlander Marching Band returned to international performance touring for the first time since 2018. The band performed in a "static parade" with other bands from around the world as a part of the Royal International Tattoo Pre-Show on Canada Day near the Citadel in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Read more about this exciting trip in this article from the student newspaper

The Highlander: bit.ly/46UOKvj

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Photos courtesy of the Dy Family



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GLHS VOLLEYBALL TEAM WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!

Congratulations to the Governor. Livingston Varsity Volleyball Team on their back-to-back Group 2 Central State Sectional Championship - they won in straight sets over Raritan!! Way to go ladies!!!



Photo Credit: Staci Toporek

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MOUNTAINSIDE ACTIVE RETIREES ANNUAL COOKIE SWAP

Submitted by Kenny i., President M.A.R.

On Tuesday, December12, the club will hold its 6th annual "cookie swap" with vocalist Ms. Candy Nelson entertaining the participants. The holiday festivities start at 10 a.m. in the 2nd floor Community Room at Borough Hall and is open to all residents 55+, and bearing cookies. Homemade or store bought. Donations of provided cookies will be packaged at the end of the meeting and delivered to house bound members.



(above) 49 members and guests of the Mountainside Active Retirees Club attended the club's first bus trip of the season on October 17. A dinner and show at The Brownstone in Patterson, N.J. After dinner, a comedian provided 'true life' laughs and musical entertainment was provided by a tribute to Frankie Valli and the 4 Seasons. Dancing was encouraged during the musical part of the show.



Rates current as of November 16, 2023. Rates are subject to change without notice. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. 1) Ultra Checking is a blended rate tiered account with dividends paid on portions of your balance falling within designated tiers: \$0.00 - \$1,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$1,000.01 - \$5,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$5,000.01 - \$10,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$10,000.01 - \$10,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$10,000.01 - \$25,000.00: 4.20% APY; \$15,000.01 - \$25,000.00: 2.78% - 1.67% APY; \$25,000.01 - \$50,000.00: 1.67% - 0.84% APY; \$50,000.01 and above: 0.84% - 0.02% APY. \$10,000 minimum balance to open. There is a \$1,000 minimum daily balance requirement to avoid a \$15 monthly maintenance fee. The monthly maintenance fee can also be avoided based on a direct deposit of \$750 or greater into the Ultra Checking account during the statement cycle. Limit of one Ultra Checking account per tax identification number. 2) Ultra Savings is a blended rate tiered account with dividends paid on portions of your balance falling within designated tiers: \$0.00 - \$100,000.00: 5.25% APY; \$100,000.01 - \$250,000.00: 5.25% APY; \$250,000.01 - \$250,000.00: 5.25% APY; \$250,000.01 - \$250,000.00: 5.25% APY; \$250,000.01 - \$20,000,000.01 - \$2,000,000.00: 5.25% - 2.60% APY; \$2,000,000.01 - \$5,000,000.00: 2.60% - 1.04% APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04% - 0.52% APY; \$5,000,000.01 - \$2,000,000.00: 5.25% - 2.60% APY; \$2,000,000.01 - \$5,000,000.00: 2.60% - 1.04% APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04% - 0.52% APY; \$5,000,000.01 - \$2,000,000.00: 5.25% - 2.60% APY; \$2,000,000.01 - \$5,000,000.00: 2.60% - 1.04% APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04% - 0.52% APY; \$5,000,000.01 - \$2,000,000.00: 5.25% - 2.60% APY; \$2,000,000.01 - \$5,000,000.00: 2.60% - 1.04% APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04% - 0.52% APY; \$5,000,000.01 - \$2,000,000.00: 5.25% - 2.60% APY; \$2,000,000.01 - \$5,000,000.00: 2.60% - 1.04% APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04% - 0.52% APY; \$5,000,000.01 - \$2,000,000.00: 5.25% - 2.60% APY; \$2,000,000.01 - \$5,000,000.01: 2.60% - 1.04% APY; \$5,000,000.01 and above: 1.04%



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COPING WITH LOSS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

culture, especially at the holidays. We are supposed to have a Happy Thanksgiving, a "merry little Christmas" or a Happy Hanukkah. But grief doesn't take a holiday.

Imagine, A Center for Coping with Loss would like to offer support to those navigating the challenges of grieving during the holiday season and offer some coping strategies as well. On Thursday December 14th from 6:30-8 pm, Imagine will offer a workshop on Coping with Loss During the Holidays. The free workshop will be held at their center at 244 Sheffield Street in Mountainside and is open to adults and children grades 3 and older.

Imagine's Grief Educator, Connie Palmer, LCSW will present the workshop in English and Training and Education Director, Veronica Ortiz, LPC and Bilingual Program Manager, Sonia Nuñez will present the workshop at the same time in Spanish. Pizza dinner is available prior to the session beginning at 6:15 for those who sign up. Hot cocoa and cookies will be served as well.

If you are looking for support as you cope with a loss this holiday season, the staff at Imagine would like to help, and hope to see you at the workshop on the 14th.

Imagine is a 501c3 nonprofit that offers free year-round grief support groups for children ages 3-18 and young adults 19-30 who are coping with

There is so much pressure to be happy in our a loss due to death. Concurrently, support groups are available for the parents and guardians of the children in the groups and offered in English and Spanish. Imagine also offers grief and loss education and training to the community. For more information please contact Imagine at 908-264-3100 or info@imaginenj.org.



(above) If you're interested in attending the workshop presented in English, please scan the

QR code or visit Imagine's website at imaginenj.org/education-training/communitywebinars/ to register. Registration is not

required for the workshop presented in Spanish.

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ASSUMPTION CHURCH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Church of the Assumption in Roselle Park, in conjunction with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, is coordinating a Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening, December 6th @ 7 PM.

New Jersey's own Chris Pinnella and His Quartet will be performing an array of Christmas and Holiday Classics. Chris is a world class vocalist who has been compared to Josh Groban and Micheal Buble.

All proceeds from the concert will benefit Assumption Church and Catholic Charities.

Tickets in advance are \$20, and can be purchased via the Rectory or by visiting assumption23.givesmart.com. Tickets at the door will be \$25. For more info contact Peter Ruccione (a) 973-818-4060. pruccione(a) ccannj.org



Mountainside View • Page 8 • December 2023 NJ INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA PRESENTS **FREE FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT IN - DEC 10**

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra will be entertaining families on Sunday, December 10, 2023 with a free concert of seasonal holiday favorites. The concert will be from 2pm to 3pm at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, 272 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ. Families with children of all ages are invited to come and join in the fun!

NJIO's three orchestral ensembles will combine to perform music by Strauss, Mozart, Brahms, and more! The concert concludes with Leroy Anderson's exciting Sleigh Ride, with percussion accompaniment provided by the youngest members of the audience!

The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Following the concert, the famous NJIO Instrument Petting Zoo returns! Experienced NJIO musicians will guide young audience members and assist them in safely trying out the instrument of their dreams. Instruments are loaned by Elefante Music of New Providence and Scotch Plains.

Concert Details: Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 2 pm Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School 272 Morris Avenue Summit, NJ 07901 Admission is free;

donations are gratefully accepted.

This concert is made possible by funds from: the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation; The Lillian Schenck Foundation; The Henry S. and Agnes M. Truzack Foundation; Investors



(above) Young audience members get to try out orchestra instruments at NJIO's Holiday Concert Instrument Petting Zoo. Instruments are loaned by Elefante Music.

Foundation; Standish Foundation; and many other generous supporters. NJIO is a proud participating organization in the Families First Discovery Pass Program, a program of the NJ Departments of Health and Human Services.

NJIO is committed to ensuring that its programs and concerts are accessible. For more information regarding the concert or to inquire about patron services, please contact NJIO at info@njio.org, or visit NJIO's website njio.org.

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra, now in its 30th season, has been nationally recognized as a leader in intergenerational excellence through its unique approach to teaching musical performance and as a model for intergenerational orchestras across the country. Depending on space availability, NJIO welcomes new members of all ages and abilities each concert period to one of its several orchestras - no auditions needed!



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that brings you and your child together with words.

get started, email Elizabeth at То eperrin@mountainsidelibrary.org, who will get you started with your journey to reading 1,000 books!



BOY SCOUT TROOP 177 GREENS SALE

Mountainside Boy Scout Troop 177 is excited to sell holiday wreaths and centerpieces again this year! They are assembled by the scouts and delivered to your house. It is \$45 for a wreath and \$40 for a centerpiece. Ord¬ers will be available around Thanksgiving. Please support this Boy Scout holiday tradition. Use the QR code to order. If you have any questions email jpadlo@msn.com.



Email: jpadlo@msn.com (questions or to order) or use the QR Code above.

LIBRARY DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

1 Constitution Plaza, Mountainside, NJ 07092 • 908-233-0115 • mountainsidelibrary.org Monday, Thursday: 9:30am - 8:00pm; Tuesday, Wednesday: 9:30am - 6:00pm; Friday: 9:30am - 5:00pm; Saturday: 9:30am - 5:00pm; Sundays: closed Closed: Monday, December 25th

The Mountainside Library will be unveiling its updated website in early December. Be on the lookout for new convenient features including online program registration and easier search and download capabilities. The online registration is straight forward and easy to use, but patrons who prefer may call the library and register for programs via phone.

The library has several drop-in programs (no registration necessary) for all ages that will put patrons in the holiday spirit.

Create your own Cards

Thursday, November 29 from 2:00-4:30 p.m. Saturday, December 9 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Young and old alike can create their own oneof-a-kind cards. Children under 8 years of age

must be accompanied by a parent. **Holidav Concert**

December 2 at 2:00 p.m.

before the Borough of Mountainside Tree Lighting, stop by the library for a festive holiday concert featuring Navesink Brass followed by seasonal refreshments and time to

relax and socialize with your friends and neighbors.

Artful Easel

Wednesday, November 29 at 1:00 p.m. Adults can paint a masterpiece on their own canvas with the Artful Easel. Registration is required, and light refreshments will be served.

Book Club

December 4 at 6:30 p.m. The Monday evening Book Club will be discussing The Art Thief by Michael Finkel. Copies of the book are available at the library. **Cookbook Club**

Thursday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. For adults with a taste for cooking, the Cookbook Club will meet for talk and tasting around the theme, Beyond Bacon and Eggs: Ideas for New Year's Brunch.

Knitters and Needleworkers

Thursday, December 14 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Knitters and needleworkers are invited to work on their own projects while chatting with likeminded fiber enthusiasts. Join the group and share your skills, ask questions, pick up tips and tricks, and exchange information about products

and vendors. The group usually will meet on the third Thursday of each month; however,

because of the holiday season, the next meeting will be on Thursday, December 14.

In addition to the special programs, the library continues to offer favorites including a variety of story times for youth, and movies and Great Courses for adults. Please visit mountainsidelibrary.org for a complete listing of programs and details including registration or call the library at 908-233-0115 for further information or to register.



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TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 24TH ANNUAL PIPES OF CHRISTMAS

The Pipes of Christmas will celebrate its 24th joyous season with performances in New Jersey and New York this December. The holiday favorite opens on Saturday, December 17 at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 921 Madison Avenue (at 73rd Street) for two performances at 2 and 7PM. The concert moves across the Hudson River on Sunday, December 18 to Central Presbyterian Church located at 70 Maple Street in Summit, NJ also with performances at 2 and 7PM.

For those weary of the ceaseless stream of secular seasonal music from department stores to TV, the Pipes of Christmas offers a spiritual and traditional take on the season that connects concertgoers to the holiday in a fresh, meaningful way. The show features tunes such as, "Highland Cathedral," "Joy to the World", and "Amazing Grace", all performed live on pipes and drums, harp and fiddle, and organ and brass and more. Not only does the performance define Christmas cheer, but also it inspires those of Celtic descent to retrace and reconnect to their ancestry.

According to producer Robert Currie, "We are absolutely delighted to be bringing our concert back to full force after two devastating years weathering the Covid pandemic. Supporting our GoFundMe campaign will continue to make these concerts possible."

The 2022 production marks the NYC solo debut of soprano Sharon Lyons originally from Dublin, Ireland.

The concert presents the music of Christmas accompanied by readings taken from the Celtic literature of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. In addition to Ms. Lyons, featured performers include James Robinson from the film "Braveheart," New England fiddle champion Paul Woodiel, champion harpist Rachel Clemente, and the Pipe Major Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band from Redlands, CA among many more.

PROCEEDS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE

Proceeds from the concert support an extensive music scholarship program, which include annual gifts to the National Piping Centre and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (both located in Glasgow, Scotland) the Gaelic College of Nova Scotia and the Carol Hassert Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship at Summit (NJ) High School.

Proceeds also support the annual Tartan Day on Ellis Island celebration and the Society's sponsorship of the US National Scottish Harp Championship, the Gaelic Literature Competition at Scotland's Royal National Mod, and an academic research prize at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Scotland's Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye.

Each year, concert highlights are webcast in hidefinition over the Christmas holiday to a global audience in cooperation with HomeTowne Television. In addition to winning multiple Telly Awards for broadcast production excellence, the 2020 virtual concert was a finalist for the coveted

The concert presents the music of Christmas MG Alba Trad Music Award presented annually companied by readings taken from the Celtic in Scotland.

The concert is still accepting Title Sponsors as well as Program Ads. These gifts help offset production expenses and add help fund our scholarships.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

Tickets may be purchased online exclusively through ShowTix4U at www.showtix4u.com (be certain you select the event name and date in the search engine). Reserved patron seats are available at both venues.

ABOUT "THE PIPES OF CHRISTMAS"

Since making its debut in 1999, The Pipes of Christmas has played to standing room only audiences. Now a cherished holiday event, the concert provides audiences with a stirring and reverent celebration of the Christmas season and the Celtic spirit. Audience-goers return year after year to experience the program, many reporting that the Pipes of Christmas has become part of their family's annual Christmas tradition.

The concert has been lavished with critical acclaim. In his review for Classical New Jersey Magazine, Paul Somers wrote, "The whole evening was constructed to introduce gem after gem and still have a finale which raised the roof. In short, it was like a well-constructed fireworks show on the Glorious Fourth. The Westfield Leader described the concert as "a unique sound of power and glory nowhere else to be found."



(above) Soprano Sharon Lyons originally from Dublin, Ireland, made her NYC solo debut at the 2022 Pipes of Christmas concerts NJ.





(above) Pipers from the Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band are returning to join the company of the 24th annual "Pipes of Christmas" concerts.





HOLIDAY EVENTS SCHEDULE ON DECEMBER 2, 9, & 16

Committee are busy planning their 2023 Holiday events which include:

The Levi Cory House Village Shop will be open on Saturdays (from 11am-3pm) on the following dates: December 2, 9, & 16; and Sunday, Dec. 10 from 1-4 p.m. Stop by for Holiday items and gifts, or just come by to browse.

Cookies & Hot Cocoa Sale on Saturday, December 2nd during the Borough Tree Lighting- 4:30-5:15pm. Visit the Rescue Squad building next to Mountainside Borough Hall for

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Mountainside Restoration Committee

Volunteers at the Mountainside Restoration homemade cookies and hot cocoa beginning @ 4:30 p.m. and after the Tree Lighting. Proceeds from this sale will benefit the restoration and maintenance of the Hetfield and Levi Cory Houses.

> The Hetfield House Gingerbread Open House for families will once again be held on Sunday, December 10th. Families are invited to enjoy music, floral and gingerbread ornament crafts, Mr. & Mrs. Claus, a guessing contest, refreshments, and immersion in the holiday spirit. Donations of \$5 per person (\$15 per family) are requested at the door.

The Historic Levi Cory House and Deacon Andrew Hetfield House are located on Constitution Plaza adjacent to the Mountainside Library (off Birch Hill Road). Funds raised will benefit the Mountainside Restoration Committee which is a 501(c)3 charity and a committee of volunteers whose purpose is to restore and maintain the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House and the Levi Cory House and collect and save historical information and items from destruction. For further information or to donate funds for historic restoration, please call (908)233-3135; or, go to: www.mountainsidehistory.org



(above) The Mountainside Restoration Committee invites the community to their 2023 Holiday events: the Village Shop is opening November 25, December 2, 9, & 16, and Sunday, Dec. 10; a *Cookie & Hot Cocoa Sale during the Borough Tree lighting on Dec. 2nd; and the Family* Gingerbread Open House on Dec. 10th featuring Mr. & Mrs. Clause.

BLUE ENVELOPE POLICE PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTS ON SPECTRUM

The Blue Envelope Program is accessible to all Union County residents on the Autism Spectrum. Residents can obtain a Blue Envelope at their local police departments throughout the county.

The Blue Envelope Program introduces a simple yet effective tool that contains essential information for drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This includes a copy of their driver's license, vehicle registration, insurance details, and an emergency contact card. Additionally, the envelope provides clear instructions to drivers on how to navigate a traffic stop and interact with law enforcement officers in a manner that promotes clarity and safety.

Key features of the Blue Envelope Program include:

• Specialized Training: Every officer in Union County, including local officers in all 21 municipalities, will undergo specialized training to develop a deeper understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder and the best practices for engaging with individuals during traffic stops.

- Communication Facilitation: Drivers with Autism Spectrum Disorder can present the blue envelope to the officer upon being stopped, allowing officers to quickly recognize the situation and adapt their approach accordingly.
- Essential Information: The envelope includes guidance for officers to simplify requests and minimize the risk of misunderstandings or potential escalation. Additionally, officers are advised to contact the person listed on the emergency contact card for assistance if needed.
- Verbal or Nonverbal Indication: A checked-off box on the envelope indicates whether the driver is verbal or nonverbal, which aids officers in communicating effectively.

"Every single police department in Union County is proud to be a part of this initiative,"



Organized by the American Museum of Natural History (amnh.org).

said Elizabeth Police Chief Giacomo Sacca and President of the Union County Police Chief's Association. "Our officers have undergone thorough briefings and trainings to ensure they are well-versed in the proper protocols, and they are eager to put their training into action."

For information on this program in your town, contact your local Police Department's Community Outreach Unit.





Located

info@konantiques.com

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH NJ FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA!



From traditional to pops, renowned tenor fare and Broadway favorites, New Jersey Festival Orchestra's (NJFO) holiday concerts promise to fill the entire family with warmth and cheer.

They're back! Under the baton of Maestro David Wroe, the orchestra will kick off the festive season with a bang and plenty of bling as The Three Holiday Tenors join NJFO to present a family festival of traditional and contemporary holiday songs and music.

"We cannot wait to return to The Presbyterian Church at this special time of year and are thrilled to welcome back The Three Holiday Tenors – each more talented than the next – to help us celebrate the Holiday season," said Wroe.

The concert features Metropolitan Opera's internationally acclaimed tenor Errin Brooks and award winning tenors Jeremy Brauner and Mackenzie Whitney to celebrate and captivate with a dazzling selection of renowned tenor arias. Traditional carols, signature versions of familiar fare and a host of wintertime curiosities are also sure to delight.

"We believe there is something for everyone in this performance. Our holiday concert is a vessel for children, parents, grandparents and friends – indeed the entire community – come together through festive music at this unique time of the year."

The concert will take place on Saturday, December 9th at 7pm at the Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave in Westfield.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH NJFO!

NJFO's quintessential New Year's celebration is also back on Sunday, December 31 in Westfield with "The Great American Songbook," a superb revue of American song and dance showstoppers.

Audiences are invited celebrate the New Year and revel in the musical genius of America's great composers, outstanding vocal performers, dazzling dance numbers and a world-class professional orchestra led by Maestro David Wroe.

A cabaret style event for the whole family, the concert promises a superb review of musical theatre classics presented in glorious symphonic splendor. The concert features renowned guest singers direct from the Broadway stage and dancers from Dance Theatre of Harlem who join NJFO to swing to favorites from Broadway and beyond.

The performance will take place on Sunday, December 31 at 7pm at Westfield High School, 550 Dorian Road, Westfield.

"There is much to celebrate this holiday season," continued Wroe. "So gather your friends and family for a series of merry musical programs of song and dance for audiences of all ages!"

This seasonal stroll of timeless classics and sentimental favorites, sure to bring us together with joy, smiles, and distinctive holiday memories, has been made possible in part by support from The Westfield Foundation, a Union County H.E.A.R.T grant and The NJ State Council on the Arts.

For tickets and further information for both events go to www.njfestivalorchestra.org or call 908 232 9400. \neg



Rotary

SHINING STARS CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR – DEC. 2ND

With cast members from all over Union serve as mentors to the cast during rehearsals. County and beyond, the Shining Stars Network has been producing live programming for the special needs community for eleven years.

Celebrate the holiday season when the Shining Stars take the stage for their 2023 Christmas Spectacular" set for Saturday, December 2nd, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

The show will take place on the main stage at the historic Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway as this talented cast sings and dances to your holiday favorites.

This year's Christmas Spectacular marks the return of the Shining Stars to one of the most beautiful theaters in New Jersey and will feature 35 special needs cast members and their volunteer buddies from local high schools, who

Two previous Shining Stars shows at UCPAC drew more than 1,000 audience members for each performance, and already, the buzz is building in the community.

"We're so excited to ring in the holiday season," noted Shining Stars Network founder and President Mike Curci. "Our stars are ready to share their smiles, energy and amazing talents with everyone. This will be a great way to cap off our 11th year."

"We strongly believe in creating an inclusive environment for our cast, and our buddies are an integral part of the Shining Stars experience," noted Shining Stars founder and show director Sally Curci. "We are so excited to bring a new show to the stage and cannot wait to connect with



our incredible audience again to celebrate the holiday season."

Shining Stars Network is wrapping up their biggest year yet, which included their annual "Evening of Shining Stars" Spring Show, their Broadway debut at the Gershwin Theatre, and their impressive main stage debut at the iconic Paper Mill Playhouse.

The Shining Stars performed "This Is Me" on Broadway as part of the Arts for Autism concert and soon after, took the Paper Mill stage to present The Greatest Show, a history-making performance which was the first full production of performers with special needs in Paper Mill history.

"Shining Stars Network is not only about performing, but more importantly we're about building self-confidence and self-esteem," said Shining Stars co-director Nicole Greene. "Our cast members are not only talented, but inspire us every day, and we are all very excited about seeing our cast take the stage again to share another magical night with the audience."

Tickets are on sale now at UCPAC.org. For groups of 10 more, email or shiningstarsnetwork@gmail.com.

The night will also feature a Tricky Tray and 50/50 raffle. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m.

Shining Stars Network is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization based in Cranford, N.J. that offers opportunities in the performing arts for the special needs community.

For more information on Shining Stars Network or to make a donation, please visit shiningstarsnetwork.org.



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HOLIDAY MAGIC AT THE HOPE CHEST

The Hope Chest Thrift Store, located at 26 Prospect Street in Westfield, is outfitted for the Holidays! The store welcomes shoppers in with an array of beautiful holiday items. There will be holiday table linens, glass and dishware, serving pieces, centerpieces and wreaths. For a Christmas tree the store will be offering lights, garlands, and ornaments. In our book and CD section there are many options for children or adults.

For the man of the house the store maintains a wonderful selection of slacks, jeans, sweaters, sports jackets, suits, and outerwear that will outfit him for the chilly weather and perhaps that special holiday party. Women can choose anything from casual clothes to a glittering gown or dress. To accessorize there is a selection of beautiful earrings, necklaces, and

The Hope Chest Thrift Store, located at 26 rospect Street in Westfield, is outfitted for the olidays! The store welcomes shoppers in with a rray of beautiful holiday items. There will be

Be sure to check out our sales promotions which change weekly.

The Hope Chest is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and gladly accepts donations of new or gently used items on Tuesday and Saturday. The store is manned totally by volunteers and all of our profits go to support the Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care in Scotch Plains.

To volunteer at the store or to enquire about joining the Center for Hope Hospice Auxiliary please call the store at 908-233-9973 or stop in and speak with one of our volunteers.

We always welcome new members.

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BLUE CHRISTMAS PRAYER SERVICE

The Church of the Little Flower will be hosting a Blue Christmas prayer service on Sunday, December 10 at 3 p.m. The service will be held in the Bernauer Parish Center, 290 Plainfield Avenue in Berkeley Heights.

Many of us feel down or depressed this time of year, whether due to stress, financial issues, broken relationships, death of a loved one, or may be looking for a brief respite from the hustle and bustle of the season.

The Bereavement Ministry of the Church of the Little Flower invites anyone from the parish or any faith community to attend our service where we can pray for renewed strength and hope and experience the presence of the Lord.

Light refreshments will be served afterward. For further information, you may call the parish center at 908-464-1585 and ask for Dan Grossano or email bereavement.lf@gmail.com.

HAZMAT AWARENESS AND DECON TRAINING

The Mountainside Fire Department recently had a refresher on hazmat awareness and Decon. Members took part by listening to a lecture and then got to practice setting up a Decon shower and dressing a member in a level B hazmat suit. We would like to thank Union County Hazmat FMBA Local 99 for taking the time to review this topic with us. If you are interested in joining the Fire Department, come down to the Fire House any Monday night at 7:30 p.m.

Follow Mountainside Fire Department on Facebook



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