

ALSO SERVING: BLOOMFIELD • CEDAR GROVE • ESSEX FIELDS • GLEN RIDGE • HUTLEY • VERONA

SPRING 2022

ISSN 1545-8850

Montclair

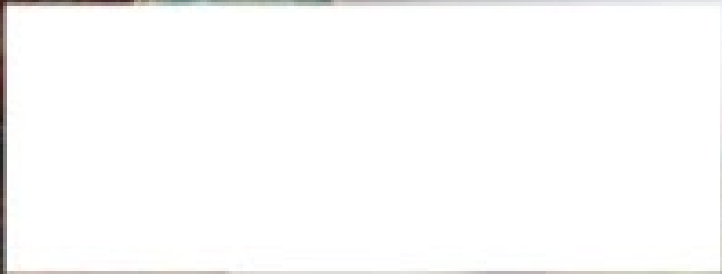
MAGAZINE

LITTLE GIRL BIG TALENT

SAMSARA LEELA YETT CO-STARS
WITH KRISTEN BELL

OUR
9TH ANNUAL
**READERS' CHOICE
AWARD WINNERS**
YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST
DINING, SHOPPING AND
SERVICES IN TOWN

PLUS: A CENTRAL PARK
SCULPTURE WITH
MONTCLAIR ROOTS



BUZZWORTHY

To be considered for Buzzworthy, contact Cindy Schweich Handler at handler@northjersey.com



Montclair area

BEDDING AND BATH BRAND HAS LOCAL ROOTS

Growing up in Austin, Texas, Robin Wilson suffered from multiple allergies. Fast-forward to the present, and she is providing ways consumers can avoid the same discomfort — at least in their bedrooms and bathrooms. Now a Montclair area resident and entrepreneur named one of the “Top 100 Female Founders in the World” by *Inc. Magazine*, Wilson has launched **CLEAN DESIGN HOME**, a new line of hypoallergenic home textiles, in partnership with West Point Home, maker of the Martex brand. In January, Wilson’s line became available at 165 Macy’s stores nationwide.

The Clean Home Design bed and bath collection includes eco-friendly and sustainable pillows, cotton sheets, Supima cotton towels, and robes that keep asthma and allergy triggers — dust mites, pet dander, pollen — under control. Her new business makes Wilson the first Black American female founder of a global, licensed hypoallergenic textile brand. Consumers can look forward to a spring launch of Clean Design Home quilts.

— CINDY SCHWEICH HANDLER



Bloomfield

ART.ICE.ZEN IS MORE THAN VEGAN ICE CREAM

Belleville native Kris Schmalz may have opened his vegan ice cream shop **ART.ICE.ZEN** in neighboring Bloomfield but he’s come a long way to get to this point. A former stick boy with the New Jersey Devils and equipment manager for the New Jersey Nets, he traveled the world with the teams before transitioning to the hospitality industry in New York. But his career came to a hard stop around 2010, when he slipped into opioid addiction and lost 10 years of his life to it. A successful stint at a treatment center in Florida, along with prolonged dedication to sobriety, training under two ice cream-making masters in Austin, Texas, and a decision to partner with his buddy, Kevin Davies, have led to the soft opening (pun intended) of