Havertown Holiday Festival offers day of community spirit and holiday fun

Heinz Refuge offers wreath-making, Lawrence Park offers customer appreciation day and more

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Haverford High School alumnus Kevin Towel, aka Buddy the Elf, will help light the Haverford Township Christmas tree during the Havertown Holiday Festival on Saturday. (COURTESY PHOTO)

HAVERFORD — Discover Haverford will present Havertown Holiday Festival on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. The festival will be a family-friendly event focused on Christmas, Hanukkah and winter fun.

"Havertown is known for its close-knit community and smalltown feel, so this will be a great event for all ages," explained Jeanne Angell, executive director of Discover Haverford. "Bundle up, grab a hot drink and join us for some holiday spirit."

Early in the day, kids will have a chance to meet Elsa and Olaf from the movie "Frozen" and participate in story time with the Haverford Township Library reading Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza books. There will be Hanukkah, Christmas and other crafts offered throughout the day by various groups. Those who come early can watch the ice sculptor do his magic, turning a block of ice into a masterpiece.

The event will offer live performances all day, from Colonial Revelers and the Havertones singing Christmas music to professional violinist David Brown playing traditional Jewish music, and excerpts from the Nutcracker from the Haverford Dance Company.

Santa and Buddy the Elf will arrive at 4 p.m. and light the Christmas tree at 5 p.m., followed by community caroling around the tree. The final act will be 17-year-old Lucas Beltran, singing Christmas songs in the Rat-Pack style with his full band, at 7 p.m.

In addition to the restaurants on Brookline Boulevard, there will be several food vendors offering lunch and dinner fare plus cupcakes and cookies from newly opened Sweets on Darby and funnel cakes from Boy Scout Troop 434. For adults there will be beer from Conshohocken Brewing Co. and hot adult drinks from Rare Birds Distillery.

There will be a vendor marketplace for last-minute holiday gift shopping, along with two great retail shops on the boulevard. Vendor products for sale include jewelry, boutique clothing and accessories, home décor, candy, wine and cozy alpaca apparel.

For the day's schedule and information about parking, visit http://www.discoverhaverford.org/holiday-festival

Heinz Refuge offers free wreath-making class

The John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum will host a free DIY Winter Wreath Making program at the Visitor Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17. People are invited to let their creativity flow.

No registration is needed and all supplies will be provided.

For more information on Heinz Refuge, visit https://www.fws.gov/refuge/john-heinz-tinicum

Lawrence Park Shopping Center presents customer appreciation day

Federal Realty Investment Trust, a national leader in real estate investment trust, will host a customer appreciation event as a celebratory thank you to the community for its continued support on Saturday, Dec. 10 from noon to 2 p.m. at the Lawrence Park Shopping Center in Broomall.

The day will include face painting, balloons and giveaways for children, as well as a storytime reading in Barnes and Noble at 1 p.m. with former Eagle Brian Westbrook Sr., reading from his children's book, "The Mouse that Played Football."

Barnes and Noble in the Lawrence Park Shopping Center, Broomall, will present Brian Westbrook, reading his new children's book "The Mouse Who Played Football," during the shopping center's holiday celebration Saturday.

In addition to the holiday festivities, Federal is celebrating the recent opening of PJ Whelihan's Pub and Restaurant within the shopping center.

The 7,500-square-foot restaurant opened in late November and is a part of Federal's multi-million dollar redevelopment at the Lawrence Park Shopping Center.

Federal is currently in the second phase of construction at the center and plans to include additional tenants, enhanced outdoor dining and gathering areas, the addition of outdoor lounging areas and convenient curbside pick-up throughout the property.

Archdiocese holds virtual career fair for secondary and special education career fair

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia's Office of Catholic Education will host a virtual career fair for educators seeking teaching positions in archdiocesan secondary schools and for special education teachers and teaching assistants seeking positions in archdiocesan schools of special education throughout the five-county region. The career fair will take place Tuesday, Dec, 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. .

Subject areas of need for secondary schools include business; engineering; English; health and physical education; mathematics; science; social studies; special education; technology; theology and world languages.

The three archdiocesan schools of special education have opportunities for special education teachers and teaching assistants. Our Lady of Confidence School, Saint Katherine School, and Saint Lucy School for Children with Visual Impairments meet the needs of students with visual and sensory impairments, physical impairments as well as those on the autism spectrum, in the tradition of Catholic education and values.

Candidates should hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Appropriate Pennsylvania certification is desired. Candidates interested in teaching theology must have course credits from a Catholic college or university.

All candidates are expected to submit a resume and transcripts prior to the career fair for review if those materials are not already

on file with the Office of Catholic Education. All criminal background checks, child abuse clearances, and archdiocesan safe environment training are required prior to the commencement of employment.

In addition, candidates interested in teaching in the schools of special education should include their Pennsylvania certification in special education. A high school diploma is required for candidates applying for teaching assistant positions.

Administrators representing archdiocesan secondary schools and archdiocesan schools of special education as well as the Office of Catholic Education will be available to interview candidates and to answer questions about joining the team.

Teachers serving within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia play a critical role in furthering the mission of the church while meeting the diverse needs of students and school families.

To submit documents and for questions concerning the application process, contact Barbara Guiliano, human resources assistant for secondary schools, at bguiliano@archphila.org.

Before applying, job seekers should visit http://www.AOPcatholicschools.org to review information about the archdiocesan schools of special education, secondary schools, and the Office of Catholic Education.

Character Driven Productions, Main Line Television and

Irish American Films announce partnership on 'Wages of Spin III'

Character Driven Productions, Main Line Television and Irish American Films, three award-winning Philadelphia/Delaware County-based film production companies, announce commencement of principal photography on the documentary film "Wages of Spin III." The film examines the Philadelphia music industry from the 1950s through 1980s.

The feature-length documentary is the third installment in the "Wages of Spin" franchise. "Wages of Spin" chronicles the Philadelphia music scene from 1952 through 1963, focusing primarily on Dick Clark, "American Bandstand" and the teen idols. "Wages of Spin II" explores the inner workings of the recording industry, from 1979 through 1993, focusing on the relationships between the record labels, promoters personnel, radio programmers, organized crime and the government.

Wages of Spin III is a definitive piece on how the recording industry worked from the 1950s through 1980s. It focuses on the relationships among artists, record labels, DJs, program directors, and promoters with storylines exploring behind-the- scenes and machinations at "Bandstand," "American Bandstand," record labels, manufacturers, Philadelphia International Airport and Live Aid.

For more information, visit http://mainlinetv.org,
https://www.facebook.com/irishamericanfilms or
https://www.facebook.com/characterdrivenproductions.

Curry invites residents to attend holiday open house

State Rep. Gina Curry will hold Cookies and Cocoa with Rep. Curry, a holiday open house, 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15 at her district office in the Barclay Shopping Center, 1500 Garrett Road, Suite 2G, Upper Darby.

Curry's staff is also scheduling appointments for that evening to offer last-minute assistance filing Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program applications.

The deadline to apply for the 2021 Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, which provides rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2021 to income eligible seniors and people with disabilities, is Dec. 31. Applications can also be filed online at http://mypath.pa.gov.

For questions about the open house or the tax/rent rebatea, residents should call 610-259-7016 or email RepCurry@pahouse.net/.

Residents can send community news and photos to Peg DeGrassa at pdegrassa@21st-centurymedia.com