

Holiday Happenings

First Congregational Church, 14 Mountain Road, Princeton, will host a Christmas Craft Fair & Luncheon from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be served 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., featuring corn chowder, chili, egg salad sandwiches, spicy vegetable wraps, beverages and homemade pies. There will be a holiday cookie table and crafts including stained glass, photography, tin painting, knitted items, handmade cards and journals, boxwood trees, wreaths, jellies and baked goods.

The Third Annual Holly Berry Craft Faire will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fitchburg Art Museum, 185 Elm St., Fitchburg. Enjoy a selection of crafters, each booth overflowing with one-of-a-kind gifts for the discerning people on your shopping list. Music and tempting treats available throughout the fair. Admission is free for members; \$7 for non-members, and \$5 for seniors and students. For information, call 978-345-4207.

The Holden Woman's Club will hold its 6th annual Showcase of Wreaths & Gift Baskets from noon to 3 p.m. at the Hendricks House, 1157 Main St. There will be fresh and everlasting wreaths donated by local florists, baskets of fresh greens, and gift baskets with themes such as new puppy, gardening, arts and craft, spa, puzzles and games, Ethnic foods, birds and more. Proceeds from the sale benefit the club's scholarship and community service funds.

The Rutland Historical Society's 8th Annual Festival of Trees opens at the Rutland Library from 4 to 8 p.m. with a gingerbread house contest, decorated trees and wreaths, and a basket raffle. Over at the Old Fire Barn visit Santa at his Magic House from 4 to 8 p.m. From 5 to 7:30 enjoy a Friendship Supper (\$5 suggested donation) at First Congregational Church, 246 Main St., celebrate the annual tree lighting on the Town Common at 6:30 p.m., followed by a program at St. Patrick's Church, 9 Pommogussett Road. Call 508-886-6264.

The First Congregational Church, Main Street, Holden, will hold a Nativity Lighting with its set of new figures at 4:30 p.m. on

the front lawn, just before Santa arrives next door at Town Hall.

The Winter Stroll will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. throughout downtown Leominster. Rain/snow date is Dec. 6.

Paula Meola Dance & Performing Arts, Inc. of Sterling will perform The Nutcracker Ballet at 2 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 6, at Montachusett Regional Technical Vocational School, 1050 Westminster St., Fitchburg. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for children. Call 978-422-6989.

Santa will visit from 3 to 5 p.m. at Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord. Bring a Christmas wish list and show it to Santa. Cameras allowed. Call 978-369-4494.

The man himself — Santa — arrives at 5 p.m. for his annual visit at Holden Town Hall on a fire truck. Santa will be serenaded by Girl Scouts and make himself available for pictures. Hot chocolate will be available next door at First Congregational Church.

Open house at the Gathering Shed on Ridge Road, Rutland, is Dec. 5-6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come for antiques, dry flower bouquets and wreaths, fresh wreaths, and freshly made breads. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Our Savior Lutheran Church presents its 21st traditional Living Nativity from 6 to 8 p.m. at the church, junction of routes 2, 2a and 140, in Westminster. Enjoy the historical re-creation of a first century Near Eastern town and market. Everything is free. There is plenty of parking and groups are welcome. Call 978-874-2504.

The Atlantic Wind Symphony presents festive Russian Christmas music by Sergei Rachmaninoff and Sergei Prokofiev, plus beloved carols and Holiday Pops, at 8 p.m. at Machlan Auditorium, Atlantic Union College, 338 Main St., South Lancaster. Reception to follow. For tickets, call 978-368-2100.

SUNDAY

The Olde Stuff Shop on Worcester Road, Rte. 31, Princeton will hold a Holiday Open House from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Antiques, consignments, handmade Christmas decorations old and new, wooden primitives and fresh greens, wreaths, swags, Chalkware Santa's with new designs, and homemade goodies. Coffee and baked goods available.

stART on the Street will hold its annual holiday spectacular at Union Station in Worcester. With over 120 local artists and crafters selling their handmade items, this show proves to be one-stop shopping for everyone's holiday gift-giving needs. For additional information and participating artist listing, visit startonthestreet.org/start-station.

The U.S. Air Force Band of Liberty, including 60 musicians stationed at Hanscom Air Force Base, will play a holiday show at noon at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester, part of the Hall's Brown Bag Concert Series. The show will include patriotic songs, sounds of the season and American Songbook favorites. Free.

The Rutland Historical Society's 8th Annual Festival of Trees at the library, as well as Santa's Magic House at the Old Fire Barn, will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Add a ride on an antique fire engine at the Old Fire barn or a horse and buggy ride (meet in front of the library). Call 508-886-6264.

The Rutland Congregational Church, 264 Main St., will hold a Memorial Service at 4 p.m. This service is for anyone who has lost loved ones and friends to death. The Finnish American community will also take part in the service. Candles are placed at family gravesites in the Rural Cemetery after the worship service. Refreshments will follow back at the church.

The Montachusett Chorale will perform a holiday concert, to benefit the Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network, at 2 p.m. at Leominster City Hall, Tata Auditorium, 25 West St., Leominster. Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door (children under 18 free). For tickets, call 978-534-9187 or 978-840-9500.

First Congregational Church, Main Street, Holden, will hold its annual Advent Workshop, "A Night in Bethlehem," a hands-on Holy Land experience, from 3:30 to 6 p.m., with festive music as guests wander through a marketplace and encounter a census taker, shepherds and shopkeepers. Shops include leather working, metal working, wreath making, scribe shop, carpentry and more. A potluck dinner will follow at 5:15 p.m.

Wachusett Regional High School will present the comedy "You Can't Take it With You" today at 2 p.m. in the auditorium. Tickets available at the door, \$12 general admission, \$10 children 12 and under and senior citizens.

The Friends of the Princeton Library will host the 42nd annual Candlelight Concert from 4 to 5 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 14 Mountain Road, Princeton. The theme is "Winter Peace" with Patsy Mollica and her company of singers and musicians performing a winter evening of song. Free. The Lights in Common event follows the Candlelight Concert at approximately 5 p.m. on the town common at the bandstand. Townspeople are invited to gather for songs, lighting of the common and singing "Lights in Common" with Patsy. Bring flashlights and votive candles.

The Town of Westminster will celebrate their annual Holiday Tree Lighting at 4 p.m. at Academy Hill. The community is invited to enjoy refreshments, caroling, and a visit from Santa.

Our Savior Lutheran Church presents its 21st traditional Living Nativity from 6 to 8 p.m. at the church, junction of routes 2, 2a and 140, in Westminster. Enjoy the historical re-creation of a first century Near Eastern town and market. Everything is free. There is plenty of parking and groups are welcome. Call 978-874-2504.

The West Brookfield 17th annual White Christmas Festival, 12-8 p.m., features craft shows, open houses at shops, businesses and the fire house, church-sponsored events, raffles, horse-drawn wagon rides, a 5:45 p.m. tree lighting

Visit our New Collection of Irish Jewelry



\$58 Trinity Knot
eternal symbol



\$64 Celtic Knot
symbol of eternity



\$48 Claddagh
symbol of love,
loyalty, and friendship

pendants are sterling silver

Something Irish for everyone on your list

Nicholas Mosse Pottery — Irish Sweaters, Capes, Scarves — Belleek — Crystal Tara's Diary Charms — Irish Santas and Ornaments — Inis Fragrance and all of your Irish Favorites too numerous to list

Wexford House Irish Imports

9 Crescent Street West Boylston (off Rt 12 on the way to town schools)

Directions from I-190 — Exit 4 off I-190, left on to Rt 12, continue ahead for 2 miles. After passing Walmart, bear left at lights ahead (West Boylston Center). Located half mile on left in red brick building. Look for open flag

508.835.6677 — www.wexfordhouse.com



Holiday bargains at the Inn



On

Rooms, Holiday Parties, Gift Certificates, Romance!!



Book your meeting today with 10 or more overnight rooms and receive FREE meeting room rental.



Book your small business holiday party today and receive FREE hors d'Oeuvres!



Purchase holiday gift certificates today and receive \$20.00 gift voucher bonus for every \$100.00 you buy.



Gift Certificate



Give the gift of romance this winter with our romantic getaway package and get one FREE getaway package for every one you buy!

Wachusett Village Inn

Call 978-874-2000 For details - don't miss this opportunity!

Offers are valid until 12/31/09!

9 Village Inn Rd. Westminster, MA 01473

Some restrictions may apply to above offers.

Overnight packages are based on per person double occupancy.

www.wachusettvillageinn.com

