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Your Community Newspaper

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YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

DECEMBER '09

Hamilton Celebrates One-Year Anniversary of Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree

photos by Bryan Evckind

It is hard to imagine that an entire year has passed since Hamilton residents first learned that a tree from "America's Favorite Hometown" would be the 2008 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree, but Friday, November 13, 2009 marked the one-year anniversary of the historic announcement. And to celebrate this event, which will forever remain in the annals of Hamilton's history, Mayor John Bencivengo invited resi-

dents to join him for a special dedication ceremony which was held Friday, November 13, 2009, at Noon in the location where the now famous Christmas Tree once stood, next to Tree King Nursery (located at the corner of Whitehorse-Mercerville Road and Klockner Road).

The tree, which was donated to Rockefeller Center by the Varanyak Family of Hamilton Township at the bequest of their



deceased mother, served as their family Christmas Tree in 1931. After that Christmas, the tree was planted and grew over the next 77 years to an impressive height of 72 feet tall.

"The Varanyak Family Christmas Tree being chosen as the 2008 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree was truly a once-in-a-lifetime event that will forever be a part of Hamilton Township's history," said Hamilton Township Mayor John Bencivengo. Prior to the dedication, Mayor Bencivengo stated, "I invite residents to join us at lunch-time this Friday for a special, lasting tribute to the Norway Spruce that lit the New York City's skyline last winter and reminded visitors from all around the world why Hamilton Township, New Jersey is 'America's Favorite Hometown'."



Home of the
2008 Rockefeller Tree!

Christmas Trees
Starting At **\$30.00**
and up

The **LARGEST** and **COMPLETE**
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Business Referral Group Feeds Business Their Way

As a small business owner, how valuable would it be to belong to an organization where members treat you like family and provide you with enough qualified leads to make up half your business?

Two members of LeTip International Inc. say that's exactly the way it works for them. Each are members of the local chapter of LeTip whose members exchange bona fide business tips constantly.

Joanna O'Neill, Licensed Professional Counselor at the Hamilton Counseling Center in Mercerville is President of LeTip's Mercer County Chapter and Aaron Heimowitz of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage who's office is on Rt. 33 in Hamilton Square serves as the chapter Vice President and Past President. This chapter of LeTip has been around over ten years and has 40 members.

LeTip, which has over 10,000 members

in 525 chapters across the United States and Canada, describes itself as a "privately owned business-to-business referral organization." It is sort of like a franchise networking organization that has developed guidelines members have followed over 27 years for successful business networking.

LeTip lists over 300 business categories in an official category list. Each category can have only one business representative in each chapter who can sell and promote that business guaranteeing exclusivity and no competition. Members pay an initial \$325 fee to join and are expected to attend weekly meetings (\$10 each). Applicants for membership must be screened by an on-site "inspector" and approved by chapter members. New members are trained and must follow the chapter bylaws.

Members exchange business cards with all other members and fill out special "tip forms" where they can refer a business prospect to other members, and keep exact

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At each weekly breakfast meeting (7:01 am to 8:31 am, Palmer Inn/Clarion hotel at 3499 Rt 1 South, Princeton), there are three

But what makes LeTip different from other networking organizations, President O'Neill said, is how members define "tip": a company or person who is interested in a specific service or product and is expecting

"A Christmas Story" Ushers in Holiday Merriment

At MCCC's Kelsey Theatre Nov. 27 - Dec. 6



West Windsor, N.J. -- The Pennington Players will usher in the holiday season with the slightly-twisted, but totally lovable classic, "A Christmas Story," at Mercer County Community College's Kelsey Theatre Fridays, Nov. 27 and Dec. 4 at 7 p.m.; Saturdays, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and Sundays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. Kelsey Theatre is located on Mercer's West Windsor Campus, 1200 Old Trenton Road. An opening night reception with the cast and crew follows the Nov. 27 performance. Patrons may drop off donations for the "Toys for Tots" holiday gift drive in the theatre lobby through Dec. 21.

Based on a story by Jean Shepherd, this family comedy, set in a Midwestern American town during the 1940s, follows nine-year-old Ralphie Parker as he dreams of his ideal gift for Christmas, a Red Ryder BB gun. As Ralphie wages an all-out campaign to convince his reluctant parents to buy it for him, the audience will enjoy the Parker's family whimsical journey through the holi-

day season -- from Father Parker's prized leg lamp, to Ralphie's retaliation against the neighborhood bully, to little brother Randy in a bunny suit, and much more.

Starring as members of the Parker family are: Marc Caiola of Robbinsville as Randy; Steve Decker of Morrisville, Pa., as Ralph, the show's adult narrator; Laurie Gougher of Newtown, Pa., as Mother; Kevin Hallam of Hamilton as Father; and Jason Wilks of Princeton Junction as Ralphie. Also featured are Taylor Hoogsteden of Princeton Junction as Esther Jane; Jacob McGlew of Robbinsville as Schwartz; Barbara Mendel of Morrisville, Pa. as Miss Shields; Nicky J. Rosolino of Princeton as Scott Farkas; Stephen Szmies of West Windsor as Flick; and Madeline Wasson of Cranbury as Helen.

Additional ensemble members include Holden Bahl of Robbinsville, Sarah Fox of Robbinsville, Hannah Gumpert of Princeton, Samaria Jones of Trenton, Liam J. Simionelli of Hamilton, and Jacob Singleton of Hamilton. The show is directed by Kitty Getlik of Hamilton and co-produced by Marilyn Barden of Titusville and Dottie Farina of Hamilton.

The Pennington Players will sell chances to win the leg lamp during the run of the show. The winner will be drawn after the

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MONEY IN YOUR POCKET.

ISN'T THAT WHY YOU'RE IN BUSINESS?

LeTip is a professional business networking organization that meets weekly to give and receive qualified business referrals. Each business category is represented exclusively by one LeTip member. Conflicts of interest are not allowed. It's like having a sales force of 35+ promoting your company.

SEE FOR YOURSELF!

Be our guest, FREE, next Tuesday morning at our regular 6:55 a.m. breakfast meeting, at the Clarion Palmer Inn, 3499 US Rt 1, just south of Meadow Road. Meet our members, see our time-tested referral process, and learn how LeTip puts money in our pockets ... and yours.



www.LeTipOfMercerCounty.com
Contact LeTip Chapter President
Joanna O'Neill at 609-577-0050, or
VP Aaron Heimowitz at 609-631-2950.



