

If you'd like to enjoy an evening of laughs while benefiting some of our town's best causes, come to the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary's 15th annual Comedy Night Fundraiser on Friday, March 1st!


15th Annual
Comedy Night Fundraiser
 Hosted by
 Vincent Valentine
 Steve Shaffer
 Suzanne Stein
 Andy Glaser

Friday, March 1st, 2024
 Sponsored by
 Williamstown Sunrise Rotary Foundation

 Steve Shaffer
 Suzanne Stein
 Andy Glaser
 Vince Valentine

Ticket Price Includes:
 Buffet Dinner • Soft Drinks • Door Prizes
 Cash Bar • Beer & Wine

LOCATION:
 109 N. Black Horse Pike,
 Blackwood, NJ 08012

 **FORUM**
 CASINO
 109 N. Black Horse Pike
 Blackwood, NJ 08012

Innovative
 NEW CONCEPTS IN P.R. & M.C.

Doors Open 7:00pm • Comedians start at 8:30pm
 Ticket price: Table of 8 = \$380.00 • Individual = \$65.00
 A portion of your ticket price is tax deductible.
 For Additional Information: 856-318-2585 • wsrrotary@gmail.com

To order tickets, visit williamstown-sunrise-rotary.square.site. For more info, call 856-318-2585 or email the Rotary at wsrotary@gmail.com. Williamstown Sunrise Rotary funds public causes all over town, so support them while enjoying a great night's entertainment!

Music, food, and wine...what could be a better combination? You can find all three at Autumn Lake Winery's **Keys & Cuisine** night on Thursday, March 28th, at 5 PM!



Tickets are \$52 per person. To order, visit www.autumnlakewinery.com.

You're sure to have a great time with some of the best food, wine, and musical talent Gloucester County has to offer!

The first of Berlin Borough's monthly Craft & Vendor Shows will take place Sunday, March 10th, from 11 AM to 4 PM at the Berlin Borough Community Center at 250 S. Franklin Avenue in Berlin.

These shows will take place the second Sunday of every month through December. It's free to the public and features loads of local artisans and craft vendors, as well as food trucks of all kinds. You'll have your pick of some great crafts to shop for, everything from specialty food items to handmade jewelry and art.

If you're interested in being one of the vendors (for this or future shows), you can contact Tom Ronketty at BossManProductionsNJ@gmail.com.

Check out some of the best arts and crafts the area has to offer...with more great shows to come!



Fifties-Style Murder Mystery Dinner at Scotland Run

Ah, the 1950s, the time of greased-back hair and poodle skirts, cool hot rods, hot rock-and-roll...and MURDER!!! You can enjoy all of these at Scotland Run Golf Club's murder mystery dinner on Friday, March 15th, at 6 PM.



The setting: a high school prom night in the 1950s, when the newly born style of rock-and-roll was king (and so, for that matter, was the King!). Everything seems perfectly innocent and cheerful...until we start getting into tensions between our prom-goers. Before we know it, someone turns up dead on the dance floor! From then on, it's up to you to talk to the guests and find clues, put them together, and unmask the culprit before there are any other victims...even YOU!

The menu will include a choice of entrees such as prime rib and seafood. There will also be a cash bar available throughout the night (well, after all, *you* aren't a teenager). You're encouraged to dress up, especially if you've got clothing appropriate to the time period. And naturally, there'll be loads of the best classic fifties tunes!

Tickets are \$84 per person (that includes tax and gratuity). If you're attending in a group, be sure to sign up together to be seated together. To order tickets, visit facebook.com/scotlandrunggolfclub/events and follow the event's link. And...get ready for a real boss evening, Daddy-O!

Rancocas Woods Craft & Antique Show

Rancocas Woods in Mount Laurel is one of the best places to go for unique shops and antiques...and for their monthly craft and antique shows. Their 2024 season of shows starts on Saturday, March 23rd, from 10 AM to 3 PM.

The event takes place outdoors, rain or shine (though hopefully it'll be the latter) along Creek Road. Not only will there be plenty of home-made arts and crafts for sale, there will be vintage antiques of all kinds. Plus, the event has plenty of entertainment to offer people of all ages...crafts and activities for kids, food for sale, live music and lots more!

To find out more about the event (and other great outdoor events that take place in Rancocas over the year), visit rancocaswoodsevents-n-shops.com. (If you're interested in taking part as a vendor, click on the "Contact Us/FAQ" tab.)

Ring in the spring with a great event in one of the most charming shopping areas in South Jersey!



Girl Scout Cookie Cupcake Pairing at Blue Cork Winery

With Girl Scout Cookie season here, it's a perfect time to pair some great South Jersey wines with some cupcakes inspired by these cookies. You can do so at Blue Cork Winery on March 7th at 6:00 PM.



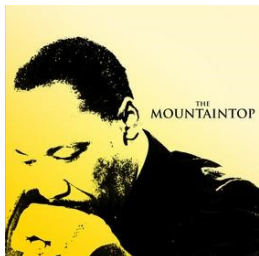
You'll get three cupcakes per person, each themed after a famous Girl Scout cookie, and a wine to pair with each of them. (If you'd like some other food than the cupcakes, you can come earlier and order from the pizzeria Blue Cork partners with. There will also be some complimentary charcuterie.) The night will be capped off with a couple of rounds of trivia.

Costs are \$30 per person. Registration is required, so sign up by visiting facebook.com/bluecorkwine/events and following the event's link.



All The World's A Stage...

On April 3rd, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave a speech that turned out to be eerily prophetic...one that seemed to predict his assassination the next day. Katori Hall's play *The Mountaintop*, onstage at Williamstown's Grand Theater from March 14th-24th, gives us a what-if about King's last night on earth.



Having made his famous "I have been to the mountaintop" speech, Martin Luther King retires to his hotel room in Memphis. With a storm raging outside, he strikes up a conversation with Carmae, the maid who's brought him room service. The two form a connection as they talk about Dr. King's struggles for the cause of civil rights. But soon Carmae reveals her true purpose: she's no hotel maid, but an angel set to escort Dr. King to heaven when he is assassinated...the very next day on the balcony of this very room. Dr. King, horrified, tries to plead for more time, but his destiny is irrevocable. Perhaps, all that is left for him is to be sure his legacy will be carried on...and whether his people will reach "the Promised Land" of equality.

To order tickets, visit www.roadcompany.com...and keep Dr. King's words in mind: "*I may not get there with you, but I want you to know, tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.*"

The notorious exploits of Clyde Barrow, Bonnie Parker, and their gang in the 1930s have been mythologized for nearly a century. Now, Frank Wildhorn's musical *Bonnie and Clyde*, onstage at Haddonfield Plays and Players from March 8th-23rd, gives us a portrait of how they came to be.

The Great Depression has hit Texas hard, and both Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow grow up struggling with poverty. When the two meet as young adults, Clyde has just broken out of prison along with his brother Buck (whose wife Blanche would rather he complete his sentence and be done with it), and sparks fly between the two. When Clyde is recaptured, Bonnie breaks him out, leaving a policeman dead in their wake. Buck and Blanche are roped into their robbery gang, and their notoriety grows, with many of America's struggling poor holding them up as folk heroes who strike against the establishment. But the gang has killed more than one cop, and the manhunt for them grows. The couple's love is all they have...and all they need, even when they know it can only end one way.



To order tickets, visit www.haddonfieldplayers.com. You're sure to enjoy a fascinating look at how two young people turned to crime when they felt they had no other options left...and why their legend still endures, even today.

Many of us believe that love is stronger than death...and the musical *Ghost*, playing at Pitman's Broadway Theatre from March 1st-24th, gives us a perfect example of how.



Based on the 1990 hit movie, *Ghost* introduces us to banker Sam Wheat, who's just moved in with his girlfriend Molly Jensen. The couple are very much in love, though Sam, having been burned before, is hesitant to express his love in words. But one night, a shocking tragedy strikes...the couple are ambushed in what appears to be a mugging and Sam is killed. But Sam's ghost remains behind instead of moving on to the next plane, though Molly can't see him. In fact, the only person who can see him is phony psychic Oda Mae, who's flabbergasted to actually encounter the real deal. Sam comes to realize that his murder was no random mugging...he'd uncovered evidence of his friend Carl's embezzlement, and Carl arranged his murder to cover up. Now, with Molly herself in danger from Carl, Sam must find a way to bring Carl to justice, to communicate with Molly, to save her life...and to express his love for her one last time before he can move on.

With a charming original score (that, yes, also includes The Righteous Brothers' "Unchained Melody"), this is the perfect show for a date night. Visit thebroadwaytheatre.org to order tickets.

What's New Onscreen!

A little more than two years ago, the first part of Denis Villeneuve's adaptation of Frank Herbert's *Dune* came to the big screen to much acclaim. On March 1st, the second part of *Dune* arrives.

Paul Atreides (Timothée Chalamet) and his mother Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson) have escaped their enemy Baron Harkonnen's (Stellan Skarsgård) coup against their family, which killed Paul's father and left the Harkonnens in charge of the planet Arrakis and its valuable spice, the key to space travel. They have taken refuge with the Fremen, a desert-dwelling tribe of freedom fighters. There, Paul comes to grips with his possible role as messiah (prophesied by the religious sect the Bene Gesserit) while dealing with his visions of the future...which include a galactic holy war fought in his name. No longer an untried youth, he grows into a leadership role among the Fremen while falling in love with the Fremen woman Chani (Zendaya). But with Harkonnen training his nephews Rabban (Dave Bautista) and Feyd-Rautha (Austin Butler) to eliminate the threat Paul poses, he may have no choice but to take up arms against them...and in doing so, to risk bringing about the war he is desperate to avoid.



This second installment promises to do as much justice to this classic science fiction novel as the first one did.

Forty years after their debut...who ya gonna call? Our favorite paranormal investigators—old and new—team up to fight a new menace in *Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire*, debuting March 22nd.

After the events of *Ghostbusters: Afterlife*, Phoebe Spengler (McKenna Grace), granddaughter of deceased Ghostbuster Egon, moves to New York City with her mom and brother to help the surviving Ghostbusters. Peter Venkman (Bill Murray), Ray Stantz (Dan Aykroyd) and Winston Zeddemore (Ernie Hudson) have refurbished the old firehouse into a state-of-the-art research lab to bring ghostbusting into the twenty-first century. But no sooner have they settled in, along with Phoebe's pals from Oklahoma and her cool science teacher Gary (Paul Rudd) than a startling new threat arises. When an ancient artifact is unearthed, it unleashes a new ice age on New York, in the middle of summer. In order to save the city—and the world—the younger crowd, along with their older mentors, must push their ingenuity to the limit.



This return to the Ghostbuster-verse looks to be as exciting and funny as its predecessor, with a few other familiar faces showing up. (William Atherton reprises his role of Walter Peck from the first movie. No word yet on whether he'll be foe or ally to the Ghostbusters...or whether he's still missing a certain part of his anatomy.)

It's your basic fairy-tale setup...a princess in the clutches of a deadly dragon. But in this case, the princess can't count on rescue from the outside...she must figure a way out of her predicament. That's the premise of Netflix's movie *Damsel*, premiering on the streaming service March 8th.

In this film (which has already had a novelization by author Evelyn Skye), Princess Elodie (Millie Bobby Brown) struggles, along with her father, to help her famine-stricken kingdom. When an offer of marriage comes from the prince of the rich nation Aurea, it seems too good to be true...and you know what they say about *that*. No sooner has Elodie made her marriage vows than she learns the shocking truth...Aurea sacrifices its princesses to a vicious dragon for the kingdom's own safety. And Elodie's father, desperate to save his kingdom, agreed. Now, Elodie (not knowing that her remorseful father is attempting a rescue) must navigate the tunnels and caverns of the dragon's lair, figure out what happened to her predecessors and why, and learn the dragon's language in hopes of communicating with her foe...and ending this grisly tradition once and for all.



Fans of fairy tales and fantasy should appreciate this unique take on a classic fantasy situation...and a heroine whose strength, resourcefulness and empathy carries the day.

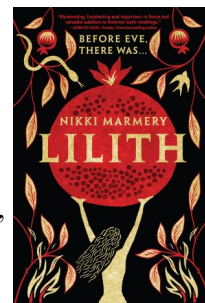


The Biblio-Files

March is Women's History Month...and this year, it's the run-up to Easter, which falls on March 31st. In honor of both, here are some new novels that spotlight women of Judeo-Christian tradition.

In non-biblical Hebrew legend, Lilith was the first wife of Adam, expelled from the Garden of Eden and replaced with Eve when she refused to submit to Adam's will. Nikki Marmery's new novel *Lilith* explores what that might have been like for her...and how she might reclaim her voice and power.

Lilith is created to share the Garden of Eden with her husband, Adam. But after an idyllic time together, Adam begins to believe that he should be superior in all ways, and Yahweh, the Creator, does not disabuse him of this notion. Lilith rebels against this decree, demanding equality...and is cast out of the Garden, to be replaced by the more subservient Eve. But Lilith, unbeknownst to Adam, has tasted of the fruit of knowledge, and because of that she finds out that Yahweh once had a wife, Asherah. She sets out on a millennia-long quest to find her and restore her to her place, traveling on Noah's Ark, meeting Biblical figures such as Jezebel and Mary Magdalene (along with the Judean preacher she follows) and forming a connection with the archangel Samael. Over the centuries, she tries to redefine what divinity means outside of a male perspective, and to come into her own as a child of Asherah.



This fascinating re-imagining of Biblical tradition shines a light on a (literally) demonized figure of myth, and offers a new perspective on spirituality.

The name "Jezebel" has become a byword for a wicked, conniving woman...but no one is the villain of their own story. Now, Megan Barnard's novel *Jezebel* allows this much-maligned Biblical figure her own voice.

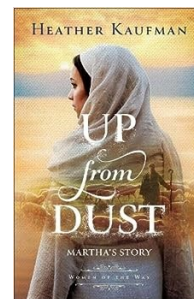


As a child, Jezebel, daughter of King Ithobaal of Tyre, imagines she'll rule one day...only to find out that because she's a girl, she won't be heir to the throne. Married off to Prince Ahab of Israel, she is determined to exercise power behind the scenes if she can't do so openly, and begins to reshape Israel to be more like her homeland of Tyre, including building temples to her country's gods. But after her liaison with Elijah, a prophet of Yahweh, ends, the prophet begins to speak out against her and her husband. A drought occurring at the same time convinces Yahweh's believers that Elijah is right, and they turn against the king and queen, causing dangerous political upheaval in Israel. With Jezebel in danger of losing her throne—and her life—it falls to her to leave her mark and see to it that some part of her life's work is remembered.

A formidable woman, vilified as a harlot and tyrant, gets to have her say in this bold retelling of a Biblical episode.

Martha of Bethany, sister of Lazarus, is best-remembered for the Bible story where she takes on a woman's traditional role of servant...while her sister Mary takes a more radical role of a student of Jesus' teachings, and is praised for it. But in *Up From Dust*, author Heather Kaufman presents a Martha who's just as strong as Mary, in her quiet way.

After her mother's death, young Martha must shoulder the burden of caring for her siblings Lazarus and Mary. A hope for love and a family of her own is thwarted by hardship and further responsibilities, and Martha's heart hardens as she resigns herself to a life of workaday cares. But when word comes of a carpenter and itinerant rabbi who can supposedly perform miracles, Martha is inclined to lend an ear to Him. Soon, she meets Jesus of Nazareth face to face, and as He strikes up a friendship with her and her family, Martha begins to open up to the possibility of hope and joy. She even begins to understand a way of life beyond household servitude, as the episode with Mary teaches her. When her brother falls dangerously ill, it will take all her faith in Jesus' power to sustain her...and to understand His place in the world as well as hers.



This is a compelling portrait of a Biblical figure who's often overlooked...and an inspiring story of how faith and love can transform a life.