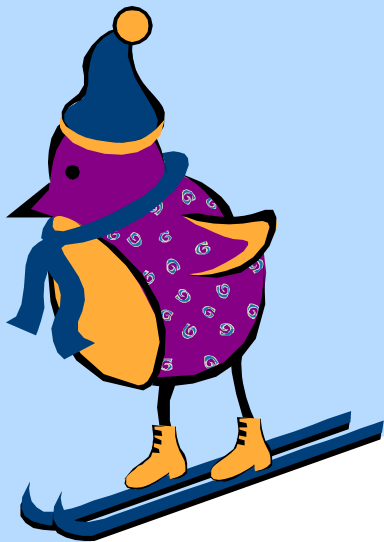


CMCVB December Holiday Newsletter

Happy Holidays



The CMCVB has a new 800 number: **866-755-7439**

The CVB was represented at the following:

- **MPI** – 2 CVB staff members attended the MPI event and met with several meeting planners from across the state.
- **Philadelphia Inquirer Travel Show** – MOTT represented us and the other RTC's at this show on November 17 & 18 handing out our Visitors Guides and other event information.

In November, the CVB placed ads in the following publications:

- **16th Annual Chain of Lights** - This year's event schedule was published within the pages of the Telegram & Gazette on Friday, November 23rd and November 30th as a full color, eye-catching spread.
- **Group Tour Magazine** – to be published in the Spring. (Quarterly publication)

Massachusetts Turnpike Authority Information

- **NEW Director for MTA** – Alan LeBovidge has now been appointed the Executive Director of the Mass Turnpike Authority.
- **MTA Grant** – We are still waiting to hear about our grant. We thank you for your support, calls and letters.

CVB Volunteer Donates his 183rd Gift of Life – This month **George Busada**, 83, gave his 183rd pint – totaling 22.8 gallons.

❖ Upcoming & Ongoing Marketing Opportunities ❖

TIME SENSITIVE!

Central Massachusetts Visitors Guides

Believe it or not, it's already time to update your listings, events and photos for the **Spring/Summer 2008** issue. Don't forget to purchase an ad. This is our #1 fulfillment piece – downloadable from the web – last year our website had over **10 million hits**. For listing forms and pricing, please contact Julie Orcutt at 508-755-7400 x224 or jorcutt@worchester.org.



The Official 2007-08 Fall/Winter Visitors Guide are currently flying off the shelves. Be sure to pick up your copy! For more info contact Brenna Ruchala at bruchala@worchester.org or 508-755-7400 x221.

Group Tour Magazine

Advertising through the CMCVB saves you 35%!

Space Reservation: Feb. 1, 2008

Don't miss out on advertising in the next Group Tour Magazine. **With the CMCVB discount, cost is only \$527!!!** Act now. We are reserving space for the co-op ad in the Summer issue. Remember this publication goes out to 15,000 group tour planners. Contact Jeannie Hebert at jhebert@worchester.org or 508-755-7400 x222.



Reserve your space by February 1st, 2008!!!

Just a reminder, we send out a quarterly mailer -free of charge to you-itineraries to 53 Group Tour planners interested in visiting Central Massachusetts. In December we will be sending out Spring itineraries. Mark your calendars and don't miss this opportunity! – See our group tour section for more information.

Boston Spirit Magazine

Circulation is growing and geared to GLTB market.

Ads due: Jan. 15, 2008

Upscale glossy magazine distributed to hotels, restaurants, clubs, malls, colleges, and through direct subscription. You can take advantage of this market to the Gay and Lesbian community through our full page co-operative in this bi-monthly publication. **(Distribution is 25,000 plus!)** For only \$325.00, **that's ONLY \$162.50 per month**, you can market and promote your business, property or attraction to this lucrative market through this prestigious publication. Contact Jeannie at jhebert@worchester.org.



Ad Copy or completed ads due: January 15th to the CVB.

FREE!

The Great Yankee Giveaway

The Great Yankee Giveaway is a weekly online sweepstakes giving away a new prize each week on YankeeMagazine.com. It is a quick way to attract new customers, keep your company top of mind, and drive traffic to your website. The Great Yankee Giveaway will be promoted throughout the year in *Yankee Magazine*, on www.YankeeMagazine.com, and in email blasts. Please contact Jeannie Hebert at jhebert@worchester.org or call 508-755-7400 x222.

"New England Weekends" WBZ Newsradio 1030

Sat – Sun 6:55A, 7:55A, 8:55A (3 reports per day)

Six :60 weekend commercials, Six weekend billboards, Twelve total weekend media messages. Total Weekly Investment: **\$900. That's \$75.00 a spot!!!!** Every weekend, **WBZ** highlights the hot places to go for family fun, recreation and entertainment around New England during its weekly segment, **"New England Weekends!"** **WBZ ranks number 1** in New England reaching over **400,000** loyal listeners every weekend! We can package this co-operatively, so your investment is low and your impact is high! Editorial for your region and attraction is also a possibility. Contact Jeannie at jhebert@worchester.org or call 508-755-7400.

WBZ Winter Promotion

Winter co-op program for CMCVB members to market and promote your property and save you \$\$\$\$'s too! Nowhere will you be able to purchase this kind of media coverage at such a low cost. Reach millions of listeners with WBZ NewsRadio 1030 and drive business to your website by reaching 38 states overnight! As an added value, with this buy you can schedule box office giveaways for trade, have your personal interview broadcasted on your choice of segment on *New England Weekends* and have your event listed on CBS.com absolutely free! *Purchase the enclosed commercial package! Package can run anytime from December 2007 thru March 2008. Take this opportunity to turn listeners into your customers and clients...*

30 Second Special

Day	Daypart	Duration	# of Commercials
Mon – Fri	5a – 10a	:30	2x
Mon – Fri	10a – 3p	:30	2x
Mon – Fri	3p – 8p	:30	2x
Mon – Fri	5a – 12mid	:30	2x
Mon – Fri	12mid – 5a	:30	2x
Sat – Sun	6a – 12mid	:30	4x
Sat – Sun	12mid – 5a	:30	2x

Total Weekly Commercials: 16. Total Weekly Net Investment: \$2,000*

(Average Rate per Commercial: An unbelievable \$125.00!)

*Price quoted is based on two CMCVB Partners back to back :30's .

The CMCVB will provide custom production for your approval at NO COST TO YOU! PLEASE CONTACT Jeannie Hebert at jhebert@worchester.org or her cell at 508-981-5782. Make your CMCVB membership work for you!

Madden Pre-Print 2008 Spring Insert

Circulation is 1,196,985, Total Readers: 3,483,226.

Space Reservation: Jan. 18, 2008

This is our most successful print campaign to gain qualified leads. In fact, advertisers in the 2007 insert received 7,249 highly qualified consumer leads. In addition, this four color newspaper inserted into 17 publication throughout the Northeast portion of the United States is seen by over one million readers and offers 120 days of direct lead generation through vacationfun.com with a direct link to your site and dynamic email blasts sent to consumers who are interested in Massachusetts.

69% of people surveyed visited Massachusetts within four months of receiving the insert. **Reserve your space before January 18th.** Purchase a ¼ page or larger and receive a free e-brochure. The CMCVB provides a co-op program for participants. Please contact Jeannie Hebert at jhebert@worchester.org or 508 755 7400 X222 with your interest.

Weekend Update on WCRN

Every Friday just before 4:00 PM on **"The Hank Stolz Experience"**, on radio station WCRN AM 830-- 50,000 Watt station, Jeannie Hebert has a call-in "Central Massachusetts CVB Weekend Update" spot that promotes weekend and the following week's events in the region. E-mail Jeannie your events and contact information one week in advance for review to jhebert@worchester.org so she can let the world know what you are up to.

FREE!

Promote your festival or event on the CMCVB website! – Use www.socialweb.net to submit!

This opportunity is **FREE** to all properties! With numerous category options, and an unlimited number to the amount of events you add, you have endless opportunity to market your events to a vast number of potential visitors both within and outside of our region. Log on now to start adding your information: www.socialweb.net. Don't forget, all Central Massachusetts Convention & Visitors Bureau members also have the opportunity to have those same events added to our websites www.centralmass.org and www.worcester.org. Don't miss out. Contact Julie Orcutt at jorcutt@worchester.org.

FREE!

FREE PR Opportunity – Stories Needed!!!

The CVB is always looking for unique stories from members about the region, their property, or how the CVB has helped their business. Put your story in front of 10 million people! Send your stories to Julie Zomar at jzomar@worchester.org or fax at 508-754-2703. Don't forget to send your photos, too!!!

FREE!

“Special Packages” needed for our website!!!

We'd love to promote you!!! Holiday season is fast approaching and everyone's looking for “a deal”. The CMCVB is looking for special packages from you for our website. Help increase your attendance and overnights by putting together packages: ie. Holiday packages (New Year's, Valentine's, etc.), group tour packages, short getaways, romantic & family packages, too.

HOTELS, ATTRACTIONS, RESTAURANTS, & OTHER DESTINATIONS: Visitors are time poor, why not save them some time by calling up your neighbor attractions and restaurants and putting together a discount package. Email your packages to Julie Zomar at jzomar@worchester.org.

Below are new “co-op discount packages” offered by our members on our website!!!

Christmas Memories Package - December 2,8,9,15,16, 2007

Sturbridge Host Hotel & Salem Cross Inn

Begin a new Holiday Tradition with this Great Package: For only \$235 per couple you can enjoy an overnight stay in one of the Sturbridge Host Hotel's newly renovated guest rooms, a relaxing breakfast in our Greenhouse Restaurant the next day and a Traditional New England Turkey Dinner followed by a memorable performance. Enjoy a play based on Dylan Thomas': A Child's Christmas In Wales (Performed by the Stageloft Repertory Theater at the Salem Cross Inn.) For times and details please call 800-582-3232.

Dick Doherty New Year's Eve Comedy Package - December 31, 2007

Crowne Plaza Worcester

Enjoy overnight accommodations for 2, dinner buffet for 2, Dick Doherty comedy show tickets for 2, champagne toast at midnight, hats & noisemakers to ring in the New Year, breakfast buffet for 2 the following morning, use of the indoor pool and complimentary self parking! Only \$189 for single occupancy, or \$259 for double occupancy. Call 508-791-1600.

For additional packages please visit our website: www.centralmass.org.

10% Off

Special Offer for CVB Members from AllOver Media – Out of Home Advertising Media

AllOver Media is pleased to offer a special discount to CMCVB Members. AllOver Media is an indoor print and gas pump top advertising media in the Central Massachusetts area. This advertising cannot be turned off, tuned out or missed. Ads placed within the network of Gas Pump Top and Indoor Print locations target specific audiences as they move throughout their busy day.

This is a great offer that can be very effective and easily reach your property's target market. For instance, Gas stations average 116,000 monthly impressions. Indoor Print averages 15,000 monthly impressions per location.

Participating CMCVB Members will receive an additional 10% off an already low introductory rate. To find out more, please contact Mike Brady at AllOver Media at mike.brady@allovermedia.com or call Mike at 508-832-5482.

❖ Welcome New Members ❖

The Central Massachusetts Convention & Visitors Bureau would like to welcome:

Bodies...The Exhibition

500 Cochituate Rd., Framingham, MA.
800-840-1157 for Ticket Information

www.bodiestheexhibition.com

Both captivating and edifying, Bodies...The Exhibition unveils the many complex systems, organs and tissues that drive every aspect of our every day lives and unite us all as Humans. Visit the new exhibition venue located in Framingham, MA.

The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts

554 Main St.
Worcester, MA. 01608
508-770-0178

www.thehanovertheatre.org

Opening this coming Spring 2008.

❖ Membership Department Update ❖

Attention Hospitality Host Ambassadors!!!

Please join us **December 18th** at the Crowne Plaza for the CMCVB's Hospitality Appreciation Party at 5pm. Your continued support throughout the year doesn't go unnoticed and we'd like to give you a little pat on the back for all your hard work! Please RSVP to jorcutt@worchester.org.

A GREAT DEAL!

Looking to Promote Your Properties throughout the Holiday Season??

Expose Your Business and Special Events to over 450 businesses all over Central MA!!!!

Each month the CMCVB offers members the opportunity to include a flyer in the Monthly Mailing. You can showcase your business for all of your special events, sales, and announcements on a monthly basis **OR** if you're a seasonal business; include a flyer for a specific month. This is sent to the full membership, local chambers, and tourist associations. **It's ONLY \$75.00 per month!!!** Please include **450 copies** to us by the second full week of the month. If you'd like the CMCVB to print it together for you the cost is \$100 for one-sided B&W or \$125 for two-sided B&W. Contact Julie Orcutt at jorcutt@worchester.org or call 508-755-7400 x224 to sign up today.

❖ Member News ❖

Worcester colleges and universities pledge \$950,000 to the Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts

The **Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts** announced that it has received pledges totaling \$950,000 from 11 member colleges and universities of the Colleges of Worcester Consortium. For more information, visit <http://www.cowc.org/node/177>.

Four Points by Sheraton Leominster Updates

100% Smoke Free - Effective October 1, the hotel is now 100% smoke free in all overnight guest rooms and in public areas. You will find this smoke free environment a positive and friendly experience.

Gourmet to Go! - Simplifying your life

Whether it is for a Tail Gating Event or a Gala Holiday Meal - the Four Points by Sheraton's culinary team can make "take out" fun, tasty and elegant!! Call them for more information.

Light Magic Presents – The Perfect Party Favor

Give your guests a gift that reflects your special care. Greenscreen technology with custom graphics to match your theme...theme background, custom graphic overlay, even extra fun with old-time costumes. Your unique gift will become a lasting impression! *Professional Quality -- Printed in Minutes.* Contact Kay Ritter at 508-481-6926.

Entertainment Photography
for your
Holiday Party

❖ Group Tour Department ❖

AAA Travel Show partnerships are sold out!

The CMCVB once again has the opportunity to host a co-op pavilion at the prestigious **AAA Travel Show at Gillette Stadium on March 7-8-9, 2008**. This very successful travel show, attracting **over 12,000** interested individual leisure travelers and group tour planners, was such a huge success last year, and this year we've already sold out our co-op partnerships. (We will be partnering again with Pioneer Valley and The Berkshires to open up an even larger area on the trade show floor in which to attract the crowd.) Although the CMCVB has already sold out the 12 partner spots, **we'd be happy to put you on a waiting list**. Please contact Jeannie Hebert ASAP at jhebert@worchester.org or call at 508-755-7400 x222.

FREE!

Itineraries Needed

Quarterly mailer - service free of charge! Provide us with 8 ½ x 11 sized, three-hole punched, itineraries and we will mail them to the Group Tour Operators **FREE OF CHARGE** every quarter. **Tell these tour operators "what's new" at your place!!!** And we'll gladly put these itineraries on our website as well, if you provide them to us in email format. For more information contact Jeannie Hebert at jhebert@worchester.org or call 508-755-7400 x222.

❖ Convention Department News ❖

The convention sales department recently confirmed **5 new meeting and conference bookings throughout the region estimated to bring 3,200 attendees, 800 hotel room nights and \$480,870 in economic impact**.

The CVB joined representatives from Mass Sports Partnership at the TEAMS Expo which was very productive. We are now investigating and developing 39 sales leads for sporting events we hope to secure in Central MA. The U.S. Soccer Association Nationals, Youth Club Soccer Tournament and State Wars Hockey Tournament are just a few of the events developing quickly!

In addition to booked and pending business, many **repeat** events continue to go to contract. The tremendous success to secure repeat business is a testament to the quality of service provided by our regional partners.

Please be sure to e-mail your updated venue and event information, as well as news or unique stories to Kathy Ryan at convention@worchester.org. Your information will help us better serve your needs and the clients' requests.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

- **Worcester Sales Task Force** – The CVB hosts this meeting made up of the CVB sales and marketing team, the DCU Center sales team, hotel General Managers and Directors of Sales and representatives from the City of Worcester. The goal is to work together to develop new business opportunities for city venues and organize and promote ongoing events. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 11th at the DCU Center.
- **Hotel Association** – The CVB hosts a monthly meeting attended by hotel representatives throughout the region with the goal of developing new ways to bring business into Central Massachusetts and discuss ongoing events and special projects. The annual CVB holiday gathering scheduled for Tuesday, December 18th, 5-7 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza will replace the December Hotel Association meeting.
- **New England Society of Convention and Visitors Bureau (NESCVB)** – The convention sales department attends this meeting together with partners from regional tourist councils throughout New England. The partnership opportunities gained through membership in this organization allow CVB's to broaden their scope and enhance sales efforts. The next NESCVB meeting will be hosted by the Publick House in Sturbridge on Friday, November 30th.

❖ CVB Committee Meetings ❖

- Worcester Sales Task Force: Tuesday, December 11^h, 1pm at the DCU Center, Worcester.
- Hospitality Host Committee Meeting: No December Meeting.
- Hotel Association Committee: No December Meeting.
- Group Tour Committee: No December Meeting
- Marketing Committee Meeting: No December Meeting.

Watch for new committee info in January!

❖ Events for the month of December ❖

Check out our websites for more information: www.centralmass.org or www.worcester.org.

Now - December 2 - Notre Dame Church - The 10th Annual Festival of Giving Trees 10am- 5pm

Start your holiday season with a walk through an enchanted forest. Enjoy the beauty of 100 sparkling and uniquely-decorated holiday trees. Take raffle chances to win one! Enjoy live entertainment throughout the day.

Now - December 30 - Tower Hill Botanic Garden - HOLLY DAYS: Booked for the Holidays 10am-5pm (Thurs evenings until 8pm)

See thousands of hand-crafted ornaments made from natural materials adorning lighted trees and wreaths throughout the Education & Visitors Center. Admission: \$8 Adults, \$5 Seniors & Youth, FREE to members & children under 6. www.towerhillbg.org

Now – December 29 - Boston Ballet - The Nutcracker

The 40th Anniversary of this holiday classic. (19 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA 02116). Call (617) 695 – 6955 or visit www.bostonballet.org.

December 1 - Nashoba Valley Winery - Holiday Lighting Festival 4-7pm

Our annual lighting at the orchard is picture perfect New England charm. Come see the orchard twinkle with lights, enjoy a hayride, holiday carols, browse our wine shoppe for our unique holiday gifts. 978-779-5521 www.nashobawinery.com

December 1 – Spencer - A Christmas Stroll in Spencer 9am – 5pm

Come stroll Spencer. Several church fairs, 18 participating merchants with in store specials, pickup your map and passport at any of Spencer churches, Cormier Jewelers, Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn plus many other locations.

December 1 - Music Worcester @ Mechanics Hall - Performance of Messiah 8-10pm

The 108-year tradition continues as the holiday event of the season comes to Mechanics Hall and 110 voices soar in the exalted "Messiah"! Price: \$37, \$34 Students \$20. WOO-card \$15 at door 508-745-3231 www.musicworcester.org

December 1 - Sutton Chain of Lights- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Lighting of the Common: 6:00 p.m.

Each year local businesses, churches, artists, schools and the historical society come together to celebrate New England's holiday season. Free trolley to each destination! Santa is on the common for the tree lighting: 5:30-6:30pm. For more info on all of the festivities, go to www.suttonchainoflight.com

December 1 - Keown Orchards

Tour the farm stand and taste freshly baked apple crisp. We will have freshly cut Christmas trees and custom made wreaths for sale. Sample over 25 varieties of apples, including the famous Sutton Beauty. (A destination on the Sutton Chain of Lights tour)

December 1 - Tower Hill Botanic Garden - Algonquin Round Table Gala 5:30-8:30pm

\$30 per person Call 508-869-6111 x 136 to reserve tickets

Enjoy "Holly Days: Booked for the Holidays" at this special literary-inspired, sophisticated and chic holiday party, music ,food, and a silent auction of fabulous items, including a holiday tree designed by Tower Hill's Director of Horticulture. www.towerhillbg.org

December 1 - Vaillancourt Folk Art - Holiday Open House 10am-4pm

One of America's last remaining Santa Claus studios will have an open house which will include tours of the actual painting studio, gallery, and the new Christmas museum. (A destination on the Sutton Chain of Lights Tour)

December 1 - First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston - The Gingerbread Fair 9am-3pm

Huge Chinese Auction, candy, crafts, knitting, raffles, home baked goods and more. Luncheon with takeout available. Gingerbread with whipped cream.

December 2 - Wesley United Methodist Church - Pipes Alive 12:15pm-12:45pm

Will Sherwood shows off his improvisational skills as he puts all 4,500 pipes of Wesley's 1927 E.M. Skinner Great Organ through their paces in this lively holiday concert. Free and open to the public. 508-799-4191
Visit www.music-alive.net.

December 2 - 15th Annual White Christmas in West Brookfield Festival – 12noon-8pm

Over thirty open houses, horse-drawn wagon rides, free raffles, crafters, tree lighting, enchanting holiday music and more! The booklet of program events will be available at local businesses. Call Madeline Arn, Chairperson, at 508-867-4201 or Patricia Richard at 508-867-8609.

December 2 - Asa Waters Mansion - Holiday Open House- 10am- 5 pm

Enjoy ballerinas, choral groups, Santa and Mrs. Claus, grand raffle prizes, refreshments, vintage decorations, and more. Admission free, raffle tickets for sale. 508-865-0855 www.asawaters.org

December 4 - 86 Winter American Bistro - AIDS project Worcester Holiday Toy Drive 7pm

A night of culinary treats and holiday cheer to benefit children effected by the AIDS virus. All guests are asked to bring new toys or a cash donation. 508-459-5400

December 5 - Assumption College: Chapel of the Holy Spirit - Advent Service of Lessons and Carols 7:30- 8:30 pm
Performed by The Assumption College Chapel Choir. Traditional and contemporary carols will alternate with scripture readings celebrating the birth of Christ. Free and open to the public. Email acpa@assumption.edu for more information.

December 5 - Mechanics Hall - United States Air Force Band of Liberty 12 noon
Celebrate the season with one of the country's premier military bands. Part of the Brown Bag Concert Series. Doors open at 11:30 am. Free Admission. 508-752-5608

December 6 - January 5 - Worcester Center for Crafts - Holiday Craft Market
The Holiday Craft Market is the perfect venue to do all your holiday shopping with beautiful one of a kind gifts representing all mediums such as fibers, ceramics, glass, jewelry, wood, and photography. Visit www.worcestercraftcenter.org.

December 7 – College of the Holy Cross – Hagan Campus Center - Moonlight Serenade 6:00 p.m.
Served dinner included; silent auction featuring signed Red Sox, Patriots, and 1940s entertainers memorabilia; Wine Tasting. \$75 per person. Tickets at www.WorcesterMoonlightSerenade.com, or call Domenic Mercurio at 508-479-1171.

December 7-16 - Old Sturbridge Village - Christmas by Candlelight 5-9pm
Experience the magic of a candlelit village at Christmas time. Take a lovely horse-drawn sleigh or wagon ride as well. Cost: \$20 for General Admission; \$18 for Seniors; \$6 for Children 3 to 17; Children under 3, free. Visit www.osv.org

December 7 - Fitchburg State College - The Passion of Scrooge 8-10pm
A contemporary chamber setting of A Christmas Carol written by New York Philharmonic member Jon Deak. The piece is a crossover of concert drama, opera and radio play. Tickets are \$22 general public; \$20 for faculty, staff and seniors; \$7 FSC students. Call the Weston Box Office at 978-665-3347 www.firebirdensemble.com

December 8-16 (Sat & Sun) - The EcoTarium - A Polar Bear's Journey 12:30 -1:30 PM, 1:30 -2:30 PM, 2:30-3:30 PM
After a reading of the Polar Express, Santa sends you off on the train to meet Kenda the polar bear. Have cocoa and cookies, while enjoying our new model of the Polar Express train. \$6 plus museum admission. www.ecotarium.org or 508-929-2703 for more info.

December 8 - Massachusetts Audubon Society - Holiday Nature Crafts Open House 1-4pm
Drop by our visitor center to view our tree decorated with wonderful ornaments handcrafted from all-natural materials, and then join us in the program room to make your own. Call 508-753-6087 for more info.



December 8 - Mechanics Hall - Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert 8-10pm
Conductor will be Myron Romanul. Included will be choruses, with John Delorey, from Anna Maria, Assumption, Clark, Worcester State, and WPI as well as others. Balcony seats are \$37. For more info, visit www.masymphony.org

December 8 - Holidays at Higgins" - 10am-4pm
Any child who dresses as a knight or a lady will be given free admission with a paid adult. Bring in our winter school flyer to receive a special surprise from the gift shop (while supplies last). This year's fun will include free cookie decorating and the London Brass Rubbing Centre workshop for half price! www.higgins.org.

December 8-9 – Overlook Farm – Living Nativity Event
Enjoy a 20-minute Living Nativity performance complete with live actors and animals such as cows, sheep, goats and a camel. The show is presented each hour in the barn (dress warmly) with the first show beginning at 1:00 pm and the last show beginning at 5:00 pm. After the show, enjoy sleigh or hayrides, Christmas carols, cookies and hot beverages. Living Nativity is a free public event though everyone should bring a plate of cookies to share. For more information, call Chris Wychorski at 508-886-2221 or visit www.heifer.org/overlook.

December 9 - DCU Center - stART on the Street presents Holiday Arts Happening 11am-6pm
Over 150 artists and crafters presenting their unique handmade items for sale, Music by DJ Shame. \$.1 general admission. Free for kids under 12, students with ID and seniors. Visit www.startonthestreet.org or call 508-963-1724

December 9 - Vienna Restaurant and Historic Inn - Open House 4-7pm
All are invited to celebrate the "Days of Old" with caroling, complementary hors d'oeuvres and beverages. Tour the Inn & Restaurant and enjoy the holiday decorations & live entertainment. 508-764-0700 www.thevienna.com

December 9 - First Parish Unitarian Church of Hubbardston - Pioneer Valley Brass Quintet 2pm (Christmas Potluck at 12:30pm)
Free Concert. The quintet includes trumpets, horns, trombones and a tuba. Performance includes an array of our favorite Holiday songs, arranged by the quintet members.

December 9 - Mechanics Hall - The Nutcracker Ballet 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm
Dance Prism presents Tchaikovsky's holiday ballet at two performances. Tickets: \$22 Adults; \$16 Children & Seniors. 508-752-0888

December 9 - Tower Hill Botanic Garden - Music of Hanukkah with Shir Elan- 3pm
Included with Admission: \$8 Adults, \$5 Seniors & Youth, FREE to members & children under 6. www.towerhillbg.org

December 9 - DCU Center - Boston Pops Holiday Concert 2-5pm
The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra with Keith Lockhart returns to Worcester for a special Holiday Concert featuring unique Boston Pops arrangements of old favorites, and sing-a-longs to Yuletide tunes everyone knows and loves. Cost: \$36.25- 66.25
www.dcucenter.com

December 12 - Mechanics Hall - Master Singers of Worcester 12:00 Noon

Malcolm Halliday, Director. Choral music to celebrate the season. Part of the Brown Bag Concert Series. Doors open at 11:30 am Free Admission. 508-752-5608

December 12-15 (Wed & Sat) - Worcester Art Museum - What Child is this? Images of the Nativity 2-3 pm

Just in time for the Christmas season, Docent Barbara Steege will guide you through images of the Christ Child in scenes of the Nativity, found in the Worcester Art Museum galleries. Free with museum admission. Visit www.worcesterart.org

December 13 - DZian Gallery - Jazz with Holiday Spirit 7pm – 10pm

Cash Bar and Hors d'oeuvres. Call 508-831-1106 or visit www.Dzian.net.

December 13 - Tower Hill Botanic Garden - Holiday Music with "Women of Note" a Barbershop Women's Chorus 5:45 pm

Included with Admission: \$8 Adults, \$5 Seniors & Youth, FREE to members & children under 6. www.towerhill.org

December 13 - Vaillancourt Folk Art Men's Night – 5-8pm

Let our sales staff help you in finding that perfect gift for that special someone. Gary will be hosting the event with his annual shrimp fiesta. (508) 476 – 3601 www.VALFA.com

December 14 - Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary - Preschool Story Hour: Evergreens - Decorate a Tree 10-11AM

Make an art project, hear a story, and go for a walk with Teacher/ Naturalist Chris Eaton. For ages 2.5 to 5. \$7 Child Members, \$10 Child Non-members. Fee includes adult/child pair. \$2 for each additional child. Call 978-464-2712.

December 14 - Crowne Plaza Worcester - Season of Hope ~ Gingerbread House - 3:30-6:30pm

Executive Chef Richard Bourke and the Crowne Cookie Construction Company have the Season of Hope Gingerbread house on display. Seven feet wide and eight feet tall, it consists of 300 scrumptious gingerbread shingles, 1,000 cookies, 75 lbs. of royal icing, and over 50 lbs of the chef's favorite candies and gum drops. Enjoy a complimentary hot beverage, cookies and candies as you relax to holiday music.

December 14 - Wesley United Methodist Church - Music Alive! Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols 7:30- 9pm

Carols and spoken word combine in this great choral festival. Free and open to the public. Call 508-799-4191 or www.musicalive.net.

Winter Wonderland in Webster - December 14-15 (5-8pm)

Horsedrawn hayrides, Bonfire, Santa, Cookies & hot chocolate. For more information you can contact the Webster DPW @ 508-949-3862

December 15,16,22,23 - E.J. Candies - Visit with Santa- Noon to 5 PM

Come visit with Santa and his elf. Be sure to bring your camera. Enjoy gourmet chocolates, 10 varieties of fudge, ice cream sundae bar, gift baskets, corporate discounts. Call 508-347-3051 for more info.



December 15 - DZian Gallery - Holiday Festa Italiana 7pm- 10pm

Smooth vocals – Joe Cariglia. Fine wines from Italy. Authentic Italian cuisine. Surrounded by the romantic beauty of the art of Italy. Call 508-831-1106 or visit www.dzian.net.

December 15 - Salsa Storm at Worcester Hibernian Cultural Center - Winter Wonderland Social - 7pm-12:30 am

Begin your evening with a salsa lesson at 7pm followed by the band at 8pm. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Visit www.SalsaStorm.com. 508-854-8489

December 16 - Wachusett Mountain - Polar Holiday Express Celebration- 11 – 3pm

Visit with Santa (after he arrives by helicopter), his elves and Polar Beverages for a fun-filled afternoon of activities! Enjoy a hot cocoa happy hour while listening to the Polar Express Story. 978-464-2300 www.wachusett.com

December 19 - Mechanics Hall - All Saints Church Choirs – 12 Noon

Featuring the Hook Organ, Worcester's All Saints Church Choirs close the Fall Brown Bag Concert Series with sacred and popular music. Free Admission. Call 508-752-5608 or visit www.mechanicshall.org.

December 22 - Mechanics Hall - Taubl Family Christmas Concert- 7:30 pm

Sixth Annual Family Christmas Concert Tickets: \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door; \$7 each for groups of 20 or more. Call 508-752-0888 or visit www.mechanicshall.org.

December 31 - Worcester Common - FIRST Night Worcester – 1pm-midnight

Featuring 100 sizzling performances of every kind of music, dance, comedy, magic, puppetry, and the first indoor Colossal Sand Sculpture Competition at the DCU Center! Aloha! Buttons = admission. Sold online at www.firstnightworchester.org! (\$10 from 12/1 – 12/24, \$12 from 12/25 – 12/31, \$15 at the event) Children 10 and under FREE!

December 31 - Salem Cross Inn - New Year's Eve Fireplace Feast 6:30 arrival, 8pm feast

Roasted prime rib, chowder from the cauldron, deep dish apple pie with fresh whipped cream, wagon or sleigh ride, mulled cider or wine, DJ for dancing and to welcome in the New Year. 508-867-2345 www.salemcrossinn.com

December 31 - Indian Ranch - New Year's Eve Bash 7pm-12midnight

Hors D'oeuvres, Dinner, Dancing & Champagne Toast! Live DJ. Doors open at 7 pm Dinner served at 8:00. Must be 21 and over to attend. \$34.95 prior to 12/25/07 \$39.95 after 12/25/07. Call 508-943-3871 or visit www.indianranch.com for more information.

December 31 - Wachusett Mountain - New Year's Eve Celebration 4-12pm

Enjoy live music by Bruce Jacques in Coppertop Lounge, and magic by Eddie Raymond. Evening features tubing, fireworks, balloon drop, and skiing/riding until midnight! Call for prices. Call 978-464-2300 or visit www.wachusett.com.



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