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## Main Street Morgantown sets stage for holiday events, spirit

#### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

DPNews@DominionPost.com

As the holiday season approaches, Main Street Morgantown is bustling with plans to bring the community together through exciting events and local business support. For decades, this nonprofit organization has been the heartbeat of downtown Morgantown and the Wharf District, working tirelessly to revitalize the area and create a vibrant, welcoming environment for residents, visitors and businesses.

Main Street Morgantown's mission is clear: to help local businesses thrive while preserving the historic charm of the area. Through initiatives like marketing assistance. events and partnerships, the organization creates opportunities for busi-



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post

Main Street Morgantown aims to create a welcoming environment for residents, visitors and businesses.

nesses to connect with the community. From property improvements to community events, Main Street Morgantown's efforts have a tangible impact on the city.

"We partner with local businesses and work closely with organizations like Visit Mountaineer Country CVB and Morgantown Magazine to promote activities and services," said Ava Vavrick, manager at Morgantown Area Partnership.

Operating independently under the man-

agement of the Morgantown Area Partnership, Main Street Morgantown continues to collaborate with government entities, community groups and residents to ensure downtown remains a thriving, dynamic hub. This year, the organization is hosting two major events to kick off the holiday season and draw people downtown, one of which is "Small Business Saturday," taking place from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 30. Main Street Morgantown and participating local partners will be celebrating the holidays at Courthouse Square with family-friendly activities. Highlights include photos with Santa, free cookies and cocoa, a holiday gift guide featuring special offers, and Shop Small promotional bags

(while supplies last).

The second holiday event you won't want to miss is the Downtown Dash on Dec. 14. This event features a festive mix of holiday shopping and adventure. The Downtown Dash combines pop-up markets with a scavenger hunt for unique gifts. This event promises fun for all while encouraging attendees to explore the best of downtown Morgantown.

Main Street Morgantown's events are rooted in a broader mission of supporting local businesses and fostering economic growth. The organization believes in the power of community.

"When you shop local, you're helping sustain our downtown community and preserving its unique character,"

"Getting involved in local holiday events strengthens community bonds and helps support our local businesses. These events create a festive atmosphere where families, friends and neighbors can celebrate and make memories."

Their hope for this holiday season? To see bustling streets, engaged residents, and a thriving downtown that reflects the spirit of Morgantown. As the holidays draw near, Main Street Morgantown invites the community to take part in these events — not just for shopping but to experience the vibrant heart of Morgantown.

"Every purchase and interaction helps keep the spirit of community alive." Vavrick said.



## Let White's help your gifts sparkle

#### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

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For more than 34 years, White's Fine Jewelry has been part of the Marion County community, earning its reputation as one of the most trusted jewelers in the region. From its humble beginnings as a small store, White's has grown alongside its community, becoming a multibrand retailer that serves generations of families. Known for brilliant diamonds, exquisite fine jewelry, sophisticated watches and custom-made designs, White's Fine Jewelry is dedicated to delivering quality, trust and exceptional customer service.

At White's Fine Jewelry, there's "a little something for everyone." Whether you're shopping for a small memento or a once-in-a-lifetime piece, White's has you covered. Their collection is thoughtfully curated to include timeless treasures, ontrend designs and high-quality create a personalized wish list.

pieces from trusted designers.

"We love getting to know our customer's stories," said owner Jann Stewart. "When you shop at White's, you can expect individualized service and hand-selected merchandise. Our goal is to help you find the perfect piece that reflects your unique style and story."

This personalized approach is a hallmark of White's Fine Jewelry. It's not just about selling jewelry — it's about building relationships and creating memories that last a lifetime. This holiday season, White's Fine Jewelry is bringing festive cheer to the community with a host of exciting events and offers, including the Diamond Studs Sale (Nov. 25-30) where customers can enjoy 40% off natural or lab-grown diamond studs — a perfect gift for someone special. In addition, White's is promoting the Wish List Program, where customers can stop by the store anytime during the holiday season to





Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

White's Fine Jewelry has a host of exciting events and offers heading toward holiday shoppers this year.

Stored in their database, this list helps "Santa" pick out exactly what you want. Plus, each wish list entry qualifies for a drawing for a special holiday gift! Finally, White's will participate in Small Business Saturday (Nov. 30), which celebrates local shopping with exclusive in-store specials. fun giveaways and gifts with purchase. It's a day filled with great deals and holiday spirit.

Shopping at White's Fine Jewelry is an experience. Personalized customer service, extensive knowledge and commitment to quality set them apart from other jewelers.

"We carry items that range from timeless treasures to fashion-forward styles," Stewart explained. "We take pride in working with designers who create and online shopping options for beautiful, high-quality pieces

that our customers can cherish for years to come."

To stay updated on new arrivals, special offers and holiday events, follow White's Fine Jewelry on Facebook and Instagram. Their website (http://www. whitesfinejewelry.com) is another great resource for exploring their collection, holiday hours popular items.



## Cutting Room goes 'extra mile' for shoppers

#### **BY EVA MURPHY**

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When it comes to holiday shopping, The Cutting Room Boutique in the Seneca Center is a cut above. With an expansive collection of merchandise, an inviting atmosphere, and personalized service, it has all the ingredients for a superior experience.

First opened in 2018 by local businesswoman Sandra White, The Cutting Room specializes in a sumptuous assortment women's clothing and accessories and places emphasis on stocking high-quality goods. However, prices are fair, and the previous season's clothing is discounted up to 70% off.

The leadership team at The Cutting Room takes pride in providing comstylish clothing for real women.

"We can dress a range of body shapes, body types and body ages," said store manager Bridget Benson. The staff models new merchandise on The Cutting Room's YouTube channel (www. youtube.com/@thecuttingroomboutique9870), allowing customers to preview what's in stock before dropping by the shop.

Shoppers will also find of fashion accessories in the boutique, from jewelry and handbags to shoes and scarves. These tasteful items make excellent stocking stuffers and statement gifts. Gift cards are available to give to a loved one who finds joy in making selections for themselves.

Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post

The Cutting Room Boutique specializes in women's clothing and accessories with a personal touch.

son. "We will go the extra they'll be happy." "We will help you find mile to make sure who-

fortable, flattering and the perfect gift," said Ben- ever you're shopping for, services make it a stress-

free shopping destination. The boutique's holiday From free gift wrapping to after-hours shopping

appointments to suit busy schedules, every detail is tailored to the customer.

"We will even do events like you want to do a girls' night out shopping experience. You can come have drinks at the store, do your shopping, and then go out for dinner," said Benson. Flexible hours during the holiday season ensure everyone has a chance to find the perfect gift.

The Cutting Room will run special discounts on Black Friday and Small Business Saturday to kick off the holiday season. Benson invites the greater Morgantown area to visit all the shops in the Seneca Center during the holidays. Shopping at local small businesses keeps dollars in the region, supporting a healthy and vibrant community.

## In store or online, Tea Shoppe offers wide variety for every tea enthusiast

### **BY EVA MURPHY**

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According to the Tea Association of the USA, about 80% of American households consume tea. So, chances are good that you have a tea enthusiast in your life. With over 230 varieties of looseleaf tea and many unique tea accessories in stock, The Tea Shoppe in the Seneca Center is a treasure trove of holiday gifts that are sure to wow your tea-drinking loved one.

The Tea Shoppe has curated a Holiday Tea Sampler that includes four individually sealed pouches of tea packed in a beautiful gift box. Each variety of tea features flavors that evoke the season, such as cinnamon, cloves, and marzipan. The sampler, priced at \$20, includes enough looseleaf to make dozit can be enjoyed throughout the long winter. There are also samplers of green, black, rooibos and white teas, allowing a recipient to explore new flavors hand-picked by experts. Of course, shoppers are more than welcome to make their own selections from the hundreds of varieties of tea in stock.

The Tea of the Month Club is another popular gift option. Subscriptions range from \$80 for 3 months to \$225 for 1 year. Each month, subscribers receive three different varieties of tea to enjoy. The initial shipment includes storage tins and a tea spoon, so the gift will be remembered long after the tea is gone.

The Tea Shoppe stocks an assortment of accessories essential to the looseleaf lifestyle. Nothing says "the holidays" The tastefully designed infus-

ens of cups of tea, ensuring that ers, strainers, teapots, timers, mugs and starter sets will be welcomed by both novice and seasoned tea enthusiasts.

> Can't visit in person? Online shopping is easy at TheTea-ShoppeWV.com. A \$9 flat-rate shipping across the contiguous U.S. allows gifting The Tea Shoppe wares to far-flung loved ones, without breaking the bank. For those hard-toshop-for loved ones, consider an online gift certificate or an in-store gift card—both easy options that let the recipient choose their favorites.

A visit to The Tea Shoppe's Tea Room is a festive experience in itself. Guests can relax in the cozy atmosphere and enjoy hot beverages and light fare with friends and family. more than that.



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

The Tea Shoppe offers many gift options for tea-drinking loved ones.





## A perfect holiday gift: 'A Christmas Carol' at WVU

#### BY CASSIDY ROARK

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This holiday season, give the gift of a timeless tradition with tickets to the West Virginia Public Theatre's co-production of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." Directed by Jerry Mc-Gonigle, this beloved tale will be brought to life at the WVU Canady Creative Arts Center's Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre.

With performances scheduled for Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Dec. 8 at 2 p.m., and Dec. 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m., this is an opportunity for you and your loved ones to enjoy a performance that truly shows spirit of the holiday season.

For generations, "A Christmas Carol" has captivated audiences around the world with the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, the miserly old man whose transformation after visits from the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come has become a symbol of



Cassidy Roark/The Dominion Post

"A Christmas Carol" performances are scheduled from Dec. 7 to 11 at Canady Creative Arts Center.

hope, generosity, and the power Christmas Carol" is a unique ting of the Lyell B. Clay Conof change.

way to embrace the holiday cert Theatre, combined with A live performance of "A season. The atmospheric set- McGonigle's direction, promis-

es to transport audiences into the foggy streets of Victorian London, where Scrooge's journey will start. Expect rich costumes, compelling performances, and a stirring soundtrack that will bring the characters to life in unforgettable ways.

This event makes for a perfect holiday gift, offering not just a memorable event but an experience that will stay with the recipient long after the curtain falls. Whether for friends, family, or colleagues, tickets to "A Christmas Carol" create an opportunity to create lasting memories together. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday spirit while supporting the arts in West Virginia.

Tickets are available now, and with performances limited to just a few days in December, it's best to act quickly to ensure you do miss out on this festive celebration, do not miss the chance to share the magic of Dickens' classic this holiday season at the WVU Creative Arts Center!







Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Spencer & Kuehn Fine Jewelry Studio can bring your vision to life with a team of four jewelers and designers.

## From estate to brand-new, Spencer & Kuehn has something for you

#### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

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John Kuehn has been the face of fine jewelry in Morgantown since the

In 2018, Katherine Spencer joined Kuehn at the storied business and the two have been creating beautiful, bespoke baubles together ever since.

The team is known for custom-designed engagement rings and wedding bands but also creates many other one-of-a-kind pieces for their customers.

If you have a vision, this pair can bring it to life in gold, silver, platinum, diamonds, emeralds, amethysts - the options are endless.

Their mission is to embrace uniqueness and exceed industry standards in diamond sourcing, quality, ethics and sustainable practices. They create everything in-house.

This holiday season, discover Spencer & Kuehn's unique collection of handmade jewelry or create a custom piece of your own.

The business boasts four jewelers and designers for custom work, repair and



restoration. The store also features an array of estate jewelry, for those who love a piece with history.

Spencer & Kuehn Fine Jewelry Studio will host a ladies shopping event, "Bling & Bubbly," from 5-7 p.m. Dec. 4 to give visitors an opportunity to browse its collection, create a wish list or find the perfect gift - perhaps all of the above. And you can do it all while enjoying a glass of champagne.

Enter for a chance to win a gift basket featuring champagne, brownies, a \$100 nail salon gift certificate, or one of the shop's

signature West Virginia state pendants.

More of a bro? That's fine, too-the store's "Pints & Presents" event allows men to do the same, from 5-7 p.m. Dec. 5, but with a cold brew instead. Enjoy pepperoni rolls, popcorn and beer while you shop. Plus, enter to win a gift basket featuring beef jerky, beer, a \$100 West Virginia WVDNR gift certificate, or a unique Mountaineers bracelet.

In celebration of the holidays, Spencer & Kuehn will host a Black Friday sale with 60% off select estate and antique jewelry during our in-store Black Friday sale at Spencer & Kuehn's studio. Then, for Cyber Monday, take 60% off the same collection exclusively in the online store.

The shop also has extensive experience is using old jewelry to create new pieces - so if you have an heirloom that's just "not quite you," or something old you'd like to turn into something new to give as a gift, the team at Spencer & Kuehn can help.





Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Enjoy a pleasantly scented shopping experience at Presenting the Soap Opera.

## Find an ideal scented gift for men or women at Presenting the Soap Opera

**BY EVA MURPHY** 

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Pleasant aromas can work wonders. Being around the right scent can improve your mood, enhance relaxation, promote good sleep or help connect with a treasured memory.

As we embark upon the holiday season, Morgantown shoppers can turn to a beloved local gem for gifts to delight and pamper aroma-loving their loved ones. Presenting the Soap Opera, one of the oldest shops in the historic Seneca Center. has been the cornerstone of the community for over 20 years. The shelves at The Soap Opera are clustered with a luxurious array of bath and body products. accessories, candles, and home fragrances. Whether shopping for a loved one or indulging yourself, this boutique has something for evervone.



There are bath salts, artisanal soaps, and rich body lotions in a variety of scents, from warm vanilla to crisp eucalyptus and bold lemongrass. The shop features a section geared toward men that stocks grooming essentials such as high-quality cleansers, exfoliants, and shaving supplies. Home fragrances and accessories such as hand-poured soy candles, reed diffusers, and room sprays make perfect gifts and are key to creating a festive ambiance for holiday entertaining.

Shopping at Presenting the Soap Opera isn't just about finding the perfect gift; it's about supporting the small businesses that make Morgantown special. The shop offers personalized customer service that big-box retailers can't match. Staff members are eager to help vou assemble customized gift sets that will be appreciated throughout the holidays and bevond.



Cassidy Roark/The Dominion Post

A&J Sewing Studio is planning two exciting holiday events.

## Celebrate Small Business Saturday at A&J Sewing Studio in Morgantown

BY CASSIDY ROARK

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This holiday season, A&J Sewing Studio in the Seneca Center Shops is inviting the Morgantown community to support local businesses and get into the holiday spirit with two exciting events: Small Business Saturday and a special holiday sale partnered with Bernina sewing machines.

## Small Business Saturday: A Day to Shop Local

On Saturday, November 30, A&J Sewing Studio will join thousands of small businesses across the nation in celebrating Small Business Saturday, a day dedicated to supporting the heart and soul of the American economy. This annual event encourages shoppers to spend their dollars where it counts, helping local shops thrive and grow.

At A&J Sewing Studio, Small Business Saturday will be more than just a shopping event – it's an opportunity to discover the many services and products the studio has to offer. Whether you are an advanced sewer or a beginner, you'll find an array of fabrics, sewing tools, patterns, and classes that cater to all skill levels. Plus, the store will feature exclusive discounts and promotions on select items, making it the perfect time to pick up a gift for the creative soul in your life or treat your-

self to something special.

### Special Holiday Sale on Bernina Sewing Machines

To make the holiday season even more exciting, A&J Sewing Studio is also kicking off their Bernina Sewing Machine Sale. Bernina is known for producing high-quality, durable sewing machines that meet the needs of both hobbyists and professional crafters alike. During this sale, customers can take advantage of exclusive discounts on select Bernina models, making it the perfect time to upgrade your sewing equipment or gift a Bernina machine to someone special.

The team at A&J Sewing Studio is dedicated to helping customers find the right sewing machine for their needs, offering expert advice, product demonstrations, and hands-on support. Whether you're looking for a machine for quilting, embroidery, or general sewing, the knowledgeable staff at A&J Sewing can guide you through the selection process.

This Small Business Saturday and throughout the holiday season, A&J Sewing Studio invites you to shop local, support small businesses, and explore the world of sewing. Stop by the Seneca Center Shops and experience the personal touch that only a local business can offer.





## Music a magical gift this holiday

#### BY ALISE CHAFFINS

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As the holidays draw close, people often think about experiences as part of their gift-giving strategy. Vittone's Music in Greensburg, Pa., has items that fulfill both the desire for a traditional gift as well as an experience with their variety of musical items and music lessons.

Vittone's Music Center has been family-owned since 1988 and has been serving the needs of Westmoreland County for that time. They boast of being western Pennsylvania's oldest continuously running piano store. Owner Tony Vittone has been in this business for decades and has the experience to help customers find the perfect piano or organ in pianos, we specialize in for them.

ern Pennsylvania, the busi- also sell accessories, band

Virginia. As one of the largest suppliers of KAWAI pianos, Vittone's delivers all throughout the region. If you are considering a new piano for your home or a piano or organ for your church. Vittone's will be able to help you find just what you're looking for. Whether a digital keyboard, an upright piano, or even a grand piano, Vittone's offers the largest variety of instruments in models, open box instruthe region.

Beyond pianos and organs, the shop also has a full range of other instruments.

"I would tell you that music center has been in business for 37 years," Vittone said. "We have 7,000 square feet full of musical merchandise. We specialize church organs. But we also Despite its focus on west- have a large guitar shop. We

ness also has ties to West instruments, digital selections from top to bottom. used and new grand pianos. We have delivery service. We have piano tuning. We offer instrument lessons. We have a large selection of everything."

> With the upcoming holidays, Vittone Music will be running a sale on their KAWAI pianos and offering significant discounts on floor models, discontinued ments and blemished special factory purchases. In addition to that, they will be offering 24 months of no interest financing for these instruments.

> Store hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. This sale will run through Dec. 31. You can find more information at the website, vittonemusic.com.



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Vittone's Music in Greensburg, Pa., offers pianos and guitars for all music lovers.



VITTONE'S MUSIC STORE

## INVENTORY **SELL-OFF**











## **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31**

Sale Hours: Monday-Thursday: 10-7 Friday: 10-6 • Saturday: 10-5 Sundays Noon-5 (11/24-12/29) By Appt.

On new **KAWAI** pianos For the first time ever, VITTONE'S MUSIC STORE is slashing prices on all in-stock floor models, open box, discontinued models and more, for a limited time. Choose from grand pianos, up-right pianos, digital and hybrid pianos and player pianos! Pianos are offered on a first-come-first-served basis, so shop early!

### It's our biggest event of the year, just in time for the holidays!

SALE EVENT CONDUCTED AT: VITTONE'S Music, Gabe's Plaza, 801 N Greengate Rd, Greensburg, PA Shop early for the best selection. Free parking.

724-837-0877 • 724-972-8474

**24 Months** No Interest **Financing** 

## **Black Friday/Cyber Monday** at Mountaineer Ticket Office

#### BY CASSIDY ROARK

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As the holiday season approaches. Mountaineer fans can score big on tickets and merchandise with the WVU ticket office's Black Friday and Cyber Monday special offers. The event runs from Nov. 25 through Dec. 6, giving fans plenty of time to snag deals for their loved ones or for themselves!

### Men's Basketball **Tickets**

For basketball fans, there's no better gift than tickets to see the Mountaineers in action. The Mountaineer Ticket Office is offering tickets to several men's basketball games at a reduced price. Highlights include:

- North Carolina Central (Dec. 10) - Tickets starting at just \$5
- Arizona State (Jan. 21) – \$10 tickets available
- TCU (Feb. 25) \$10 tickets for an exciting matchup
- UCF (Mar. 8) A special price of \$25 per ticket for this thrilling contest

### Women's Basketball **Tickets**

If you're shopping for a fan of women's sports, you can get tickets to any remaining home women's basketball game for just \$5 each. This is a fantastic opportunity to support WVU's talented women's basketball team while saving big.

### **Wrestling Tickets**

Wrestling fans will also find great deals this holiday season. Tickets to any remaining home



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Tickets for West Virginia University athletic events, including men's and women's basketball and wrestling, are available via Black Friday and Cyber Monday special offers.

wrestling match are available for just \$5 each. Whether it's for a diehard fan or a new wrestling enthusiast, these tickets offer the perfect chance to experience one of WVU's talented athletic programs.

### **WVU Team Shop Black Friday Special**

For those looking to deck out their loved ones Mountaineer gear. the WVU Team Shop is offering discounts of 20-50% on select merchandise from Friday, Nov. through Saturday, Nov. 30. From apparel to accessories, you'll find everything a MountainTeam Shop is located at 376 Patteson Drive for in-person shopping.

### **Online Shopping Deals**

Can't make it to the store? No problem! WVU Athletics' official online store, ShopWVU.com, will also offer special holiday deals on licensed Mountaineer merchandise. Shop from the comfort of your home and still get amazing discounts on items.

Take advantage of these limited-time offers and give the gift of Mountaineer pride this holiday season. Whether it's tickets to a game or exclusive merchandise, there's eer fan could want. The something for everyone.





## Fashion, wellness at home at Southern Roots

#### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

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Southern Roots Boutique & Spa is a one-stop destination for trendy clothing, accessories, home goods and beauty services in the Fairmont community and beyond. Owned by Cassady Music, the boutique is more than just a shopping experience; it's a place where women can feel confident and beautiful, whether they're pampered in the salon or walking out with a stylish new outfit.

"We offer hair, nails, and skin treatments, along with a western-inspired clothing line ranging from small to 3XL," Music said. "Our boutique also showcases over five different small businesses, creating a unique and supportive shopping experience.'

Southern Roots is staffed by a full-time hairstylist, a men's grooming specialist and a cosmetologist, offering services own holiday wish list.

like luxurious men's haircuts with hot towels, highlights, root touch-ups, gel manicures, and luxury pedicures. Customers can enjoy a relaxing spa day and leave feeling refreshed and stylish.

This Small Business Saturday (Nov. 30), Southern Roots will be open from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Shoppers can draw their own discounts, enter raffles, and win door prizes throughout the day. Cassady encourages the community to shop locally during the holiday season.

"Whether it's my business or another, supporting small businesses is vital. We depend on our customers and love seeing them come in," Music said.

With its unique blend of fashion, wellness, and a welcoming atmosphere. Music said Southern Roots Boutique & Spa is the perfect place to find gifts, treat yourself, or even create your



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Southern Roots Boutique & Spa pairs together fashion and beauty services in a welcoming atmo-





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cassadyrmusic@icloud.com southernrootsb.com







Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Tanner's Alley offers a large variety of timeless leather pieces for men, women, business and travel.

## Quality leather craftsmanship on display at Tanner's Alley

### **BY ALISE CHAFFINS**

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Charlie McEwuen opened Tanner's Alley Leather Design Studio in 1976. From a tiny storefront on Walnut Street to its current location on High Street, Tanner's Alley has been serving the Morgantown community for 48 years.

Tanner's Alley is committed to offering leather pieces that are unique and for a lifetime. A blend of traditional leather design is mixed with new techniques and ideas to create heirloom pieces for you or your loved ones. The shop works with a variety of leathers, including alligator and bison, at various price points.

Earlier this year, Tanner's Alley was named Veteran Owned Business of the Year by the Morgantown Area Partnership. McEwuen taught himself leather craft while serving with the 101st Airborne Division. He works alongside Joanna Bartone, who started her career in theatrical accessories. Their focus on classic style means that your leather item will be fashionable for years to come.

The store offers a variety of leather goods available for purchase. Popular

items include belts, wallets, handbags, luggage and briefcases. They do offer custom work with a wait list of about six months for a custom piece. However, their store is filled with pieces that are available for purchase right now for your gift-giving needs.

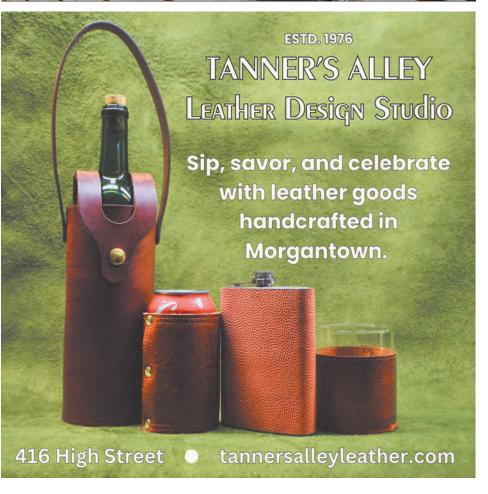
There is a website where you can see the various items that are available at the store, but McEwuen suggests coming into the shop to see the items up close.

"With leather, you'd like to see what it feels like. That's the wonderful quality of leather. What does it feel like?" McEwuen said. "There are a lot of things that look good on the internet, but you really have to touch it, feel it, to appreciate the true qualities of leather. And they can come in here and do that. Try things out and see if things are the right size for them or have the right number of pockets, or they can just explore all of our products, and that's the best way to do it."

The store is located at 416 High St. The hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. You can browse their website at tannersalleyleather.com.







## Get in the spirit at the Christmas Shop



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

The Christmas Shop & Downer House Antiques in Chalk Hill, Pa., is a "unique and historic shop."

## 

#### **BY JENIFFER GRAHAM**

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CHALK HILL, Pa. – If you are looking for an unique gift look no further than the Christmas Shop & Downer House Antiques at Chalk Hill. The store is housed in what was once the historical Downer Tayern.

"I grew up in this house," owner Rob Guerriere said. "It's in the archives and was completed in 1823. I bought the house from mom in 1974. I was just starting out and didn't have a lot of money. A lady had a Christmas Shop in Farmington in a bad location. She came to me because she knew I was looking for renters so I could pay the mortgage. I rented her the whole first floor."

Guerriere said after two years the lady decided she wanted to either sell her shop or go out of business.

"That would kill me because I couldn't pay my mortgage. So I ask her if she would sell it to me and teach me how to buy Christmas items. I bought the shop and my wife Patricia and I have been running it every since," he said.

Guerriere said he believes his shop has the most diverse Christmas and antique array in the area. He said he doesn't buy items like those found in stores like Walmart and Amazon.

Before you enter the shop Santa and his reindeer can be seen out front, along with the carriage that carried Doc from the series Gunsmoke on his rounds. Once inside. You will find rooms filled with decorations, gift items of all types, and for those who are fans of the movie "Elf," a larger-than-life replica of Buddy greets shoppers.

The rooms in the main house are filled with candles, all size and shaped snow globes, gift items for all ages, glassware, indoor and outdoor decorations, Christmas bulbs, lights, tree toppers, and collectibles.

"We also carry antique blow molds." Guerriere said. "A lot of people collect them, They last forever and go up in value."

Blow molds are hollow plastic figures that were generally placed outside. Between the 1940s and the 1970s, these hollow plastic Christmas decorations could be found decorating neighborhood lawns. They could also be found decorating homes during Halloween and Easter.

Additional rooms beside the main house are filled to the brim with antiques. Hanging on one wall in the last room is a large wreath, below it are several Christmas trees.

"A lot of people sell a lot of Christmas stuff, bet this is probably the most unique and historic shop in the area," he said.

The Christmas Shop and Downer House Antiques is located at 2958 National Pike, Chalk Hill, Pa. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from April 1 to Dec. 31. Call 724-439-6500.



## Get party prepared at Everyday's A Party

#### **BY JENIFFER GRAHAM**

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MORGANTOWN - Everyday's A Party located in Morgantown is a one-stop shop for party supplies, gifts and beverages.

Manager Clark Shrum said when the store opened in 2007. it sold only party supplies. However, he said over the year it has grown and added a large variety, of beer and wine, as well as tobacco products to its inventory.

"When we first opened, Swilled Dog." we didn't sell alcoholonly carried party supplies. In 2014, business in beer. Over the years, we've added wine and

distributed in the state, Brewery, we sell it here."

Shrum said the store carries a large variety of local wines, beer and West Virginia items. He said the business is a proud supporter of everything West Virginia.

"Some of the wines we carry are Lambert's Vintage Wines, Forks of the Cheat, Mountain Dragon Mazery, West White only items found at the Hill, Kingwood Winery and Daniel Vineyards," Shrum said. "The ciders are Hawk Knob and

According to its webic beverages or tobacco page, some of the beer products," he said. "We sold in the store is from Big Timber Brewing, Screech Owl, Parkersdropped off and we put burg Brewing Company, Chestnut Brew Works, High Ground Brew-

tobacco products. If it's ing, Weathered Ground products and other par-Greenbrier Vally Brewing and Bridge Brew Works.

> Shrum said some of other beverages sold include Dog Fish Head, New Belgium, Fat Head's, Urban Artifacts, Two Pitchers, Stone, Victory, and also a wide variety of beers from all over the world."

Beverages are not the store. Customers can find all the items needed for birthday parties, football, get-togethers, holiday parties, weddings, anniversaries and more. The store also carries a large variety of tableware, cutlery, wine glasses and much more.

balloons, candles, paper p.m. Call 304-598-5556

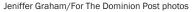
ty supplies, you will find all you need to transform any space into a party space. If you're looking for a gift, there's glassware, candles, unique keepsakes, West Virginia merchandise and more, you will find them.

"We promote shopping local and supporting local businesses," Shrum said. "We have everything you would need for your party, including beer, wine, and party supplies."

Everyday's A Party is located at 3119 University Avenue. Hours are 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday; Friday 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.: From streamers to and Sunday 10 a.m. - 4









Everyday's A Party displays are both holiday and everyday festive.





Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Jack & Jill Menswear is going all out to make shopping a memorable experience this holiday season.





## Holiday kick-off sale at Jack & Jill Menswear

### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

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For over 70 years, Jack & Jill Menswear has been a staple for men seeking premium clothing and impeccable service. This luxury menswear store in Morgantown has built a reputation for offering a full-service shopping experience that caters to every aspect of a man's wardrobe. From sport coats to shoes and belts, Jack & Jill is a one-stop destination for those who value quality and style.

What sets Jack & Jill apart from the competition? "We've been in business for 70 years," said Frank Tatta, the store's owner. "We offer luxury menswear from all over the world — Italy, England, Europe, the USA, and more. We carry everything from sport coats to shoes and belts. Plus, we do our own alterations in-store."

The store's commitment to sourcing high-quality fabrics and offering unique designs has become a hallmark of its identity.

"Our hybrid jackets are really popular right now," Tatta said

Hybrid jackets are jackets that have

a mid-layer or soft shell style over the core, with thinner, stretchier fabrics on the arms or sides or both, making them appropriate for a wide range of temperatures and looks. Tatta said the versatility and modern style of these pieces make them a hit with his clientele.

He said customers also rave about their exotic belts and pieces crafted from premium Italian fabrics, making each visit to the store an exploration of fine craftsmanship and distinctive fashion.

This holiday season, Jack & Jill is going all out to make shopping a memorable experience. On Dec. 4, the store will host its annual Ladies Shopping Event, complete with catering and beverages to create a festive atmosphere. For Thanksgiving weekend, customers can enjoy a holiday kick-off sale, featuring discounts on select items. These events are designed to engage customers and celebrate the joy of the season.

"The holiday season is the best time of the year to visit Jack & Jill," they share enthusiastically. "Our inventory is the largest it's ever been, and we're offering great discounts for the holidays."

## Terra Café is hub of locally sourced cuisine

#### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

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Nestled along the rail-trail in Star City, Morgantown, Terra Café is more than a bakery — it's a hub of fresh, locally sourced cuisine. Known for its made-from-scratch approach, the café serves up award-winning baked goods, including decadent cakes, cupcakes, vegan desserts and the locally beloved pepperoni rolls. The bakery also caters to custom orders, offering a personalized touch for special events.

Beyond the bakery, Terra Café emphasizes farm-to-table ingredients across its menu of soups, salads and sandwiches. Complementing the food is a selection of beverages, including

locally sourced coffee, tea and kombucha. With a casual vibe and a welcoming outdoor patio, the café has become a favorite gathering place for locals and visitors alike. Guests can also look forward to fun activities like Open Mic Night every Saturday night during happy hour from 5-7 p.m.

Celebrate the holidays at Terra Café with their delightful Thanksgiving rolls! Packed with turkey, tangy cranberry sauce and a whipped feta blend infused with rosemary and sage, they're a seasonal treat you won't want to miss. Pair them with a festive cranberry chocolate chai drink and a white chocolate cranberry cupcake for a sweet holiday indulgence. For a brunch



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Terra Café in Star City emphasizes farm-to-table ingredients across its menu.

upgrade, savor their maple-infused crepe filled with fig-whipped mascarpone and finished with a crunchy bacon crumble. A perfect way to enjoy the season's flavors.

Keep an eve out for more holiday favorites and new editions to Terra Cafe's seasonal lineup, coming soon!







terracafewv.com/caterina

## Plenty of winter promotions at Wisp Resort

#### **BY KARA VAUGHAN**

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Wisp Resort, situated in McHenry, Maryland, is a yearround destination offering an extensive range of activities and amenities. As Maryland's only four-season ski, golf, and recreation resort, it caters to snow sports enthusiasts of all skill levels.

"Our dedication to making snowsports more affordable and accessible for everyone is carried out through our Mission Affordability initiatives present across all seasons, and almost all recreational activities," said Julie Bush, Wisp Resort's marketing assistant.

In winter, visitors flock to the resort for skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing and other snow-based activities across 132 acres, featuring 32 trails, a 700-foot vertical drop and snowmaking on 90% of the slopes. The facility includes seven main lifts, four beginner lifts, and night skiing on most trails, offering plenty of options for evening fun. Notable features include beginner and intermediate trails on the north side of the mountain, a terrain park, a half-pipe, and big jumps for adrenaline seekers.

sports, the resort offers the All the fun and instruction is "Ace's Free Learn to Ski + Snowboard Program." "This winter we are excited to announce the first year of Ace's Free Learn to Ski + Snowboard Program designed for the firsttime skier and snowboarder," adds Bush. The program not only provides free lessons for beginners but also creates opportunities for affordable future visits.

Beyond skiing and snowboarding, the resort's Mountain Park includes unique attractions like snow tubing and the region's only mountain coaster, which requires no special equipment or skills. "Our Mountain Park features snow tubing and the mountain coaster (only one in the area) which



In winter, visitors flock to Wisp Resort for skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing and other snow-based activities across 132 acres, featuring 32 trails, a 700-foot vertical drop and snowmaking on 90% of the slopes.

For those new to snow requires no equipment or skill. provided to guests," says Bush.

The Lodge at Wisp, the resort's 169-room slope-side hotel connected to the main lodge, offers convenient accommodations with yearround affordable lodging packages. Guests can also rent equipment from the resort's extensive rental fleet, while the Wisp Learning Center caters to beginners and experts alike with certified instructors to enhance their skills. For indoor entertainment, the resort features two escape games to enjoy after a day on the slopes.

Seasonal passes and memberships provide extended access to skiing, golf, and more, making Wisp an ideal destination for ac-

tive families and outdoor enthusiasts. During the holiday season, the resort hosts special events such as "Wispmas," New Year's Eve celebrations, and seasonal deals like discounted lift ticket packs. Activities include live music, après-ski parties, crafts for kids, giveaways, and more.

The surrounding Deep Creek Lake area adds to the charm with holiday events, shopping, dining, and winter fun. In the warmer months, guests can explore two award-winning golf courses, scenic chairlift rides, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, kayaking, disc golf, and family-friendly activities like gem mining. With its versatile offerings, Wisp Resort provides an unforgettable experience in a breathtaking mountain setting.





## THE GIFT THAT LASTS ALL WINTER -**WISP RESORT'S MISSION AFFORDABLE 4-PACK**

## Skip the Sweaters – Give an Entire Season of Snowy Fun with Wisp's Mission Affordable 4-Pack!

We've rolled back the price to match the same incredible deal from two years ago, giving you access to four days of skiing or riding at an unbeatable rate. Don't miss this chance to lock in great savings and unforgettable mountain adventures!

ON **SALE** NOW!

- 4 UNRESTRICTED LIFT TICKETS Valid any time, any day
- **NO BLACKOUT DATES**
- **FULLY TRANSFERABLE** Can be used by you, your family, or friends
- **EXCLUSIVE LODGING DEALS**

### AVAILABLE ONLY AT WISPRESORT.COM

Tickets expires at the end of the 2024-25 Winter Season. All sales are absolutely final. No refunds, exchanges, returns, extensions or cash value. Not for re-sale.





Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Check out Edgar Rae Design Studio's holiday special offers in store or online at www.edgarrae.com.

## Edgar Rae Design Studio a festive part of The Shoppes on Pineview

#### **BY JENIFFER GRAHAM**

DPNews@DominionPost.com

Laura Stone, owner of Edgar Rae Design Studio, has been an interior designer for 20 years. She said the Edgar Rae storefront, including the interior design studio, boutique and espresso bar opened in May.

Edgar Rae is an unique business in that it offers not just interior design services but also a retail store that offers a variety of products, and you can sip on a latte while you shop.

"Our interior design studio offers services that include in home or office consultations, interior renderings, furniture selections, lighting, interior decor recommendations and more." she said. "Our boutique includes women's clothing, accessories, books, home decor, furniture and gifts. The espresso bar is located at the entry of our store. It has an assortment of delicious espresso based beverages. Our lattes contain the Elevation espresso from Rae, Baker Cheese Company, Peri + C., Mountaineer Roasting, and we offer an Honey, Melissa Powers and Associates, array of alternative milks, including pistachio milk."

She said Edgar Rae Design Studio you soon." will be having an assortment of special offers this holiday season. Stone said the social media pages are updated



said they can be checked out in store or online at www.edgarrae.com.

"Small businesses are an important pat of our community. I would encourage everyone to support them not just during the holiday season, but throughout the year as well. Our building is located at 1195 Pineview Drive and is called The Shoppes on Pineview. It contains eight small female owned and operated businesses that include Edgar Almost Heaven Mobile Hydration and Natural by Nicole PLLC. We hope to see

Edgar Rae Design Studio is located at 1195 Pineview Drive. Hours are 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. daily and will include the specials. She Closed Sunday. Call 304-943-7862.



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Pos

Baker Cheese Company specializes in charcuterie boards, but offers a variety of other treats and goods.

## Celebrate the season with **Baker Cheese Company**

#### **BY DAVID BEARD**

DBeard@DominionPost.com

If you're planning a holiday party or considering a gift for friends or family who might enjoy an elegant nibble, a visit to Baker Cheese Company on Pineview Drive, Morgantown, check all the boxes on your wishlist.

Carly Baker is the owner and she specializes in charcuterie boards, but offers a variety of other treats and goods. She started the business on a whim, she said.

She was working a fulltime job and had young children, she said. She always knew she wanted to start some kind of business, but wasn't quite sure what. But she needed schedule flexibility in whatever she undertook. "I just knew there was more to me than just sitting behind a desk. I needed to do something else."

Her inspiration was an online feature of people making cheese boards for celebrities doing shows. "I can do this," she thought.

cheese boards and charcuterie boards when she was growing up.

She started the business out of her home, and it boomed during COVID as people were looking for things to do. She offered things like a date night box and porch pickups.

Then her friend, who owns the building at 1195 Pineview, encouraged her to open a storefront.

"I'm really happy I did it. I love having a storefront."

Inside the shop, a room off to the left features a table and chairs where she teaches classes. The counter to the right offers a display of meats and cheeses. Along with a variety of charcuterie boards, she offers petite and date night boxes.

Cheeses come from around the world, but she also has some from Martinsburg and Deep Creek.

And if you're hungry, she has a sandwich menu. Homemade dips are a bestseller: pimento cheese (the

Her mom always made original), jalapeno pimento cheese, creamy olive and fall whipped ricotta. The sandwiches are mostly grab and go but some people eat in the classroom. and there is outdoor seating in good weather.

The shop also offers souvenir swag (sweatshirts and t-shirts), and edible goods from local vendors: macarons from Shana Cakes, Cassandra's Cookies and Lakeside Honey. And coming soon will be a wall of handmade charcuterie boards by a local craftsman.

For Small Business Saturday, Nov. 30, Baker Cheese will celebrate the popularity of its dips with buy one get one 50% off. And Cyber Monday offers 10% off online orders. "So if yo need to order a board for Christmas, that would be the time to do it."

You can explore the wares, place online orders and learn more about classes, grazing tables and events at bakercheesecompany.com.

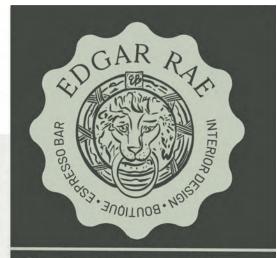
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There's so matcha, to do this holiday season. Take a break from the hustle and treat yourself to a moment of bliss. We've got everything you need to indulge and recharge!

Find holiday cheer at our boutique this Christmas! Whether you're searching for the perfect gift or a festive touch for your home, we've got the holiday spirit

wrapped up just for you! Spread joy!

Shop local!



**(**: (304) 943.7862

: info@edgarrae.com

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 MON-SAT: 8AM-5PM 1195 PINEVIEW DRIVE • MORGANTOWN, WV



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NOV 30 **CYBER** BOGO MONDAY RECIEVE 10% OFF ON **ONLINE** ORDERS WHEN YOU USE THE CODE: CYBERMONDAY24

50% OFF (BUY ONE, GET ONE 50% OFF) ALL DIPS IN STORE cheese-on gowimet, glazing

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## 48 Donley: The culinary place - is the place



Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

48 Donley takes inspiration from across borders and oceans for its menu, featuring New American cuisine.



#### **BY JIM BISSETT**

JBissett@DominionPost.com

The menu's on the map at 48 Donley, the restaurant in the Wharf District named after the address it occupies.

Deliciously fun and original takes on all those dishes you grew up with are on that menu, said the aptly named Olivia Cook, 48 Donley's general manager.

A melting pot from the stew pot, as it were, she said.

"Well, if I called us anything, it would be New American cuisine," the manager said, citing the fare from chefs Thomas Metzler and Kurt Blosser – who aren't afraid to saunter across borders and oceans for their culinary inspiration.

Literal oceans, in the case of the seabass, she said.

Pan-seared seabass, truffle parmesan mashed potatoes, grilled asparagus, tomato balsamic salad and beurre blanc combine for 48 Donley's signature dish, Cook said.

"Everybody loves it," she said.

Add in the equally signature Sargasso Salad: A layering of celery, feta and parsley, topped with white balsamic dressing, dates, walnuts and cranberry coulis.

"It's a feast," the manager said. "You can't come in here and not order it."

Just dropping by is a visual feast, she added.

Floor-to-ceiling windows. The green-

ery and calm of the Rail Trail and Monongahela River.

And the panoramic view of Morgantown while perched at the rooftop bar.

If it all sounds familiar, that's because it is, Cook said.

48 Donley began its life as Sargasso, in 2007. It was still that when Cook, a city native, began what would be her food career there as a teenager.

She started out doing hosting duties in a part-time gig that sizzled well past simple spending money.

The once-and-future manager worked hard, absorbing examples and marinating moments of what would become a calling.

Now she likes that loyal patrons come calling for the food and atmosphere.

Sunday brunch.

Evenings out.

The cocktail menu.

"We're casual. You don't have to get all dressed up and stuffy when you're eating," she said.

"Stop by for a nice dinner when you're back in Morgantown for the holidays."

48 Donley is serving up a Thanksgiving buffet from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. that day, Cook said.

And other "specialty" dinners for the holiday season will follow, she said – stayed tuned to social media for details.

"People who already know us love us," the manager said.

"And the people who don't know us end up loving us. You're invited."





Benjamin Powell/The Dominion Post photos

Accessories are just part of the many fashionable offerings at Coni & Franc.

## Find your shine at Coni & Franc

#### **BY CANDACE WOLF**

CWolf@DominionPost.com

When asked the simple question "What do you do?," Connie Merandi gives a simple answer: "I run a store."

While that statement is not a lie, it barely scrapes the surface of the truth.

Merandi, co-owner of Coni & Franc for 42 years, derives her motivation as business owner, community member, mentor, wife and mother from an early notion that "people need inspiration."

"I love to help people do what they do best," said Merandi, who is commited to giving customers the support, encouragment and expertise they need to shine.

A long family history of entrepreneurship and small business ownership was the foundation Merandi and husband Frank built on when opening the clothing store on High Street. As new West Virginia University graduates, the couple took these strong roots, an undeniable work ethic, a vested Latin Grammy Awards



interest in their commu- and the Country Music nity and a vision for their future and created a shop that has evolved over the decades.

"We just keep getting better and better," Merandi said as she explains how an increased attention to detail and focus on becoming more specialized have grown the business.

With a warm and welcoming presence, Merandi makes customers from all walks of life feel like celebrities – and some are. She recently dressed nominees and attendees of the

Awards.

To complement its reputation as a bridal boutique. Coni & Franc also offers attire for prom and special occasions, business and casual wear, undergarments, furs and coats. And don't forget the accessories, many of which are hand-curated in Italy by the Merandis.

"Morgantown's good to us, so in turn we must be good to it," a positive and humble Merandi said. "The goal is to leave everything better than we found it.'



Don't miss the Black Friday 'Fill-a-Bag- sale at Wild Birds Unlimited.

## Take advantage of expertise at Wild Birds Unlimited

#### BY KARA VAUGHAN

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Wild Birds Unlimited of Morgantown is an independently owned franchise with something for everyone, from beginners to advanced bird enthusiasts. Between Scott Cavallaro and Kendall Hawkins, customers are offered a wealth of knowledge to help involvement in bird watching, whether they're on a small budget or looking for the full experience.

"We offer gifts, feeders, and products suitable for bird lovers of all ages, and we're especially excited about getting kids interested. Our selection also includes unique holiday gifts and stocking stuffers," store manager Kendall Hawkins said.

A unique aspect of Wild Birds is the freshness and high quality of their products, Hawkins explained.

"The bird food we sell is tailored to our region and tested by our franchise, ensuring it's high-quality with no fillers. For winter, our best seller is our Winter Super Blend that's high in energy and fat to help birds stay warm and maintain vibrant colors through the colder months. This food is delivered fresh weekly, and every product on our shelves is 100% edible for birds, besides shells — but we also offer No Mess options."

This year, Wild Birds Unlimited is holding a Black Friday 'Fill-a-Bag' sale, where customers receive 20% off anything they can fit into the supplied bag. Customers often fill their bags with holiday favorites including seed snowmen

and penguins, as well as their seasonal Christmas Suet — a high-energy, highfat treat with added nuts and berries for the season. Hawkins said, "It's like a trail mix for birds, perfect for giving them an extra boost during the winter."

Wild Birds Unlimited is also offering tiered discounts: \$10 off purchases of \$60, \$20 off \$100, \$40 off \$200, or 20% off any bird feeder. These offers are available on Black Friday and Small Business

Hawkins emphasizes their businesses differentiates itself by offering a personalized experience.

It's a "one-on-one shopping experience where customers can benefit from our expertise. I have a background in wildlife and fisheries, and both Scott and I are passionate nature enthusiasts with deep knowledge to share. We love connecting with our customers, providing them with a personalized experience that larger stores simply can't offer," Hawkins said.

For those in search of a unique holiday shopping experience, or a fun hobby to enjoy year-round, Hawkins and the Wild Birds Unlimited team wants you to consider their shop.

"We're passionate about what we do. and we're proud to offer the highest-quality food and supplies. We're also committed to our community—during COVID, bird watching became a major hobby, and we love seeing people connect with nature. It's a great time to get outside. and we're here to help people enjoy that experience even more," Hawkins said.

# CONI & FRANC

Bring a smile to their face this holiday season!







## www.coniandfranc.net



