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ENJOY DECEMBER IN THE PARKS

LINCROFT — 'Tis the season to be merry! Let the Monmouth County Park System help you make the most of this festive time of year with the following family-friendly activities:

Student Instructor Show and Sale

Saturday, December 3 from 11am-6pm

Sunday, December 4 from 11am-4pm

Thompson Park Creative Arts Center, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Kick off your holiday shopping or find the perfect accent piece for your home by browsing the original artwork of our students and instructors.

Candy Making Demonstration

Saturday, December 3 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Jerry Smith will be visiting the out-kitchen and demonstrating the art of candy making. Using molds passed down from his family, Jerry will be creating tasty chocolate delicacies.

The Sounds of Christmas

Sunday, December 4 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Enjoy tranquil music as Larry Mosser and Mary Nagen play Christmas carols on the hammered dulcimer and fiddle.

Open Shoot Archery

Tuesday, December 6 from 4-6:30pm

Thompson Park, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Try your hand at archery during this open shoot. All equipment will be provided. This is a non-instructional program open to ages 8-13 (with adult). The cost is \$5 per person. Cash or check only.

Krafty Kids Drop Ins: Penguin Pendant

Wednesday, December 7 from 4-5:30pm

Thompson Park Visitor Center, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Thursday, December 8 from 4-5:30pm

Tatum Park Red Hill Activity Center, Red Hill Road, Middletown

Ages 4 and up (under 18 with adult) are invited to stop in and make a craft. The cost is \$5 per child.

Roving Park System Naturalist

Thursday, December 8 at 10am

Holmdel Park, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Join our roving Park System Naturalist for a walk and learn about seasonal points of interest. Please meet in the parking lot by Historic Longstreet Farm.

Christmas Sing-a-Long

Saturday, December 10 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Visit with Rick Garland as he plays the piano for an old-fashioned sing-a-long.

Snakes

Saturday & Sunday, December 10 & 11 at 1pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell

Learn about the snakes found in Monmouth County while our Park System naturalist introduces a few.

Gingerbread, an American Favorite

Saturday & Sunday, December 10 & 11 from 1-4pm

Historic Walnford, Walnford Road, Upper Freehold

Learn more about gingerbread, one of the foods often associated with early American cooking. Find out where the ingredients came from and how it was prepared and baked. Look through old recipes and enjoy the aromas associated with this favorite winter food.

Blacksmith Demonstration

Sunday, December 11 from 1-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Come see what the blacksmith is making in his workshop!

Open Ceramics

Sunday, December 11 from 12:30-4:30pm

Thompson Park Creative Arts Center, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Choose from a large selection of bisque-fired pottery pieces to glaze and make your own. Leave your piece to be fired and pick up in a week or so. The cost is \$6 per person per hour plus cost of bisqueware. All ages welcome, children 12 and under with an adult.

Gingerbread House Contest

Sunday, December 11 from 3-6pm

Tatum Park Red Hill Activity Center, Red Hill Road, Middletown

Stop by and vote for your favorite gingerbread house! Enjoy gingerbread demonstrations and meet the Gingerbread Man. Those wishing to enter the competition, should call (732) 842-4000 ext. 1 to register in advance. The fee to enter the competition is \$20. Those "just stopping by" are free.

Roving Park System Naturalist

Thursday, December 15 at 1:30pm

Big Brook Park, Rt. 520, Marlboro

Join our roving Park System Naturalist for a walk and learn about seasonal points of interest.

Winter Walk

Saturday & Sunday, December 17 & 18 at 11am

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell

Join us for a short walk in the winter woods. Meet in lobby. (weather-permitting)

Visit with Santa

Saturday & Sunday, December 17 & 18 from 12noon-3pm

Historic Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road, Holmdel

Enjoy an old-fashioned Victorian Christmas at Longstreet Farm! Get into the spirit of the holiday during a visit with Santa. Parents are welcome to bring a camera to capture the moment. Afterwards, tour the farmhouse and enjoy a cup of cider.

Roving Park System Naturalist

Tuesday, December 20 at 1:30pm

Thompson Park, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft

Join our roving Park System Naturalist for a walk and learn about seasonal points of interest. Please meet in the parking lot by Marlu Lake.

Eagles at the Reservoir

Saturday, December 31 at 2pm

Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell

Come learn about our resident eagles.

To learn more about these Park System activities, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call the Park System at (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

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PICTURED – *Krafty Kids Drop Ins: Penguin Pendants* is offered from 4-5:30pm on Wednesday, December 7 at the Thompson Park Visitor Center, Lincroft, and on Thursday, December 8 at the Tatum Park Red Hill Activity Center, Middletown.