

## Merry Merchants Of Ship Bottom Make Day of It Dec. 5

**W**hy should the merriment come to a halt after the Christmas Parade? It surely doesn't in Ship Bottom. Borough businesses are making Dec. 5 an all-day event after the parade.

From 3 to 9 p.m., Ship Bottom will bustle with sidewalk sales, store discounts, music, contests, food and snacks at many participating stores.

The activities are organized by the Ship Bottom Merchants and Professionals Association. (See separate story, calendar section, for more on the community tree lighting and

other Christmas in Ship Bottom highlights.)

When it comes to what's going on at the businesses, there's plenty. Let's start with Santa Claus: He'll make a jolly appearance at Faras' Surf and Sport from 7 to 7:15 p.m. and then you can catch him at Ron Jon Surf Shop from 7:45 to 8:15 p.m.

Below is a list of all-day events or offers at specific businesses as well. Most member merchants will have maps showing the business locations.

**ALO** - Stop in and learn about the Alliance for a Living Ocean. It has eco-friendly stocking stuffers and other holiday "green" gift ideas.

**B&B Department Store** - Get 20 percent off purchases with the B&B ad from The SandPaper (some exceptions apply). The store is offering free gift wrap for any purchase made at any Ship Bottom Merchants and Professionals Association-member store Dec. 5 with proof of purchase. Cookies and hot chocolate are served every day through the holiday season.

**Cedar Garden** - A sale features 50 percent off artwork and 30 percent off non-Christmas wreaths. Free gift wrap comes with any purchase. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served throughout the holiday season.

**Century 21 Mary Allen Realty** - Stop in for refreshments and learn about Operation Jersey Shore. This program matches military families with a shore vacation on LBI.

**Coconuts** - Almost everything in the store is 20 percent to 50 percent off.

**Greenhouse Café** - Rest rooms will be open to everyone all day. The restaurant is offering 20 percent back to the buyer on all gift certificate purchases Saturday and Sunday, and then 10 percent back through December after the parade weekend.

**The Haymarket** - A magician performs from 3:15 to 4 p.m. A drawing will be held for a \$100 gift certificate. Enjoy holiday refreshments.

**Island Arts** - Get in the spirit with a Christmas Trivia Contest - categories are Christmas music, movies and traditions. Contestants will answer questions to win tickets for prizes, and then a drawing will be held at 8 p.m. for the winning tickets (no need to be present at 8 p.m. to win). A separate opportunity gives chances for a mystery discount coupon. Meet local author/photographer David Biggy at a book signing from 3 to 5 p.m. A free gift is waiting for all who enter the shop, along with holiday food and refreshments.

**Ron Jon Surf Shop** - Find a holiday sale Saturday only - 20 percent off purchases of \$100 or more (excluding surfboards and gift cards, and the sale cannot be combined with other offers). Ron Jon's does holiday music island style with a steel drum player from 4 to 8 p.m. The music also welcomes Santa at 7:45.

**Serenity Design** - Music, drinks

### Enter Drawing to Win Free Room Makeover From Serenity Design

**W**hose home couldn't use a little sprucing up this holiday season, to the tune of \$1,500 in interior design services and products? Stop in to Serenity Design in Ship Bottom before Dec. 20 to fill out an entry form (no purchase necessary) for a chance to win \$1,500, redeemable for anything the store offers. The drawing will take place on Monday, Dec. 21.

Owners Gerry Yost and Donna Grimes said the idea for the Room Makeover Giveaway came about as they were brainstorming ways to promote the business around the holidays. Contest entrants' names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses will be recorded and kept for future promotional purposes.

Yost described Serenity as a full-service, complete home design center - carpet, marble, ceramic and hardwood flooring; light fixtures; furniture from Braxton, Habersham, Stanley, Harden and others; décor and accessories; window treatments; custom cabinetry and kitchen cabinets from Kemper and Decora. As an experienced interior designer, Grimes uses her expertise to help clients choose the colors or types of furnishings that will work best within a given space and lifestyle.

Simple yet strategic changes can transform a bedroom or living space, Yost said, and an expert's unbiased perspective can help identify areas in need of improvement. Perhaps it's time to upgrade the couch, renovate the kitchen, add a couple of new comfortable chairs to the den or dress up a corner or end table with a stylish lamp.

The possibilities are vast. And the Serenity showroom is constantly changing to make room for different featured items, so there is always something new and exciting to see, Yost said.

Visit Serenity Design at 1102 Long Beach Blvd., or visit the virtual showroom at serenitydesignllb.com. -JL



## Photos Become Eye-Catching Mosaic With 'Enchanted Celebrations' Service

**A** new take on traditional pictures is the "photo mosaic" being offered by Enchanted Celebrations, a wedding and event services company based in Mahanawick. Photos from a wedding or, for that matter, the holidays, an anniversary or birthday can be made into a work of art that is a real conversation piece.

"No one has ever seen anything quite like this before," said Alex Karas, executive director of Enchanted Celebrations. "It's unique and one of a kind."

Introduced in May 2009 as a promotional offering through Enchanted Celebrations, the popular photo mosaic quickly turned into a permanent service.

"People would see it at our bridal shows and immediately show interest in it," Karas said. "So we decided to offer it in our 2010 catalog."

The mosaic is more than a typical collage of pictures. One overall image, a view of the wedding couple, for instance, is on closer view actually made of about 1,000 smaller squares that are the rest of the event's photos.

"It's a great personalization product that you can have showcasing all of your wedding photos, since your typical wedding album only holds about 10 percent of your photos," Karas said. "And with the use of superior-quality paper, your mosaic can last upwards of 200 years before any fading as long as it is in the correct light and temperature."

Even if a couple is not using Enchanted Celebrations as their wedding photographer, they can still



*Supplied Photos*  
**TOGETHER:** Crystal and Timothy Giberson (above) make a splash not only with their just-married entrance, but with the collages that show off all of their wedding photos within the larger frame. The mosaic technique is also great for photos of holidays, anniversaries, any memories.

purchase a mosaic.

"We get a huge selection of customers who come to us who already have a wedding photographer, but still want a mosaic," Karas said, "so we tell them as long as we have the copyright permission to create one, we will do so."

The mosaic is printed on high-quality, archival paper with an art board mount. Enchanted Celebrations offers the mosaics in a variety of sizes, starting with the classic

11- by 14-inch all the way up to the 24- by 36-inch poster-size print.

"The mosaic catches more attention at our bridal shows than our 8- by 4-foot banner," Karas said. "It really draws the crowds, and it will do the same at your wedding or hanging on your wall. It's guaranteed to stop people in their tracks."

For more information on Enchanted Celebrations, call 888-268-7420.

- Maria Scandale

and snacks are festive, along with a chance to win prizes for all who stop in. One prize will be given for each age group. Store items are on sale from 20 to 70 percent off the entire day.

**Shell Liqueurs** - To keep the holiday spirit flowing, take 10 percent off a purchase of six or more bottles of wine.

**Shore Heaven** - Specials are heav-

ily all day: men's haircuts are \$10; women's haircuts, \$20; manicures, \$10; petite pedicures, \$20; facial peel, \$10; and get 50 percent off all retail products.

**Surf Unlimited** - Enter for a chance to win 50 percent off a pair of Uggs. Clothing is 20 percent off. Kids who stop in to collect a coin in the Scavenger Hunt will get a free gift. Taste the cheer with free coffee and

Christmas cookies.

**Sweet Jenny's** - Freckles the Clown is here from 3 to 6 p.m. with free face painting and balloon sculpting. All Scavenger Hunt participants can have free hot chocolate or coffee. Customers with coupons from The SandPaper will receive 20 percent off all purchases, including gift certificates.

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