

The Scoop

Happenings from Howell Plaza Shopping Center



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Happy Holidays!

'Tis the season to spend time with family and friends and raise glasses full of holiday cheer. Enjoy it to the fullest!

Drink Festively and Save those Corks!

With the help of **Wine-o-Land's** owner **Sarath Reddy**, we've pulled together a dizzying array of easy DIY upcycling projects for your collection of corks. Give as presents or keep for yourself!

- Reindeer critters and ornaments
- Working truck
- Embroidered necklace
- Refrigerator magnet mini-planters
- Tabletop placeholders
- Projects for kids
- Open-air trivets and coasters

And more!



Sweet Performing Arts Center Opens

Emerging musicians can now rock out at the state-of-the art **Sweet Performing Arts Center**, a new 1,600-square foot facility next door to **Sweet Music Academy**. Students can perform on stage and live their dream in front of a live audience.

The all-star workshops range from Musical Theatre, Acting and Songwriting to Rock, Jazz, String Ensemble, Woodwind, Brass & Percussion Concert Band and Beginner Guitar Classes. Each workshop runs for six weeks, culminating in a performance. For parents and their infants, toddlers and preschoolers, *Music Together*, developed by a Princeton University professor, is a welcome addition.

"These workshops are creative, fun and engaging. Each student has the chance to shine individually and within a group in a welcoming space," says **Jay Sweet**, owner of both Sweet Music Academy and Sweet Performing Arts Center.

Read the entire article at www.HowellPlaza.com/News or call Jay Sweet at (732) 905-9095 to learn more.

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Behind-the-Scenes

with **Edward Licciardi**



Take Steps Now *before* the New Year to Reduce Taxes

Taxes aren't exactly top-of-mind during the holiday season, but with a little strategy in December, next year could be a lot greener.

With a corporate accounting background working for some of the largest corporations in America, **Ed Liccardi**, founder and owner of **Central Jersey Tax Services** has had a thriving tax business since 2000. With over 1,300 current individual and company clients, Ed's goal is to put more money into people's pockets.

"What I love about my job is the surprise and delight that people express when they can get a big check back that they weren't expecting. I encourage my clients to share their successes, goals and what transpired since I've seen them last. Besides the pleasure from simply catching up, sometimes they mention something that could help them tax-wise," explains Ed Liccardi, who also owns the, located next door to his Howell Plaza Shopping Center tax offices.

ED'S TAX TIPS FOR DECEMBER:

- **Prepay next year's bills** –prepay your property taxes and the January estimated state tax payment.
- **Add up your medical bills** – New Jersey allows deductions on anything over 2% of your income.
- **Make a mortgage payment** for 2017 in 2016.
- **Think retirement** – Maximize your 401K contributions by Dec. 31st.
- **Defer your bonus** from December 2016 to January 2017.



For more tips, click on the **Behind-the-Scenes** tab at www.HowellPlaza.com.

*To speak with Ed Liccardi, owner of Central Jersey Tax Services and Farmers Insurance – **Edward Liccardi Agency**, about your tax and/or insurance needs, call (732) 364-9090.*



Wishes for the New Year

Do you have a special wish for 2017? Maybe it's your resolution, a hope for America or the desire for world peace.

Email ideas to submissions@HowellPlaza.com by **December 31st** with your contact information. If we use it on our website, we'll reimburse you up to \$10 on a new purchase made in January at Howell Plaza Shopping Center.