

■ Arts
■ Entertainment

Local Life

■ People
■ Community

Coffee shop creates a buzz!

■ Brothers choose the beans over the grind of corporate life at Newtown Square operation.

NEWTOWN SQUARE — Burlap and Bean, a new family-owned and operated coffee house in Newtown Square that imports and roasts 100 percent fair trade coffee beans on site, is fulfilling a family dream that represents a shift from corporate to coffee culture for the owners.

Brothers and owners Brent and Ben Endicott left their positions as Application Developer and Waterfront Director for Young Life, respectively, to pursue their passion ... coffee. With the support of their wives, the brothers were able to see their vision come to life.

Brent used his skills as Application Developer to compose a robust Web site for the new business, while Ben painstakingly researched coffee importers and their offerings. Christine, Ben's wife, put her marketing background to work in developing the company's graphics and retail line that includes



The Burlap and Bean Coffee shop in 204 South Newtown Street Road in Newtown Square imports fair-trade beans.

Times staff / PETER A. ZINNER

stone coffee mugs, travel mugs, t-shirts and their own line of freshly roasted coffee.

Housemates in Media, the couples have successfully created a second home in their coffee house. The "living room" is inviting with its soft brown leather furniture and burnt orange color scheme, accented by the

warmth and aroma of freshly roasted coffee beverages including cappuccino, espresso, latte and an authentic Italian macchiato.

Burlap and Bean has local newspapers, a community bookshelf and free WIFI that provides free Internet usage for customers with laptop computers.

Classic coffee accompaniments, such as biscotti, muffins and dessert breads are also available, along with live musical entertainment Saturday nights from talented local guitarists, singers and songwriters.

For more information on the coffee shop, visit www.burlapandbean.com.

Dining tidbits

Iron Hill hosting Belgian beer tasting

■ WEST CHESTER — Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant will host another of its Brewers Reserve Tastings at its 3 West Gay St. location on Saturday, Jan. 27 at 4 p.m. The tasting will showcase Belgian-style beers brewed by Iron Hill and other top area breweries. Some of the brewery entries will include Dubbel by Independence, Puckerfish by Flying Fish, Strong Golden Belgian Ale by Yard's George's Fault by Nodding Head and more. Iron Hill's entries will include the Quadfather, the Cannibal, Barrel Aged Imperial Wit, Fe10 and more. For more information, call (610) 738-9600 or visit www.ironhillbrewery.com on the Web.

IHOP serves up all-you-can-eat offer

■ International House of Pancakes stores are bringing back all-you-can-eat pancakes from now until Feb. 18. IHOPs across the country are ringing in 2007 with the offer of their signature golden buttermilk pancakes along with the never-empty coffee pots. The offer is good throughout the day. There are 1,278 IHOP restaurants in the U.S., including one located on Baltimore Pike in Springfield.

Sports stars will shine at PSWA banquet

■ The Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill will host the 103rd annual Philadelphia Sports Writers Association banquet Jan. 22. The PSWA will honor the home run champ Ryan Howard of the Phillies, Phils catcher Chris Coste, basketball great Ernie Beck and West Virginia University football running back Steve Slaton among many others, including the late Danny Murtaugh of Chester, who managed the Pittsburgh Pirates to two world championships. The dais includes dozens of sports celebrities with the festivities emceed by Harry Kalas. The banquet is open to the public and tickets are \$75 and are available by calling ticket manager Robbie Kenney at (609) 702-7473.

Neumann chorale group sign-ups

ASTON — The Neumann College Concert Chorale welcomes new members to join the group. Registration for the spring schedule of rehearsals and performances is tonight from 7-9 in the Fred P. Meagher Theatre on the College campus in Aston.

New members who are unable to attend the formal registration can still join the group by calling 610-361-5428 before Jan. 24.

The Concert Chorale performs classical, sacred and spiritual music under the direction of coloratura soprano Yukiko Ishida, DMA. A professor and vocal performer with international experience, Dr. Ishida teaches voice at Neumann. She is also soloist, music director and minister of music at Union Methodist Church in Havertown.

Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m., and a spring concert is scheduled for April 27 at 8 p.m. at Neumann.

The fee for participation in the Concert Chorale is \$40. Senior citizens can join for \$35. For more information about the group, call 610-361-5428.

The Concert Chorale is one of nine groups that make up the Arts Guild at Neumann College. Other groups include Center Stage Productions, the College Art Gallery, the College Jazz Band, the College Theater Ensemble, the Cultural Arts Forum, the Delaware County Symphony, International Ballet Classique, and Stages of Imagination Children's Theater.

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