

Family: Nurture Nature Center to celebrate building's 100th anniversary

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The Science on a Sphere program, one of 100 in the world, is a 6-foot suspended globe with visualizations of Earth and space at the Nurture Nature Center in Easton. The center celebrates the 100th anniversary of its historic building on Saturday. (MORNING CALL FILE PHOTO)

The Nurture Nature Center will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its building this weekend with free family activities.

The center, at 518 Northampton St. in Easton, is a community center that teaches families about science and the environment. Saturday's activities begin at 10 a.m. and include a garden workshop 11 a.m.-noon; a geology Science on a Sphere show 1:30-2:30 p.m. and an "Easton Rocks! Creation Station" 2:45-3:45 p.m., where kids can break open geodes, make rock rubbings and learn about Eastonite, a mineral discovered in Easton.

The Science on a Sphere program, one of 100 in the world, is a 6-foot suspended globe with visualizations of Earth and space. The animated globe displays high-resolution video about the Earth and planetary science. It was installed in Easton in 2010 with a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The Nurture Nature Center is on the second and third floors of a beautifully renovated, 30,000-square-foot building, which was originally built and opened to the public in 1915. The building was once the home of one of Easton's first movie theaters, The Strand Theatre.

On Sunday, the center will pay homage to the Strand with a silent movie matinee 2-4 p.m. with popcorn, light refreshments and a guest appearance from an actor portraying Charlie Chaplin.

The center is open 6-9 p.m. Thursdays. Info: 610-253-4432 or www.nurturenaturecenter.org.

Santa arrives

You know Christmas is on the horizon when the Santa Claus spottings start. **Lehigh Valley Mall** was the first of the area malls to welcome Old Saint Nick, who arrived last weekend on a Whitehall Township fire truck and turned the lights on the indoor tree. He can be found in his workshop at the mall through Christmas. Other malls are gearing up to welcome the man in red.

Santa will arrive at **Phillipsburg Mall** in New Jersey at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 22 and will be accompanied by a dancing ballerina and toy soldier. Until 12:15

p.m., kids can get free face painting, see a comedy magic act, and have balloon animals made. From 12:15-1 p.m., kids can listen to author Jannie Pilgrim read from her "Prince Garrett" series, which follows the young prince and his faithful dog Zeus as they explore their world. Following the book reading, kids can make their own superhero capes.

Kids can join a parade to welcome Santa Claus to **South Mall** in Salisbury Township at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 28, where he will take up residence in the center court through Christmas.

That same day, help welcome Santa to the gazebo at the town square of **The Promenade Shops at Saucon Valley**. There will be live holiday music beginning at 5:30 p.m. Santa Claus arrives at 6 p.m. to help light the tree, and meet families after the tree is lit.

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