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THE EASTSIDE'S MAGAZINE

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WINTER TRUFFLE EXPERIENCE AT CEDARBROOK LODGE

Cedarbrook Lodge offers an immersive Northwest truffle experience on Dec. 16. Meet truffle dogs LoLo and Ruby (and their owner, Alana McGee) while tasting locally foraged white and black truffles, followed by a five-course seasonal tasting menu prepared by Copperleaf Restaurant executive chef Mark Bodinet. The truffle-centric menu is paired with wines from Washington, France, and Italy. \$250 per person. Call 206.214.4282 for reservations.



MODERNIST BREAD

Degrees and professional accomplishments aside, Nathan Myhrvold never seems to tire of asking, "Why?" His latest project at Modernist Cuisine focuses on the foundation of Western civilization – bread. Written in conjunction with chef, author, and chocolatier Francisco Migoya, *Modernist Bread* examines every factor of bread-making, from water to wood-fired ovens, with absurd-sounding tidbits such as the belly buttons on yeast.



Holiday Pears

Oregon's Rogue Valley grows some of the best Comice pears in the United States, thanks to intensely warm days followed by cool nights. Third-generation farmer Ron Meyer of Meyer's Orchards has shared his prize pears with Metropolitan Market since the Holiday Pear program began. Comice pears are blissfully sweet and creamy, pairing perfectly with thinly shaved ribbons of Beemster Aged Gouda and prosciutto for a sweet-savory treat. For a festive dessert, top pears with vanilla ice cream and Woodinville Whiskey's Barrel-Aged Maple Syrup. Kick up a mundane cheese sandwich by using salty Fontina Val d'Aosta, slices of pear, and caramelized onions.

Handling: Delicate and sweet, the holiday pear bruises easily. Once home, check the neck to determine whether it's ready to eat. Gently press the area near the stem, looking for a little softness. Pears will keep five days in the fridge once ripe, so it's ready to eat when you are.

BOTTOM LEFT: PHOTO COURTESY THE COOKING LAB, LLC

Dec. 9

PORCELAIN ADORNMENT WORKSHOP

Still looking for that perfect gift? Attend the city of Bellevue's porcelain workshop between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to create up to two projects. The cost is \$45 for Bellevue residents, and all materials will be provided. Register by email at NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or by phone at 425.452.4106. parks.bellevuewa.gov

Dec. 10

BRUNCH WITH SANTA AND REINDEER

Santa is checking his list twice, but first he and the reindeer are making a pit stop at The Club at Snoqualmie Ridge. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. your kiddo can enjoy brunch with the big guy, himself. Call The Club at Snoqualmie at 425.396.6000 to make a reservation. clubatsnoqualmieridge.com

Dec. 10

THE ELVES AND THE TOYMAKERS

Oh no! It's Christmas morning and the toys for the children of the world have disappeared, how will the elves save the day? This magical musical from StoryBook Theater debuts at the Kirkland

Performance Center at 11 a.m. with additional performances on Dec. 10, 16-17, and 19. Consult KPC online for times and tickets. kpccenter.org

Dec. 10

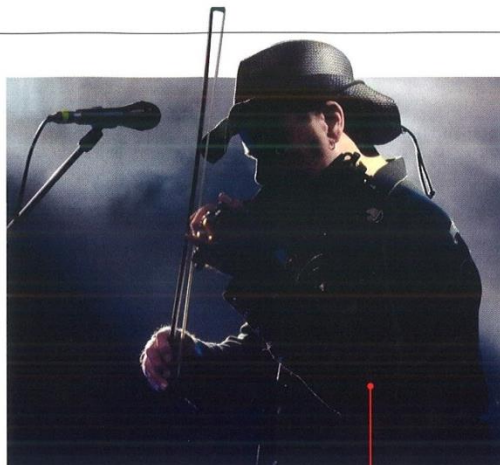
RENTON CITY CONCERT BAND

Beginning at 2 p.m., gather at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center to enjoy the sounds of the season courtesy of the 65-member Renton School District band. Admission can be purchased at the door, \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors. For more information call 425.430.6700. rentonschools.us

Dec. 16

WINTER TRUFFLE EXPERIENCE

Whether you are a truffle aficionado or a complete novice eager to learn more, you'll love this tasty event at Cedarbrook Lodge. Starting at 6 p.m. join Alana McGee of Truffle Dog Company, along with her truffle hunting pups, LoLo and Ruby for tasty hors d'oeuvres, wine tastings, and talks about all things truffles. This will be followed by a five-course meal prepared with truffles in the Copperleaf Restaurant.



Dec. 22

GEOFFREY CASTLE'S CELTIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Join the Seattle Irish Dance Company, members of the Seattle Opera, The Celtic Night Band, drummer Alan White and guest bagpiper Neil Hubbard for a night of celebration. This 10th annual event not only celebrates the holiday season, but the character and culture of Celtic music. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased online. kpccenter.org

Dec. 23-24

WINTER CAMPING TRIP

Join Miyar Adventures on an overnight snowshoeing trip in the mountains. Participants will enjoy hot chocolate, snowball fights, breakfast and dinner, guide services, and, of course, a winter wonderland. Participation in this two-day getaway costs \$375, which includes all permits and fees, stoves and cook kits, tents, and an informative class on how to pack gear for overnight trips. miyaradventures.com

Through Dec. 25

VISIT WITH REINDEER

Country Village Shops in Bothell will play host to two



TOP RIGHT COURTESY KAREN LAWRENCE; BOTTOM PHOTO BY JOANNA KRESSE