



Rina Mackler creates customized chandeliers for clients--many put them in children's bedrooms where they are designed to accent the decor. Mackler finds these one-of-a-kind works of art in many different places and turns them into works of decorative art.

## They're not your grandma's chandelier

By SUSAN DECOTEAU-FERRIER

Having spent the better part of nine months preparing for the arrival of your bundle of joy, you begin planning the décor of the nursery. You are going to need pastel paint, soft blankets, squishy toys, a sturdy crib, a rocking chair for mother and child and a chandelier. Yes, that's right, a chandelier.

The last thing most people expect to see hanging from the ceiling in a newborn's nursery is a chunky gold, crystal encrusted light fixture. However, these chandeliers are anything but what hung over grandma's dining room table. As Rina

Mackler, chandelier designer and owner of Simply Vintage, puts it, "Simply Vintage Chandeliers is a process of taking what was deemed worthless, seeing the potential in it, and making it both functional and beautiful, to be prominently displayed and admired in your home."

Picking up chandeliers found at garage sales, flea markets and antiques shops, Mackler redesigns these tarnished treasures into unique works of art. Her designs for children's rooms are typically smaller 3-arm or 5-arm chandeliers painted white, off-white, yellow or pink creating a feminine look. She has however made chandeliers for

little boys' rooms too.

Children's rooms are only one place Mackler's clients are using her designs. They are showing up in every room in the house: bedrooms, bathrooms, foyers and even kitchens. Recently, Mackler sold two identical chandeliers to a woman who had them installed above a large kitchen island. "My chandeliers are remarkably versatile, and are really a type of 'LightArt' to be prominently displayed and admired like a sculpture or painting," said the designer.

Paying particular attention to scale and detail, Mackler uses lead crystals, Italian bisque and

porcelain roses, vintage beads and pearls to create these one-of-a-kind works of art. Recognizing her chandeliers needed a little something extra to give them the finishing touch, Mackler enlisted her close friend Susan Fader to design custom shades for the lighting fixtures. "The combination proved to be the right mix," said Mackler.

*Simply Vintage Chandeliers are available exclusively through Artistic Hardware in Northfield and Kidrageous Children's Boutique in Margate. You can call Mackler at 822-6346 or e-mail her at rinamackler@comcast.net.*

## Religion Briefs

### Greentree's holiday presentation set

Greentree Church, 125 Schoolhouse Road in Egg Harbor Township, will hold performances of "Let Heaven and Nature Sing" 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5, 6 and 7.

A live orchestra and choir will accompany a computerized light show featuring images of the Christmas story.

Greentree Church is a non-denominational church. Call Maureen Richard at 927-3838 for more information.

### Festival of Advent Lessons, Carols

The Historic Church of the Ascension, Kentucky and Pacific avenues in Atlantic City, will present its 14th annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

The traditional English cathedral service program features biblical readings, cho-

ral anthems and carols of the Advent Season of the Church Year. Invited clergy and their congregations of the Atlantic City area will be participating.

Parking is available on Kentucky Avenue and local parking lots. For information call 345-7686.

### National Night of Prayer for Life

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Wabash Avenue and Poplar avenues in Linwood, will host the 14th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life during the Feast of the Immaculate Conception from 7 to 11 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8 in the church.

All are welcome to come any time or remain for the full vigil. Benediction will be at 10:30 p.m.

The event unites parishes across the country in an effort to end abortion through Eucharistic adoration and prayers of reparation.

### Gardens, Nemours Mansion trip

Temple Emeth Shalom, 8501 Ventnor Ave. in Margate, will sponsor a trip to the Nemours Mansion, the home of Alfred I. duPont, in Wilmington, Del. on Thursday, Dec. 11.

The trip includes dinner at the Longwood Gardens cafeteria.

Cost is \$60. Bus leaves the temple at 12:15 p.m., returning at 10:30 p.m.

For additional information, call Carol Meyerowitz at 822-3940, or the temple office at 822-4343.

### Our Lady of Guadalupe event

A special Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration will be held 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at Saint Peter Roman Catholic Church, 25 West Verona Blvd. (the Black Horse Pike, Route 40/322), Pleasantville. A \$2 donation is requested

for the fiesta; children under 12 free.

### Welcome New Year at Emeth Shalom

Temple Emeth Shalom, 8501 Ventnor Ave. in Margate, will hold a gala New Year's Eve party at 9 p.m. Dec. 31.

There will be fun, food, music and dancing. Cost is \$35 per person, open to congregants and guests. Casual attire.

For additional information, call the temple office at 822-4343 or Sue Cohen at 822-5554.

### Tot Shabbat at Beth Israel

Congregation Beth Israel, 2501 Shore Road in Northfield, is holding Tot Shabbat Services on the fourth Friday of each month.

Designed for young children, the rabbi and cantor will lead the service as the children fully participate in and learn the meaning of the Shabbat.

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