

Essex County Kip's Castle Park

22 Crestmont Road, Verona
973.433.7469/www.essexcountynj.org

Come home for the holidays and see Kip's Castle decorated circa 1928. The dining room is set for a holiday feast and the parlor is festooned with greenery and ribbons. **Admission is free. Open Saturday & Sunday: 12pm-4pm.**

Essex County Presby Memorial Iris Gardens

474 Upper Mountain Avenue, Upper Montclair
973.783.5974/www.presbyirisgardens.org

Built in 1865, the house was the residence of Mrs. Barbara Walther, a longtime caretaker of the gardens. Shop at the fabulous Bloom Room for inexpensive holiday gifts. Hot apple cider and cookies will be served. There will be a piano player, light jazz & Christmas carols both days from 1pm-3pm. Large groups should call ahead for reservations. Bloom Room will be open. **Admission is free. Open Saturday & Sunday: 12pm-3pm.**

Van Tassel Funeral Home

337 Belleville Avenue, Bloomfield
973.743.1234/www.vantasselfuneralhome.com

The oldest funeral home in Bloomfield built in 1850 and has been serving the community since 1883 and has provided services for over 20,000 families. Historic building with old pictures, stained glass, and artifacts. Listen to Christmas music while admiring the decorations. Take pictures with Santa Clause and Mrs. Santa. Free gift for each visitor. Decorate an ornament in memory of your loved ones for the Memorial Tree. **Admission is free. Open Saturday: 12pm-4pm.**



The County of Essex is rich in history and architecture. Take a break from the hustle and bustle this December and visit historic homes that have decked the halls in holiday extravagance for one spectacular weekend. Tour historic Essex with your friends and family and delight in the elegance of the season.

Joseph DiVincenzo, Jr.

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.
Essex County Executive
and the Board of County Commissioners

The Essex County Historic Holiday House Tour is organized by the Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs and is supported by an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.
For more information, please call 973.433.7469.

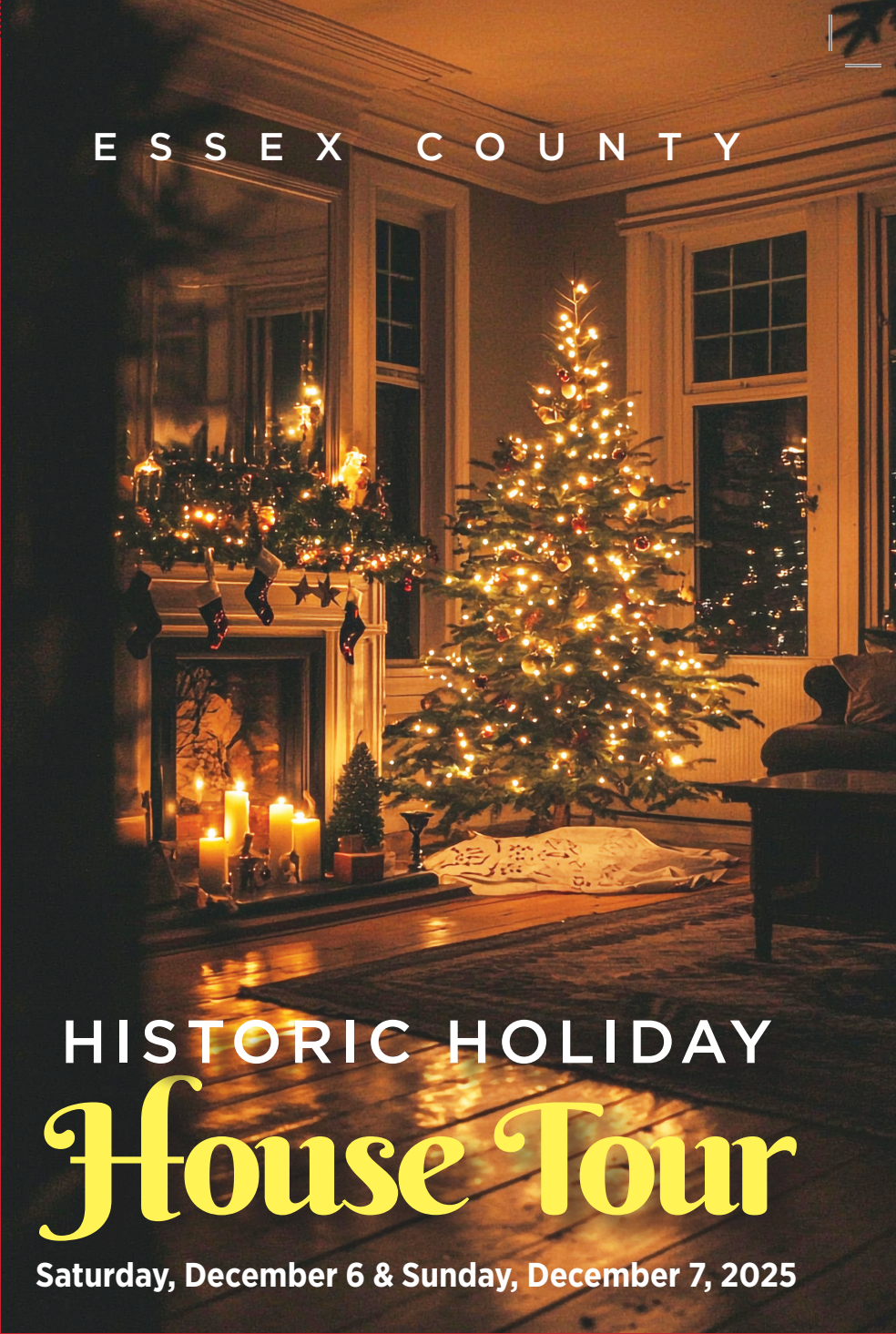


COUNTY OF ESSEX
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
RECREATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
155 Prospect Avenue, Suite 100
West Orange, NJ 07052
973.268.3500 / essexcountyparks.org



PUTTING **ESSEX COUNTY** FIRST

E S S E X C O U N T Y



HISTORIC HOLIDAY
House Tour

Saturday, December 6 & Sunday, December 7, 2025



Hosted by **JOSEPH N. DIVINCENZO, JR.,**
Essex County Executive
The Board of County Commissioners And the
Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs

ESSEX COUNTY HISTORIC HOLIDAY House Tour

The Newark Museum of Art – The Ballantine House

49 Washington Street, Newark

973.596.6550/www.newarkmuseumart.org

Visit The Ballantine House, an 1885 beer-brewing family's home, and experience it decorated to celebrate late-19th-century Christmas and winter holidays. Visitors can explore the House at their own pace. **Open Saturday & Sunday: 10am-5pm.**

Blanchard Estate

100 Blanchard Road, South Orange

973.803.9390/yvonne@patterson-foundation.org

The Blanchard Estate was built by William L. Blanchard in 1924 and is celebrating its 100th year anniversary this year. The property historically was known for its brilliant Christmas lights, displayed each year as a seasonal and scenic attraction. Some of the lights that frame the mansion are still in good working condition. The mansion's 100-year history is equally intriguing; its stately rooms tell a story, and it has a part in community folklore as a speakeasy during the bygone era of Prohibition. Reservations are encouraged for the tour. Parking is not available at the estate. Guests will be shuttled from a local parking area. For more information, reservations and details, email info@pattersonfoundation.org or text to 973-803-9390. **Admission \$20 per adult; free for children and students. Open Saturday & Sunday: 11am-4pm.**

Montclair History Center Property

Crane House & Historic YWCA Museum

108 Orange Road, Montclair

973.744.1796/www.montclairhistory.org

In 2020, USA Today readers ranked the Crane House & Historic YWCA Museum's Holiday House Tour #4 in the nation and now's your chance to be among the first to see this year's stunning display! As part of the Essex County Holiday House Tour, explore the beautifully decorated 229-year-old home with festive period décor designed by the Garden Club of Montclair. While you're here, cozy up by the hearth fire and discover the flavors and traditions of holidays past. Don't forget to stop by the Nathaniel Crane House for one-of-a-kind holiday gifts! **\$5 per person, children under 12 free. Open Saturday & Sunday: 12pm-3pm.**

Historic homes throughout Essex will open their doors in unison for one spectacular weekend. Each will be dressed for the holiday season while offering entertainment, refreshments, or educational information. Fees and times vary.



Clockwise from top left: Kingsland Manor in Nutley, Glenmont at Thomas Edison National Historical Park in West Orange, Kip's Castle in Montclair/Verona, Ballantine House at the Newark Museum in Newark, Van Tassel Funeral Home in Bloomfield and Grover Cleveland's Birthplace in Caldwell.

Glenmont at Thomas Edison National Historical Park

211 Main Street, West Orange

973.736.0550

The Thomas Edison National Historical Park preserves Thomas Edison's laboratory and residence, Glenmont, in West Orange. It was designed in 1887, by architect Henry Hudson Holly. The Edison laboratories operated for more than 40 years. **Admission is \$15 per person and free for children under 16. Open Saturday & Sunday: 10am-4pm. Call for reservations.**

Grover Cleveland Birthplace

207 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell

973.226.0001/visitgcb@dep.nj.gov

This site houses the most complete collection of Grover Cleveland artifacts in the nation; including the president's cradle, White House chair, clothing and fishing gear, among many others. Explore the world of Grover Cleveland's youth from the 1830s-1850s on the 2.5 acre grounds, in the kitchen, rear parlor and birth room. Two galleries reveal the raucous atmosphere of politics in Cleveland's public life and career in the height of the Victorian era. **Admission is free. Open Saturday & Sunday. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead for site hours.**

Kingsland Manor

3 Kingsland Street, Nutley

973.661.3410/www.kingslandmanor.org

The 1700's brownstone Dutch colonial home is steeped in history and beautifully decorated for the 2025 holiday season. Come explore the historic homestead of the Kingsland family and beyond, set within park-like grounds overlooking a pond and waterfalls. Enjoy viewing our extensive collection of Nutcrackers and special Colonial decor commemorating America's upcoming 250th anniversary next year. **Admission is free. Donations are gratefully appreciated. Open Saturday & Sunday: 1pm-4pm.**

