

[Trails to Treasures attracts hundreds](#)



Written by P.J. DeGenaro
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The sky was blue and the air was mild on the morning of May 6, and a light breeze stirred the lilac blossoms. It seemed as though Mother Nature herself was working hard to ensure the success of the Junior League of Bronxville's (JLB) Trails to Treasures Home Tour and Trunk Show.

First launched in 2002, Trails to Treasures came back to Bronxville this year after a two-year hiatus. Brunch, strolling, and shopping for a good cause were all on the day's agenda, as proceeds from this popular fundraising event will support the JLB's mission to alleviate hunger, improve nutrition, and assist needy children and families in communities throughout southern Westchester. For this year's tour, six Bronxville families opened their homes to 50 vendors and 300 attendees.



Trails to Treasures kicked off at the Bronxville Field Club at 9 a.m., with a welcome reception and a buffet breakfast. At check-in, each participant received a tote bag just the right size for shopping, and pre-loaded with goodies courtesy of local businesses that sponsored the event.

In the midst of the lively breakfast crowd, JLB member Noel Moschetta sold a selection of the perennially popular Junior League cookbooks. Along with the JLB's "Beyond One Square Mile," books of regional recipes were available from as far afield as Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oregon.

After breakfast, participants armed with maps and tour programs set out for the main event.

The six homes on the tour, all colonials built between 1898 and 1929, contained an eclectic mix of professional decorators' sensibilities and the homeowners' own choices. Participants caught glimpses of treasured heirlooms, personal photos, and children's toys, as well as the sight of the May sunshine filtering into both large rooms and intimate spaces. One home even featured what its owner calls "a somewhat inadequate bomb shelter" dating from the early 1960s.



Serious shoppers were not disappointed. Vendors from Westchester, Greenwich, New York City, and beyond used the participating homes as backdrops for racks of beautiful designer clothing and accessories. Luxurious sweaters, cashmere wraps, and bright, filmy scarves made popular Mother's Day gifts. Dining room tables and kitchen tables overflowed with handbags, artistic dishware, pottery, and gourmet foods. Jewelry was available in abundance, and ran the gamut from classically understated to big, bold, and colorful.

The tour took place between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Those who joined in could indulge in a five-hour shopping trip without an ounce of guilt, secure in the knowledge that the money they spent would be used to care for the neediest among us.

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The JLB uses proceeds from Trails to Treasures and other events to provide healthy groceries to children from food-insecure households through its weekly Backpack Buddies program, which received the Hunger Heroes Donor Award from the Food Bank for Westchester last year. The food is distributed in several child-care centers in Yonkers.



JLB members serve meals and hold food and clothing drives at Mount Vernon's CSA soup kitchen. In addition, the JLB also facilitates Heartstars, a play group for siblings of children with special needs, and provides companionship and enrichment activities for senior citizens at Mount Vernon's Wartburg Adult Care Community. As members of the New York State Public Affairs Committee, the JLB advocates for healthier food in school vending machines throughout New York State.

For more information about the Junior League of Bronxville, call (914) 793-5097 or visit www.jlbronxville.org.

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