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JANUARY 23, 2013

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Gun license requests leap

By BERNIE O'HARE
 TYLER MARTIN
 and CHRIS PARKER
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

In his Jan. 10 report to Northampton County Council, Executive John Stoffa described a disturbing increase in the number of gun permits, also known as licenses to carry firearms, issued in 2012. Stoffa told council that 4,627 gun permits were issued in 2012, a 70 percent increase over 2011.

A new daily record – 87 permits in one day – has also been set.

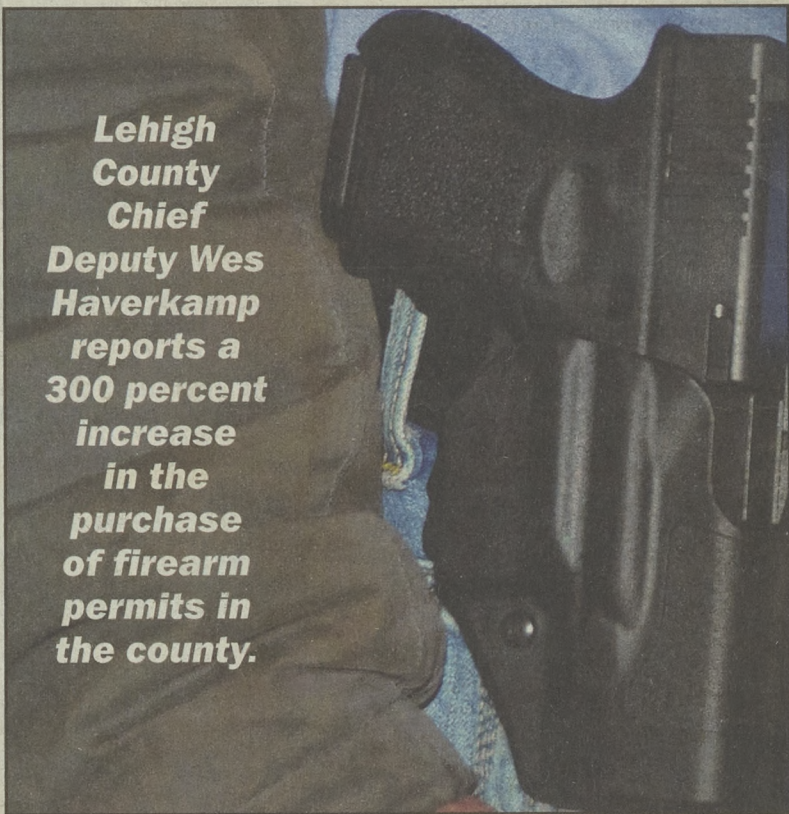
When someone applies for a gun permit, the sheriff only has 45 days to conduct a background check. Sheriff Randy Miller is using two full-time civilians, two full-time deputies and one part-timer to keep up with the applications.

Miller told council that the county can only charge \$20 for a gun permit, which has a five-year life. Stoffa pointed out that a dog license is more expensive.

Doing the math, it cost Northampton County approximately \$250,000, in salaries and benefits, to pay for the cost of processing this mandated service, from which the county brought in \$92,540.

Lehigh County
 County Chief Deputy Wes Haverkamp said there has been a 300 percent increase in the purchase of firearm permits in Lehigh County.

He said the increase in



Lehigh County Chief Deputy Wes Haverkamp reports a 300 percent increase in the purchase of firearm permits in the county.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As the numbers of gun sales go up, the numbers of carry permits is also rising. According to Pennsylvania State Police, permit applications increased by 64.3 percent from 86,706 to 142,477 between 2000 and 2010. In 2011, 167,656 carry permits were issued. By Dec. 20, 2012, PICS had logged 258,684 carry permit applications.

demand for permits has slowed the sheriff office's computer system dramatically. Haverkamp said it used to take a couple of seconds to get into the licensing computer system, but it now takes up to a half-hour.

"We have boxes of them (permit requests), it is the same way across the state," Haverkamp said. "We are having the same situation with the purchase of firearms in Pennsylvania as well."

In addition to the \$20 fee, a license applicant needs two references who live in that issuing county. Applying for a LTCF must be done in person and a valid state-issued ID is required.

Around the state

Gun sales in Pennsylvania appear to be surging in the wake of the Dec. 14 mass shooting at a Newtown, Conn., elementary school, and ahead of proposed laws that would restrict firearm ownership.

Sales are so brisk the Pennsylvania Instant Checks System, the electronic unit that does background checks, has slowed because of the volume of requests.

The spike in gun sales was clear in the days following the shootings at Sandy Hook ES, in which 20 children and six adults were killed. On Friday, Dec. 14, the day of the shootings, the PICS unit handled 4,338 requests for clearance to transfer ownership of firearms. Six days later, the requests were up to 6,081 a day, according to Pennsylvania state police.

Requests for carry permits also rose, from 1,174 to 1,460 for the same time period.

"From December 1-20, the PICS unit handled 89,178 requests," said Trooper Adam Reed, coordinator of the Public Information Office for the Pa. State Police. "These requests are for both license to carry requests as well as firearm transfer requests. Specifically, 66,486 of

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BIDEN PROPOSALS

State, local leaders respond

By NATE JASTRZEMSKI
 njastrzemi@tnonline.com

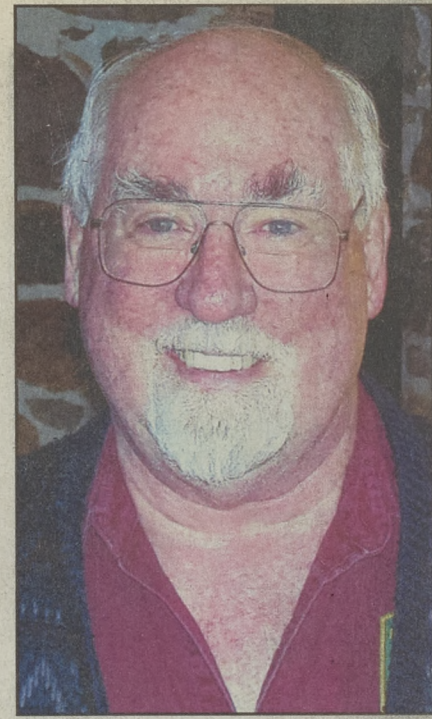
President Barack Obama's gun control proposals announced last week garnered support and ambivalence from a number of local officials, but little outright argument.

Those proposals, compiled mostly by Vice President Joe Biden, include the reinstatement of a Clinton-era military-grade weapons ban, limit magazine sizes and institute nationwide background checks for gun purchasers.

Senators Bob Casey and Pat Toomey each released statements showing at least some solidarity with the president's cause without promising full support.

"While I want to closely examine the executive and legislative proposals set forth by the president, they include some very positive and reasonable steps to address the problem," said Casey. "I continue to be a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, and believe

See BIDEN on Page A4



Hellertown sportsman Mike Topping

It's really a 'violence problem'

A local sportsman's view on gun control

By BERNIE O'HARE
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

Mike Topping should be either a sportsman or environmentalist. He lives at the far end of Saucon Park, surrounded by a sea of green, even at the height of winter. As it would turn out, he is both. He is chairman of Northampton County's Open Space Committee and the president of the county's Federation of Sportsmen, which consists of 17 clubs and more than 7,000 members. His opinions are his own. He warns 7,000 sportsmen will have 14,000 opinions. In a wide-ranging interview over good coffee at his

Saucon Park home, he spoke about the Second Amendment and the need for gun control.

Second Amendment

According to Topping, the Second Amendment is the foundation of all of our individual freedoms. "They can all be set aside if we don't have the power to forcibly resist a government action we feel is wrong and illegal," he said. As an example, he noted that the KKK would avoid the home of someone who possessed a shotgun.

Assault rifles

Topping is also mystified by the clamor to ban assault rifles, i.e., semi-automatics. Those are rifles that will fire when the

trigger is pulled without pumping or reloading. He points out that real assault rifles, i.e. fully automatic guns, are already illegal.

He also noted that it is illegal to use a semi-automatic rifle for hunting in Pennsylvania. They may only be used for target practice and personal protection.

"There's a certain amount of Madison Avenue behind these assault rifles," Topping states. "But if you take the mechanics out and put them into a nice wooden stalk, it will look more like a hunting rifle."

See LOCAL on Page A4

Local lawyer to debut second play



By NATE JASTRZEMSKI
 njastrzemi@tnonline.com

He's a quiet presence at local board and council meetings. He's unassuming and stoic, with trademark short gray hair, glasses and a sweater-vest acting as a sort of corporate-casual camouflage.

When he does speak, it's to answer concisely and crisply, with additional considerations bulleted for quick reference in archived meeting minutes.

Lawrence B. Fox is a lawyer. Fox is also a comedy author and playwright, and he's now producing his second play, which will run for six days at the Shawnee Playhouse next month. Titled "The Obituary I'm Dying to Write," the two-act play follows a group of elderly county home residents relaying anecdotes from their lives as they

compose their own amusing and touching obituaries.

Fox says the characters and the tales they spin are based on true stories he's heard and been compelled to share.

Born and raised in Bethlehem, Fox is a Muhlenberg College graduate and served in the Coast Guard reserves. He's worked as an assistant public defender but found municipal government law more fulfilling. And of course, he's finding a passion for writing beyond legal documents.

Fox described legal documents as annotated timelines, which are important but unappealing for general reading. "All you're doing is rehashing history to see if it conforms with some statute," he said. Writing books is different. "In those situations, I'm permitted to draft something in a humorous manner ... that reflects my point," which he described as

containing both humor and examples of human failings.

On the stage, he said, what's said should be an interesting conversation, and it seems he's an adept craftsman in the art.

His first play, "There's No Justice – Just Court Costs" was picked up by the Pennsylvania Playhouse in 2009 and later the Midland, Texas Community Theater, where it won the 2010 McLaren Memorial Comedy Playwriting Competition.

Fox described getting his plays produced as a feeling like no other. "You can fall in love, you can solo in an airplane, you can be lead counsel in a homicide trial. There's no high, nothing that equates, to sitting in a darkened theater surrounded by an audience that is reacting to your words. Nothing reaches that level. It is overwhelming. It's enough to

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BETHLEHEM PRESS

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 15

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In light of the President's announcement last week, what do you think has to be done to stop mass shootings in the United States?

"I think mental health services need to be more accessible and covered in health plans, and that more in-depth background checks are needed in order to buy a gun."



Stephanie Faerber
Bethlehem

"I think I agree with the president. I think there should be tougher gun laws and more security in our schools."



Jodi DeLeonardo Whitehall

"It's a very complex issue that I don't know can be summed up in a few sentences. But, absolutely something needs to be done."



Nathan Linder
Bethlehem

"I don't think that the Second Amendment should be restricted to solve the problem. Criminals don't obey the laws anyway."



Rachel Rue
Bethlehem

"I don't think gun control is the answer and we need to do more than that. We need to address preventive mental healthcare. But, I also don't think people need semi-automatic weapons, and I could go along limiting the magazine size. We need to address other issues with violence that are idealized in media such as video games and movies."

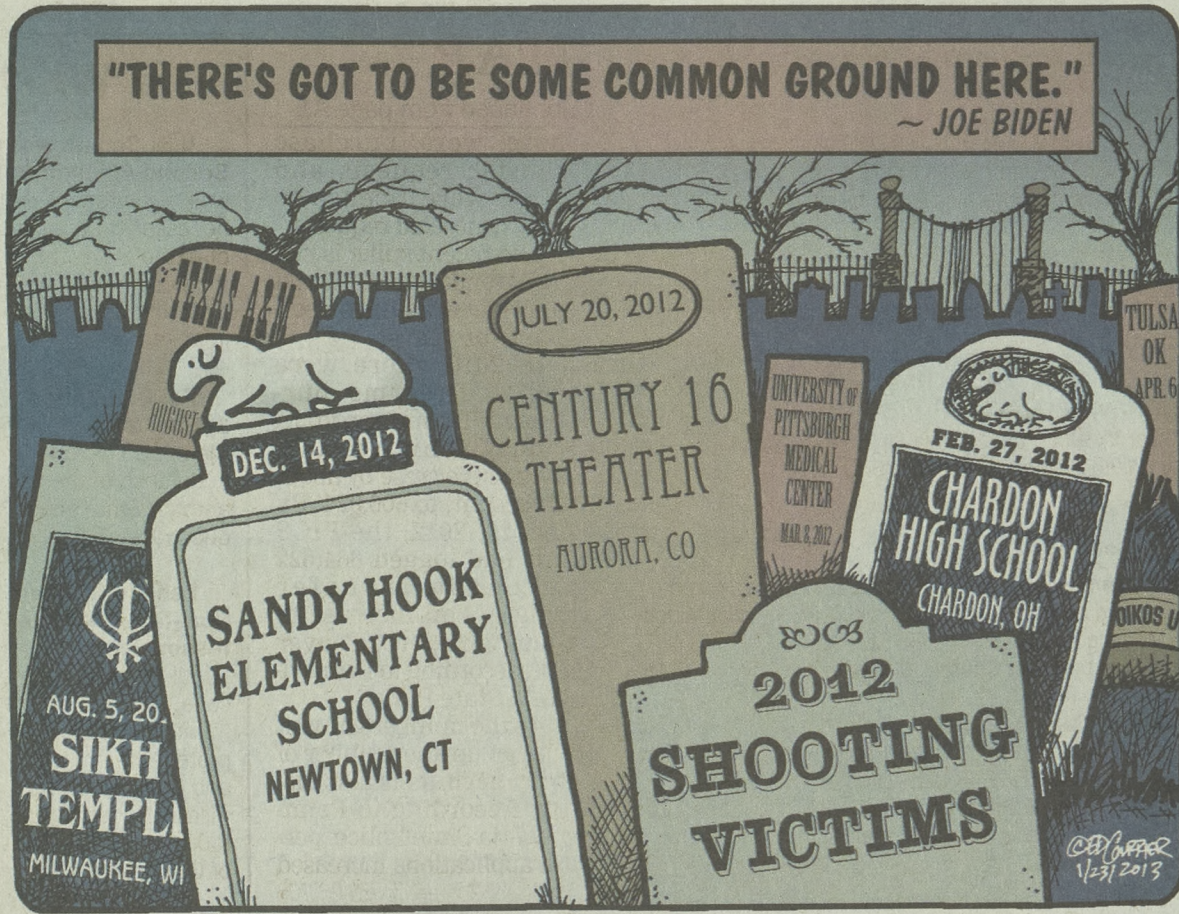


Mona Groman
Catasauqua

"Not controlling guns. The guns don't do the killing. Make sure that the healthcare system is improved through mental health, and make sure that people who aren't mentally stable don't get taught how to use guns. As far as schools, I think there should be a weapon secured in the schools that is not accessible to the children, but that specific staff within a school are trained to use."



Shan Smerdon
Bethlehem



PLAY

Continued from page A1
make you want to continue to write plays." Fox is proud and thankful to the local theater community, especially Ralph

Montesano, Pa. Playhouse president, who gave the untitled playwright his first opportunity. In return, Fox works as a nonprofit - all box office profits are

retained by the playhouses to maintain operations. "The Obituary I'm Dying to Write" plays at the Shawnee Playhouse Feb. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10. Visit

TheShawneePlayhouse.com, or contact Fox directly at LB.Fox@LB.FoxLaw.com for more information.

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BRIEFLY

BHA Berrios Award winner named

Gloria Mitchell has been named Bethlehem Housing Authority's 12th annual Josefina Berrios Award recipient. The 90 year-old has been and continues to be a key volunteer at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Bethlehem.

The honor is given to a public housing resident who demonstrates the spirit of community involvement through volunteer efforts. The public is invited to attend the award ceremony at 10 a.m. Jan. 28 in the Fred B. Rooney community room, Monocacy Tower, 645 Main St.

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Here are tips from the IRS covering qualified charity donations:

• **Contribute to Qualified Charities.** If you plan to take an itemized charitable deduction on your 2013 tax return, your donation must go to a qualified charity by Dec. 31. Ask the charity about its tax-exempt status. You can also visit IRS.gov and use the Exempt Organizations Select Check tool to check if your favorite charity is a qualified charity. Donations charged to a credit card by Dec. 31 are deductible for 2013, even if you pay the bill in 2014. A gift by check also counts for 2013, as long as you mail it in December. Gifts given to individuals, whether to friends, family or strangers, are not deductible.

• **What You Can Deduct.** You generally can deduct your cash contributions and the fair market value of most property you donate to a qualified charity. Special rules apply to several types of donated property, including clothing or household items, cars and boats.

• **Keep Records of All Donations.** You must have a written record of all cash contributions to claim a deduction. This may include a cancelled check, bank or credit card statement or payroll deduction record. You can also ask the charity for a written statement.

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Sojourner Truth

Most of us have heard of Sojourner Truth, the black woman living in the 1800's, whose real name was Isabella Baumfree. She named herself Sojourner Truth after having a life-changing experience with God following years of being abused as a slave. It was that life-changing experience that gave her the courage to seek **truth** and **justice** for black women in America's courtrooms. She became a sought-after speaker in her day. Some accounts say she was often hissed at and mocked during her speeches. Of course, anyone who speaks **truth** will elicit that type of rude behavior from his/her antagonists. She was only here for a time (she understood that, hence the name "Sojourner" which means a person who is on a brief visit, or in a place temporarily). But she left her carbon print...one who passed through the elements of time seeking **truth**. What a name to identify with! We are all sojourners on this great planet. Hopefully, in our journey we will come to love and demand **truth** since it is **Truth** that frees the soul and the body. Jesus said, "I am the way, the **truth**, and the life..." And so He is. --Submitted by pastor's sister-in-law, Grace Lundmark

Interestingly when Jesus, "the **truth**," told the Jews, "And ye shall know the **truth**, and the **truth** shall make you free" (John 8:32), they ignored His references to Himself as "the **truth**" and denied their bondage. "We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?" Christ's answer, "Whosoever committeth sin is the **servant of sin**" exposed their need of salvation (as is true of all mankind) and led to the proclamation of Himself as Savior and Liberator Who alone, as the Son of God, can grant forgiveness of sin and freedom from its bondage. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

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Thursday, January 24

Dr. Helen B. Leonetti, M.D., "How to Achieve Vibrant Health in 2013 and Beyond," 6:30 p.m. United Steelworkers Hall, 53 E. Lehigh St.

Michelle Norris, host of NPR's "All Things Considered," Lehigh University's Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation, 4:30 p.m. in Packard Auditorium on the Lehigh campus.

Saturday, January 26

Opera Workshop performs, Moravian College, 7:30 p.m. Peter Hall, Hurd campus, Main and Church streets. Call 610-861-1650.

Sunday, January 27

Winter Vivaldi, Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra, 3 p.m. Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St. Call 610-434-7811.

Monday, January 28

Bethlehem Housing Authority's 12th annual Josefina Berrios Award ceremony, 10 a.m. Fred B. Rooney community room, Monocacy Tower, 645 Main St.

First Presbyterian Church Hi Neighbors, 10 and 11:15 a.m. 2344 Center St.

American Cancer Society Look Good...Feel Better's free program, 1:30 p.m., Lehigh Valley Health Network - Muhlenberg. Call 1-800-227-2345 to register.

Amnesty International USA, Group 347, 7:30 p.m. Central Moravian Church's Christian Ed building, 40 W. Church St. Call 610-866-2655.

To have an event listed, contact George Taylor at 610-625-2121, ext. 3112, gtaylor@tonline.com or fax 610-625-2126. For additional local news items not in our print edition, check out www.bethlehempress-aroundtown.blogspot.com

MEETING BOARD

Wednesday, January 23

Bethlehem Parking Authority, 4:30 p.m., 85 W. North St.

Saucon Valley School Board, 7 p.m., Audion building, 2097 Polk Valley Road.

Lehigh Co. Commissioners, 7:30 p.m. public hearing room, Government Center, 17 S. Seventh St., Allentown.

Historic Conservation Commission, 7 p.m., Banana Factory, 25 E. Third St.

Monday, January 28

Northampton Co. Gaming Authority, 5:30 p.m., Court-house, 669 Washington St., Easton.

BASD regular board meeting, 7 p.m., East Hills MS auditorium, 2005 Chester Road.

LEAP

Continued from page A1

those were purchase transfer requests and 16,982 were license to carry concealed requests."

The recent spike is riding a trend: Gun sales and carry permits have been rising for years.

In 2010, there were 496,720 firearms purchased/transferred in Pennsylvania. In 2011, that number rose by about 22 percent, to 606,924. By Dec. 20, 2012, the PICS unit had logged 664,522 purchase/transfer requests, an increase of about 33.7 percent over 2011, according to Pennsylvania State Police.

As the numbers of gun sales go up, the number of carry permits is also rising. According to Pennsylvania State Police, permit applications increased by 64.3 percent from 86,706 to 142,477 between 2000 and 2010. In 2011, 167,656 carry permits were issued. By Dec. 20, 2012, PICS had logged 258,684 carry permit applications.

The numbers of murders committed using guns hasn't changed much in Pennsylvania over the past six years. In 2011, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the state had 636 murders, of which 470 involved firearms. In 2004, it had 632 murders, 449 of which involved guns.

Those who favor stricter gun control point to the Sandy Hook, Aurora, Illinois and other recent mass shootings as reasons to make it harder for people to buy and keep guns. The push for more restrictive gun laws starts at the top: President Barack Obama in December established a task force, overseen by Vice President Joe Biden, that would develop concrete proposals by the end of

WHAT THEY SAY

U.S. Constitution, Second Amendment: "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Pa. Constitution, Art. 1, Sec. 21: "The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned."

Lehigh University Constitutional Law Professor George A. Nation: "Until the recent Heller case, the Second Amendment was interpreted to protect the right to 'keep and bear arms' only in the militia (National Guard today) context. In [District of Columbia v. Heller, 2009], five of the justices found that the Second Amendment protected an individual right to keep and bear arms, including specifically a handgun for self-protection unrelated to any type of militia service. But even the five in the majority made clear that the right is limited - that is, it is not a right to possess any type of weapon."

"The opinion specifically recognizes the common limitations we have today - a ban on fully automatic weapons, switch blades, bazookas - as well as common place limitations - no guns in court houses, schools, planes, etc. There can be limitations on who

may possess guns."

NorCo DA John Morganelli on balanced gun control: "Without a doubt, millions of law-abiding people possess guns for self protection, and enjoy them recreationally. But criminals and disturbed and confused people often use them to tragic and devastating effect. Liberals tend to want to ban all guns and portray gun owners as 'rednecks'; on the other extreme, the gun lobby asserts that virtually any gun regulation is a threat to their constitutional rights. There must be a sensible middle to these issues, and the majority of people want a balanced approach."

Mike Topping, president of NorCo Federation of Sportsmen (7,000 members):

"Although most, if not all, sportsmen are against any possible government infringement on their ability to own and use firearms, many also agree that some reasonable controls are appropriate:

1. Fully automatic weapons should require a special law for ownership, as is currently the case.
2. Persons who are criminals or mentally challenged should not have access to firearms.
3. When not in use, firearms should be locked up or placed in a secure area, out of the reach of children.

istration of all firearms."

Sen. LeAnna Washington, D-Montgomery/Philadelphia, says she plans to introduce legislation "amending the firearms law to include recreational centers, parks and playgrounds as prohibited areas one may carry a firearm, and increase the penalty from a first-degree misdemeanor to a third degree felony."

Sen. Lawrence Farnese, D-Philadelphia, proposes enacting a "strict assault weapons ban in Pennsylvania, modeled after the federal ban in effect from 1994 to 2004. This would include a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines."

But at least one lawmaker believes more rules won't necessarily curb gun violence.

Sen. Stewart Greenleaf, R-Bucks/Montgomery, who noted that "Ironically, Connecticut has some of the toughest gun laws in the nation. But those laws did not prevent the Sandy Hook school tragedy," wants to get at the root cause of gun violence.

He proposes to "establish a Task Force on the Prevention of Violence to study the underlying causes of mass shootings and other violent crimes. There are some common themes in many of these cases; mental illness and a history of being bullied are often involved. So, in addition to looking at the gun regulation proposals that are being introduced, I believe that we must look at proposals to strengthen our mental health laws so that people receive treatment before they commit criminal acts and we must see if there is more that we can do to combat bullying including cyberbullying."

this month to reduce gun violence.

Closer to home, state lawmakers have offered a slew of new laws, even though Pennsylvania already has fairly strict gun laws.

Sen. Anthony Williams,

D-Philadelphia, proposes legislation that would "address public safety and gun ownership accountability through registration of firearms in the Commonwealth. Currently, the Uniform Firearms Act does not require reg-

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Kathaleen McDonald

First Presbyterian Church member

Kathaleen McDonald, 89, formerly of Bethlehem, died Jan. 4, 2013. Born in New York, N.Y., she was a resident of Bethlehem for 62 years until moving to York due to health issues. She was the wife of the late John K. McDonald for 57 years.



teered in the Health Center at Moravian Village. She is survived by three sons: John and his wife Joy of Berea, Ky., James and his wife Marianne of York and David and his wife Jeanne of Naperville, Ill.; and six grandchildren, Samuel, Benjamin, Kevin, Katherine, Matthew and Kathaleen.

She was predeceased by a brother, James Dewart.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Bethlehem.

She volunteered at St. Luke's Hospital for many years and had given more than 7,000 hours of service. She delivered Meals on Wheels and volun-

Contributions may be made to the Macular Degeneration Foundation, St. Luke's University Health Network, or to a charity of choice.

Arrangements were made by Pearson Funeral Home Inc., Bethlehem.

LOCAL

Continued from page A1

High capacity magazines

"That's a tough one," Topping said. He noted that the seven-bullet limit imposed by a recent New York law is completely unworkable because most gun manufacturers sell 10-bullet magazines with every type of gun.

"Ten is the magic number," Topping noted. "What they did in New York was done by people who don't know anything about guns."

The Obama proposal limits magazines to 10 rounds.

Gun show loophole, background checks

"We don't have that in

Pennsylvania," says Topping, noting that a background check is still needed when guns are purchased at a gun show. He supports increased scrutiny.

"Background checks should be as intrusive as possible," Topping said, noting that the "mental area" needs the most work. "Society has a right to be protected from persons who should not carry firearms."

A 'violence problem'

According to Topping, what people identify as a gun problem is really a "violence problem" that extends to video games and even toy guns.

"Personally, I don't think toy guns that look real should be sold," he said.

Topping noted that women are joining sportsmen's clubs more than any other group precisely because there is a violence problem.

He would support increased penalties for gun law violations and agrees that more protection must be offered at any large gathering of people, from schools to hospitals.

Help for teachers

Although numerous details must be worked out, Hellertown Sportsmen want to offer their facilities to provide free training to Saucon Valley teachers.

"Any large institution should have people who have security training," Topping said.

BRIEFLY

LVHN Inpatient visiting restrictions given

As of Jan. 21, the Lehigh Valley Health Network is implementing temporary restrictions for inpatient areas only. Visitors under age 18 are not permitted. People with flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, body aches) are asked not to visit.

This does not affect outpatient, procedure, treatment, diagnostic or pharmacy locations. This policy is in effect until further notice.

LEHIGH VALLEY Habitat store now open

Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley's ReStore held its grand opening Jan. 19 with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the shop, the former Circuit City building at 1053 Grape St., Whitehall.

The 19,000-square-foot home-improvement store sells new and gently used furniture, appliances, cabinets, tools, lighting, hardware and more. Store hours for the general public are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Donations are accepted from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

To volunteer or to donate, contact the store manager at 610-776-7499 or visit www.HabitatLehighValleyReStore.org.

William H. Gorman Sr.

dairy, store manager

William H. Gorman Sr., 86, of Bethlehem, died Jan. 5, 2013. Born in Ardmore, he was a son of the late Edward W. and Ruth N. (Stanton) Gorman. He was the husband of Ceinwen (Nicholas) Gorman of Bethlehem for 64 years.



for Two Guys from Harrison. He was the owner and operator of Gorman's IGA, from which he retired.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, William H. Jr. and his wife Constance and Thomas, all of Bethlehem; three grandchildren, Brian Gorman, Todd Haldaman and Danielle Curtis; several great-grandchildren; several great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Ruth Appel; and a brother, James Gorman.

He was predeceased by a brother, Edward W. Gorman Jr.

Contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

Arrangements were made by Connell Funeral Home Inc., Bethlehem.

BIDEN

Continued from page A1

in the right of citizens to own guns for their own protection as well as for hunting, recreation and collection. Nonetheless, after reflecting on the power of the weapon and the number of bullets that hit each child in Sandy Hook, the reinstatement of a ban on military-style weapons and high capacity magazines are two common-sense steps that I support."

Toomey was less clear. "I am carefully reviewing the president's proposals," he said in a brief email. "Second Amendment rights are important to many Pennsylvanians and must be protected, but there may be areas of agreement with the White House that can be addressed to improve public safety."

More clearly supportive

of the proposals are some local mayors.

Easton Mayor Sal Panto said he agrees with the president. "For several years the mayors of this country have been calling for common sense and rational reforms to help keep weapons out of the hands of people that don't have them legally. We now have police chiefs, teachers and millions of Americans demanding a plan from Congress."

More vocal was Allentown Mayor Ed Pawlowski. "Every month there seems to be another shooting," he said. "Weapons are too accessible and do too much damage. I'm going to do everything I can to support [the president]."

Pawlowski said he believes the proliferation of automatic weapons is the biggest problem. "The tragedy is appalling. If this was a building with structural damage that

collapsed they would be screaming to the hills in Washington. I don't know why this is any different."

He said having firearms for hunting is one thing, but, "I don't see what purpose an AK-47 or AR-15 is. [Hunters] don't need automatic weapons. Where's the sport in that?"

Pawlowski said the issue is very important locally. He cited an Allentown-purchased weapon being used in a New York subway shootout and a recent incident of a domestic dispute leading to a man with an assault weapon firing on police.

"The proliferation of weapons has a detrimental effect on police, citizens and children. It has to stop."

Requests for comment from local gun retailers and Mayor John Callahan were not answered.

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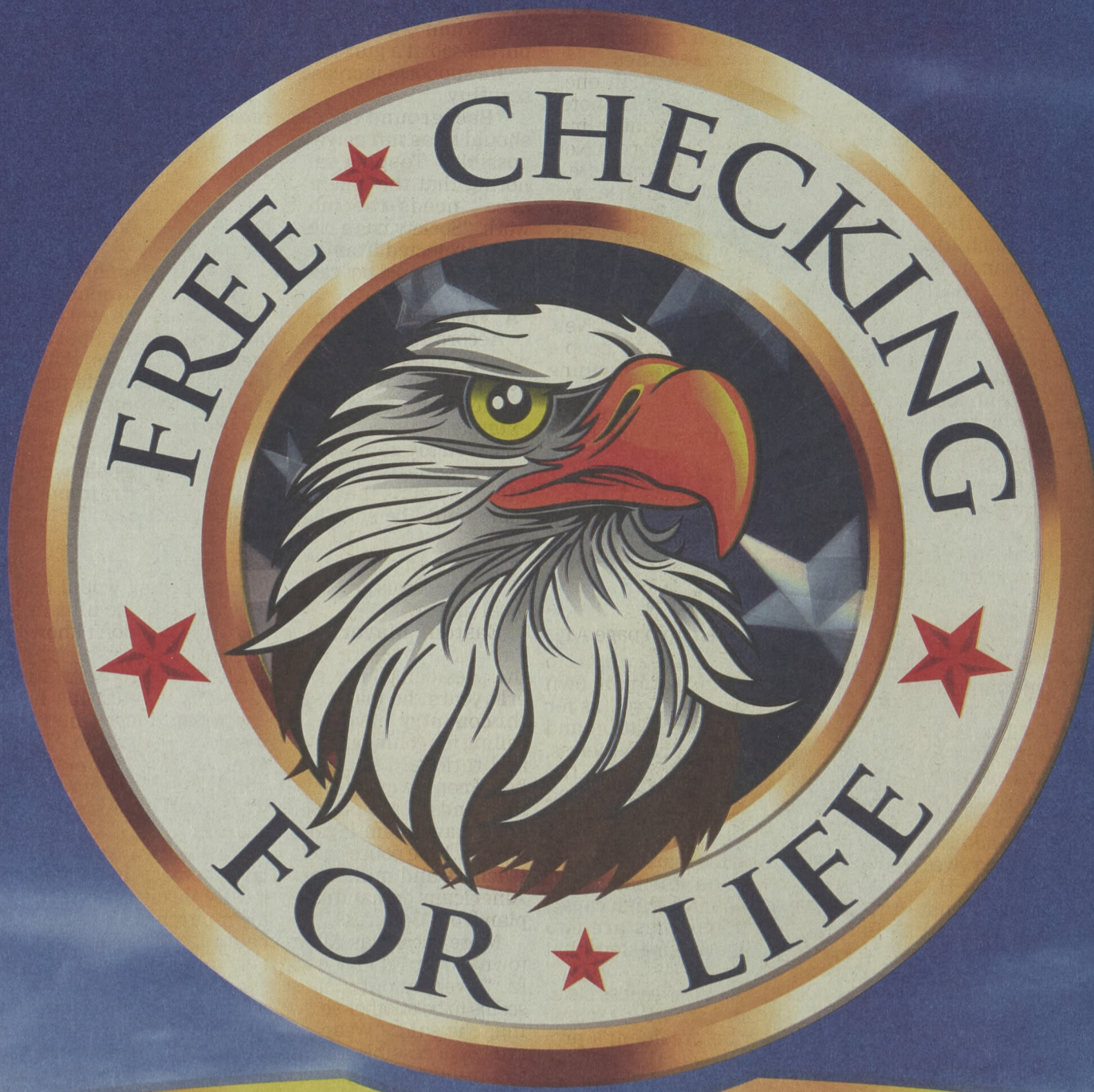
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Library costs concerns borough officials

By DOROTHY PYLES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Bethlehem is facing a major financial deficit for 2013. In order to bridge any gaps associated with the deficit, more costs relating to the Bethlehem Public Library are being passed on to member municipalities.

According to Rick Prill, Fountain Hill borough administrator, the library board has recommended that the per capita rate/charge for 2013 be

FOUNTAIN HILL

increased from \$17.03 to \$17.25.

At a string of meetings throughout the month of November, many municipal governing boards, including Fountain Hill's, met to discuss the library's budget at great length. One expense the library would like to share is its building's utilities costs, which have been paid for by the City of Bethlehem. That cost, estimated at \$90,286, now

must be covered by all municipal partners.

In addition to the utilities of the library, the cost of the insurance for the library would also be shared. The City of Bethlehem has paid the \$22,000 to cover yearly insurance costs.

At one of the meetings revolving around the shared costs, William Reynolds, a Bethlehem City councilman and member of the library

board, as well as Joseph Kelly, director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Bethlehem, argued that the entire cost of running the library should be shared equally by all five partnering municipalities. However, they are aware that the additional financial burdens incurred would have to be openly discussed by all five representatives.

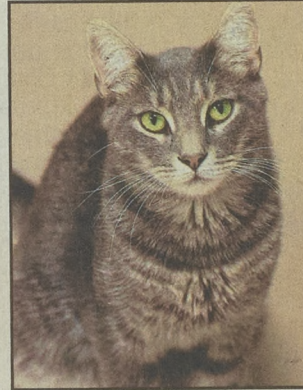
Leaders of several municipalities have raised See **COSTS** on Page A12

CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE

Animals are available for adoption at the Center for Animal Health & Welfare no-kill shelter, 1165 Island Park Road, Easton. The shelter is working to end pet overpopulation by running a clinic so animals can be spayed or neutered before they go home. For more information, call 610-252-7722 or visit www.healthyanimalcenter.org.



Girl is a gorgeous lady. She is friendly, walks nicely and would prefer a home to a cage.



Aldi enjoys the company of other cats and is very social.

VOLUNTEERS

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, Bethlehem, is looking for office volunteers to help with data entry and mailings. Contact Lyndsey Cumello, 610-921-2329, lyndsey.cumello@cancer.org.

MEALS ON WHEELS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, Bethlehem, needs persons willing to deliver meals to homebound clients living in the Slate Belt area. Contact Janet Soos, 610-691-1030, janets@mealsonwheelspa.org.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE - The Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley has several volunteer opportunities available for groups or individuals who want to give back to the community in honor of MLK Day. Visit www.volunteerv.org or call Sandy at 610-807-0336.

FLINT HILL FARM EDUCATIONAL CENTER, Coopersburg, needs groups of volunteers or individuals to prepare barns for March kidding season and clearing woods walking paths from Hurricane Sandy damage. Contact Kathleen Fields, 610-838-2928, Kathy@flinthill-farm.org.

PHOEBE HOME NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER, Allentown, invites volunteers to share their talents with residents. Contact Donna Henry, 610-794-5362, dhenry@phoebe.org.

SIXTH STREET SHELTER, Allentown, needs a volunteer who speaks Spanish to sit in on meetings between caseworkers and residents to help them understand each other better. Contact Lauren Praedin, 610-435-1490, lpredin@caciv.org.

THE GRESS MOUNTAIN RANCH, Orefield, needs help with ground maintenance and animal care volunteers. Contact Kathryn Gress, 610-398-2122, gressranch@gmail.com.

Contact the Volunteer Center to receive a brochure listing agencies in need of volunteers at 610-807-0336 or e-mail: vc@volunteerv.org. Visit our website www.volunteerv.org for a larger listing of volunteer opportunities.

COLLEGE NOTES

Northampton Community College

MLK commemoration events set

NCC will commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and celebrate Black History Month with "Faces of the Dream" events during January and February.

For the "Paying it Forward" program, NCC volunteers will work with children ages five to 15 on dance, drama, arts and crafts. There will be a panel discussion about Dr. King's legacy. For information, email mlevy@northampton.edu.

There will be a student debate: "Is Affirmative Action in Higher Education a Fair Concept?" from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Feb. 26 in room 220, College Center, Main Campus.

Dr. James Peterson, associate professor of English and director of Africana Studies at Lehigh University, will speak at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in the Lipkin Theatre, Kopececk Hall, Main Campus.

Call 610-861-5300 for information on all of the events.

Weiss winter graduation speaker

Daniel H. Weiss, president of Lafayette College, will be the speaker at NCC's winter Commencement, 11 a.m. Jan. 26 at the Arthur L. Scott Spartan Center, main campus.

He became president of Lafayette College in 2005. Under his leadership, Lafayette attained recognition for commitment to community service and economic revitalization. He will leave Lafayette in July to become president of Haverford College.

Reading program for parents Jan. 29

NCC's Reibman Hall and Hannig Family Children's Centers will host a free, adults only "Kindergarten Readiness: Tips to Help Your Child Succeed" from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Jan. 29. The program, led by Denise Continenza of the Penn State Cooperative Extension, will be held in College Center 117, Main Campus.

The open-to-the-public workshop will feature a question and answer session with a panel of early childhood experts. There is no childcare provided. For information, call 610-332-6084 or email jzuk@northampton.edu.

Northampton Community College Main Campus, is located at 3835 Green Pond Road. The Fowler Center is located at 511 E. Third St. For information, call 610-861-5300 or visit www.northampton.edu.

Lehigh University

Luce grant given for international study

Lehigh University and the University of Michigan have received a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to support an exchange program for undergraduate students in United States and in Indonesia. The \$190,000 grant will support a new approach to undergraduate student exchange, a theme-based cohort exchange, for the next three years.

The program melds international travel with a collaborative, hands-on curriculum focused on democracy and religious pluralism and led by faculty from each of the partner universities working together. American and Indonesian students live and travel together as a cohort in countries.

This exchange program developed out of an agreement between President Barack Obama and the president of Indonesia, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

Lehigh University is located at 27 Memorial Drive West. For more information, call 610-758-3000 or visit www.lehigh.edu.

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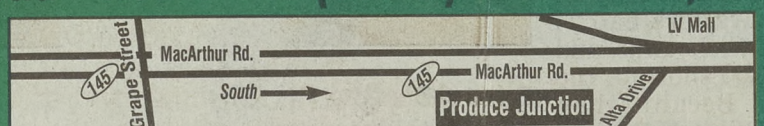
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'Canes enjoying memorable wrestling season

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Liberty's wrestling has solidified themselves in the upper tier of the Lehigh Valley Conference with the memorable season the 'Canes have put together.

Sitting at 12-3 overall and 5-1 in the LVC, the 'Canes are enjoying a memorable ride.

That ride continues this week with two marquee bouts on the calendar, in what may be the most exciting week of the season for Liberty.

The Hurricanes host Bethlehem Catholic (7-0, 5-0) at 7 p.m. Wednesday and then welcome Freedom (10-7, 1-3) at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

It's a rivalry week for the 'Canes and head coach Jody Karam is enjoying every minute.

"This is among one of the best seasons I've ever had as a coach," said Karam. "The results equal our effort and I'm very proud of what we've been able to do as a program."

With wins over Nazareth and Northampton this season, Liber-

ty has nestled themselves right under Easton and Beahi in LVC supremacy. You can also throw Parkland in the mix as a powerful third team in the conference, but the Hurricanes don't wrestle the Trojans this year.

Nonetheless, Karam has built a program of new wrestlers and has carefully sculpted them to a force to be reckoned with.

"We have six wrestlers with less than two years of experience," he said. "The improvement they've shown has been remarkable. With a lot of our

guys, we started with teaching basic technique to them last year and have been able to progress this year. It's really a great time to be apart of Liberty wrestling. I don't even think we've seen the best of Liberty wrestling yet. I think we're 2-3 years away from being a perennial powerhouse."

Karam knows his team is an underdog against Beahi this week, just like they were against Easton this season (a match they lost 44-21). But Karam welcomes the opportunity to wrestle

against his brother Jeff's team.

"This match is an opportunity for us to compete against a team that exposes our weaknesses," he said. "It's a healthy approach we take toward a bout like this. We want to grow from this experience."

And Karam wants to grow as a coach, knowing the more he puts into the program, the more he'll get out of his wrestlers.

"These guys make me want to be a better coach," said Karam. "I don't want to let them down."

BOYS BASKETBALL

Fouls hurt FHS in loss

By CJ HEMERLY
Special to the Press

Four of Freedom's five starters were plagued with foul trouble at some point in the game that forced them to sit, including the backcourt of Nigel Long and Maceo Connor. Even with the sometimes lack of their offensive facilitators, the Patriots never backed down and traded shot for shot with Parkland. But, the Trojans just got the better of them winning 53-50 last Friday night at Parkland on their senior night.

Senior Nyreef Jackson scored a game-high 18 points and grabbed 8 rebounds, but had to play cautious for most of the second half with four fouls.

Big man, David Williams, was ever really able to make an impact on the game. Williams was called for two quick fouls in the first quarter, and picked up his fourth right at the beginning of the final quarter.

"We played really hard, but being in foul trouble all night long really hurt us," said head coach Joe

Stellato. "Nigel Long was out the whole second quarter and the third quarter, and we never play without Nigel. He runs the offense, he runs the show. With him on the bench, it really affects us."

Long came back to score 5 of his 9 points in the fourth, and added two big assists to Derike Chiclana (13 points, 11 rebounds), who was able to easily finish.

A game that saw 12 lead changes, sure enough came down to the final ticks of the clock.

Parkland (12-2, 7-1) point guard Jimmy Hahn had a career-high night, scoring 14 points. His 3-pointer at the end of the third quarter, and jumper at the start of the fourth gave the Trojans a 37-34 lead after trailing for a majority of the third.

"He played well, I was really impressed with him," noted Stellato. "He didn't do that in the first game against us because Nigel did a good job guarding him. Our scouting reports, we weren't that worried about him, but See **Pates** on Page A8



PRESS PHOTO BY DON HERB

Nyreef Jackson scored a game-high 18 points but Freedom fell to Parkland last Friday night.

Patriot girls post back-to-back wins

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

One of the goals for the Freedom Patriots this season is to improve on last year's record of four wins, and with back-to-back victories last week, the Patriots are on their way.

Freedom defeated Northampton, 41-35, last Tuesday, and Wilson, 41-28, last Thursday.

"We kind of came out slow [against Northampton], but we knew it was our game," said Freedom guard, Brenna Dosedlo.

The Patriots came back from an 18-13 deficit at halftime, scoring 14 points in the third quarter and 14 more in the fourth.

"I think we were set-

ting for outside shots, and we're not hitting our outside shots right now, so we were trying to drive more. My shot isn't 100% right now, so I tried to pass to the post more, drive, and do different things," Dosedlo said.

Despite some shooting woes, Dosedlo did score a three-pointer, as did Tori McCaslin.

The Patriots also picked up on defense in the second half.

"We played better defense, and we kept their main scorer to single digits. That was our goal," said Dosedlo.

Dosedlo led the Patriots in scoring with 12 points, followed by Taylor Garza who had nine points. Ash-

ley Gordon added seven points, and Kelly Rosete scored six. Ashley Husser chipped in four points, and McCaslin had three.

Dosedlo said, "We definitely improved a lot from our first game, but we hope we can get a few more wins."

Also last week, Central Catholic outlasted Liberty, 42-40. Maggie Zerbe led with 17 points for the Hurricanes. Liberty then defeated Dieruff, 54-29, on Friday.

Bethlehem Catholic outlasted Nazareth, 51-45. Kalista Walters had 24 points, 12 rebounds, and six blocked shots for the Hawks. Beahi then defeated Whitehall, 62-22, on Friday.



PRESS PHOTO BY KATIE MCDONALD

Liberty's Rachel Steiner, left, and Brenna McCornac both finished in the top-ten at the Lehigh Valley Conference diving meet from Jan. 12, at Emmaus.

Divers perform well

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

Liberty divers, Brenna McCornac, Victoria Carter, and Rachel Steiner, placed in the top ten at the Lehigh Valley Conference Diving Meet on Jan. 12 at Emmaus High School.

Liberty/Freeform diving coach Jeff Zettlemyer said, "They really dove well. I'm proud of them. Kaycee too."

Freedom diver, Kaycee Stoudt, placed 11th with 272.90 points.

McCornac, who was in fourth place for most of the eleven-dive meet, finished in fifth place with 323.15 points.

"I was shocked," said McCornac, having done better than she expected. The Hurricane junior cited her back dive as her best of the day.

McCornac also performed a back-and-a-half twist and a front double, among others.

"I never really do those well, but I had to put them in because of the high degree of difficulty," she said.

Carter finished in sixth place with 314.20 points, and Steiner was eighth

with 311.40 points.

Steiner was fifth for most of the meet, but stumbled on her front dive full twist, her ninth dive of the day.

"I messed up my hurdle and got low scores. I was upset, but I had been doing better than I expected, so I dealt with it," Steiner said.

Steiner, also a junior, said her best dive was her inward dive pike.

"We didn't really have high expectations, but we improved a lot since last year," she said.

Representing the Liberty boys was Bryan Rivera who placed fifth with 271.85 points.

The District XI Diving Meet is scheduled for February at Parkland High School.

"We're going to practice harder dives and work on our form," said Steiner.

The divers will also be aware of the mental aspect of the meet.

McCornac said, "We'll go into it like a normal meet. We don't want to get stressed, so we'll tackle it like any other meet."

SWIMMING

Liberty teams unbeaten

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

Liberty's girls swimmers scored two victories last week, 146-39 over Allen, and 111-58 over Northampton. Their record improved to 5-0 in the LVC, 8-0 overall.

The Canes won all events against Allen.

Lydia Csatari, Shannon Hogan, Laura Parks, and Grace Walters won the 200 medley relay in 2:08.94.

Emily Cecchini was first in the 200 free in 2:09.30, and the 100 breast in 1:16.07, Madison Sauers took first in the 200 IM in 2:22.92, and Jocelyn Baker won the 50 free in 26.96, and the 100 free in 58.21.

Victoria Carter won diving with 180.05 points.

Walters took first in the 100 butterfly in 1:06.74, Hogan placed first in the 500 free in 5:48.73, and Maggie Olock won the 100 backstroke in 1:09.56.

Shelby Turner, Erin Wetmore, Emma Williams, and Katie Fitch swam to a first in the 200 free relay, and Turner, Rachel Rider, Kayla Drago, and Alexis Brenner won the 400 free relay in 4:02.99.

Two days later, Hogan led off the 200 medley relay against Northampton with the backstroke.

"I kind of feel the pressure, but that's [the backstroke] my main thing," said Hogan.

The freshman also was third in the 500 free.

"I dropped seven seconds against Allen. I just talk myself through it, and once I get halfway, I tell myself to keep pushing because I know I'm almost there," Hogan said.

Also against NHS, Turner won the 200 free in 2:09.17, Baker won the 50 free in 27.03, and Rider won the 100 free in 58.75.

The Hurricanes also placed first in the 200 free relay in 1:48.53, and the 400 free relay in 4:02.50.

Boys win 2

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

Liberty's boys swimming team won two victories last week, defeating Allen, 127-56, and Northampton, 104-63.

Their record improved to 5-0 in the LVC, 8-0 overall.

Individual event winners for the Hurricanes against the Canaries were Sean Vannata in the 200 free in 2:06.24, and the 100 butterfly in 1:00.14, Matt Buell in the 200 IM in 2:18.25, Brandon Merkert in the 100 free in 54.04, Alex Medellin in the 100 backstroke in 1:08.15, and Nolan Vannata in the 100 breaststroke in 1:12.68.

James Sheplock, Merkert, Brandon Hlavaty, and Jared Messics combined to win the 200 free relay in 1:40.87, and Brice Kessler, John Buttilo, Aaron Dol-

See **Girls** on Page A8



PRESS PHOTO BY LINDA ROTHROCK

Brenna Dosedlo, right, and Ashley Husser, left, along with the rest of the Freedom girls defeated Northampton and Wilson last week.

Pates eyeing big week on the wrestling mats

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Freedom hasn't had the easiest ride in 2013, but the Patriots may have found a moment of reprieve following last weekend's jaunt to Juniata Duals.

The Patriots went 4-1 in the dual meet tournament and took home third place after a lone loss to eventual champion Biglerville.

Freedom lost to Biglerville 44-22 to cast the lone blemish over the weekend.

After a disappointing loss to Northampton last

week, followed by a 49-18 defeat to Easton last Wednesday, the Pates (10-7) needed a positive end to the week.

"The kids wrestled well and we were pleased with their effort," said head coach Brandon Hall in regards to the performance at the Juniata Duals. "Even though we left Friday night for the tournament, just getting away for a little bit can help bring you together and I think this tournament really helped us in that way."

The new year has certainly been a bumpy road for the program, as Hall had to deal with a skin

infection scare, suspending several wrestlers and having some members quit.

They watched a potential victory over Northampton slip away last week and had to follow that up with a bout against Easton, but after talking with the team last week, Hall thinks the wheels are back on the track as the Pates gear up for tonight's important bout against Nazareth and Saturday's rivalry showdown at Liberty (7:30 p.m.).

"We talked to the kids about the importance of team wrestling and what it takes to succeed," Hall said. "This year hasn't

been very stellar for us, but the kids are showing resiliency and focus with what's been going on."

Freshman 106-pounder Dylan Brown is one of the examples that Hall was talking about after he earned a 15-8 decision over Easton's Anthony Roche for one of four victories the Pates scored against the Red Rovers.

Jake Young (170), Evan Kauffman (220) and Cordell Cotto (HWT) also earned wins against Easton.

Brown, Kauffman and John Callahan (182) each went undefeated over the weekend, as Freedom recorded wins over West

Perry, Hamburg, Towanda and East Pennsboro.

"We've been seeing guys step up and Dylan Brown is one of them," Hall said. "He's wrestling really well right now for a freshman. The nice thing about him is that you see him walking around and he really just loves wrestling. He's enjoying the sport and that's what we want from all of our guys."

Hall knows that if his team wants to find a spot in district duals, this week is vital. Nazareth (11-) has been hobbled with injuries, but Hall isn't sure if that will be the same situation when they travel to

Nazareth tonight.

Saturday's bout with Liberty (12-3) doesn't need any records, as both teams are bitter rivals, but after Freedom defeated the Hurricanes a year ago, Hall is pretty sure that they'll be looking for some payback.

"Liberty has been wrestling really well as a team all year," he said. "We beat them last year and won nine bouts in a row to end the match. They are going to be ready for us and it's a big match for both schools. If we want a chance at getting to duals, we need to win these matches."

Becahi wrestlers return from California with 2nd place

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Just days removed from sunny California, Bethlehem Catholic's wrestling team is back to brutally cold temperatures in Pennsylvania.

The Hawks came back from the Battle of the Belt tournament with a second-place finish, as Darien Cruz came away with the lone title from Temecula Valley, but the focus now shifts to this week's even more important outlook.

Becahi takes on rival Liberty tonight and then have a chance to clinch a share of the Lehigh Valley Conference championship Saturday night when Easton comes into town for what is guaranteed to be the most energetic atmosphere the Valley has seen for a dual meet this season.

But first things first for Becahi (7-0, 5-0) and head coach Jeff Karam and that's taking on his brother's talented Liberty (12-3, 5-1) squad tonight.

"We aren't even looking ahead to Easton at this point," said Karam about battling Liberty. "It's a huge match for both teams this week and we're not taking them [Liberty] for granted. It never gets old when I face Jody's team and something crazy always happens."

"I try to compartmentalize the season into dif-

ferent sections and we're hitting the team part of our season now with the end of the regular season coming, followed by district duals next weekend. This is the start of a big week."

The Hawks started their week by getting off a plane on Sunday after placing 10 wrestlers in the highly touted Battle of the Belt tournament, where they fell two points (228.5-226) short of the team title to the nation's second ranked team Clovis (Ca.).

Cruz, the senior 120-pounder, didn't disappoint in his California debut, as he took home MVP honors in the lower weight division, posting three falls, a decision and a 12-4

major decision in the finals over Isaiah Locsin of Live Oak (Ca.).

Zeke Moisey (126) also reached the finals, but lost a controversial 10-9 decision to Jonas Gaytan of Clovis.

"It was a great experience being out there and it was my first trip to California," said Cruz. "We really felt like we were alone out there, as it seemed nobody wanted us to win and I think that really brought us together."

"It was a great trip and I was able to wear tank tops and shorts, but now it's back to reality at home."

Moisey's bout could have been the difference between the team title for

Hawks, since his loss came to a Clovis opponent. Gaytan was awarded a takedown and two back points in the final minute of the third period, which may have had different results had it happened in Pennsylvania.

"You really learn to appreciate the officials we have here in the Valley and Pennsylvania when you come back from out of state tournaments," said Karam. "Zeke just did one of his regular moves to try and work his way out of a takedown and didn't even know there were back points awarded."

"Still, it was a great trip for everyone and they treated us well out there." Now the Hawks hope

this week treats them well as they gear up for a run at their third straight state championship. Easton (10-0, 5-0) poses their first major threat in the conference and despite knocking off the Rovers on the road last year, Karam still remembers Easton coming into their gym two years ago and stealing the LVC title in front of them.

"We wrestled Easton after team states that year and we won the state championship (2A), but they came into our gym and beat us for the LVC title," he said. "I'll never forget that feeling of winning the state title, but losing the LVC title. That's something I'm going to remind our kids of this

Liberty basketball team looking to get defensive

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Things aren't fully in place for Liberty's basketball team, but another week on the calendar can hopefully shift the Hurricanes into the right direction.

Liberty (9-5, 6-2) ended last week on a high note by winning two straight after dropping another Lehigh Valley Conference contest in as many weeks, when Central Catholic (13-2) downed the 'Canes 68-56 last Tuesday.

After a loss to Parkland previously, coupled with a loss to Central, Liberty has lost to the top two teams in the conference. It's not the type of trend that head coach Chad Landis wanted to see out of his group that coasted through the league season during the month of

December, but he knows that if Liberty wants to get on a run here to close out the regular season, it's going to start on the defensive end.

"Defense is where we definitely need to get better at," Landis said. "Some of it is effort and some of it has to deal with scheme. We just have to be able to get stops on the defensive end if we want to get back to playing like we did before."

The most points Liberty gave up through December was 59 points to Arch Bishop Carroll, a game they lost 59-55 on December 29.

Ever since the New Year came to the forefront, four out of seven teams have eclipsed the 60-point plateau on Liberty. And it's not just tipping the 60-point mark,

it's eclipsing the 70-point realm, as Parkland, Central Dauphin, Central Catholic and Reading have averaged 73.25 in those four contests mentioned.

Liberty lost three of those games, with last Saturday's 80-68 win over Reading, being the only victory they've seen when giving up over 60 points in a contest this season.

The win over the Knights was also the first nonleague victory over an opponent outside of the LVC this year.

"It was definitely nice to get a win over a team like Reading," said Landis. "To get one on the road was important for us. We had something to prove to ourselves in that game and I'm happy that we were able to get the win."

With Deshawn Oyeniyi

back into lineup since last week after being a week out with the flu, Liberty is back to their normal selves and have a week that features Emmaus (last night) and Nazareth on Friday night.

Both games are on the road, as well as Sunday's Lehigh Valley Hoop Group Showcase at Parkland when they open up the five-game slate at noon against state power Council Rock North.

Freedom ends the showcase with a 6:40 p.m. tilt against Hudson Catholic from New Jersey.

"Emmaus is 6-2 in the league and they've been tough all year," Landis said. "Then we go to Nazareth for Todd Rothrock-Derek Kehoe night, which is always an emotional night for everyone and then close

out the week against Council Rock North. None of these games are going to be easy."

Bethlehem Catholic (8-7, 2-6) got one of two wins they needed last week when they upended Nazareth 66-42, but lost to Whitehall for the second time this season on Friday night, dropping a 56-51 scoreline, as Freddie Simmons led the Hawks in scoring with 17 on the night.

Becahi needs three wins to clinch a district berth and the remaining road isn't favorable at all, as they took on Parkland (12-3) last night, followed by Friday's game against Emmaus (8-6).

The Hawks travel to Dieruff (5-10) next Tuesday in the only game left on the calendar against a team

with a below .500 record.

Liberty senior center Greg Noack was nominated last week for a chance to participate in the McDonald's All-American game to be held on April 3 in Chicago's United Center, the home of the Bulls.

Noack is one of over 800 players from across the country nominated for the contest with the final roster being announced on February 14 at pm on ESPNU.

Noack has already committed to Monmouth University and is the second Liberty player during Chad Landis's coaching career to have been nominated for the team.

Darrun Hilliard, a sophomore guard at Villanova, was also nominated for the McDonald's team in 2011.

Pates

Continued from page A7
man did he come out confident."

Hahn, who scored half of his 14 points in the first quarter, and his teammates remained confident at the free-throw line when the game was on the line in the final frame. The Trojans shot 17 of 20 at the charity stripe to ice the game.

"They went to the foul line a lot," added Stellato. "And they don't miss foul shots. We either have to do

a better job keeping them off the foul line, or we have to do a better job defending them."

Freedom (8-6, 4-4) had their chance to tie at the end of the game. After Long hit 1 of 2 at the line, the Patriots trailed by 3. In an obvious fouling situation with 0:10 left, Freedom put on a full-court press that caused the Trojans to turn the ball over.

Jackson had two chances from beyond the arc with just 0:07 to go, but could not convert either attempt.

Boys

Continued from page A7

gos, and Messics took first place in the 400 free relay.

Sam Kincaid won the diving event for the Hurricanes with a score of 134.65.

At Northampton, Sean Vannata swam the second leg, the breaststroke, in the 200 medley relay and the Hurricanes, including Kessler, Juwan Foster, and Alexis Calderon won the event in 1:55.63.

"It's the first time I swam the breaststroke in this event. It was a little close [in the end], but Alexis finished well."

Medellin placed first in the 200 free in 2:02.88, Evan Smith won the 100 butterfly in 1:01.00, and Sean Vannata took first in the 100 free in 53.66.

Alex Fitch won the 100 breaststroke in 1:14.98, and Sean Vannata placed first in the 100 backstroke 59.72.

Merkert, Sheplock, Smith, and Vannata swam to a first place finish in the 200 free relay in 1:37.59, and Smith, Sheplock, Merkert, and Buell closed the meet with a win in the 400 free relay in 3:38.01.

"We have depth, and we might not win every event, but we really work hard," Vannata said.

Pates set records

By KATIE McDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

New pool records were set last week at Freedom High School's Natatorium in the Patriots meet against Nazareth.

Scott DelFranco set a pool record in the 500 free in 4:51.81. Peter Conzola and Helen Hsu also set pool records in the 100 backstroke. Conzola's time was unavailable as of Press deadlines, but Hsu's time was 1:00.10. Shannon Howell set a pool record in the 500 free in 5:16.38.

Connor Harrigan, Sam

Magnan, Eric Lawrence, and DelFranco combined for a pool record in the 400 free relay in 3:23.58.

The Patriot boys went on to defeat Nazareth, 121-59, and the Patriot girls also defeated the Blue Eagles, 109-76.

For Freedom's boys, Magnan won the 200 free in 1:47.99, Harrigan won the 200 IM in 2:07.27, and Trevor Watlington won the 100 breaststroke in 1:11.30.

Eric Lawrence took first place in the 50 free in 24.08, and the 100 butterfly in 56.90.

Andrew Umstead won the diving event with 120.10 points.

For Freedom's girls, Carly DelFranco placed first in the 200 IM, Hsu won the 50 free in 25.13, Brooke Munion was first in the 100 butterfly in 1:01.36, Molly Magnan won the 100 free in 58.06, and Kelly Kopko placed first in the 100 breaststroke in 1:15.44.

Kaycee Stoudt won the diving event with 188.80 points.

The Patriot girls also won the 200 medley relay and the 200 free relay.

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PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

A llama at the petting zoo of the Downtown Bethlehem Association's Harvest Festival recently in downtown Bethlehem attracts the interest of 2-year-old Madison Althouse, who was with her father Adam, a Fountain Hill native. Althouse said it was the first time his family was attending the free seven-year festival and the first time his daughter had seen a llama.

Music, beer and llamas



Music on Main Street by duet Gesture Without Motion catches the attention of downtown merchant Darlene Yost of Briana's Boutique, and employee Paige Dinbokowitz. Todd and Dawn Fedorowicz of Bethlehem played folk rock during the Harvest Festival.



The Harvest Festival beergarten in the Sun Inn Courtyard had a beer sales tent to satisfy drinkers like Bill Lutz, who lives within walking distance and has attended the festival three times.



An autumn market display in the Sun Inn Courtyard featuring a 1954 GMC truck has the interest of the Baldo family - Tom and Barbara with children Andrew, Grace and Leah. The restored antique truck was on loan from Chris Shelbo of Lower Saucon Township, who owns Saucon Collision and recently purchased the truck used by the Bucchin Market, a Bethlehem family business originally at West Broad Street and Third Avenue.



Beer brewing with 19th century equipment is explained by Phillip Burtner - in period German attire - to Bethlehem resident Ed Krick. Beer historian Chris Bowen of Bethlehem portrayed early Moravian brewer Johann Sebastian Goundie for the sixth time at the festival and set up the demonstration in the Sun Inn Courtyard.



Charlie Jacoby paints a pumpkin under the guidance of his grandmother Carol Jacoby of Bethlehem Township. Charlie is the son of Jeff and Jillian Jacoby, also of Bethlehem Township.

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Dining Promo Deadline: Before 5 pm Thursday

Emma Thursby: America's Nightingale



Karen M. Samuels
Columnist

In 1857, a 12-year-old girl by the name of Emma Thursby was enrolled in the Moravian Seminary in Bethlehem. Her parents, John B. and Jane Thursby, selected the school for its excellent academic curriculum and, most importantly, for the outstanding musical training program. Emma's education in the great German composers such as Handel, Mozart and Beethoven came under the supervision of Sylvester Wolle, the school principal, his brother and assistant Francis Wolle and the singing instructor Mary Weiss. Emma never forgot her happy experiences in the Bethlehem school. She would years later return to perform a concert with Fred Wolle, Frances Wolle's son, at the Central Moravian Church.

Emma Cecilia Thursby was born on Feb. 21, 1845, in Williamsburgh, N.Y. Due to their successful rope making business, the Thursby family were well-to-do. When she was as young as 4 years of age, the family discovered that Emma possessed a beautiful bird-like voice. John and Jane Thursby were protective of Emma and did not permit an overexposure of her special gift. Emma did perform in a concert be-neath for the local church, the Old Bushwick Reformed Church.

In the still provincial village of Williamsburgh, good schools were at a premium. The Thursbys wanted the best education for their children and therefore placed Emma and her older sister

See **WEEK** on Page A12

Flu shots a family affair



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

A flu immunization clinic was held Friday by the Bethlehem Health Bureau for city residents and BASD children. Among those who came to City Hall at 10 E. Church St. for \$10 influenza inoculations was the Vega family of South Bethlehem. Community health nurse Amy Anderson gives a flu injection to Levi Vega, held by his brother Elvis. Mother Synthya and sister Sophia await their turns. The city Health Bureau scheduled another flu clinic, without the customary appointment requirement, today from 8 to 10 a.m. Additional information is available at 610-865-7083.

LEHIGH COUNTY

Green Futures vote delayed again

By ANDREW CASS
Special to The Press

The Lehigh County Board of Commissioners delayed approval of the Green Futures Fund for a third time at its Jan. 9 meeting in the Lehigh County Government Center in Allentown.

Several members of the board, led by Commissioner Michael Schware, said they would only approve the bill after an equal dollar amount of cuts or savings as made elsewhere to pay for the project.

Schware said he spent a lot of time over the holidays looking for ways to offset spending and has found \$296,519 so far. He also suggested the Reading Road Bridge in Allentown be repaired instead of replaced as originally planned, which he said would save the county about \$500,000.

The proposed bill would have funded \$296,519 of the \$1.06 million Green Futures Fund, with the remaining funding to be approved when further offset spending is found. The bill would have funded park projects in Allentown, Lower Macungie, Emmaus, Salisbury Township and Bethlehem.

"We can't afford to eat up our

reserves, that leads to a tax hike and I can't give that to the citizens," Schware said.

The public hearing room was again packed with citizens and municipal leaders who came to voice their support of the bill, including Allentown Mayor Ed Pawlowski, who said he understood budgets "all too well" and how difficult a decision commissioners had to make, but that it was time to make a decision.

"Just make a decision one way or another," Pawlowski said. "If you're not going to do it, let us know you're not going to do it. Don't prolong this process."

Pawlowski would not get his wish, however, as the board voted 7-2 to again table the bill after a motion made by Commissioner Vic Mazziotti. Only Commissioners Daniel McCarthy and Brad Osborne voted against the delay.

Osborne said the board was "honor bound" to approve the project and if it does not, it may permanently lose the public's trust.

The meeting was the first run by new Chairman Lisa Scheller, who defeated former Chairman Osborne in a 5-4 vote at a reorganization meeting Jan. 7. Vice Chairman Scott Ott defeated

Percy Dougherty in a 5-4 vote to retain the position for another year.

The board also approved the 2013 meeting schedule. Meeting will again be held 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, with the exception of the second meetings in November and December, which will be held Nov. 26 and Dec. 18, respectively.

Scheller thanked Osborne for the work he had done as chairman and said she hoped to continue his success.

"I humbly look forward to the tradition of working well with the county and continuing the work that [Osborne has] started as chair of the board," Scheller said.

Osborne also took a moment to thank the board for the opportunity.

"It's been an honor and hard work at times, but really an honor to represent this board," Osborne said. "The work that we have to do is in the business of the people and I appreciated the opportunity to serve in this position."

The next board of commissioners meeting is Jan. 23 in the public hearing room of the Lehigh County Government Center in Allentown.



Emma Thursby and Ole Bull (violinist) performed several concerts together in the 1870s and were good friends.

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Charlene Netterman

Saucon Valley HS

Grade: 12
Family members: Parents, Ted and Donna Netterman; older brother, Chris Netterman

Favorite subject: Art, I can express myself; math, it's like a puzzle in my mind. I enjoy the challenge and process.

Activities: Colorguard (Saucon Valley marching band); dance (Diane Medeiros Academy of Dance)

Next steps: College
Career goals: Studio art major or art teacher

Heroes: Friends and family; always supportive and bring me the joy and hope I need

Hobbies: Photography, archery and ancient Egyptian history

Volunteer/community work: Docent at the local historic site, Heller Homestead

Likes: Cats, Colorguard, ancient Egypt, music, thunderstorms and Alice in Wonderland (Cheshire Cat)



Dislikes: Stinkbugs, bees
Greatest accomplishment (so far): Becoming Colorguard captain this year
Advice for peers: No matter what anyone else may say you are, be you, not who they want you to be. So don't hide who you are; express yourself to the fullest. Always be proud of who you are!
Julia Swan coordinates student profiles for the Bethlehem Press,



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Northeast MS students decided to donate a variety of ceramic and coiled yarn products made in art class according to teacher Bob Schantz, so that sales of the products could be donated to Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. At the middle school's Christmas program Dec. 12, items were offered for sale before the program and during intermission. Donations were also accepted. A variety of ceramic bowls, sculpture and hand prints, as well as coiled yarn baskets and wall pockets were among the students' artwork offered for sale. Student art teacher Ashley Foster said the students hoped to find a very deserving local hurricane relief effort in New Jersey or New York so they could forward the proceeds and donations to have a more direct affect. **ABOVE:** Northeast seventh grade student Joseph Caraballo sells the ceramic bowl he'd made to his mother, Jodi Dronenburg. "I feel good about it because there are people who lost their houses and everything they own," said Caraballo about donating artwork to raise money for hurricane relief efforts. "We're helping them get that back," he added. Lending support to Caraballo at the table is his student art teacher Ashley Foster.

Holiday hurricane relief effort



Young Sylvia Claire Pauselius measures her hand against the ceramic clay handprint her Aunt Christine Reed purchased for her, the sale of which benefited Hurricane Sandy relief.

FREEDOMNEWS

Keystone exams and the French Revolution

The first semester has come to a close. All students have been cramming in bonus assignments and last-minute studying while the make or break moment of the semester draws upon them. Keystone exams have also been an extra burden for all the freshmen, sophomores and juniors.



Kristen Dalton Freedom HS

The popular musical "Les Miserables," that has swept the nation in movie theaters, is hitting Freedom this spring. Freedom definitely has got the male vocalists to pull off such an epic and beautiful musical such as "Les Miserables." Daniel Youngleman will be playing the lead role, Jean Valjean. The second leading male role, Javert, will be played by Gregory Adams. Freedom also has some wonderful leading ladies. Kate Dawson will be playing Fantine and Eponine will be played by Hannah Arnold. The Freedom Theater Company is ready to take the risk of such a renowned musical and many of the students have great confidence in the talent. "Les Miserables," a tale about poverty, love, faith and revolution, will be hitting Freedom this spring and will not disappoint.

stone exams are severe and teachers will face a strict penalty if any of the rules are overlooked or missed.

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This is the first year the keystones are being used in place of PSSAs. The Keystone exams have also been a stress factor for teachers. As teachers, they have strict requirements to make sure all students obey the rules and do not cheat. The requirements for the Key-

BRIEFLY

DONEGAN Valentine event set for Feb. 15

Donegan ES will hold a fundraiser at 8 p.m. Feb. 15 at SteelStacks ArtsQuest Center, 101 Founders Way. The "Call Your Mama" Valentine's Day event will feature dinner, dancing, Chinese auction and a 50/50 raffle.


For information, call 610-866-0031 or email svazquez@beth.k12.pa.us.

BSA

Two locals receive award

The Boy Scouts of America, Minsi Trails Council, recognition dinner and annual meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at Jordan Lutheran Church, 5103 Snowdrift Road, Orefield.

Michael Dolan and Michael Faccinnetto, both of Bethlehem, will receive the Silver Beaver Award, which is presented by the Boy Scouts of America upon nomination of an individual by the Minsi Trails Council. This award is the highest award presented by a local scout council and recognizes noteworthy service of an exceptional character to youth by a scouting volunteer with the Minsi Trails Council, BSA.



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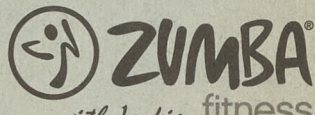
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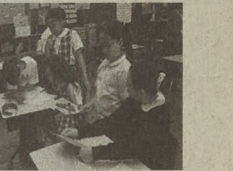
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Continued from page A10
Alice at the Bethlehem school. The girls quickly learned to be disciplined in their studies and enjoyed the many new friendships they made there. Emma was selected by her classmates to be the May Queen.

At this time, Emma's father contracted a cold that persisted. He was diagnosed with consumption, known today as tuberculosis. John Thursby requested that Emma return home from Moravian Seminary for a short visit. Thursby's condition continued to worsen and Emma never returned to the seminary. Emma and her siblings were left in the care of their paternal grandmother, as the parents traveled to Europe to seek a cure for John's condition. Sadly, the family business suffered, putting the Thursbys in financial ruin. After several months of unproductive health advice, the Thursbys boarded a steamer to return to America. They got as far as Liverpool when John Thursby died.

Back in the United States, Jane Thursby faced severe financial constraints. She took in boarders and Emma took a paying job as a singer in the Bedford Avenue Reformed Dutch Church. Soon all the local churches were clamoring to hire this astounding soprano. Her trills and coloring of lyrics were described as "divine." Finally, Emma was earning enough income to afford to take vocal lessons. She was the sole supporter of her family. Through her concerts, Emma became a part of

an important musical scene in America. By 1870, the reputation of her pure and sweet voice made her a star in the New York area. She shared the bill with Mark Twain and appeared at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.

It was considered essential in the 1800s for American artists to travel to Europe to further study their craft. Emma spent 10 months in Europe studying from various important vocal instructors such as Francesco Lamperti and Antonio Sangiovanni. She also visited notable European landmarks, attended countless concerts and learned to speak Italian. She returned to America with the confidence to sing any aria from the popular operas of the time, such as Rossini, Bellini, Braga or Donizetti. She was nicknamed "The America Nightingale." Emma began performing on tour through the states then throughout Europe, Japan, China and South America. By the 1880s, Emma was the most famous concert singer in the world. Although she had met the royalty of Europe, there was one concert in 1885 that brought her great pleasure. Emma returned to Bethlehem to sing at the Moravian Central Church and was accompanied on the organ by Fred Wolle, the son of her childhood teacher Francis Wolle. After several years of paralysis, Emma Thursby died on July 4, 1931, at age 86.



PRESS PHOTO BY CAROL SMITH

Northampton County Council 2013: (front) Scott Parsons, Peg Ferraro, John Cusick, Barbara Thierry; (back) Thomas Dietrich, Lamont McClure, Robert Werner, Ken Kraft and Bruce Gilbert.

Cusick elected for a third term

NORTHAMPTON CO.

By CAROL SMITH
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Northampton County Councilman John Cusick will serve a third term as council's president.

Schedule conflicts, vacations and illness resulted in a five-person council reelecting Cusick by a 3-1 vote with one abstention from Councilman Scott Parsons.

As required by the county's Home Rule Charter, county council held its reorganization meeting Jan. 7, the first Monday of the new year. The

early afternoon Monday rather than Thursday evening meeting caused some scheduling conflicts for the nine-member council.

Councilwoman Peg Ferraro voted by speakerphone while on vacation, which brought an objection from Councilman Lamont McClure, who said that Councilman Ken Kraft would have voted by phone as well, but the meeting room's technology only had one phone line available. McClure had nominated Kraft for the president's position. Kraft was unable to attend the reorganization meeting due to illness.

Parsons withheld his vote because he said everyone has an equal vote on council: "It doesn't matter to me who is pres-

ident," he said.

Council also re-elected Ferraro as vice president. Ferraro was first elected to serve on council in 1989.

As holding one of the five at-large seats on council set to expire this year, Ferraro said she will be running for re-election in the May primary.

In accepting the presidency, Cusick outlined his priorities: consolidate the Human Services department so that its employees are not in two different aging buildings, increase grant money for municipal parks and reduce the county's contribution to the county-owned nursing home's operating budget.

The once Republican-led council now only slightly favors the Repub-

licans with a 5-4 majority.

At the conclusion of the meeting, McClure requested that council's solicitor review previous reorganization meetings to determine how many times council's president and vice president were elected by three votes.

At council's Jan. 10 meeting, the recovered Kraft said he had watched the Jan. 7 reorganization meeting as it was videostreamed from the county's Web site into his computer. Kraft advised council to rethink its use of technology so that in the future council members can vote on issues by phone and the computer.

Council's next regular meeting is at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 24 on the third floor of Northampton County Courthouse at 669 Washington St., Easton.

HELLERTOWN

Council told of 'poo' problem

By MARK RECCEK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

A portion of the Rails to Trails that runs through Hellertown is littered with dog feces.

Borough resident Lee Weidner, holding a dog scooper, informed council Jan. 7 he spent two hours before Christmas removing dog feces from the IRT section located between Water and Walnut streets.

"It's kind of disgusting," he told council. "People have complained to me about this one area that has been used."

Weidner said council should be tasked with determining the person and dog responsible for the problem.

"Hellertown borough council members need to investigate in doing some legwork," he said. "It's not a job for the mayor and for the police. Council members need to determine a solution so Hellertown is not recognized as the 'poo capital' of the Rails to Trails."

A concern of Weidner's is a large amount of dog feces between two commemorative benches located along the trails.

Weidner produced photos for borough council of the trails from a distance and up close.

"It is a mess," commented Borough Manager Cathy Kichline in response to view-

ing the up close photos.

Councilman Richard Staffieri asked Weidner what solution he proposes to resolve the issue. In addition to discovering who is walking their dog and not cleaning up the dog droppings, Weidner stressed the importance of communication.

"The solution is to talk to neighbors and get involved," he said.

Council unanimously approved investigating the costs of purchasing and installing signs to place in the trouble areas warning dog owners to clean up their dogs' mess.

COST

Continued from page A6
concerns especially in regard to the utility usage of the library. It was suggested that if the municipalities were to take part in this agreement there would need to be a way

to measure the library's utility usage. Insurance details also need to be disclosed to the partnering municipalities.

Although the future of the library remains a concern to the city of Bethlehem the general consensus of the representatives

of the municipalities was not to increase the per capita assessment for 2013. The municipalities assumed the position that the city and library should move to cut costs in order to maintain the \$17.03 cost per capita.

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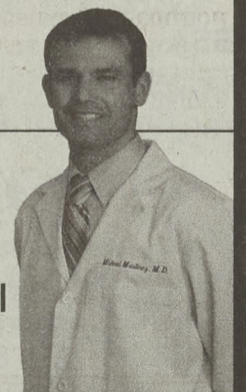
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