

SPORTS
Wrestling
City
See A11



INSIDE
Pathways
to Santa
See A9

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Silent night ...

Luminaria were lighted as darkness began to fall at the intersection of Chestnut and Maple streets in the old Edgeboro neighborhood. More luminaria photos on page A2.

PRESS PHOTOS BY DOROTHY GLEW

PEOPLE SAY
BY DANA GRUBB

What is your earliest memory of Christmas?



"We just copied a photo from when I was nine years old and I'm standing next to a Christmas tree with that old silver tinsel all over it."
John Ross
Wantagh, NJ



"Going to see Santa."
Linda Bagzis
South Whitehall Twp

PEOPLE SAY
Continues on A2



... holy night

The free re-enactment of the biblical story of Christ's birth takes place at the bandshell pavilion of the Rose Garden Park. Our pageant coverage appears on page A15.

PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Council approves Martin Tower rezoning

BY MICHELLE MEEH
Special to the Bethlehem Press

"The developers are people we have to talk to if we are to get something done."
Bob Donchez
Bethlehem mayor

Almost as an afterthought, city council approved Bethlehem's \$73.85 million budget for 2016 at the meeting Dec. 15. It was not the subject that packed the rotunda that night. Residents and business owners spoke for more than two hours during the public comment portion of the meeting, urging council members not to approve the proposed rezoning of the Martin Tower site.

Council members approved the rezoning as amended by a 6-1 vote, with council member Cathy Reuscher the lone nay vote. "Well, we tried," one resident said as she and the rest of the audience dispersed. Earlier in the meeting, Mayor Robert Donchez spoke about the recent charges against his administration regarding how the zoning change was drafted. He said recent public comments and press coverage "call for some direct and blunt replies."

He said efforts of the previous administration and state assistance failed to encourage developers Lewis Ronca and Norton Herrick to get the site developed. "When my administration took office, the problem arrived on my desk with no solution in sight. Even the CRIZ (City Revitalization and Improvement Zone) award failed to spark activity. I considered it my responsibility to find out from the developer if there was something we could do to encourage development," Donchez said. See **TOWER** on Page 3

BETHLEHEM PRESS
VOLUME 11, ISSUE 11

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What is your earliest memory of Christmas?



"Putting up the train under the Christmas tree."

Joley Motter
Nazareth



"Talking with my brothers about what we got in our stockings and having to wait in the hallway before we could go downstairs to see the tree."

MaryKate Post
South Whitehall Twp



"My Irish father making the Italian antipasto on Christmas Eve for the seven fishes dinner."

Kathy Post
South Whitehall Twp



"Sneaking down at 2 AM to get my American Girl doll and then taking her back to bed with me so my parents wouldn't know."

Rachel Post
Whitehall



"Getting a toy box for Christmas. I still have that toy box."

Georgia Mattis
Phillipsburg



"Getting my new three-speed bike, my first new bike, for Christmas."

Roger Gerry
Phillipsburg

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Scott Masenheimer - *Publisher*
Editor - George Taylor - gtaylor@tnonline.com
Sports Editor - Scott Pagel - spagel@tnonline.com
Focus Section Editor - Paul Willstein - pwillstein@tnonline.com
Office Manager - Jolie Jackson-Wanner
Circulation Manager - Kathy Carpenter
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Luminaria and the traditional window candles brighten Old Edgeboro at the intersection of Maple and Sycamore streets.

PRESS PHOTOS BY DOROTHY GLEW

Luminaria Night: A beloved tradition

BY DOROTHY GLEW
Special to the Bethlehem Press

In 1998 three Bethlehem women, Donna Acerra, DeAnn Artim and Joanne Anderson, joined forces to revive the luminaria tradition. The practice involves participants purchasing luminaria kits, consisting of white paper bags and candles as well as sand to anchor them to the ground. On the second Saturday of December, the bags are lined up in rows around each property, and as night falls the candles are lit.

The rows of bags along the sidewalks create a magnificent sight in keeping with the season. Hoping to interest their neighbors in re-creating the custom, Acerra, Artim and Anderson sent letters to about 60 homes, explaining the nature of the

event and the cost of luminaria kits. Through the sale of kits that year, they raised \$300, all of which was donated to a family in need.

During the early years, several different charities benefited from Luminaria Night. Among them was New Bethany Ministries. In 2003 the fundraiser affiliated with New Bethany permanently. Located on the Southside, New Bethany provides housing and case management for homeless families, as well as for low-income, mentally ill adults. The ministry serves meals (over 78,500 this year) every Wednesday through the Mollard Hospitality Center. In addition, it distributes three-day emergency food baskets as well as clothing and cold weather essentials to over 400 households

monthly. New Bethany also offers life skills and financial management classes.

Luminaria Night has grown every year, adding new neighborhoods, block captains, and regional captains. The three founders have continued their involvement in the fundraiser, working with countless volunteers. To date, the event has raised over \$600,000 for New Bethany. This year Quikrete donated all the 15.8 tons of sand needed to Lowes, which in turn donated it to the fundraiser. Over 8,500 kits were sold, resulting in 85,000 candles glowing in rows of white bags on street after street of the Christmas City, a breathtaking sight for a wonderful cause.



Luminaria make a giant Mickey Mouse even more prominent at the corner of Sycamore and Elm streets.



Luminaria glow along Sycamore Street as far as the eye can see, complementing the lawn decorations.

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Saturday, Dec. 26

Free needlecraft sessions; bring patterns, needles or crochet hooks; 1 to 3 p.m. Bethlehem Area Public Library, 11 W. Church St. Registration required; visit www.bapl.org or call 610-867-3761, ext. 224.

The Bethlehem Press calendar listings are, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of printing. We are not responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information submitted by external parties.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Ongoing - call for times and dates

Historic Bethlehem's Trees of Many Colors displays, prepared by volunteers from the Bethlehem Garden Club, at Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts, Moravian Museum of Bethlehem, 1810 Goundie House and the Luckenbach Mill through Jan. 10. Visit <http://historicbethlehem.org/trees-of-many-colors/> for times and dates or call 610-882-0450 or 1-800-360-TOUR.

Holiday Putz Trail collection of nativity displays at the Moravian Museum Gemeinhaus, Single Sisters' House, 1810 Goundie House and the Central Moravian Church Christmas Putz; through Jan. 10. Visit <http://historicbethlehem.org/holiday-putz-trail/> for times and dates or call 610-882-0450 or 1-800-360-TOUR.

Daily

Live Advent calendar, 1810 Goundie House, 505 Main St. 5:30 p.m.; through Dec. 23.

Dec. 29 through Jan. 3 (no performance Dec. 31)

Sing For America presents the musical "A Little Princess" to benefit families of area servicemen; Dec. 29 and 30 at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Jan. 1 at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 2 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 3 at 2 p.m. Charles A. Brown Ice House, 57 River St. Tickets and information: visit www.SingforAmerica.com or call 610-417-2189.

The Bethlehem Press calendar listings are, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of printing. We are not responsible for the accuracy or reliability of information submitted by external parties.

HEALTH NEWS

Lehigh Valley Health Network 'Street medicine' program gets grant

The Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust has given a two-year, \$200,000 grant to LVHN's "street medicine" program. The funds will support the efforts of the more than 100 individuals working in the program, promote interest in street medicine and develop ways to provide mental health/behavioral health services.

Participating health care providers give 20 percent medical care and 80 percent care for and about the homeless. The free care includes basic medical supplies and medications, clothing, water and other items that will help patients get by for another day, week or month.

By helping the medically frail homeless to access care through six free, on-site clinics in shelters and soup kitchens, LVHN saw thirty-day readmission rates drop from 50.8 percent to 21 percent in the first six months of the street medicine program.

PEOPLE

Barata named PPA administrator

Lehigh Valley Arts Council has appointed South Bethlehem native Carlos M. Barata as administrator for the Pennsylvania Partners in Arts. The group promotes arts awareness, advocates its value, and facilitates communication and cooperation among artists, arts organizations and the community at large.

The Lehigh Valley Arts Council re-grants state funds to applicants in Carbon, Lehigh and Northampton counties through Project Stream and Program Stream. For more information, call 610-437-5915 or visit www.LVArtsCouncil.org.

Schaffer named to honors program

Bethlehem resident Cayla Schaffer, a junior biology/allied health major, was named to the honors program at Elizabethtown College for the 2015-16 academic year. She participated in advanced classes within the Honors Program during the fall of 2015.

Bryk selected as resident assistant

Emily Bryk, of Bethlehem, was chosen as a Cedar Crest College resident assistant for the 2015-16 school year. Resident assistants help build community on campus, provide leadership to their peers, plan fun programs for their floors, provide structure and support, promote safety of the halls, enforce policies and help resolve conflict.

Submit PEOPLE news items to gtaylor@tonline.com, fax 610-740-0947 or mail it to PEOPLE, c/o Bethlehem Press, 1633 N. 26 St., Allentown, PA 18104.

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Funding teen programs



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

The Bethlehem Area Public Library's Teen Board held a baked goods sale in conjunction with the recent December book sale at the main branch, to raise funds to help underwrite costs associated with teen- and family-oriented programming.

Bethlehem resident Marybeth Saporita buys baked goods from teen board members Nargis Anwari, Miles Kwiatek, Shugufa Ramin, Brianne Henley and Doniya Anwari. Kwiatek is president of the BAPL Teen Board, which helps to plan, volunteer and advise at teen and family events held at the Library.

TOWER

Continued from page 1

He also said, "Whether these developers, Mr. Ronca and Mr. Herrick, gave political contributions or not, whether they are the right developers for this site or not, they were not selected by me, and most certainly not for political favor."

Donchez said, "The developers are people we have to talk to if we are to get something done."

Residents and business owners also voiced their concerns with the rezoning.

Resident Barbara Diamond said, "We have a legitimate interest in what their plan is. We just wanted to know what is the plan for that property. I am not convinced that the plan will result in the best development for that property," she said.

Steve Diamond asked council to table the vote. "Wait until next year when there is a new council," he said. He also suggested holding a referendum on the issue to get a better view of public opinion.

Resident Dave Sanders said, "I'm asking you to do the right thing tonight." He said many people's fears regarding the rezoning will not come true. "Bethlehem is going to stay there with or without this. The right decision is to change the zoning," he said. He said using the state CRIZ funds means "my tax dollars are staying in the city."

Krisann Albanese, a resident and business owner, said she would like to see the site developed, but under the previous zoning. "Keep it as it is," she said.

Bruce Haines, owner of Hotel Bethlehem, said "This developer doesn't need to gain the windfall

profit" and that using the CRIZ funds to subsidize development on the site is abuse of the CRIZ.

Resident and business owner Rod Holt said the issue has galvanized the business community. "We have resolved to watch," he said.

Dyanne Holt, a member of the Business Advisory Committee, said, "We don't fear competition. What we do fear is unfair competition."

Resident Peter Crownfield said the mayor's "pledge of transparency has not been achieved" and that Donchez "grossly understates the extent of the developer's involvement."

Jim Fiorentino said he first heard about the rezoning in June when the matter came before the Planning Commission, which he chairs. "I was told the developer's involvement was no more than normal," he said. Fiorentino told council members, "I believe you were misled." He said he was struck by the specificity of the ordinance, which he said was more than usual. "This calls for a do-over so we can all start at the same time," he said.

Resident Dana Grubb said the ordinance should be tabled until neighborhood meetings can be held with the developers present to hear residents' concerns.

Jeff Fegley, owner of the Bethlehem Brew Works, said to council members, "What is proposed before you is tainted. There was no transparency."

One woman questioned the need for more retail space, while Bill Scheier compared the CRIZ funds to bailing out the developer. Comparing it with large banks during the financial crisis, he said, "This property is too big to fail."

He said the developer should be told what the city wants to do and not the other way around.

Before voting, Reuscher said to residents, "I do take everything you say into consideration. Nobody wants to see anything happen to storefronts on Main Street." She said the ordinance has the unintended risk of creating sprawl and would have negative effects. Although this is the last council meeting in her term, Reuscher said, she would be willing to work with council in the future.

Council member Eric Evans, who had crafted amendments to the rezoning to limit the amount of retail on the site, said he does have concerns about the rezoning. He asked solicitor Jack Spirk to explain why the developer's involvement in the rezoning proposal does not constitute illegal contract zoning.

Spirk said if a governing body asks for promises from a developer in exchange for certain zoning changes, courts will not enforce if the developer reneges on those promises. While it would be improper for council as the legislative body to have discussions with the developer, it was acceptable for the administration to do so, since it is not able to effect the zoning but must bring the matter before council. "You can't contract zone if you can't zone," he said.

Evans asked Spirk if there was anything that concerned him in the recently released right to know information. Spirk said he saw nothing wrong.

Council member Michael Recchiuti said, "The city is not immune to financial issues. We have to be proactive with zones." He said the rezoning is not about the

CRIZ. "We don't control that," he said.

Many residents had asked to see an actual plan from the developer before the zoning is approved. "We can't demand a plan," Recchiuti said. "We can create an environment where development can occur."

Responding to concerns that development on the site would create traffic issues, he said traffic would be addressed during the planning process. Any plan proposed by the developer would have to go back before the Planning Commission. "This is not the end of the process. It's the beginning," he said.

Recchiuti said, "The concerns are heavy on me," but he said he considered the needs of all the residents when deciding his vote.

Council member Bryan Callahan said, "We all try to look at it as the city as a whole." He said the amendments make "a more restrictive plan. That's what's before us." Callahan told Donchez, "You're going to be congratulated for getting something done."

Council member Louis Stellato said, "It's time to move on."

Council member Adam Waldron said, "I think everything was aboveboard." However, he said, it would have been better to bring the public into the process earlier. "This is a difficult decision," he said. "I don't think this is the best plan."

Council President J. William Reynolds said, "I don't think anything that was done was wrong." He said there are many different views on the rezoning and council must consider all. "The job is to balance those individual self interests and do what is best for the city."

THANKS FOR COMING!

We'd like to express our deep appreciation for all of your visits throughout the year.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the Staff

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Raymond F. Huston

band director, BASD teacher

Raymond F. Huston, 93, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 15, 2015. Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Franklin and Jessie (Wenner) Huston. He was the husband of Dorothy (Laslo) Huston for 62 years.

He was a 1939 graduate of Liberty HS.

He was in the Ernest Williams School of Music and graduated from the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music.

He was a Musician 2nd Class in the U.S. Navy, stationed aboard the U.S.S. Yorktown.

He was an instrumental music teacher in the Bethlehem Area School District, primarily at Northeast and East Hills middle schools for 33 years, until he retired in 1985. He directed the American Legion Band for 66 years and the Municipal Band of Bethlehem for many years.

He wrote several original march compositions, including "The Fighting Lady" and the

"World War II Memorial March." He was currently finishing the "275th Anniversary March," dedicated to Bethlehem's upcoming birthday in 2017.

He was on numerous boards and committees for the City of Bethlehem, and worked with eight Bethlehem mayors.

He is survived by a son, Mitchell of Laurys Station; two daughters, Georgie and her husband John Graybill of Macungie and Paula of Missoula, Mont.; and five grandchildren, Courtney, Jeffrey, Jason, Hannah and Gregory.

Contributions may be made to the American Legion Band of Bethlehem or the USS Yorktown, c/o the funeral home, 326 Main St., Hellertown, PA 18017.

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

Stephen "Butchie" L. Kovacs Jr.

raised champion cats

Stephen "Butchie" L. Kovacs Jr., 60, of Allentown and formerly of Hellertown, died Dec. 15, 2015. Born in Riegelsville, he was a son of the late Stephen L. Sr. and Maxine A. (Litt) Kovacs.

He was a member of the Christmas City Cat Club and, with his mother, raised grand champion Burmese cats.

He is survived by friends Bryan and Janet

Gehringer of Allentown. He was predeceased by a sister, Katherine A.

Contributions may be made to the Christmas City Cat Club, c/o the funeral home, 326 Main St., Hellertown, PA 18017.

Arrangements were made by Heintzelman Funeral Home Inc., Hellertown.

Robert D. Kominsky

worked at Bonney Forge

Robert D. Kominsky, 78, died Dec. 12, 2015, at home. Born in Allentown, he was a son of the late Alex and Pearl (Woodling) Kominsky. He was the husband of Georgine (Gigi) Kominsky for 33 years.

He was a graduate of Allen HS.

He was in the U.S. Army, 101st Airborne Division.

He worked for 40 years as a forger at Bonney Forge.

He is survived by two sons, Robert D. Jr. and Terry L. and his wife Sharon; two daughters, Cheri Lee and her husband Kelly Rogers and Tina Kominsky; two stepdaughters, Karen

and her husband Richard Falise and Michelle and her husband Jeffrey Hauck; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a brother, Alex Kominsky; and two sisters, Marion and her husband Ron Weil and Mary Kominsky.

He was predeceased by three sisters, Marlene Barber, Doris Gaffney and Arlene Esterly; and a stepson, Charles J. Wisser.

Contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.

Arrangements were made by Long Funeral Home Inc., 500 Linden St., Bethlehem.

Elmer D. Gates

Fuller Company, bank executive

Elmer D. Gates, 86, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 14, 2015. Born in Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y., he was a son of Arthur and Hazel (Coon) Gates. He was the husband of the late Betty S. Gates.

He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Clarkson College, now Clarkson University, Potsdam, N.Y.

He served during the Korean War.

He was the co-founder of Embassy Bank for the Lehigh Valley, was the non-executive chairman of Embassy Bancorp Inc. since its inception through June of 2009, and then became the lead director. He was a former chairman, president and chief executive officer of Fuller Company, now F.L. Smith. He had a 31 year career at General Electric Corporation.

He was a member of Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church in Macungie.

He was a founding director of Ambassador Bank, a board member of the Lehigh Valley Bank and a member of the U.S. Export-Import

Bank advisory committee. He was a past trustee of DeSales University; a director emeritus board member of Skills USA; a past board member and non-executive chairman of SI Handling Systems; and a past director of PPL.

He received the Clarkson Golden Knight Award. He was inducted into Clarkson's Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame and the Lehigh Valley Executive Hall of Fame. He was the author of the book, "U-Turn Leadership".

He is survived by two daughters, Patti and her husband Mark Smith of Fogelsville and Jodi Key of Douglassville; and four grandchildren, Brett and Emily Smith and Bill and Heather Key.

Contributions may be sent to the Gates Endowment for Hospice, VNA of St. Luke's, 801 Ostrum St., Bethlehem, PA 18015; or to the church, 2623 Brookside Road, Macungie, PA 18062.

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

Harry R. Miller Sr.

credit union president

Harry R. Miller Sr., 80, of Hanover Township, died Dec. 6, 2015, in St. Luke's Hospice House, Lower Saucon Township. Born in Nazareth, he was a son of the late George Jesse Sr. and Amanda Mary (Wagner) Miller. He was the husband of the late Carol L. (McNeal) Miller.

He was a graduate of Nazareth HS and Churchman Business School, Easton. He was in the U.S. Navy.

He was a sales coordinator and master scheduler at Bell & Howell. He was a former president and treasurer of the Bell & Howell employee credit union.

He was a member of Advent Moravian Church, Hanover Town-

ship.

He was a member of the American Numismatics Association.

He is survived by a daughter, Julie A. of Washington, N.J.; two sons, Harry R. Jr. and his wife Jennifer of Ridgelyville, S.C. and John D. and his wife Leah of Washington, N.J.; a sister-in-law, Marie Miller of Nazareth; four grandsons, Michael R., Matthew H. and William Miller and Sean P. Cleary; nieces, nephews; and cousins.

He was predeceased by a brother, George Jesse Miller Jr.

Contributions may be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 961 Marcon Blvd., Suite 452, Allentown, PA 18109.

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

Peter Graham Dodd

car salesman

Peter Graham Dodd, 66, of Allentown, died Dec. 4, 2015, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Cedar Crest, Salisbury Township. Born in Ottumwa,

Iowa, he was a son of the late Robert W. Dodd and Marjorie (Strohauer) Dodd. He was the fiancé of Donna J. Hoch, with whom he resided.

He was a car salesman at Bethlehem Ford for the past 15 years and, prior to that, with other dealerships.

He was a member of the Jefferson Democratic Club, Rosemont Fire Company, North End Wanderers AA, Beth-

lehem Volunteer Fireman's Home Association, Heights AA, West Side Republican Club and Mercantile Club.

He is survived by two children, Ryan Wineteer and his fiancée Aباigeal C. Burbank of Wolfeboro, N.H. and Joel Westwood of Telluride, Colo.; a brother, Michael and his wife Kathy Dodd of Kansas City, Mo. and their daughter Katy Dodd and her son Michael.

Arrangements were made by Heintzelman Funeral Home Inc., Hellertown.

Delores J. Kannapel

credit union president

Delores J. Kannapel, 85, of Freemansburg, died Dec. 2, 2015, at St. Luke's Hospice House, Lower Saucon Township. Born in Fountain Hill, she was a daughter of the late Elmer and Florence (Yonney) Yob. She was the wife of the late Edward Kannapel.

She worked at Sure Fit Inc. for more than 40 years until the plant closed in 2004.

She is survived by two daughters, Debra of Freemansburg and Do-reen and her husband

John Ganz of Bethlehem; a sister, Irene Yob of Fountain Hill; and a brother, William and his wife Lydia Yob of Bethlehem.

She was predeceased by two sisters, Betty Anwalt and Dorothy Schraeder, who also died on the same day.

Contributions may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kan. 66675.

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

Karen A. (Wachter) Hahn

data entry clerk

Karen A. (Wachter) Hahn, 73, of Bethlehem Township, and formerly of Orefield, died Dec. 5, 2015, in her home. Born in Altoona, she was a daughter of the late Paul P. and Ethel Ruth (Smith) Wachter. She was the wife of Richard G. Hahn for 33 years.

She was a data entry clerk at Aetna Insurance Company, Allentown, for nine years before retiring in 2003. Prior to that, she was a school bus driver in the Parkland School District for 10 years.

In addition to her

husband, she is survived by four daughters, Christine L. Kreisher of Slatedale, Karen L. Monteiro of Nazareth, Kathy E. Smith of Catasauqua and Jody L. Miller of Bethlehem; a brother, Robert P. Wachter of Chatsworth, Ga.; a sister, Cheryl L. Haggerty of Orefield; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by a daughter, Caroline Dee Becker.

Arrangements were made by Heintzelman Funeral Home Inc., Hellertown.

Jean M. Deutch

office manager

Jean M. Deutch, 91, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 11, 2015, at Kirkland Village. Born in Bethlehem, she was a daughter of the late Abraham and Tillie (Badchan) Mindlin. She was the wife of the late Bernard Deutch.

She was a Bethlehem HS graduate.

She was the office manager for her husband's painting business.

She was a member of Congregation Brith Sholom.

She is survived by five children, Jeffrey and his wife Suzanne of Boca Raton, Fla., Stanley and his wife Victo-

ria of Indialantic, Fla., Ed and his wife Goldie of Philadelphia, Elaine and her husband Larry Lang of Bethlehem and Ted and his wife Jill of Boca Raton; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by four siblings, Morris Mindlin, Isadore Mindlin, Helen Levine and Harold Mindlin. Contributions may be made to Congregation Brith Sholom, 1190 W. Macada Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017. Arrangements were made by Long Funeral Home Inc., Bethlehem.

Noteworthy music

PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Moravian College Brass Ensemble trombonists play from the Central Moravian Church belfry prior to the Moravian College Christmas Vespers inside the Bethlehem landmark. The service was observed Dec. 13, the final evening of the college's two-weekend musical presentation in Christmas City.



Robert Short and his wife Davina with sister Patrice Kayle listen from the sidewalk beneath the towering Central Moravian Church. The Shorts, currently living in California, are moving to Florida after Robert officially reaches retirement age on his Christmas Eve birthday.

Helen M. Steixner

St. Theresa R.C. Church member

Helen M. Steixner, 97, formerly of Hellertown, died Dec. 17, 2015, at Holy Family Manor, Bethlehem. Born in Bethlehem, she was a daughter of the late Paul Polisky and Dominica (Polakowska) Polisky. She was the wife of the late Anthony L. Steixner.

She was a seamstress at Casco Manufacturing for 26 years until she retired.

She was a member of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Roman Catholic Church, Hellertown, where she was in the choir and was a member of the guild, senior citizens and the former St. Theresa's Thrift Store.

She is survived by a daughter, Denise H. and her husband Thomas Neith of Hellertown and their children, Eric

and his wife Kimberly Molan and their daughter, Alexa Neith, and Kyle and his wife Elena Neith; a sister, Alexandra Wells of Bethlehem; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by three sisters, Pauline Fortun, Louise Pfeiffer and Jennie Straka.

Contributions may be made to St. Theresa Roman Catholic Church, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown, PA 18055; Holy Family Manor, 1200 Spring St., Bethlehem, PA 18018; and/or VNA Hospice of St. Luke's, 1510 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

Arrangements were made by Heintzelman Funeral Home Inc., Hellertown.

Alice G. Yocom

First Presbyterian member

Alice G. Yocom, 96, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 14, 2015, in Kirkland Village. Born in Chicago Heights, IL, she was a daughter of the late Floyd T. and Lela (Parke) Goodier. She was the wife of the late Willis H. Yocom.

She was an Oberlin College graduate.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church.

She was a supporter of the Bach Choir.

She is survived by three children, Susan Kent in England, Thomas Yocom in California and Jennifer in Vermont; and four grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the Bach Choir of Bethlehem, 440 Heckewelder Place, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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

**BRIEFLY
BETHLEHEM**

NCC announces holiday schedule

Northampton Community College will be closed from Dec. 24 through Jan. 3, except for Dec. 28. Some offices at the Bethlehem and Monroe campuses will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on that day for students and members of the public who wish to register for spring semester classes.

In-person registration will again be available during normal office hours when the college reopens on Jan. 4.

The enrollment centers, academic advising and placement offices, and bookstores will all be open on Dec. 28. Placement testing will be available. Orientation, advisement and registration sessions for new student will be held at 11 a.m. on both campuses.

BETHLEHEM

New Turning Point director named

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley has named Lori G. Sywensky of Walnutport the new executive director beginning Jan. 4, 2016.

Currently the deputy director of the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development, she has a diverse background in management of nonprofit social services and local and statewide public administration.

For information, visit www.turningpointlv.org.

Soon and very soon ...



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

The recent unseasonably mild weather which broke records in the mid-60s, brought out the Perez family from Bethlehem Township to visit some of Bethlehem's holiday attractions in the Christmas City USA. Nery Perez points to the baby Jesus surrounded by near life-sized creche figures as her two children Luis Phelipe and Camila Rodriguez, look on. The outdoor nativity display at the foot of the municipality's largest cut evergreen is the focal point of Bethlehem's holiday decorations.

Authority resigned to pipeline

BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI
njastrzemski@tnonline.com

During their last meeting of 2015, authority members once again faced the inevitability of the PennEast Pipeline, though they spoke favorably of the PennEast officials they've had dealings with so far.

President John Tallarico sighed as he said there is no getting around the pipeline — though there maybe some of the pipeline getting around authority property. Discussion has been ongoing to move the planned pipe route away

from water transmission lines, which in the case of an accident could spell serious danger, and over a mountain and under a lake instead.

But the authority must be prepared. "We have to plan as if the pipeline will become reality," Tallarico said. He said he recently spoke with higher-ups and found little to complain about. "So far they've been very accommodating. They're covering legal and office time ... so far the cost to

the authority has been zero."

Vaughn Gower agreed, saying PennEast has shown a willingness to compromise and has been thoroughly professional, even if it's obvious they have every intention of building the pipeline no matter what.

Tallarico nodded. "At least they're trying their best."

The board approved

a three-part addendum to PennEast's access agreement, allowing for a \$20,000 geotechnical study, among other items.

Members also decided on a gift policy, leaving the countless details and circumstances that could arise with such a subject to a simple rule against accepting nothing worth more than \$100.

The first meeting of the new year is scheduled for 4 p.m. Jan. 14 at city hall.

BETHLEHEM

**BRIEFLY
BETHLEHEM**

Dutch Springs

scuba list top 10

USA Today has listed Dutch Springs among the top 10 best scuba diving destinations in the United States and the Caribbean for novice and experienced divers.

PADI's ScubaEarth named Dutch Springs number one dive site in North and South America (September 2015), and number two dive site in the world (June 2015).

Dutch Springs is one of the only two sites named in the eastern U.S. Other sites in the top 10 include John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, Key Largo, Fla.; Casino Point, Catalina Island, Calif.; Bonne Terre Mine, Mo.; and Molokini Crater, Maui, Hawaii.

BETHLEHEM

2016 YWCA

nominations open

YWCA Bethlehem is accepting nominations for the 41st annual Women and Teens of the Year awards for local women and teens whose outstanding volunteer service benefits the Bethlehem community.

Adult nominees must reside in the greater Lehigh Valley and contribute positively to impacting the Bethlehem community. Teen nominees must reside and attend school in the Bethlehem area.

Nomination forms, detailed criteria and instructions, table reservations, advertising opportunities, and sponsorship or program book for the April 7, 2016, event, visit www.ywca-bethlehem.org or call 610-867-4669, ext. 103.

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CARING SOLUTIONS

“Why does seeking alternative support for my parents make me feel so guilty?”

Managing the needs of aging parents can be difficult. And feeling guilty about not being able to provide consistent support is a symptom of being overwhelmed. Many people have these feelings, and it's OK to ask for help. Here are some difficult questions we hear often.

Q: How can I balance the demands of my job and my own family while I care for my mom?

A: As the primary caregiver, you must make time for yourself in order to provide the best care:

- Divide responsibilities into smaller chunks. It is less overwhelming and gives you a sense of accomplishment.
- Get moving. Take the stairs at work or walk short distances you usually drive.
- Keep your sense of humor. Laughter helps you and your loved one feel connected.

Every caregiver's situation is different, but there are proven ways to help. Look for our caregiver coping techniques tip sheet at CountryMeadows.com/coping.

60%

of family caregivers say their caregiving duties have a negative effect on their job.

Source: Caringsolutions.com, Senior Care Cost Index 2014.

Q: I'm so frustrated with Dad's forgetfulness, yet I know he can't help it. What can I do to improve our relationship?

A: Loss of memory in a loved one is difficult for everyone. If you are the only caregiver, he may blame you for his discomfort and confusion. Try sharing the care so you can focus on your relationship more and less on day-to-day responsibilities and ultimately restore your role as a son or daughter.

- Consider dividing responsibilities with family.
- Look at retirement communities with specialized memory care. Professional caregivers may be more effective at daily support, which could ease your mind and help your relationship.

Most importantly, remind yourself that you only want the best for him. We offer advice on how to reconnect with your loved one in a tip sheet that can be found at CountryMeadows.com/reconnect.

Our experienced senior care team is happy to discuss any questions you may have about aging, caregiving, memory support or senior living in general. Every family's situation is different, and we want to help you find a solution that fits yours.

Readers' **CHOICE** THE MORNING CALL

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ANOTHER VIEW

Embracing the spirit of Christmas

BY MARK RECCEK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

What does Christmas mean to you? What significance does it hold in your heart? For many, Christmas involves buying and exchanging gifts, spending time with family and enjoying a plentiful dinner. While traditions are important, do they ultimately define this time of the year? The Christmas spirit is something most of us have heard of and thought about. Despite our searching, a number of us have not quite found such a spirit. Recently I had an opportunity to experience and see firsthand an early version of the Christmas spirit.

A few weeks ago I was involved in a rather catastrophic event that was neither expected nor planned for. The apartment house where I lived caught on fire. In reflecting on the experience, I realize I am lucky to have survived unharmed and alive.

While I did my best to present a strong, self-reliant persona, a group of former co-workers and current colleagues banded together to present a gift – one that I will forever cherish. Additionally, a number of friends and family offered their thoughtful assistance.

When presented with the gift and offers of help and assistance, I clearly witnessed what the Christmas holiday is all about.

Depending on the person, the spirit of Christmas can be both seen and unseen. It comes in a selfless act of love, generosity and concern for others. When one is challenged and struggling, the Christmas spirit presents itself as a force that awakens the soul and lifts its recipient up off the ground.

The spirit, while at times elusive, also comes in the form of people – people who care, love and want to help.

Life is filled with highs and lows, along with failures and accomplishments. Even during the Christmas holiday some of us will have to deal with the less desirable aspects of life. No one, regardless of age, gender, nationality, ethnicity or the time of the year is immune from the unexpected surprises life presents to us. Yet, despite the unexpected and unplanned events of life that might potentially physically or mentally hurt or harm us, the love and warmth of the Christmas spirit is out there.

Although some of us find it difficult accepting help and being seen as vulnerable, all of us at one point or another in life will fall on one or both knees and look upward.

It's often when we pick our heads up and direct our eyes above that we see the goodness of life, the love of others and the grace of God.

And what a great time of the year to glance heavenward, in an effort to search for the Christmas spirit or impart that spirit on to another person in need or want.

I suggest those reading this column consider being the conduit for the Christmas spirit this year. Either allow someone to help and provide comfort to you or do the same for another you perceive to be in need.

The Christmas spirit is waiting to embrace you and it wants to be firmly embraced by you. Christmas, after all, is a time of hope, a time of love, a time to share and give and a time to lift up the life and soul of another person.

Give a gift this year that will forever be remembered and held close by the one receiving it – the spirit of Christmas.

Atria residents donate to cancer coalition



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

Residents at Atria Bethlehem conducted a butterfly release, ran a basket raffle, supported jewelry and candy sales, and held a yard and bake sale to raise funds during October for cancer awareness. Their dedication resulted in \$825 being raised by residents, families and friends, and staff at the personal care facility. In a brief ceremony Nov. 20, those proceeds were conveyed to the PA Breast Cancer Coalition by Atria staff and followed by refreshments for residents and staff to celebrate their successful efforts. **Above:** Jessica Gonzalez, executive director of Atria Bethlehem, Mildred Stevenson, resident service director, and Dorine D'Andria, community sales director, presented a check for \$825 to PA Breast Cancer Coalition database manager Michelle Goodreau Nov. 20. The PA Breast Cancer Coalition is a statewide organization based in Lebanon that provides "educational programming, legislative advocacy and breast cancer research grants."

Gaming board readies for 2016

BY BERNIE O'HARE
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Northampton County's nine-member Gaming Board met Dec. 14 to gear up for next year's round of grants. It awarded \$1.66 million this year in slots machine money from the Sands Casino in Bethlehem and can be expected to do the same next year.

Northampton County also receives about \$1.2 million in table games revenue from the Sands, but that money is con-

trolled by county council. Table games revenue can be spent on anything considered in the "best interest" of the county, but with slots revenue, priority must be given to requests dealing with the impact created by gambling. In addition, these impact grant requests are limited to Bethlehem and the communities surrounding the Christmas City. Those are

Freemansburg, Hellertown and Lower Saucon, Bethlehem and Hanover townships.

If there is money left over after impact grants are awarded, the gaming board may consider grant requests from other municipalities. Last year, the slots revenue was only enough for impact grants.

Executive Director Karen Collis reported

that grant applications will be accepted, starting Jan. 6. She indicated there are currently 17 active grants in process. She also makes periodic compliance visits to determine the money is being spent according to the terms of the request. She has found no issues.

Treasurer Tom Nolan indicated that the authority is sitting on \$390,000 as of the end of November, but \$107,476 is set aside to pay for grants that have been awarded.

Council approves table gaming grants

BY BERNIE O'HARE
Special to the Bethlehem Press

By an 8 to 1 vote, Northampton County Council has approved

\$720,500 in table games grants. They are part of Executive John Brown's Community Investment Partnership Program (CIPP), which he first

announced in January. The plan is to use table games revenue from the Sands Casino for a variety of grants and revolving loans, with an

emphasis on aging boroughs and townships. By August, there were 43 grant applications, which were rated by a See **GRANTS** on Page 7

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GRANTS

Continued from page 6

committee comprised of county bureaucrats, LVPC and council member Scott Parsons. Those were whittled down to 22 projects, including four facade plans, a stormwater study for Bethlehem Township and Freemansburg, as well as a regional animal control officer in the slate belt.

Most of Council's discussion focused on whether to vote for this individually or as a block. Lamont McClure said there were a few grants he opposed. Hayden Phillips said he opposed one. But Council, which has discussed these grants at several meetings, decided to vote them up or down as a block. McClure voted yes and Phillips ended up being the sole no, because of opposition to one project.

Municipal grants are:

- Three Easton projects totaling \$110,000
- Bethlehem Township/Freemansburg; \$25,000
- Forks Township; \$25,000
- Hellertown Borough; \$50,000
- Nazareth; \$30,000
- Plainfield Township; \$56,000
- Penn Argyl; \$50,000
- Bethlehem; \$50,000

Non-municipal grants include:

- LV Workforce investment Board; \$50,000
- YWCA; \$10,000
- Tott's Gap Art Institute; \$20,000
- Slate Belt Council of Governments; \$10,000
- Green Knights EDC; \$50,000
- Kellyn Foundation; \$50,000
- CACL; \$50,000
- Miller-Keystone Blood Center; \$17,000
- Hispanic Center of the LV; \$50,000

Christmas round the world



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Sisters Samantha and Sydnee Strickler visit the holiday season exhibit "An Ethnic Christmas in South Bethlehem" which features 19 decorated Christmas trees representing a variety of cultures that celebrate the holiday season. The annual free display, presented by the South Bethlehem Historical Society, continues through Jan. 9 in the lobby of the Comfort Suites at 120 West Third St. in South Bethlehem. Sydnee and her parents, of York, were staying at the Southside hotel while visiting Samantha for the Christmas holidays.



The Christmas in Hungary tree is decorated with a variety of colorful ornaments, which include a crocheted angel.

BRIEFLY SALISBURY

Whooping cough closes schools

Salisbury Township School District Superintendent Dr. Randy Ziegenfuss announced Dec. 18 all schools would be closed Dec. 21 through 23 due to a health issue.

Ziegenfuss said in his message a case of pertussis (whooping cough) was confirmed at Salisbury HS Dec. 10. Parents were notified at that time if students had been in contact with the affected student.

Ziegenfuss said there are now five confirmed cases, with two of those confirmed Dec. 18. He said additional high school students are being tested.

"We have discussed this situation with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. As a result of this health concern and in an effort to constrain the spread of the disease, Salisbury Township School District will be closed Monday through Wednesday Dec. 21 to 23. All activities beginning Dec. 21 through Dec. 27 will be postponed. School will resume according to the calendar Jan. 4, 2016. Makeup dates will be Feb. 12, 2016, March 24, 2016 and June 10, 2016.

A letter on the school district website describes pertussis as a highly contagious disease spread through the air when an infected person sneezes or coughs. Pertussis begins with cold symptoms and a cough that becomes much worse over one to two weeks.

Symptoms usually include a long series of coughs (coughing fits) followed by a whooping noise; however, older children, adults and very young infants may not develop the whoop. There is generally no fever. The cough is usually worse at night and cough medicines usually do not help alleviate the cough. The disease can be very severe, especially in infants less than one year old.

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December 12, 2015
Blue Christmas
4:00 p.m. in The Gathering Place
Need some time away from the holiday hype? Blue Christmas is a contemplative, candlelit worship for seekers of peace, comfort or quiet this season. At the conclusion, attendees are invited outside to light a luminary as a symbol of God's light.

December 20, 2015
Christmas Cantata
"I Hear the Prophet Callin'"
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Directed by Andy Hoke
Featuring the Christ Church Choir and Orchestra

December 24, 2015
Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. Interactive Service
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Mack Trucks announces 400 layoffs

BY SUSAN BRYANT
sbryant@tnonline.com

Mack Trucks announced Dec. 15 beginning in January 2016, the company will lay off 400 workers.

Christopher Heffner, public relations manager with Mack Trucks, Greensboro, N.C., emailed The Press, "the layoffs are the result of our need to adapt production to meet market demand."

"The bargaining unit employees will not receive a severance package, but will get certain benefits based on the collective bargaining agreement," Heffner said.

According to Heffner, the affected employees have not yet been identified and no departments will be shut down.

The Mack Trucks facility in Lower Macungie, which is an assembly plant, will not see any changes in the types of vehicles it produces.

"The Class 8 heavy-duty truck market is cyclical, and we said several months ago that 2015 would be the peak year," Heffner said in the email. "We regret having to take this action, but we must adapt to market demand."

The layoffs will take effect beginning Jan. 25, 2016, Heffner stated in the email.



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

Owen Lansing attends the December book sale with his father Adam, who said they go to nearly every sale. For his part, Owen said he prefers "fiction and stuff with dragons." The Lansings live in Bethlehem.

Keeping the library doors open

The Bethlehem Area Public Library's final book sale in 2015 earned \$9,725, taking book sale proceeds for the year over \$55,000. Development Director Liza Holzinger complimented the

quality of donations throughout the year. Holzinger indicated that funding earned during the sales has been very helpful because state revenue that supports public libraries has been

held up during the state budget impasse. "These sales and the library's annual appeal are keeping the doors open," Holzinger said. Sale dates for 2016 are Feb. 3 and 6, March 16 and 19,

May 18 and 21, July 13 and 16, Sept. 14 and 17, and Nov. 30 and Dec. 3. Additional information is available at www.bestbooksale.org or by calling 610-867-3761 extension 235.

Central Moravian Church gift-givers



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

The Rev. Maggie Weller, Joann Haines of Central Moravian Church and Joan Carson hand Holiday season gift bags to Hotel Bethlehem shuttle bus driver Brian Kleckner recently. About 170 gift bags were filled with clothing and books purchased by congregants for needy children from the Lehigh Valley Community Services and the Esperanza Moravian Church in South Bethlehem. The annual holiday season gift-giving project by the CMC Social Action Committee is co-chaired by Joan Carson.

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BRIEFLY

ZOO

Winter Light Spectacular

Lehigh Valley Zoo, along with presenting sponsor Christmas Décor, has begun the second season of Winter Light Spectacular, featuring Star Wars, Frozen Minions and holiday music.

This season's Winter Light Spectacular will feature 33 scheduled event nights 5:30 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays until Jan. 3, 2016, in the zoo's otter stadium.

This Winter Light Spectacular will feature nearly 1 million energy conserving lights.

The zoo has also partnered with Dan's Camera City to provide visitors the opportunity to have professional photographs taken with Santa Claus.

Stop by the Bison Auditorium during the spectacular to have photos taken.

There will be no event spectacular Christmas Eve or Christmas.

For tickets, go to lvzoo.org or call the zoo at 610-779-4171.

ALLENTOWN

Discussion forum at Brew Works

Pastor Eric Yeakel with Asbury United Methodist Church, 1533 Springhouse Road, South Whitehall Township, is offering a new theological discussion forum titled "Brewology" 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Brew Works, 812 W. Hamilton St., Allentown.

There will be a specific room designated for these gatherings within the restaurant.

The gatherings are open for all to attend.

The format includes beer, conversation and God.

Pastor Yeakel wants to engage in conversation with many non-church and nominally-churched people who have various perspectives on matters of faith.

Conversations will get started with some broad theological questions, but feel free to bring your own questions.

Bring a friend, pull up a chair and be ready to engage with people of varying religious traditions, philosophical perspectives and life experiences.

Share your own thoughts and struggles while maybe learning something new along the way.

For more information, go to asburylv.org.

LIBRARY

Doll display Dec. 1-30

Allentown Public Library, 1210 Hamilton St., Allentown, will display some of the 400 dolls in its collection Dec. 1-30.

The vast assortment of dolls from many different countries was donated by Harriet Backenstoe and Dorothy Knauss to the library.

For more information, call 610-820-2400 or go to allentownpl.org.

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'Pathways to Santa'

LVH-Muhlenberg's 6th annual holiday event

BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI
njstrzemi@tnonline.com

For six years, lung cancer survivor Bruce Smith, originally from Catasauqua, has thanked LV Hospital-Muhlenberg staff

and helped stoke the holiday fire for current patients by organizing "Pathways to Santa." An event made to boost spirits with a mascot and music-filled hospital visit, it also gathers donations from local

companies and residents which go directly to cancer patients. This year "Santa" collected more than \$42,000 in gift cards to help the patients in any number of ways.



Some of the mascots gather with patients and survivors Kevin Alpaugh of East Stroudsburg, Deanna Bedics, originally from Bethlehem, and Jodee Cook of Walnutport.



TOP: More and more characters pour into the waiting room and goof off with patients, staff and each other. ABOVE: The Becahi Hawk presents Director of Infusion Services Amy Levan with a football signed by the school's varsity football team.



Felicity Herman, 6, is the daughter of a volunteer and joins volunteer elf Taylor Mann and the PBS 39 bear for a few minutes between visits to patients.



The Whitehall HS chorus, led by director Andrew Borghesani, at left, gathers in the hospital lobby and readies for a singing tour of the hospital.

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The **TIMES NEWS AND LEHIGH VALLEY PRESS**, AT&T and the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association invite students to enter our It Can Wait Contest, by submitting an editorial column or a feature article highlighting the dangers of texting while driving and explaining why teens should take the pledge.

1st place will receive \$300, 2nd place will receive \$200, and 3rd place will receive \$100.

Final winner picked by Marta Gouger (Editor of TIMES NEWS) and Scott Masenheimer (Publisher of TIMES NEWS & Lehigh Valley Press)

One winner will be selected by PNA from among all submitted local winners to receive \$500, courtesy of AT&T.

- Distracted driving is an epidemic. Texting and other smartphone activities are estimated to be involved in 200,000+ vehicle crashes each year, often involving injuries and deaths.
- Despite knowing the risks of texting while driving, seven in ten drivers admit to texting while driving. However, 78 percent of teens say they would stop texting if a friend in the car asked.



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Entry deadline: 1/15/16

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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.



Wishes is a great little cat who would love a home. She is in and out of our sick room but would thrive out of the shelter.



Brutus is very people-friendly but does not care for other dogs or cats. He's looking for a family who will give him lots of exercise.



PRESS PHOTOS BY RUTH GRADY

The Moravian College brass section provided the music for the festive holiday event.

Sharing the holiday spirit

BY RUTH GRADY
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Moravian College hosted a holiday meal at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity Dec. 5 to help less fortunate residents of Bethlehem by serving a hot meal catered by the Moravian College Dining Services. Close to 100 people attended the event. This is the 17th year that Moravian College's faculty, staff and students have volunteered to serve a traditional holiday meal

which consisted of sliced turkey, bread stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, assorted rolls with butter and chocolate or vanilla cake and cookies. Fun activities were also available, such as bingo, coloring and mittens match. This event also provided small gifts to local families through local community service organizations. Moravian Director of Civic Engagement Gillian Smith Sharkey said she contacted many

social services agencies and also knocked on some doors to spread the word to the residents of Bethlehem so they would be made aware of the availability of a nutritious hot meal. New Bethany Ministries, Victory House, Trinity Episcopal Church, Fountain Hill School Family Center, Fowler Family Center, Turning Point, and Clearview ES Family Center distributed tickets to the holiday luncheon to needy families.



The Moravian College mascot (aka Matthew Clayton) sports a Santa suit.



Moravian College students Amy Colon and Dio Nunez collect tickets.



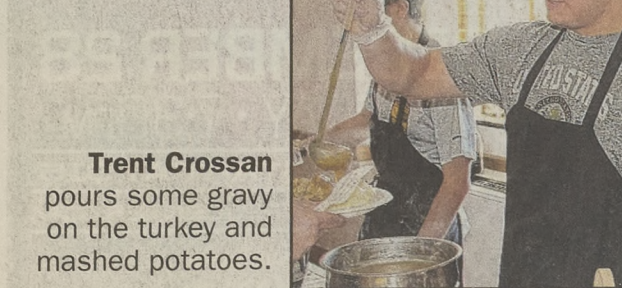
Essynce Botz and Angel Christian enjoy the hot meal.



Anthony Pasaniti places a roll on a plate while Collin Sokolowski offers butter.



Kim Domyan places mashed potatoes on the plate.



Trent Crossan pours some gravy on the turkey and mashed potatoes.



Luca and Max Pagliaroli have fun coloring. They came along with their mother, Jennifer Pagliaroli, who is a support staff member at Moravian College.

VOLUNTEERS

BETHLEHEM SPECIAL OLYMPICS is in need of occasional photographers who can take photos at competitions, fundraising events and other local events. Contact Dana Lindsey, 267-221-7740, bso.dana@gmail.com.

FOUNTAIN HILL CEMETERY needs volunteers for weeding, trimming of shrubs and weed-whacking in the Green Meadow Natural Burial Ground. Contact Ed Vogrins, 610-868-4840, info@greenmeadowpa.org.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY LV RESTORE, Whitehall; Assist with receiving product donations, merchandising and providing excellent customer service. Contact Camille Urbano, 610-776-7737, camille@habitatlv.org

TEACH RWANDA, Easton, is introducing modern teaching methods to Rwandan preschools. They are seeking a treasurer who will work with a paid bookkeeper to handle finances in the U.S. Contact Janet Brown, 484-542-7442, jbrown@teachrwanda.org.

THE GRESS MOUNTAIN RANCH, Orefield, is in need of volunteers to coordinate collections to help feed animals by donating holiday meals: lettuce of all kinds, vegetables, juices (OJ, apple, cranberry), canned pumpkin and vanilla pudding to help make the medicine go down. Contact Kathryn Gress, 610-398-2122, gressranch@gmail.com.

FORKS YMCA EDUCATION CENTER, Easton, needs individuals, organizations and groups to coordinate collection drives for holiday gifts for families in need. Contact Brenda Pickard, 610-250-7193, brendapickard@greatervalleyymca.org.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, Greater Lehigh Valley, is recruiting volunteers to serve as coordinators for the Road to Recovery program. Contact Jennifer Washney, 570-562-9749, jennifer.washney@cancer.org.

AMERICA ON WHEELS, Allentown, needs volunteers (age 16+) for gift shop/admissions assistant (handling cash register required) and museum tour guides. Contact Liz Hahn, 610-432-4200, ext. 10, fund_development@americaonwheels.org.

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.

Pastor's Comments
In large print at: www.NAOG.ws/pc
Northampton Assembly of God
3449 Cherryville Rd., Northampton • Sun. 10:45 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm
Daniel E. Lundmark, Pastor • 610-262-5645 • pastor@NAOG.ws

What A Baby!
Amazing! This Baby born of a virgin (Matthew 1:23) in a lowly manger was actually "God with us!" The invisible God, "No man hath seen God at any time" (John 1:18), made Himself visible to man! He "was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory" (John 1:14). Simeon saw Baby Jesus in the temple and declared, "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people" (Luke 2:30-31).
Jesus Christ is the only One Who lived before He was conceived! He is coeternal with God, "In the beginning was the Word." He is coexistent with God, "The Word was with God." He is coequal with God, "The Word was God" (John 1:1). He is God incarnate!
An unknown author wrote: "Christ came from the bosom of the Father to the bosom of a woman. He put on humanity that we might put on divinity. He became a man that we might become the sons of God. In infancy He startled a king; in boyhood He puzzled the doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of nature. He walked upon the billows, hushed the sea to sleep, and healed the multitudes without medicine. He never wrote a book; yet the libraries of the world are filled with volumes that have been written about Him. He never penned a musical note; yet He is the theme of more lyrics than any other subject in the world. Great men have come and gone; yet He lives on. Herod could not kill Him, Satan could not seduce Him, death could not destroy Him, the grave could not hold Him! He stands forth upon the highest pinnacle of Heavenly glory, proclaimed of God, acknowledged by angels, adored by saints, and feared by devils, as the living, personal Christ, our Lord, our Savior and our God!"
Do you know Him? See: www.naog.ws/theway.htm

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INSIDE
SPORTS



HOOPS

Liberty girls start season 6-0.

A12



SOCCER

Bethlehem Steel FC signed their first group of players recently.

A12

▼ THEY SAID IT

"It was energy plus effort. It was all about rebounds and loose balls and a need to win the game."

Morgan Orloski

Liberty girls player

▼ BRIEFLY

LV ROAD RUNNERS

The 2015-16 Lehigh Valley Road Runners Ice Scraper Winter Series 5K is set to begin at the end of the month. The first race is set for Dec. 20 at the Lehigh Parkway at 10 a.m. The other three remaining race dates are as follows: Jan. 17, Feb. 21 and March 13.

Registration for the event opened on Nov. 1 and costs \$10 per race or \$35 for the complete four-race series. It is free for LVRR club members.

Interested participants may also register on the day of the race in between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m.

If there are any questions, contact Leslie Billowitch (lbillowitch@gmail.com) or Loretta Dodson (ldodson@ptd.net).

BC rallies to top FHS

BY KATIE MCDONALD
kmcdonald@tnonline.com

Bethlehem Catholic's girls' basketball team won a 40-35 come-from-behind victory over Freedom last week at Freedom High School.

"It was energy plus effort," said Becahi guard, Morgan Orloski. "It was all about rebounds and loose balls and a need to win the game."

It was the Patriots, however, who came on strong, with Hailey Silfies controlling the boards and Meckenzie Herman controlling the points.

While the Patriots had maintained a six-point lead by the end of each quarter, the Hawks were looking for ways to shut down Silfies and Herman, while looking for ways to spark their own offense.

In the second quarter, Jordynn Jones, Tessa Zamolyi, Natalie Rhine, Julia Zambo, and Orloski combined for 11 points for the Hawks, but so did Silfies, Herman, and Kaitlyn Swint.

At halftime, energy plus effort was the theme in the Bethlehem Catholic locker room.

"Every point gives energy," said Orloski.

Returning to the court, Herman opened the third quarter with back-to-back threes for the Patriots, but Rhine responded with a three pointer for the Hawks.

Rhine said, "After she hit a bunch, we got the hint we needed to shut her down, so that's how we came out in the fourth quarter."

Now it was Orloski who would open the last quarter of the game with a three-pointer, and Sarah Baumann went on to add two more points for the Hawks soon after. Minutes later, Baumann rebounded her own miss to score again and tie the game at 35.

"We were speeding them up, and that's when we have the position. That's where it's our game," said Orloski.

Turnovers and intentional fouls sealed the game for Becahi in the end with Rhine hitting three out of four foul shots, while Tessa Zamolyi made both of hers.

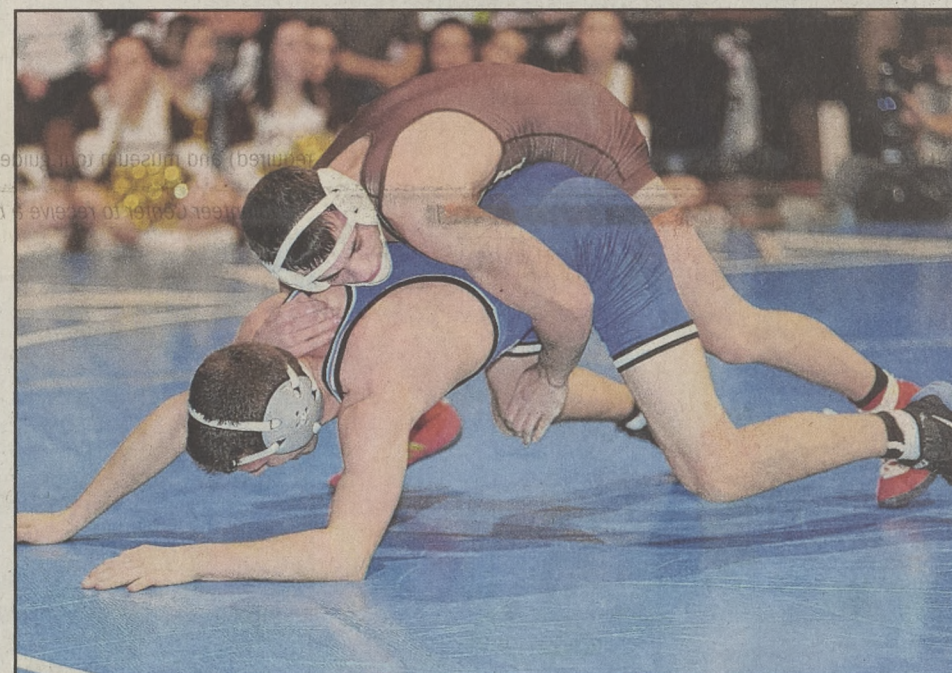
Jaiden Coyne and Kyra Jefferson also scored for Freedom.



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Becahi's Morgan Orloski looks to make a pass during a game from last week.

BETHLEHEM: WRESTLING CITY



Stephen Maloney is a returning champ representing the Hawks.

Tony Iasiello Tourney to be held at Becahi

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

The 48th annual Tony Iasiello Memorial Christmas City wrestling tournament will take place on December 29 and 30 at Bethlehem Catholic.

The Hawks annual event is their chance to enjoy the holidays at home, as well as win lots of medals.

Becahi crowned seven individual champions last year and will look to equal that number next week when action begins on Tuesday at 10 a.m.

The tournament has added New Jersey schools Cranford and Holy Cross, and traditional PIAA Class 2A

power Athens from District 4. All three teams present an upgrade in competition, as Holy Cross features 195-pound New Jersey state runner-up Matt Correnti.

Athens junior Brian Courtney was a PIAA 2A runner-up last season at 120 pounds as well.

All the teams that are participating include Anneville Cleona, Arch Bishop Wood, Athens, Bethlehem Catholic, Blair Academy (Second Varsity Team), Cranford NJ., East Stroudsburg North, East Stroudsburg South, Elmer L. Meyers, First Colonial VA., The Hill School, Holy Cross, Louis E. Dieruff, Mariana Brac-

etti Academy, Muhlenberg, Notre Dame GP, Pocono Mountain West, Port Jervis NY., Scranton, Schuylkill Valley, Susquehanna Township, Upper Perkiomen and Wallenpaupack.

Wednesday's action gets underway at 10 a.m. with semifinals and wrestling will continue all day until a 45 minute break to set up for the finals.

Becahi ran away with the team title last year with 259 points. Returning champs from last year's tournament from Becahi include Mikey Lewis (106), Luke Carty (113), Luke Karam (126) Stephen Maloney (138) and Mike Labriola (152).

Holiday Classic set for Liberty

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

The Bethlehem Holiday Wrestling Classic kicks off on December 28 and 29 at Liberty's Memorial Gymnasium.

This year's tournament will have 27 teams competing including Blue Mountain, Central Dauphin, Council Rock South, Delaware Valley, Freedom, Hazleton, Lehigh, Lasalle College, Liberty, Nazareth, North Penn, Northampton, Northern Lebanon, Northern Lehigh, Northwestern, Pen Argyl, Phillipsburg, Pleasant Valley, Pottsville, Quakertown, St. Mark's (DE), Saucon Valley, Stroudsburg, Tri-Valley, Warwick, Wilson West Lawn and Wyoming Valley West.

Wrestling begins at 9:30 a.m. on Monday and goes all day until quarterfinals begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday's schedule starts with semifinals getting underway at 10 a.m. Consolation finals will start at 3:30 p.m. with finals beginning at 5 p.m.

Wyoming Seminary took home the team title last year en route to crowning four champions.

Liberty heavyweight Andrew Gunning was the lone Hurricane to come away with a title last year at 220 and is expected to win his second straight championship.

Luke Werner (120) and KJ Fenstermacher (126) both took second last year and Freedom's Andrew Evans (138) found himself in the finals as well, ending up settling for second.

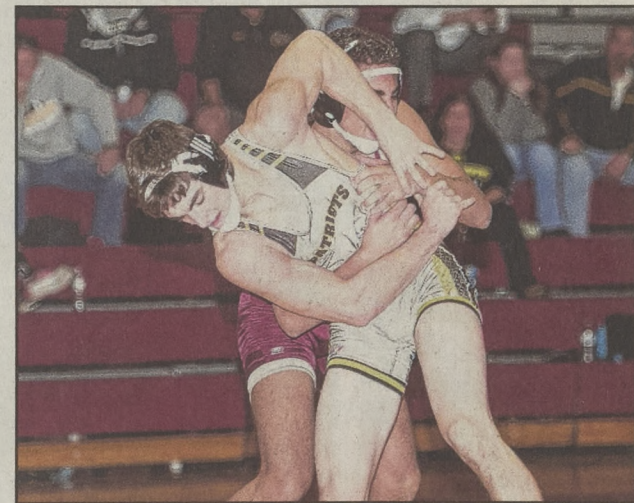
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PRESS PHOTO BY BOB BRANDMEIR

Freedom's Thomas Bonilla and the Pates, shown here against Whitehall, will take part in the Holiday Classic.

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LHS girls start 6-0

BY KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

Heading into the Christmas holiday, Liberty's girls' basketball team is a far cry from where it was one year ago at this time.

After defeating Pleasant Valley on Friday night 50-33, the Hurricanes' record is 6-0; last year it was 2-4, and Pleasant Valley presented a challenge to Liberty.

This time, the Hurricanes took a 13-4 lead in the first quarter and never looked back. Junior, Kristina Polak, had eight of those 13 points. Senior, Torie Zerbe outdid herself in rebounds.

"I'm just always fighting my way to the ball," said Zerbe. "It's a great feeling."

Rebounds were just as important to Polak on Friday night.

"When there's a girl who's my same height, and I rebound over her, I feel like I hustled just a little bit more," she said.

By the second quarter, Liberty guard, Maddie Capuano, started hitting her trademark threes, racking up 25 points by the end of the game.

Polak said, "I think we've been sharing equally; otherwise, we



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Liberty's Abbie Zerbe and the rest of the Hurricanes are 6-0.

wouldn't be playing as well. We're not selfish. We try to keep hustling and hustling, and as tired as we get, it pays off in the end."

Taysia Snead, Jackie Arthur, Abbie Zerbe, Kaylin West, and Torie Zerbe also scored for the

Hurricanes.

Liberty continued its up-tempo, pressure-filled play into the fourth quarter, despite a 16 point lead.

"We're all clicking together," said Zerbe. "Our coach wanted us to keep building our lead."



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Bethlehem Steel FC held tryouts and recently announced their first signings.

Steel FC signs first batch of players

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Bethlehem Steel FC have signed four players to their roster this month, as midfielder Derrick Jones became the club's first-ever player signing.

The club then added Boluwatife Akinyode, Michael Daly and Gabe Gissie to their inaugural season roster. Jones, 18, becomes the first player in Bethlehem Steel FC history and currently lives in the City of Philadelphia with his family.

He's a dual-national from Ghana and spent the past three seasons with the Union's academy. He's played in 26 games with 21 starts for the Union U-18s, scoring

eight goals while helping lead the team to the United States Soccer Development Academy (USSDA) playoffs, where they finished second in group play. He's scored three goals in eight games for the U-18s so far in 2015-16.

Daly and Gissie join Bethlehem Steel FC after two years with Sacramento Republic FC. Members of the original Sacramento squad, Daly and Gissie helped lead the team to the 2014 United Soccer League (USL) title.

The 28-year-old defender Daly has played the most minutes in club history and is one of three players to have played more than 2,000

USL minutes in back-to-back seasons for Republic FC.

Gissie, 19, appeared in 33 games for Republic FC as a forward during his two seasons with the club. On May 23, Gissie became the youngest player in Republic FC history to record a goal in a USL match with a match-winning goal against Oklahoma City Energy FC at 18 years, 209 days old.

Akinyode, 21, joins Bethlehem Steel FC from New York Red Bulls II, where he helped the team reach the playoffs in 2015. Akinyode appeared in 21 matches last season, starting 10 of them.

ND COACH RESIGNS

Mr. Lucrezi, principal of Notre Dame High School, formally announced that he has received the resignation from football coach Chuck Muller, effective immediately, it was announced in a release.

Coach Muller will continue with his role as disciplinarian and director of facilities, the release said.

Muller met with his players to announce his resignation as head football coach at the school, the release said. He explained to his players that the goals he set seven years ago have been met and that it was the

right time to step aside.

"When I came to Notre Dame seven years ago my goal was to make the program better than I found it. There are not too many coaches out there that have an opportunity to go full cycle, not only playing at your high school as a teenager but being the head coach at a later time. I feel I have been fortunate to have coached the young men that have passed through the program during my tenor. This year has been a dream, clearly worth all the years I have coached here. I am thankful to Joe Kramer for providing me with the opportunity to return here seven years ago, to Amy

Rogers for staying with me during the ups and downs and lastly Mario Lucrezi for supporting me in every way since his arrival at Notre Dame. Notre Dame is and will always be my home. I have cherished the moments on the sidelines. The taste of winning has arrived, they have to stay hungry, success will continue," Muller said, according to the release.

Mr. Lucrezi stated that he will now initiate the posting and interview process in search of the best, qualified replacement.

According to the release, he also stated that, "on behalf of the administration, faculty, staff, parents, students and alumni, thank you Coach Muller and your staff for helping our student athletes grow both as players and individuals."

BASEBALL

U.S. Baseball Academy is pleased to announce the return of Allen and Notre Dame to its lineup.

U.S. Baseball Academy provides young players with advanced hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and baserunning training programs with instruction by the area's top coaches at the area's top facilities. Players who choose multiple skills qualify for discounted prices.

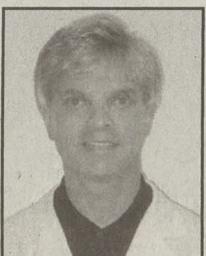
U.S. Baseball Academy's 2016 Spring Training program will be held at nearly 220 sites across the United States. The session in Easton runs Jan. 3-Feb. 7 at Notre Dame. ND coach, Michael Bedics, will direct the program.

The session in Allentown runs Jan. 17-Feb. 21 at Allen. Allen coach, Robert Leskosky, will direct the program.

Last year's camps sold out earlier. Complete details are available online at www.USBBaseballAcademy.com or by phoning toll free 866-622-4487.

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As we wrap up another year, we are grateful for the chance to share our thanks and best wishes with our valued customers and friends.

Merry CHRISTMAS

We hope your Christmas is filled to the brim with happy surprises!

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Outdoors: Extended season opens Dec. 26

BY NICK HROMIAK
Special to the Press

Hunters who still have an unfilled buck or doe tag will get another shot, so to speak, when the extended season for deer and small game opens Dec. 26. At that time, a flintlock, bow or crossbow may be used to take a buck or doe up until January 9 statewide. In WMU's 2B, 5C and 5D, the season runs until January 23. And if hunting in Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties, their Extended Firearms season runs until January 23.

In addition to deer, the pheasant, rabbit and squirrel season reopens Dec. 26 to Feb. 29. Snowshoe hare season is also included, but for a short Dec. 26 to Jan. 1 season. But in WMU's 3B, 3C and 3D, it's even shorter (Dec. 26-29). The reason for these short seasons is that snowshoe hare numbers aren't what they used to be. And they only exist in the Pocono Mountain and northern

tier areas of the state.

EAGLE CAM ACTIVATED

For avid bird watchers and anyone else who gets a thrill watching our national bird, the PA Game Commission has again set up its Eagle Cam at a nest 750-feet high in a tree in Hanover, York County, adjacent to Codorus State Park. The PGC put it there again because eagles have nested there over the past 10 years and the pair has fledged young there many times, says the PGC.

Last year, the agency said that nearly 1.5 million viewers tuned in as a pair of adult eagles successfully raised a pair of eaglets that fledged from the nest this past June.

The PGC explains that not only are high-def cameras installed at the nest site, infrared technology will provide images 24 hours a day and with microphones within the units to capture all of the accompanying sounds.

They explained that the microphone on the



Despite the late season, a few trophy bucks remain for bow and flintlock hunters this weekend.

PRESS PHOTO BY NICK HROMIAK

lone camera installed at the nest stopped working after a squirrel chewed through an audio wire a few weeks into the season. Then, after one of the eggs hatched, an eaglet relieved itself on the camera lens, leaving viewers with an obstructed

view for several weeks. The agency installed this equipment now because once Jan. 1 rolls around, federal guidelines prohibit intrusions at eagle nests to ensure nesting birds are given the protection they need. It's also pointed out

that this nest site may not necessarily see eaglets, but it looks promising because an adult pair of eagles has been hanging around it and adding material to this nest. And if the pair does nest there, there's no guarantee it will hatch young.

Last season's Eagle Cam was a hit as the PGC said viewers in many different countries tuning into it. Some folks said they spent hours watching the goings-on within the nest.

The agency credits the assistance of Comcast Business, whose technicians partnered with HDOnTap to provide a static IP address and coordinated the installation of 100 Mbps broadband service to an enclosure near the tree. HDOnTap has provided the camera as well as the live streaming services to viewers. They installed an additional HD Infra Red camera system plus two new audio microphones so viewers can also hear the wind or rain and any sounds the eagles make at the nest.

To view the Eagle Cam, go to www.pgc.state.pa.us and click on the eagle cam icon near the top of the homepage. Twitter and Facebook users also can share the Eagle Cam by tweeting #PGCeaglecam.

Hawks third at Beast of East

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Jeff Karam knows that wrestling at the Beast of the East is more about the experience than the results.

So, as the Golden Hawks came away from Delaware Sunday evening with a third-place team finish, the weekend produced what Karam was looking for, even though his wrestlers may not have liked the end result.

The Hawks placed four wrestlers after having 12 alive in the second day of competition and came away with no gold medals, amassing 146.5 points in the team standings, falling way short of competing against team champion Blair Academy (240.5) and runner-up Bergen Catholic (201.5).

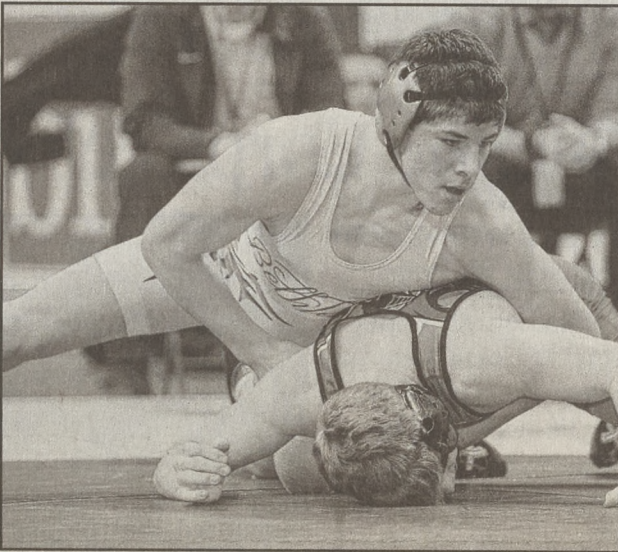
To finish third in the

Beast is a good result," said Karam. "We know we're going to take some hits at a tournament like this, but what we really want to take away from this weekend is to look at how we got exposed.

"It's a valuable situation for the kids to see their mistakes, because it's all there on film. We'll come away from this better."

Luke Karam (126) and Mikey Labriola (170) both found themselves in the finals, but came away without gold, as Karam was pinned by Bergen Catholic's Nick Suriano in 1:50, while Labriola lost a 6-3 decision to Blair Academy's Brandon Dallavia.

Karam's loss is one that will resonate and motivate the Lehigh-bound senior, as Suriano's takedown of Karam in the first peri-



FILE PHOTO

Mikey Labriola made it to the finals but didn't win gold at the Beast of the East.

od led to his arm being pinned against Suriano's body, leading him to his back for the fall. "Suriano capitalized on a great opportuni-

ty," said Luke's father Jeff. "We know he'll see him again in January. Luke wants to wrestle these guys. He could have easily been at 132

for this tournament, but he wanted to challenge himself."

Zach Glenn (106) took fifth for the Hawks and Niko Camacho (HWT) rounded out Becahi's placemen with a third place medal.

With only four wrestlers placing after having 12 alive in the second day, Karam expressed some disappointment about only wrangling four medals, but also understands that this is all about the process.

"This gives us ammunition to get better," he said. "We need to work on our mat awareness and getting better on bottom. We didn't pin many guys and that really makes a difference in the point standings. Again, it's about being exposed and our guys will learn and grow from this."

Pates look for consistency after loss

BY PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Freedom may have played better than they're capable of during last Friday's 53-34 win over Stroudsburg, but the Patriots followed that up with a disappointing loss at Quakertown on Saturday.

The 51-46 defeat to Quakertown was something that head coach Joe Stellato was worried about the day after blowing Stroudsburg out on their home court.

After picking up league wins over Bethle-

hem Catholic and their northern league foes over the week, ending the week with a loss to an inferior Quakertown team shows that despite Freedom's 5-3 mark on the season, the Pates still need to find more consistency.

"We really didn't show up to play," said Stellato about last Saturday's road game. "We didn't perform and that's something I was worried about after beating Stroudsburg. Were we going to be able to get ourselves up for another game on a back-to-back

and we didn't."

Nick King paced Freedom with 15 points against Quakertown, as the Pates were never able to recover from a second quarter they were outscored by 10 to trail 35-27 at the half. It was a role reversal from Friday's outing with Stroudsburg, as Freedom outscored the Mounties 20-3 in the second period after being tied at 10 to open the quarter.

"I think we played as good as we could against Stroudsburg," said Stellato. "All of these league

games are really important for us. To be 4-1 in the league right now is a good position for us to be in, but we need more consistency. We're getting better, but we still have a long way to go."

Freedom will travel to the Unionville Christmas tournament on Dec 28 and 29, where they'll play two 4A schools on each day of the tourney.

Liberty (4-2, 3-1) posted wins over Dieruff and Pleasant Valley and have contests against Pocono Mountain West and Spring-Ford before the holiday break. The

Hurricanes will stay close to home and play at the Parkland Holiday Tournament, where they're slated to play La Salle College on Sunday at 6 p.m. The 'Canes play on Monday at Parkland as well.

Bethlehem Catholic (3-3, 2-2) split their games last week, losing to Freedom 43-35 but topping East Stroudsburg South 51-46 on Friday. The Hawks took on Pleasant Valley on Tuesday before they head to the Robert H. Griffith Holiday Tournament in York.

With this wide crop of teams also came a large group of very talented players that have gone on to great success on the professional level as well. The current 2015 Men's U.S. Open Champion, Ryan Ciminelli, competed in the event for Erie Community College out of Buffalo, NY. Cameron Weier, the most current PBA Champion, was a member of the Robert Morris-Illinois Men's team which has won the event the last four consecutive years and is looking for a fifth straight title.

event in Allentown.

Intercollegiate bowling returns to Valley

For the 22nd consecutive year, Allentown will be playing host to the Roto Grip Keystone Quaker Classic for United States Bowling Congress Intercollegiate Certified Men's and Women's Bowling teams.

Started in 1994 by Fred Polash and his son Patrick, a former collegiate player at Vincennes University and Morehead State University, the event attracts teams from across the country.

Following completion of the Roto Grip event at the Haja Rose Bowl (801 N. 15th St., Allentown), the teams will have the

chance to regroup as they stay in town for a shot at the 4th Annual Lehigh Valley Collegiate Classic presented by Discover Lehigh Valley Sports.

Competition for the Roto Grip event begins on Dec. 27 at 8 a.m. and will run for the entire day with men's and women's teams competing on a pair of squads. All teams will return on Dec. 28 with practice underway at 7:45 a.m.

The Lehigh Valley Classic gets underway with the men starting at AMF Parkway Lanes (1630 S. 12th St., Allentown) on Dec. 29 at 8 a.m., and the women

starting at Jordan Lanes (731 Jordan Pkwy., Whitehall) at 9 a.m. Competition on day one will wrap up in the mid-afternoon for both divisions and will resume with the final day of the event on Dec. 30 at 7:45 a.m. and 8:45 a.m., respectively.

The bowling centers will be abuzz and there is no fee for spectators.

"Patrick and his bowling tournaments are fantastic examples of a local community event organizer, with assistance from the local sports commission, impacting his own community by bringing in significant sports tour-

ism dollars," said Michael Kuzy, Director of Sports Marketing for Discover Lehigh Valley Sports. "We're looking forward to many more years of sponsoring and assisting Patrick with his events."

Entries have come in from as far west as Arizona State, and as far south as Florida State. In the past, teams from Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Kansas, Michigan, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, New Jersey, North Carolina, Louisiana, and of course, Pennsylvania have all competed at this

DARTS

Bethlehem Inter-Church Dart
Baseball League

Standings Week 1-13

Fritz and Schoenersville tie for first half title	
Fritz-Wesleyan	24 15 639
Schoenersville	24 15 639
Christ Lutheran	23 16 590
East Hills Moravian	21 18 538
Christ UCC	20 19 513
#St. Peter's Luth	19 20 487
#Holy Cross Luth	19 20 487
#West Side-Edge	19 20 487
#First UCC	18 21 462
#St. Matthew's Luth	18 21 462
#Holy Trinity Luth	18 21 462
#College Hill	17 22 436
Bethany UCC	17 22 436
Trinity UCC	16 23 410

= via tiebreaker

RESULTS

12/14: West Side-Edgeboro at Christ Lutheran 4-5, 2-8, 5-0; Holy Cross at Fritz-Wesleyan 0-8, 0-7, 0-3; Bethany at Christ UCC 3-5, 2-4, 1-8; East Hills at College Hill 4-3, 3-4, 10-0; St. Peter's at St. Matthew's 3-6, 1-3, 3-1; First UCC at Holy Trinity 11-1, 6-0, 15-2; Schoenersville at Trinity UCC 1-4, 11-1, 2-3 (16)

SCHEDULE 1/14/2016

Christ Lutheran at Schoenersville; First UCC at Trinity UCC; Bethany at Fritz-Wesleyan; Holy Trinity at College Hill; West Side-Edgeboro at St. Matthew's; East Hills at Christ UCC; St. Peter's at Holy Cross

HIGHLIGHTS 12/14

- 1) Brian Mullan 4-6 & Craig Ellis, Jr. 4-9 for Christ UCC.
- 2) Chris Giesler 4-8 & Paul Messman 7-13 for West Side-Edgeboro.
- 3) Bob Filaseta 6-12, including the cycle & John Collins 5-10 for Christ Lutheran.
- 4) Herb Gates 4-8 & Blair Weller 6-13 for Fritz-Wesleyan.
- 5) Bob Koehler, Jr. 7-14 for East Hills.
- 6) Rick Rivera 5-11 for College Hill.
- 7) Cliff Weston 5-12 & Charlie Wolf 3-7 for St. Matthew's.
- 8) Julian Watson 6-12 & Ken Frankenfield 5-12 for St. Peter's.
- 9) Doug Miller 9-16, Bill Roth 8-16 & Stan Czeck 7-16 for First UCC.
- 10) Bill Repnyek 5-11 for Holy Trinity.
- 11) Matt Fullman 7-16 & Bob Mease 6-16 for Trinity UCC.
- 12) Don Dillard 6-15 for Schoenersville.

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PENNDOT

Prepare now for safe winter driving

As cooler air and the potential for winter weather settle into Pennsylvania, the state Department of Transportation urged motorists to join the department's 4,800 operators and roughly 2,200 trucks in preparing for the season.

"PennDOT's staff and equipment are working hard to be ready for winter's arrival and drivers are a huge part of our mission to keep roads as safe as possible this winter," PennDOT Secretary Leslie S. Richards said. "Motorists should prepare themselves and their vehicles now, before winter weather hits."

PennDOT is responsible for more than 40,000 miles of state-maintained roadway or 96,000 snow-lane miles - enough miles to circle the globe nearly four times. A snow-lane is calculated as the miles of road multiplied by the number of lanes, which means a one-mile section of four-lane roadway would equal four snow-lane miles.

The department maintains roughly the same number of miles maintained by the state in New York, New Jersey and all of the New England states combined.

"With this number of road miles, we have to prioritize our services," Richards said. "By preparing for winter weather now and making smart decisions about travel when storms are approaching, the public can help make this winter a safe one."

To prepare for winter driving, especially if long-distance travel is planned, motorists should carry an emergency kit including items such as non-perishable food, water, first-aid supplies, warm clothes, a blanket, cell phone charger and a small snow shovel. However, motorists should tailor their kits to any specific needs that they or their families may have. Consider adding such items as baby supplies, extra medication, pet supplies or even children's games.

When winter weather hits, PennDOT's primary focus is on interstates and expressways and equipment may be redirected to these routes during significant winter events. The more traffic a roadway has, the more attention it will receive from plows, so motorists may find deeper accumulations on less-traveled routes and should adjust their driving for those conditions.

If motorists encounter snow or ice-covered roads, they should slow down, increase their following distance and avoid distractions.

Last winter, there were 552 crashes resulting in four fatalities and 279 injuries on snowy, slushy or ice-covered roadways where aggressive-driving behaviors such as speeding or making careless lane changes were factors in the crash.

PennDOT last winter used nearly 1.2 million tons of salt on state-owned roads.

Currently, PennDOT has more than 667,000 tons of salt stockpiled and will continue to take salt deliveries throughout the winter.

PennDOT has agreements with 659 municipalities for them to clear state roads within their borders. The department also rents approximately 270 trucks and operators to assist with snow removal.

Motorists can check conditions on more than 40,000 roadway miles, including color-coded winter conditions on 2,900 miles, by visiting www.511PA.com. 511PA, which is free and available 24 hours a day, provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information and access to more than 770 traffic cameras.

511PA is also available through a smartphone application for iPhone and Android devices, by calling 5-1-1, or by following regional Twitter alerts accessible on the 511PA website.

For more information on PennDOT's winter preparations and additional winter-driving resources for motorists, visit the department's winter web page, www.PennDOT.gov/winter.

Santa Claus says 'I've got more children on the good list this year'

BY DEBBIE GALBRAITH
dgalbraith@tnonline.com

"We have been very, very busy this year," Santa Claus told The Press during an interview Dec. 9 at Embassy Bank, 6379 Hamilton Blvd., Trexlertown.

"There are more good children this year," Santa Claus said.

The weather has been warmer than usual and Santa Claus said the weather should not affect the delivery of gifts Dec. 24.

"The reindeer like it when it snows," Santa Claus said. "I'm getting older so it is OK if it doesn't snow."

Warm or cold, children know Santa Claus will be at their houses. Santa Claus said he is very happy with the snacks children leave for him on Christmas Eve.

He enjoys a glass of milk or water and may be one or two cookies.

As for his favorite kind of cookie, "Every kind is my favorite," Santa Claus said. "I like peanut butter maybe



PRESS PHOTO BY DEBBIE GALBRAITH

Santa Claus talks with The Press about how much he enjoys talking with children before Christmas Eve.

just a little bit better than the others."

Santa Claus' favorite dinner is spaghetti.

"Mrs. Claus has a special recipe," Santa Claus said.

Some of Mrs. Claus' family lives in Ireland so it is a very special Irish spaghetti.

Santa Claus said he loves visiting with children before Christmas and Mrs. Claus loves visiting the children too.

Santa Claus has been visiting with children at Embassy Bank for the last six years.

"It's wonderful to

see them here because when I go to their homes, they are sleeping," Santa Claus said.

Receiving notes is always special for Santa Claus and he noted the penmanship is getting better. He said some children send him computer notes.

As far as feeding the reindeer, carrots and apples are always good for children to leave with Santa Claus' milk and cookies. Santa Claus did give out a special reindeer food to the children who visited him Dec. 9.

"It is a special formula and Santa can't tell you what is in it," Santa Claus said. "You can bet your boots its organic."

Santa wanted to share a special message for all boys and girls.

"Be kind to each other. There are some very mean people saying mean things. So the more love and kindness we share, the better."

Santa and Mrs. Claus were assisted by George B. Miller and Kate Scuffle, of Allentown.

Marine Corps celebrates birthday

BY LOU WHEELAND
Special to The Press

The Lehigh Valley Marine Corps League celebrated the 240th birthday of the Marine Corps Nov. 10 at the Marine Corps Monument, Cedar Beach Park, Allentown.

There was a good deal of Marine Corps Red and Blue to be seen and the falling rain did nothing to mute the colors.

Active duty Marines and sailors from the Lehigh Valley Reserve Center were on hand to celebrate the birthday as well.



PRESS PHOTOS BY LOU WHEELAND

Marine Ralph Brodt, bugler; American flag holder Sherwood Shaplin and Marine Corps flag holder Lenny Keefer, from the Bethlehem Detachment Marine Corps League, attend the celebration.

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The late John B. Cornish's son Noel and grandson John Cornish are the foot soldiers during the 37th annual Live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant, which was dedicated this year to the late John B. Cornish. The longtime Bethlehem resident died Aug. 1 at the age of 86. During the pageant, he played the original innkeeper for 36 years and was the first president of the pageant for 25 years. He was succeeded by present president David M. Landis.

PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Special dedication



This year's presentation was dedicated to the late John B. Cornish, who played the innkeeper for 36 years and was president of the performing arts group for 25 years. Cornish's family continues to walk in his leather sandals as performers in the historic annual event, regarded as an important part of the Christmas City USA's holiday season calendar. Seth Cornish, one of two sons, has taken his father's place as the innkeeper. Another son, Noel, is a foot soldier for King Melchior. Noel's son, grandson of the late John B. Cornish, has become an escort for Melchior, one of the three wise men. In past performances, the youngster walked hand-in-hand with his grandfather as a towns person.

What child is this?

Mild weather brings out large number of spectators for 37th annual live pageant

Unseasonably mild weather attracted a large crowd to the first of two annual presentations by the Live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant Dec. 12. President Dave Landis, a Bethlehem resident, estimated the attendance at the free 37th annual, two-day performance at around 1,000 spectators. He said the Sunday performance usually attracts a smaller crowd. The pageant's cast of costumed performers which presents the Biblical story of Jesus' birth numbers about 80 volunteers each day. The Live Bethlehem Christmas

Pageant dates back to Christmas Eve in 1978, when members of Our Lady of Pompeii Church in South Bethlehem presented the popular biblical story outdoors on Fourth Street with costumed characters and a few barnyard animals. The following year the pageant moved to the municipal pavilion in North Bethlehem "to become a city-wide ecumenical observance of the birth of Jesus" under the leadership of the late John B. Cornish, first president of the pageant committee.



Jenny Krumrine and her daughter Ruthilde pet a camel which carried the wise men from the East to Bethlehem. The Bethlehem resident said it was their first time viewing the annual Christmas event.



King Melchior, played by Kevin B. Landis, holds the Christ Child aloft for all to see. Newborn Jesus is Parker Roukis, son of Susan Landis Ropukis, who played Mary on the first day of the pageant. Pageant President David M. Landis is the father of Susan and Kevin.



Regular pageant attendees Rebecca Chan of Allentown and her daughter Hope meet Mary and the baby Jesus at the conclusion of the event, when members of the audience are invited to meet the holy family players.

Costumed Chancel Choir musicians of the United Church of Christ in West Bethlehem perform on the bandshell stage during the annual holiday event near the Rose Garden, where the pageant is held.



First-time pageant priest Julio Lopez of Bethlehem Township poses for a family photo with his five children and one of their cousins.



Townspersons Doris Bierhanzl and Richard Lindner walk together at the start of the Christmas story reenactment. Bierhanzl said she has been coming to Bethlehem from Long Island for 13 years to visit Lindner and participate in the pageant.



Shepherd Arby Beisel of Bethlehem holds his son Zachary during the annual event. Beisel has played various roles in the pageant for 35 years.



Mary Fassi, a Bethlehem native who lives in Stockertown, watches the performance for the first time with her grandchildren Levi and Gracie Smith of Bangor.



Director AnnMarie Allen collects staffs at the end of the pageant performance from first-year shepherd Harry Mantz. "I've been to the pageant before, but never been in it," said Mantz, a Bethlehem native.



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

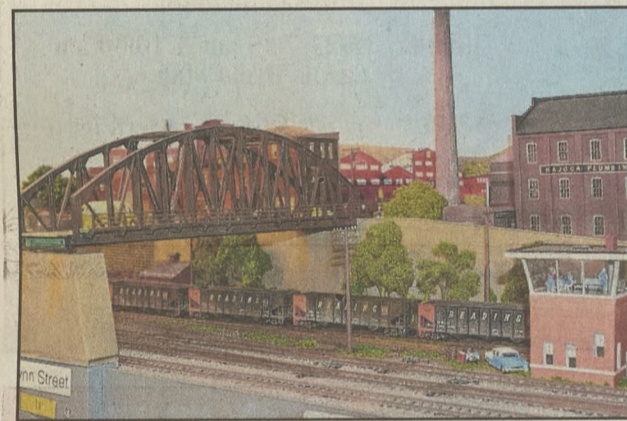
Lou Blaukowitz, treasurer of the nonprofit organization, operates the Bethlehem Engine Terminal (roundhouse), which is located in West Bethlehem.

Holiday railroading

The nonprofit Lehigh and Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum is open for the 2015 Christmas season featuring a 4,500 square foot layout of operating HO scale trains running through scenes from throughout the region. Railroads that ran in the Lehigh Valley during the 1960s and 1970s are represented. Lou Blaukowitz, treasurer, estimates that visitors can view an estimated 2,000 cars of rolling stock and 500 engines on the layout. The exhibit is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 24, 26, 27, 31; Dec. 28, 29 and 30 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; and Jan. 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and children under 12 get in for free. For additional information visit www.lkvmodelrailroad.com or call 610-868-7101.



Lehigh and Keystone member Larry Geiger constructed the truss work on this model of the Hill to Hill Bridge. The replica structure in the background once housed the Lehigh Valley Railroad corporate offices. Today it contains apartments.



Today it's part of the South Bethlehem Greenway, but in this setting the old PBNE yard is shown in the area of the Lynn Avenue Bridge. The control tower has also been removed.

Perfect weather for Peace Pilgrimage

BY DOROTHY GLEW
Special to the Bethlehem Press

While there was no sun, the weather Dec. 12 was unseasonably mild, making it perfect for the 56th annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage.

One hundred-twenty five walkers gathered at the Moravian Church in Nazareth for the 10-mile hike to Bethlehem. The walk both symbolizes the journey of Mary and Joseph and offers an opportunity for participants and observers alike to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and the need for peace on earth.

Over 23 churches and organizations sponsored this year's walk.

Each year the walkers make two rest stops on the way to Bethlehem, one at Trinity Lutheran Church on Route 191 north of Steuben Road and the other at First Baptist Church on Route 191 between Oakland Road and Johnston Drive.

Upon reaching Bethlehem, the walkers go to Central Moravian Church where they sing Christmas carols on the steps outside the church. The day ends with a simple meal and program at Christ UCC Church on Market and Center streets.



PRESS PHOTOS BY DOROTHY GLEW

Participants lined up along Route 191 outside Nazareth.



Al Arthur carries a sign with a thought-provoking question.



Eric Hunter, left, and his father, **Gene**, begin their fourth walk. **Mimi Lang** has walked more times than she can remember.



Walkers caught the attention of motorists along Route 191.



Participants ranged in age from young children to senior citizens, the most heavily-represented age group.

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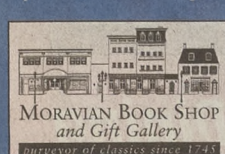


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| Mauch Chunk Pharmacy | 570-325-5020 | 1204 North St., Jim Thorpe |
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| Northampton Exxon | 610-440-2667 | 2428 Main St., Northampton |
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| Eberhardt Motors | 610-262-3081 | 4344 Main St., Whitehall |
| Sim's Quality Market | 610-435-5652 | 2401 Walbert Ave., Allentown |
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| Emmaus Ave. Market | 610-798-8391 | 1017 E. Emmaus Ave., Allentown |
| Pantry One | 610-264-9700 | 822 Race St., Catasauqua |
| Eisenhard's Decor Centre | 610-965-6035 | 1031 Chestnut St., Emmaus |
| Don's Food Market | 610-965-2231 | 217 E. Harrison St., Emmaus |
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| Country Rose Florist | 610-882-9650 | 2289 Schoenersville Rd., Bethlehem |
| Cleo's | 610-868-7200 | 21 E. 3rd St., Bethlehem |
| Color Me Mine | 610-791-2228 | 25 E. 3rd St., Bethlehem |
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A focus on Accessible Art

Those with vision disabilities are now able to 'see' some of the Lehigh University Art Gallery's teaching collection

BY ED COURRIER
Special to the Bethlehem Press

In the lower gallery of the Lehigh University Zoellner Arts Center, Ricardo Viera, LUAG director and chief curator, wished to thank all those who made the evening's "Accessible Art Tour" Nov. 18, possible. With the help of Lehigh's staff, students and volunteers from local organizations, a visually-impaired individual can now experience some of the art on display by touching a 3-D tactile copy of the work and listening to an audio description of it by dialing a local number on a cell phone.

The journey began three years ago, when LUAG historian Patricia McAndrew came across an article titled "How can my museum help visitors with vision loss?" in the July-August 2012 issue of Museum magazine. After finding out that the Lehigh Valley Arts Council was involved in a tri-county program to make art more accessible, she asked Ricardo Viera if they could get on board with it. After much research and community outreach for funding and volunteers, Lehigh's "Accessible Art Tour" was created.

Managing Director of LU's Design Labs, as well as a partner at Isosceles Design Studio, LLC, Brian Slocum organized Lehigh architecture students to come up with the 3-D representations of some of the teaching collection art. A variety of materials were used, not only to represent traceable outlines of the images, but with hard and soft textures to assist in a fuller experience for those who "see" the art by touch.

The audio recordings were a major challenge for those who volunteered to write the scripts for describing different pieces. They had to be objective. Just the facts... no opinions.

Each description was limited to 200-300 words, no more than could fit within 90 seconds when read. The training for



PRESS PHOTOS BY ED COURRIER

Rita Lang traces the contours of a reproduction of "Cloud" that mirrors the original by Luis Cruz Azaceta, while Paul Bartolucci plays the audio description of the work on his cell phone. "What is really amazing, and works out very well, is using the tactile diagram along with the audio description of the piece so you can feel and listen to the description at the same time," Lang said. The audio description for "Cloud" can be heard by dialing 610-628-2384, then 108 followed by the # sign.

the daunting task of making the gallery accessible for those with disabilities was provided by the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living. Advanced Com-

munication Technologies, LLC of Bethlehem handled the technical aspects for the audio recordings.

Rita Lang, manager of Innovative Programs,

along with her clients at the Center for Vision Loss in Allentown, were integral in making the program work. Lang, relying on her own experience

See **FOCUS** on Page A20



"When I chose this, I never realized how important detail is to a person who can't see," said Jane Desnouée, ESL instructor at Lehigh, of writing the audio text for "Bride at the Montes Mansion" by Martin Chambi. "And when I looked at all the detail in this, I realized that I really wouldn't be able to do it. Luckily, a friend who was an artist, who lived next door, helped me with the vocabulary." The audio description can be heard by dialing 610-628-2384, then 101 followed by the # sign.

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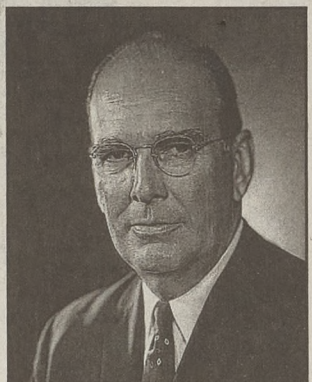
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Martin Tower a monument

Between 1969 and 1972, Bethlehem Steel, the second largest steel company in America, spent \$18.5 million to build a monument to itself. Led by Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Edmund F. Martin, the building of the 21-story skyscraper commenced after the groundbreaking ceremony Aug. 25, 1969.

Bethlehem architects Coston and Wallace helped to design the building with Haines, Lundberg and Wehler of New York. George A. Fuller Construction Company, from New York, constructed the building. Over 15,894 tons of structural steel were employed in the construction. The exterior of the tower was faced with approximately 1,500 panels of porcelainized-steel plate, each painted gray and beige.

No expense was spared for the 332-foot-tall Goliath. Martin knew as he oversaw its construction that the building would be named for him. A vote by the directors in 1968 assured it. The building served as central headquarters from 1972 to 2001.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Led by Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Edmund F. Martin, the building of the 21-story skyscraper commenced after the groundbreaking ceremony Aug. 25, 1969.

The finished building, the tallest in the Lehigh Valley, featured amenities not seen before or since in the area. New York decorators were hired to appoint the offices of the top executives with ornate woodwork, wooden furniture, brass doorknobs with the company logo, hand-woven carpets and marble bathrooms.

The cruciform design of the building allowed for the optimum number of corner and windowed offices for the executives. Conference tables were made of mahogany and the walls were covered with valuable original paintings. Twenty elevators ushered the 3,000 employees between the underground parking garage, full-service auto repair garage, 312-seat auditorium, restaurant, barbershop and convenience store.

Since the 1950s, Bethlehem Steel had hired escorts, well-groomed, pretty young women, to shepherd visitors to the location they sought. The service was transferred to the new office building, only now the "elevator girls" perched on heated seats.

Martin Tower now stands on seven acres. Originally, Bethlehem Steel owned the surrounding 53 acres, purchased in 1957. The company did not have a long-range plan for the land at the time. In piecemeal fashion, they built a printery (1959), heating plant (1959) and the North Office Building (1962). Martin Tower was attached to the southwest side of the North Office Building.

A glass-paneled entrance way led to an expansive first floor lobby and the entrance to the two-story Schwab Memorial Library. The wooden lobby reception desk was in the shape of the I beam. The 21st floor was reserved for the upper echelon of management only. Their floor contained private dining rooms, commercial grade kitchens and a theater/lecture room. Their meals were prepared by four-star chefs and served on silver platters. Seven of the highest paid executives in the United States, during the 1970s, had offices there.

After the dedication ceremony Jan. 27, 1973, the building was opened for tours during weekends in February and March. Over 21,000 employees and local residents took the tours. However, only four years later, "Black Friday" arrived when 2,500 white-collar workers lost their jobs. As the monumental skyscraper was being built on Eighth Street, Bethlehem Steel was already beginning its decline. The corporation lost the contract to build the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City in the 1970s to small subcontractors who used cheaper imported steel.

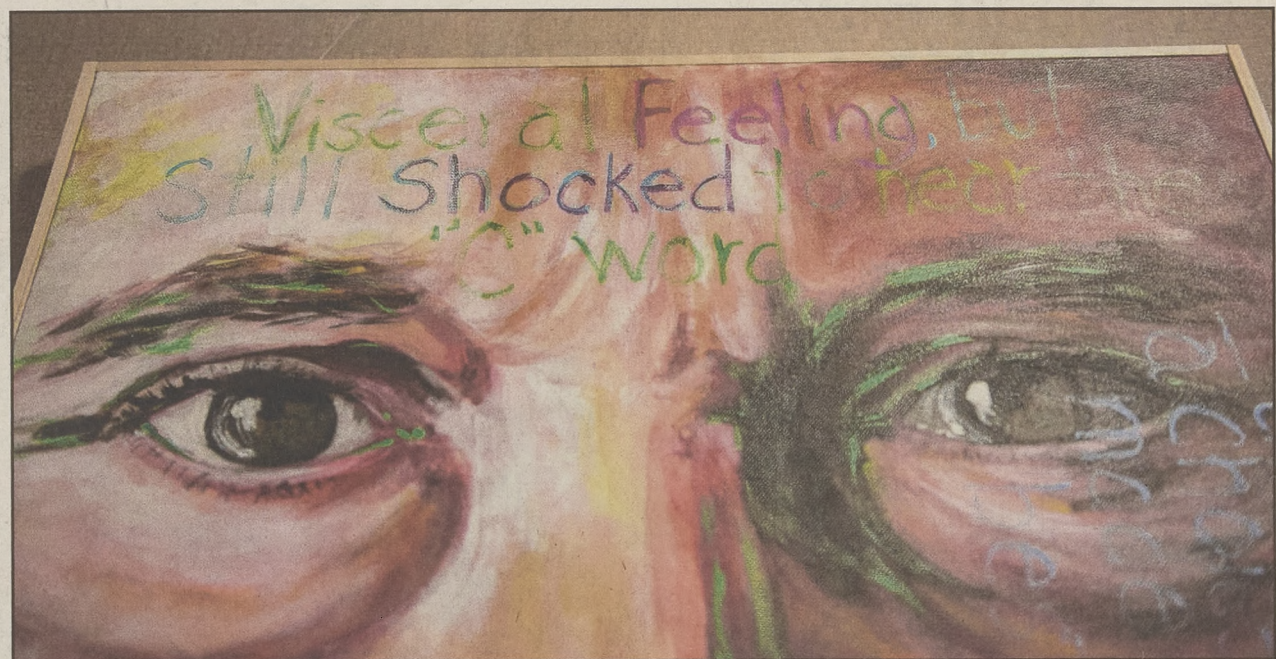
A combination of factors led to the end of this great American company. The competition came from non-union domestic mills and foreign steel producers who grabbed 56 percent of the U.S. steel market with their lower prices. Bethlehem Steel filed for bankruptcy in 2001.

On April 6, 2010, the Pa. Bureau for Historic Preservation voted to nominate Martin Tower to the National Register of Historic Places. An historic property listed on the National Register is considered significant in American history and worthy of federal assistance. According to the National Registration of Historic Places form, Martin Tower was nominated because of the exceptional nature of its historic significance as the corporate symbol of the Bethlehem Steel Company.



PRESS FILE PHOTO

Martin Tower now stands on seven acres. Originally, Bethlehem Steel owned the surrounding 53 acres, purchased in 1957.



Artist and cancer survivor Susan H. Schaffer depicts the raw emotions of survivors in her paintings of cancer survivors.

Visions of Hope: A patient's journey

BY LISA SASSERATH GOEHM
Special to the Bethlehem Press

During the month of November, Susan Hope Schaffer, artist and cancer survivor, had her work, "Visions of Hope" exhibited at the Anderson Campus of St. Luke's Hospital.

Twenty intimate portraits depicting raw emotions, hope and camaraderie hung on the walls of the facility's Cancer Center in Bethlehem Township, each with a corresponding plaque and a personal story of that survivor.

"Each painting reflects the individual's survivor/patient's journey through their eyes..." Schaffer explained.

Susan was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004. The Bethlehem resident notes the diagnosis was terrifying, but she thanks the doctors, nurses and staff at St. Luke's Hospital for playing a vital role in her therapy, treatment and ultimately, her recovery.

The St. Luke's staff provided her with the en-



PRESS PHOTOS BY LISA SASSERATH BOEHM
Susan H. Schaffer in front of her self-portrait at the "Visions of Hope" exhibit.

couragement and information she sought to always take the appropriate next steps. With her family's encouragement, Susan would retreat to her studio and find comfort in her art.

Coming from a very large family, Susan credits her mother for cultivating her talent, something that was not fully utilized until she was undergoing treatment.

"It was my cancer journey that woke me up and made me realize that I have this ability to help others," she said.

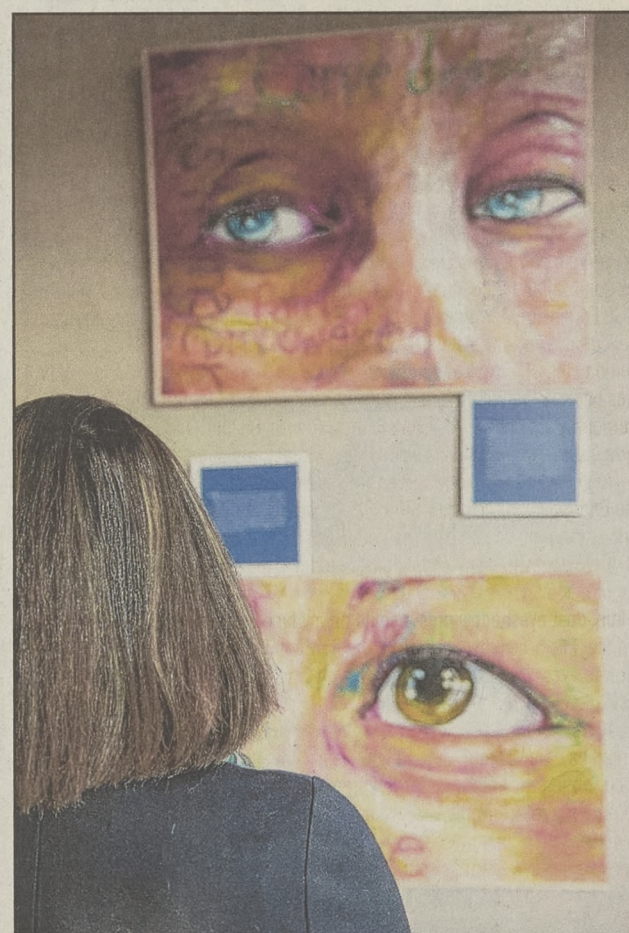
Susan began to interview other patients who were going through similar journeys and depicted their experiences on canvas.

"Cancer was horrendous. It was tumultuous. I cried and I screamed inside ... but I found a way to get through it and that way was through my art."

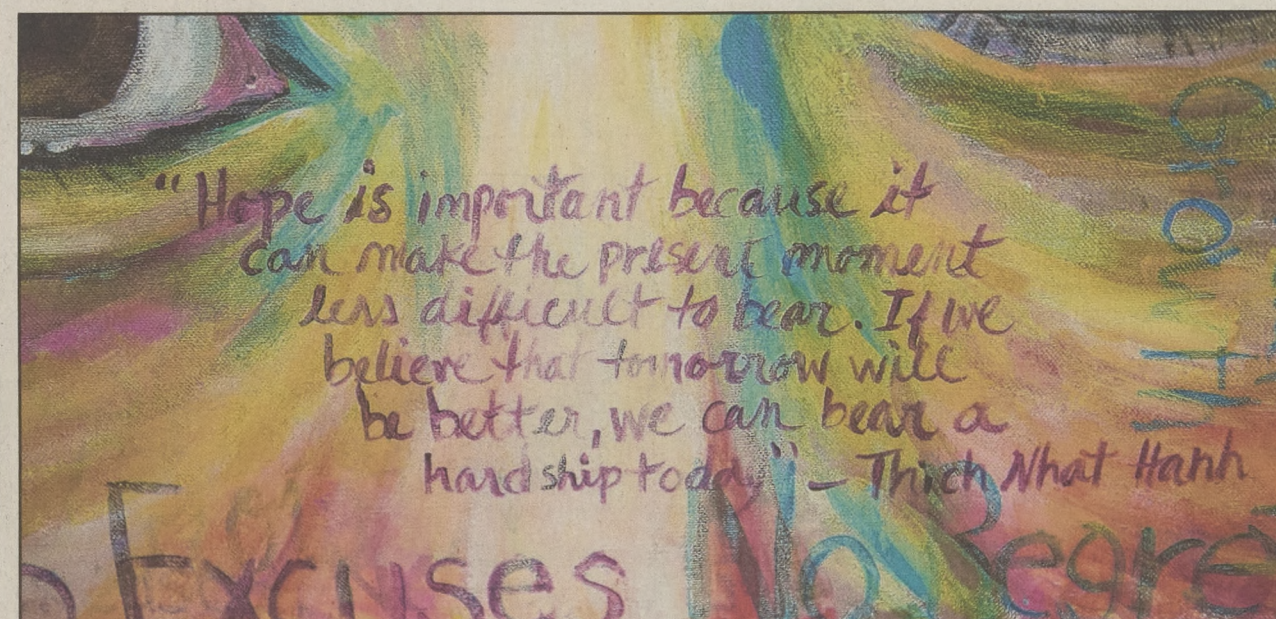
She hopes that people walked away from her "Visions of Hope" exhibit thinking, "That person survived. They made a difference."



Portraits of cancer survivors hangs on the wall at St. Luke's - Anderson; by artist Susan H. Schaffer.



Portraits by artist Susan H. Schaffer on the wall at St. Luke's Cancer Center in Bethlehem Township.



Phrases of love, encouragement, hope and fear are frequently found in the paintings by artist Susan H. Schaffer.

Brandon Blobe

Bethlehem Catholic HS

Grade: 12

Family members: My mother is Karen, my father is Ron. I have an older brother Justin who is 20, a younger brother Jared who is 11, and three younger sisters, Kara, 15, Janna, 8, and Chloe, 3.

Favorite subject: My favorite subjects are psychology, theology and history. I like psychology because I find the mind extremely interesting and love learning about it. I especially enjoy it because it gives me the opportunity to help myself and others around me dealing with minor mental or psychological blocks that we all run into at some point. I enjoy theology because it gives me the opportunity to deeply analyze scripture and have open debate on the meaning behind it, while strengthening my Christian faith. History is an enjoyable subject for me because it allows students to appreciate how far we have come as humans and highlights points where we have gone wrong so we may be better prepared not to make the same mistake twice.

Activities: I wrestle and play football. I am also involved in National Honors Society, Eco Club, Chess Club and inspirational bible chat.

Next steps: I plan on attending college where I hope to be able to play football or wrestle while earning my business management degree.

Career goals: After college I plan to immediately start working in the family business, where I will work my way up until I have received enough training to take the company over and into its third generation. It is also a big goal of mine to expand the company and take it into markets it has not yet been involved in.

Heroes: My mom has always been my biggest hero. She has faced many adversities in her life and has always refused to be knocked down. She works around the clock to do everything she can for her children and always puts their wellbeing in front of her own. She is by far the most hardworking, resilient, driven and loving person I know. She has set an extraordinary example for all her children and is the reason I am the person I am today.

Hobbies: I enjoy spending quality time with family and friends, going on long bike rides, riding my quad, going



on hikes and enjoying nature, playing recreational sports and building things.

Current job(s): I am currently self-employed and have been for the past three years. I own my own lawn care/landscaping business and spend my summers completing landscaping jobs and mowing lawns. During the winter I serve my customers by plowing their driveways or commercial properties.

Volunteer/community work: I do a lot of volunteer work through sports programs such as helping with tournaments and fundraisers. I also help at school doing whatever I can, from assisting with alumni activities to planting a school garden.

Likes: I really like sports, food and the feeling of knowing you helped someone achieve something.

Dislikes: I really dislike standardized tests like SATs, complex math problems and not having enough time in a day.

Greatest accomplishment (so far): My greatest accomplishment to this point is being a 2015 PIAA, "AAA" state qualifier for wrestling and advancing to the round of 12.

Advice for peers: My advice would be to surround yourself with the right kind of people, treat others how you would like to be treated and make a daily effort to keep a strong relationship with Christ. High school can often be stressful, where you face certain adversities, but with a strong faith, a good support system and a positive attitude you will be able to endure more than you may have thought possible.

Julia Swan coordinates student profiles for the Bethlehem Press. Student profile subjects are selected by faculty and administration at the individual schools.



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Bikers, hospital staff and pediatric patients gather for a group photo to celebrate the most successful Tucker's Toy Run to date. More photos on page A20.

Smiles that gifts will bring

BY DANA GRUBB
Special to the Bethlehem Press

The fifth annual Tucker's Toy Run overwhelmed both organizers and St. Luke's University Hospital pediatric staff as over 400 riders arrived on over 350 motorcycles Nov. 7 to deliver donations of toys for pediatric patients.

The event is organized by the

Lehigh Valley Community Benefit in remembrance of Tucker Stuart, who passed away in 2011 after a motorcycle-vehicle crash.

Gifts are donated for pediatric patients throughout the St. Luke's Hospital system. Two of Stuart's four sisters, Virginia and Anne Stuart, traveled from Boston to support the event. Riders were treated to refreshments

by the St. Luke's staff.

Patricia Gubich, RN, CPN, patient care manager of the St. Luke's Bethlehem pediatric unit said, "This is the biggest group yet. To see them open their hearts like this ... is overwhelming. I can't tell you how many smiles these gifts will bring to kids throughout the year."



Rick Nauman, founder of the Lehigh Valley Community Benefit, joins a smiling 11-year old Nathan Zimmerman, a pediatric patient at St. Luke's, who receives several of the toys that were delivered. Zimmerman is from Orwigsburg.



The Grinch (Bob Nauman), one of Santa's elves (Pamela McCann), and a reindeer (Leeya Miller) rode in on a three-wheeler first so they could greet the rest of the riders.

BECAHI HS NOTES

BY JUSTINA SALID

School, holiday spirit

The Bethlehem Catholic HS football team finished the season against Central Catholic HS for the annual "Holy War". BECA beat Central 34-21 Nov. 8 as BECA students cheered on the football, screaming and shouting, "We are BCI!" School spirit doesn't stop there as 2007 graduate and world champion shot put, Joe Kovacs, visited Bethlehem Catholic. Students dress in patriotic colors and shout "USA! USA!" in honor of Kovacs. He reminded students of the world they will face and how faith in oneself is the most important factor to anything in life.



Salid

Seniors and juniors also attended the eminent Encounter Retreat: a two-day spiritual and influential retreat where they reflect on themselves and God at St. Francis Center for Renewal. The BECA community also participated in a service bus trip to the inner city to volunteer in a soup kitchen and comfort the homeless. From collecting canned goods, to inner city service trips, BECA does not stray to help those in need - an important factor in BECA's motto, "Purpose. Passion. Pride." Every BECA student finds purpose, passion and pride in the various clubs, service trips, retreats and sports BECA offers.

To get into the holiday spirit, the student-directed Christmas play, "A Fairy Tale Christmas," directed by Kylee Shivok premiered Dec. 5. Children from various theater schools participated in the play adding giggles and laughs all throughout the high school halls. Senior Kelly Blewitt, president of hair and makeup crew, says, "Being able to just do their makeup from pig noses to fairy-dust eyeshadow puts a smile on my face when they look in the mirror and feel like a new person part of the new community of theater." BECA involves everyone in the Bethlehem community to show the exact pride and passion we have here.

As the holidays get closer, more than 100 BECA students participated in Christmas caroling for BECA's neighbors in Kirkland Village. Students happily stood in the rain singing songs to spread Christmas joy all throughout. The BECA band also performed its annual Christmas concert; and the choir hosted its seasonal Christmas vespers, filling the halls with festive music putting everyone in the Christmas spirit.

SCHOOL NEWS

BASD: Board members installed

The Bethlehem Area School District school board re-organizational meeting was held Dec. 7. President Judge Stephen Baratta swore in four new members, Karen Beck Pooley, Tom Thomasik, Dr. Dean Donaher and Craig Neiman.

BASD: PMEA district band and orchestra

Several BASD students made district band and orchestra. The group included Addie Mease, Sarafina Shultheis, Rachel Newman, Jocelyn Snyder, Seth Bobyak and Andrew Reichard from Liberty and Chris Poczak, Nick Chismar and Emily Sylvester, from Freedom, District 10 band; Jocelyn Snyder, Vivian Wong, Julia Zheng and Chloe Wilcox from Liberty and Chris Poczak and Ryan Bailis from Freedom, District 10 orchestra. Poczak and Snyder are the number one trumpet and french horn players in District 10.

To get your news item in SCHOOL NOTES, send the information to George Taylor at gtaylor@tnonline.com or mail the information to SCHOOL NOTES, Bethlehem Press, 1633 N. 26th St., Allentown, PA 18104.



Tucker's Toy Run participants enjoy beverages and snacks provided by St. Luke's employees.



Bikers and riders wait in line to deposit toy donations in pediatric cribs in front of the hospital's main entrance.

YOUR LOCAL WEATHER

7 Day Forecast

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Showers Likely	Few Showers	Mostly Sunny	Few Showers	Few Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
64 / 60 5-9 mph E	71 / 47 Light winds	57 / 41 5-8 mph SW	53 / 40 3-8 mph S	48 / 39 7-9 mph S	46 / 38 5-10 mph SW	45 / 34 5-7 mph SW

FORECAST FOR LEHIGH VALLEY PENNSYLVANIA

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 70% chance of showers, possibly a record high temperature of 64°, humidity of 89%. The record high temperature for today is 60° set in 1971. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 60% chance of showers, overnight low of 60°. The record low for tonight is 1° set in 1951. Thursday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a 30% chance of showers, possibly a record high temperature of 71°, humidity of 88%. The record high temperature for Thursday is 63° set in 2000. Skies will be mostly cloudy Thursday night with an overnight low of 47°. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high temperature of 57°. Skies will become cloudy Saturday with a 30% chance of showers, high temperature of 53°. Sunday, skies will be mostly cloudy with a 30% chance of showers, high temperature of 48°.

Weather Trivia

Wind speeds need to be at least how fast for there to be wind chill?



Answer: At least 5 mph.



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Pat McAndrew holds the magazine article that sparked Lehigh University's program to make its art galleries more accessible to the visually impaired. LUAG Volunteer Coordinator **Delia Chatlani** proudly shows off a 3-D tactile version of "Blue Head" by Oswaldo Guayasamin, on display behind them. The audio description for "Blue Head" can be heard by dialing 610-628-2384, then 104 followed by the # sign.



Mary Newbegin, an ESOL teacher at Lehigh, **Richard Ludwig-Dicus**, **Maryann DiEdwardo**, a Lehigh English professor, and her husband have the opportunity to test out the 3-D representations of the artwork.

FOCUS

Continued from page 17

rience with vision loss, and the others, each tested out the 3-D representations and audio recordings, providing much needed advice in how to make improvements.

The journey making the LUAG galleries accessible to the visually-impaired is far from over.

"It is our goal to continue audio describing the rest of this collection," **Denise Stangal**, LUAG operations man-

ager, told an enthusiastic audience.

The Nov. 18 Lehigh University event is part of the "Arts & Access" program which commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Americans for Disabilities Act. Associated with the Lehigh Valley Arts Council, the "Arts & Access" year-long celebration, continues to June 30, 2016.

For more information on upcoming disability-friendly cultural events, check out ArtsandAccess.org.

MORE TUCKER'S RUN



Deni Carise rode all of the way from Philadelphia to deliver a Yoda elf.



Debunking the myth of tough guy bikers are **Matt "Tigger" Kent** from Phillipsburg, N.J., and **Julian "Cobra" Familia** from Salisburg Township, delivering Teddy Bears for pediatric patients. Both are members of the Knights of Fire, PA motorcycle club.



Sharon Garger from Bethlehem and **Tricia Brown** from Allentown deliver many of the toy donations via a van packed to the roof.

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