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MAY 1, 2013

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LVHN, GHHA agree to merger

Greater Hazleton Health Alliance (GHHA) and Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) announced they have signed an agreement for a full asset merger, pending regulatory approval.

The GHHA board of directors approved the merger April 3 and the LVHN board of trustees executive committee on April 16 with the full board of trustees ratification expected today.

The decision by the boards of both organizations builds upon a historical relationship. The organizations began to develop formal clinical partnerships about four years ago in

HEALTH CARE

the areas of MI alert response for heart care, emergency department coverage by LVHN physicians at Hazleton, and various telemedicine initiatives, including tele-obstetrics, tele-burn, tele-infectious disease consults and tele-stroke care to utilize LVHN's specialist care capabilities in efficient ways to enhance the delivery of high-quality care to residents in the Hazleton region. "The patient-centered partnerships we have formed over the years speak volumes about the similar cultures of caring and

compassion that exist at both the Greater Hazleton Health Alliance and Lehigh Valley Health Network," said Jim Edwards, president and CEO, GHHA. "Both organizations value their people and realize that's where the care starts. That's what has made working together a natural fit and what makes merging the logical choice, especially in today's ever changing healthcare environment."

Ronald Swinford, LVHN president and CEO, agrees that the two organizations have a symmetry that works. "Hazleton

See LVHN on Page A2

NORCO

Bridge repair work to begin

By CAROL SMITH
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

Northampton County Council approved two bridge repair projects and the expansion of the Emergency Operations Center at its April 18 meeting.

Northampton County's bridges receive between a "C-minus" and a "B-plus" grade as compared with the state's bridges, which rated a "C" when evaluated for safety, according to an engineering study conducted last year.

Bethlehem-based architectural firm Borton Lawson lists 53 county-owned bridges that need to be replaced, removed or rehabilitated for safety reasons. The bridge improvement project is expected to be done over three years and covered by a \$20 million bond.

Council began the repair process by hiring Bi-State Construction of Easton to rehabilitate a 45-year-old bridge in Center City Bethlehem. At a cost of \$195,150 and with a one-year timeline, the bridge that spans the Monocacy Creek will have its existing steel bridge bearings replaced with

See NORCO on Page A2

CITY AUTHORITY

Careful control advances are made

One plan stalled, others moving

By NATE JASTRZEMSKI
 njastrzemi@tponline.com

City Authority President Vaughn Gower said at the April 11 meeting the years long investigation regarding conversion to an operating authority outside strict city council control is still a years long investigation.

Gower said there have recently been a number of workshops but nothing definitive has resulted. The approach, members agreed, is methodical.

Later, Executive Director Stephen Repasch happily announced the wind agreement is now complete and the two sensor towers are soon to be erected.

A surveyor has been hired by wind energy company Iberdrola and after getting the necessary permits, the towers should be completed by June or July.

Repasch also said the authority officially entered a water service agreement with Bath Borough Authority April 17, which is part of an even broader plan.

"It now sets the stage for closing on the acquisition of the East Allen Township Municipal Authority water system by the City of Bethlehem," he said via email. "The settlement date for this was tentatively set for May 6 but that date has not been confirmed."

The next meeting is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. May 9 at City Hall.

BUILDING A NEST



PRESS PHOTO BY LINDA ANTHONY

A male sparrow flies with pieces of tall dried ornamental grass that he will use to build a nest. The birds will use the nest nearly the whole year. In spring and summer they use the nest for raising young; up to four broods a season will be raised. In fall and winter it is used for resting in the day and roosting at night. The nests can be located in buildings, trees and birdhouses near human habi-

itation. Most nest-building activity is in spring and fall. The main one is in spring just before breeding. Both the male and female build the nest. The female begins laying eggs about a week after nest-building begins. Typically four eggs are laid, but some nests can have up to seven eggs. The pair mates for life. The photo was taken in the photographer's back yard in West Bethlehem.

Out for blood

Ohio man crisscrosses the country asking people to give the gift of life

By JIM MARSH
 Special to The Press

Despite his kind and gentle demeanor, Al Whitney is out for blood.

Whitney meets a lot of people in his travels back and forth across the country. After he says "hello," he'll ask you whether you are a blood donor. Answer in the affirmative and you have an instant new best friend.

Hesitate, and he'll boldly ask you why not.

"It's the easiest thing in the world, and you could be saving somebody's life," Whitney said.

That's been Whitney's mantra since 1965, when he saw a sign saying "Donate blood here." He followed the sign's instruction, and then when he walked out, he said he had an epiphany on the sidewalk.

"That was so easy - I could do even more." Whitney's "more" was to

See BLOOD on Page A3



PRESS PHOTO BY JIM MARSH

Al Whitney, of Cleveland, Ohio, stops in the Lehigh Valley to donate platelets to the Miller-Keystone Blood Center.

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BY DANA GRUBB

What do you enjoy most about the arrival of springtime weather?



"No more winter - PERIOD!"
Marty Herrmann
Fair Lawn, N.J.



"It's not winter!"
Chris Dyer
Bethlehem



"Being able to walk around instead of having to drive somewhere, and enjoying the weather while doing it. And, that it's not so hot yet that you don't want to be outdoors."
Shannon Rapp
Bethlehem



"I like being able to open the doors and windows, the flowers blooming, and sleeping better. I just like it being warm."
Mary Ellen Hinckle
Somerset, N.J.



"Definitely taking the dog for a walk and giving her a chance to swim a little bit down in the river."
Ken Herring
Bethlehem



"I like the longer days, the trees in bloom, and not having to put my coat on to get the mail."
Herb Senz
Somerset, N.J.

LVHN

Continued from page A1
General Hospital is a highly-valued, independent community hospital that takes care of the people in this area. The leadership of the Greater Hazleton Health Alliance is to be commended for their exceptional stewardship. We respect what they've done and feel being a merged organization will allow us to continue to learn from one another and make a great situation even better for our communities."

GHHA includes Hazleton General Hospital with 150 licensed beds, and the Hazleton Health & Wellness Center; the hospital's newest outpatient center providing diagnostic testing and rehabilitation, as well as ambulatory surgery. GHHA employs more than 1,000 people, more than 100 of whom are physicians. It also operates a multispecialty health network of primary and specialty physicians and surgeons in 15 offices throughout the northeast region.

LVHN employs more than 12,000 people, has a medical staff of almost 1,200 and operates nearly 1,000 licensed acute beds at three hospital locations. In addition, the health network operates nine health centers and numerous primary and specialty care physician practices throughout the Lehigh

Valley region.

Officials said they anticipate the health care needs in each of their communities will continue to grow and, pending regulatory approval, they plan to do a needs assessment to determine how the merged organization can meet those needs.

"Health care reform is changing the landscape from a system that treats patients when they are sick or injured to one that also makes managing the health of our community a priority," said Thomas Kennedy, chair, GHHA's board of directors. "The trend around the nation is to develop these affiliations to keep people healthy and provide the highest quality care as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible when they need it."

LVHN's board of trustees Chairman William Hecht said many Hazleton area residents have chosen LVHN for care when they needed a specialist that wasn't available in their area, which is why a merger is the perfect next step. "More than 40 years ago, LVHN's modern-day founder, Leonard Parker Pool, was driven by a vision - to create a superior, regional hospital that would allow local people to get specialty care without leaving the area. This agreement has the potential to do just that by increasing access to spe-

cialty care right here in the Hazleton community."

GHHA is a nonprofit healthcare system that is dedicated to providing high quality, state-of-the-art, customer-focused healthcare services. Its affiliated entities include the 150-bed Hazleton General Hospital (for inpatient acute and rehab care, emergency care, maternity and home care), the Hazleton Health & Wellness Center (for outpatient surgery, diagnostic testing, and rehabilitation services) and Alliance Medical Group (a multispecialty physician network). HGH was the first accredited Primary Care Stroke Center in northeast Pennsylvania. It is also an accredited Chest Pain Center and a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence. HGH is the recipient of several quality awards in heart failure, stroke and coronary artery disease care by the American Heart Association, and has been recognized by HealthGrades for Excellence in Patient Safety for five consecutive years (2008-12) and Pulmonary Care for two years (2012-13). Additional information is available at ghha.org and on Facebook.

LVHN includes three hospital facilities - two in Allentown and one in Bethlehem; nine health centers caring for communities in four counties;

primary and specialty care physician practices; pharmacy imaging, home health services and lab services; and preferred provider services through Valley Preferred. Specialty care includes: trauma care at the region's busiest, most-experienced trauma center treating adults and children, burn care at the regional Burn Center; kidney and pancreas transplants; perinatal/neonatal, cardiac, cancer care, and neurology and complex neurosurgery capabilities including national certification as a Comprehensive Stroke Center. Children's Hospital at Lehigh Valley Hospital, the only children's hospital in the region, provides care in 28 specialties and general pediatrics. Lehigh Valley Health Network has been recognized (http://www.lvhn.org/awards) by U.S. News & World Report for 17 consecutive years as one of America's Best Hospitals and is a national Magnet hospital for excellence in nursing. Lehigh Valley Health Network's Cancer Center is one of only 21 sites nationwide that partners with the national Cancer Institute's Community Cancer Centers Program. Additional information is available at lvhn.org<http://lvhn.org> or on facebook.com /LVHealthNetwork and twitter.com/LVHN_MediaTeam.

NORCO

Continued from page A1
elastomeric bearings that include steel sole plates, masonry plates and anchor bolts.

A bridge in Lower Nazareth Township will have preventive work done by Grace Industries of

Bath for a cost of \$19,958.

Expanding the county's Emergency Operations Center, at a cost of \$134,350, will enable emergency workers to access vehicles from one central garage rather than multiple buildings on Gracedale Nursing Home's campus in Nazareth, where they are now stored. Council approved Philadelphia-

based Schrader Group Architecture for the project.

Council President John Cusick suggested to EOC Director Bob Mateff that he invite Bethlehem City Council and the mayor to tour the regional center as they consider the city's emergency response needs. Cusick said he thought it would be a cost

savings to join the regional center rather than operate its own center.

Mateff indicated that a number of council members had already toured the Nazareth facility.

Council's next meeting is 6:30 p.m., May 2 on the third floor of Northampton County Courthouse, 669 Washington St., Easton.

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For information on stroke rehabilitation: www.GoodShepherdRehab.org/stroke

In last week's issue we incorrectly stated that there was a tie for second place in the Southside chili tasting contest. The Bookstore Speakeasy at 336 Adams St. was Judge's Choice winner. Horn's at 123 W. Fourth St. and Tulum of 17 W. Morton St. tied for first place for People's Choice. Honorable mentions were awarded to The Steel Pub at 320 E. First St. and Molly's Irish Grille at 4 E. Fourth St.

Additionally, in the April 10 issue we mistakenly identified the Lehigh Valley Charter HS School for the Arts as being located near Easton Avenue, when in fact we meant Stefko Boulevard.

MEETING BOARD

Wednesday, May 1

Bethlehem City Historical Architectural Review Board, 4 p.m., 10 E. Church St.

Thursday, May 2

Northampton Co. Council, 6:30 p.m., 669 Washington St., Easton.

Monday, May 6

BASD Facilities and Curriculum committees, 6 p.m., education center dining room, 1516 Sycamore St.

Bethlehem Twp. Commissioners, 7 p.m., municipal building, 4225 Easton Ave.

Fountain Hill Council/planning session, 7 p.m., 941 Long St.

Hellertown Council, 7 p.m., 685 Main St.

Hanover Twp. Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m., municipal building, 3630 Jacksonville Road.

Tuesday, May 7

Bethlehem Zoning Hearing Board, special meeting, 6 p.m. second floor, library building, 11 W. Church St.

Bethlehem Council, 7 p.m. 10 E. Church St.

Freemansburg Council, 7 p.m., 600 Monroe St.

Wednesday, May 8

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

Wednesday, May 1

Salvation Army Women's Ministries' Bible study, 11 a.m.; Mother's Day program, 12:50 p.m., 521 Pembroke Road. Call 610-867-4681.

Thursday, May 2

National Day of Prayer observance, noon, Payrow Plaza, City Hall, 10 E. Church St.

Northampton County Area Agency on Aging advisory council senior citizen awards ceremony, 1 p.m. Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St.

Lehigh Valley Chapter Executive Women, board 5:30 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m. Shula's Steakhouse, Promenade Shops, 2960 Center Valley Parkway, Center Valley.

National Day of Prayer, 6 to 8 p.m., all ages welcome. Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church sanctuary and front lawn (weather permitting), 3100 Hecktown Road. Call 610-868-5501.

Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, "ELI, the son of ICEman" NOKIA, 7:30 p.m., Bethlehem Township Community Center, 2900 Farmersville Road. Visit www.dlarc.org or KE3AW@ARRL.NET or call 610-432-8286.

Tunes at Twilight, 6 to 8 p.m., Sun Inn Courtyard; rain location: Garden level, Main Street Commons.

Friday, May 3

Bethlehem Bach Festival, 2 p.m., Dr. Michael Marisse lecture, Black Box

Theater, Zoellner Arts Center; 4 p.m., Bach Cantatas and Beethoven's Choral Fantasy; buffet diner and talk, 5:30 p.m. Dr. Larry Lipkis; 8 p.m., Bach Cantatas and Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, Call 888-743-3100 for details.

First Friday, South Bethlehem, 6 to 10 p.m. between Third, Fourth and South New streets. Call 610-841-5831.

Saturday, May 4

Annual Bach Ministry of Hospitality, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Peter's Lutheran Church, 474 Vine St.; lunch, baked goods, handmade items Rada cutlery and mixes.

Bethlehem Bach Festival concert, "Mass in B Minor - part 1", 2:30 p.m.; "Mass in B Minor - part 2", 4:30 p.m.; Call 888-743-3100 for details.

Outdoor Film Adventures, "The Heart of San Francisco" with Sandy Mortimer, 7:30 p.m. Pennsylvania Playhouse, 390 Illick's Mill Road. Tickets at door. Call 610-428-9649.

Sunday, May 5

Cinco de Mayo 5K Walk/Run for Victory, Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #313, 1 p.m. Notre Dame HS. Visit www.kofc313.org or call 610-217-9031 and/or email denblaze@aol.com.

Monday, May 6

First Presbyterian Church Hi Neighbors, 10 a.m. (Friends of the Groom-

Christian Theater group) (overlaps 11:15 a.m.), 2344 Center St.

Harry F.W. Johnson Post #379 American Legion and the United Veterans meetings, 7 p.m. DAR Log Cabin, Eighth Avenue and West Union Boulevard. Call 610-866-3835.

Tuesday, May 7

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa., "The Trial of John Brown" with lawyer Malcom Gross, Day's Inn, 3400 Airport Road, Allentown. Dinner (reservation needed) 6:30 p.m., no reservations needed talk 7:30 p.m. Call 215-234-4884 or 610-253-4549 or email cde-tweiler01@comcast.net or Duffysocwk@aol.com.

Wednesday, May 8

Salvation Army's Women's Ministries, Bible study, 11 a.m.; breath of fresh air, 12:50 p.m., 521 Pembroke Road. Call 610-867-4681.

Gluten-Free/Celiac Sprue Support Group, 7:30 p.m. Lower level board room of St. Luke's - Warren Hospital. Call 610-865-3543 or 732-207-6666.

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

BLOOD

Continued from page A1

offer to run blood drives on behalf of the Lorain County Blood Bank in his Avon Lake community, located west of Cleveland, Ohio.

With the blood bank's support and encouragement, Whitney began arranging bloodmobile visits to his church every eight weeks, the time cycle for a person to donate, rejuvenate their blood supply and donate again. Sometime in the late 1960s or early 1970s, he converted his whole blood donations to platelet donations. That allowed him to be eligible to donate every two weeks, up to 24 times a year.

Platelets are a blood component that aid the clotting factor in a medical patient recipient. The donation process is similar to giving whole blood, but the blood is passed

through a machine that separates the platelets and returns the blood right back into the donor's body.

In 1985, he realized if his donors had another commitment during the time the bloodmobile was at the church they would miss their every eight-week opportunity.

His "I can do more," attitude kicked in and he began to schedule weekly drives every Saturday, in addition to his every-eight-week church visit bloodmobile visits. He was a regular donor himself and always on the lookout to recruit new donors.

When he retired from his job as head of maintenance for a manufacturing company in 2000, he also backed away from his blood bank sponsorship. He set a goal of "2,000 in 2000," determined to urge 2,000 donors to give in his first year of blood bank coordination. He surpassed his goal by 69 units.

Whitney has personally donated five gallons of whole blood and about 720 units of platelets.

Although no longer coordinating the blood drives, Whitney continued his platelet donations on a regular basis.

In the fall of 2007, Whitney had another "I can do more than this" epiphany. He started a 501c3 nonprofit corporation, "Platelets across

America" and determined to donate in each of the 50 states, and to evangelize donors through news media outlets as he did so. Now, five years later, he has donated in every state and has made multiple visits to several states, including Pennsylvania. He finances his travels with his Social Security payments.

Whitney said he is often asked why he continues to be a blood donation advocate.

"Walk through a hospital cancer care ward and you'll have your answer," Whitney responds.

Chemotherapy cancer treatments kill blood cells as well as cancer cells, he said. In his advocacy trips, Whitney has visited his share of cancer patients and children's wards to see for himself the value of donating blood or blood products. He said many of the visits can be heart-breaking, and he has seen a lot of personal bravery as well as suffering.

Sometimes what he sees can be troubling, but "I cope by doing what I do" he says. On her deathbed two years ago, Whitney's wife extracted a promise from her husband. "Al, I want you to keep on doing what you're doing," she said before her passing.

Whitney has had the personal experience of having three of his donor

recruits coming to him later and telling him donating blood had literally saved their own lives. "The blood donor screening process is so thorough and comprehensive that the three donors were found to have potentially fatal medical conditions discovered while they were still in an early stage, and could be treated," Whitney said. "My doctors would not have known about my medical condition until it killed me," was the message his recruits gave him.

Whitney said his "I can do more" attitude originated outside himself.

"I have been led on this journey," he said. "I have no idea what I'm doing, but it works. I'm being led by the Lord, and I've met some of the most wonderful people in the world in blood donation centers."

"You tell your readers to call the Miller-Keystone Blood Center and arrange a time to donate," was Whitney's closing remark during his Lehigh Valley media visit. "They'll be giving a gift of life to someone."

The phone number for the Miller-Keystone center is 610-691-5850. The website is: www.giveapint.org. Whitney's web site is: www.plateletsacrossamerica.com.

Cruising into spring



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

A Chrysler PT Cruiser is the pride and joy of 72-year-old William Kirk, a Southside Bethlehem native and resident, who took advantage of the recent sunny and milder spring weather to wash his sporty car. Kirk said he "takes very good care" of his favorite auto model, which he purchased 13 years ago as "my last car."

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

Finding God

There is an ancient story from India about a young man who was seeking God. He went to a wise old sage for help. "How can I find God?" he asked. The old man took him to a nearby river. Out they waded into the deep water. Suddenly the old man seized the young man by the neck and pushed him under the water! He held the young man down until he was flailing the water in desperation! Another minute and he may well have drowned. Up out of the water the two of them came. The young man was coughing water from his lungs and still gasping for air. Reaching the bank he asked the man indignantly, "What did that have to do with my finding God?" The old man asked him quietly, "While you were under the water, what did you want more than anything else?" The young man answered, "I wanted air. I wanted air more than anything else!" The old man replied, "When you want God as much as you wanted air, you will find Him!"

To those who are earnest in finding Him, God promises, "If...thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find Him, if thou seek Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul" (Deuteronomy 4:29). You will find God when you put all of your heart into seeking Him—when you make it your top priority. Serious seeking of the Lord includes reading the Bible—start with the Gospel of John. It includes praying and accepting Jesus as your Savior (see www.naog.us/theway.htm). James declared, "Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you." Then he specified a list of things that show we mean business with God: "Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep...Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord" (James 4:8-10). Jesus promised that those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness" (see www.naog.us/thirsty.htm) "shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). God pledges, "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13).

AB Natural Stone Techo-Bloc Precious Stones. Includes images of stone, mulch, and pavers. Phone: 610-398-7200. Website: www.abnaturalstone.com.

How Can We Help You? Allentown Family Foot Care. Includes photos of Dr. Anderson, Dr. Smargiassi, Dr. Fritz, Dr. Baker, and Dr. Gonzalez. Phone: 610-434-7000. Website: affc.com.

Weight-Loss Surgery at Sacred Heart. Expert SURGEON. Excellent RESULTS. Includes photo of Dr. Clay Holland, M.D. and contact information for Sacred Heart Hospital.

AREA PASSINGS

Charles Fisher Snyder Jr.

hospital medical chief

Dr. Charles Fisher Snyder Jr., 91, of Bethlehem, died April 2, 2013. Born in Bellefonte, he was a son of the late Charles Fisher and Bertha Mae (Dietrich) Snyder. He was the husband of Louise Estelle (Kokolias) Snyder for 51 years and of the late Charlotte (Kienzy) Snyder.



He was in the U.S. Army. He was the 25th Medical Battalion commander in the Korean War. He was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star.

He earned a degree in orthopedic medicine from the Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania.

He had a private practice and performed surgery at St. Luke's Hospital where he was chief of orthopedics from 1971 to 1988. He was chief of surgery at Muhlenberg Hospital in 1990.

He was a member of the F&M Lodge #22, Sunbury; the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution; the National Audubon Society; the American Forestry Association; American Ordinance Association; and the Honorary First Defenders. He served on

the consistory and was a president of Bethany U.C.C., the board of Lancaster Theological Seminary, and the national board of the United Church of Christ. He was on the boards of Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales and the American Cancer Society.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Patricia and her husband Michael Chupak of Fairport, N.Y. and Catherine Snyder Riggan and her husband J. Simmons of Lexington, N.C.; two sons, John and his wife Heather of Bethlehem and Charles III and his wife Peggy of Bushkill Township; 10 grandchildren, Deborah Caffrey, Michael Snyder, Peter and Matthew Chupak, Blythe and Cole Riggan, and Colin, Jacob, Shannon and Philip Snyder; four great-grandchildren; and a sister, Patricia Coryell of Northumberland.

He was predeceased by a son, Michael Snyder; and two sisters, Dorothea and Barbara.

Contributions may be made to Bethany U.C.C. Church, 600 W. Market St., Bethlehem, PA 18018, or to the National Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

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

Marianne Goodwin

formerly of Coopersburg

Marianne Goodwin, 80, of Allentown and formerly of Coopersburg, died April 3, 2013, at her home. Born in Philadelphia and raised in Easton, she was a daughter of the late John Anthony and Mary Ruppert. She was the wife of John J. Goodwin Jr., M.D. for 58 years.



She was a graduate of Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital Nursing School.

She worked for Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown.

She is survived by 10 children, John J. III; Gregory and his wife Diane; Mark and his wife Cheryl; Matthew and his wife Deb-

orah; Thomas and his wife Debra; Christopher and his wife Kathleen; Anne and her husband Tom Hawley; Mary and her husband Brad Ritter; Paul and his wife Kim and Joseph and his wife Jennie; 23 grandchildren, Amanda, Paula, Adam, Ashley, Nicholas, Jennifer, Timarie, Matthew, Lauren, Andrew, Leah, Heather, Jack, Margaret, Kelsey, Timothy, Taylor, Michael, Nicole, Ryan, Madison, Gracie and Nathan; and a brother, Jack and his wife Rose-Marie Ruppert of Bath.

Contributions may be made to St. Michael's the Archangel Catholic School, 5040 St. Joseph's Road, Limeport, PA 18036.

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

E. Louise Auchenbach

missionary

E. Louise Auchenbach, 90, of Bethlehem, died April 2, 2013, in St. Luke's Hospice House, Lower Saucon Township. She was born in Reading.

She was a graduate of Albright College and Columbia University.

She taught in the Wilson School District, West Lawn. She was a missionary teacher in Japan through the Women's Guild of the Evangelical and Reformed Church for more than 17 years.

She was a member of Christ Church U.C.C., Bethlehem, where she coordinated ShareCare

and was a member of the Prayer Circle and the choir.

She sang with the Lehigh University Volunteer Singers for many years until 2006.

She is survived by a sister, Ruth Auchenbach of Prescott, Az.; and friend and caregiver Sue and her husband Warren Nelson of Bethlehem.

Contributions may be made to the church, 75 E. Market St., Bethlehem, PA 18018.

Arrangements were made by James Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Bethlehem.

Fern Czyski

doctor's office manager

Fern Czyski, 82, of Bethlehem, died April 20, 2013, in St. Luke's Hospital. She was the wife of Stanley Czyski for 54 years.

Born in Ludlow, Mass., she was a daughter of the late George and Martha (Gaab) Milne.

She was the office manager for Dr. Orr for many

years until she retired.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two daughters, Donna Garman of Danville and Taren Czyski of Bethlehem; and two sons, David Wolfe of Connecticut and Anthony Czyski of Amityville, N.Y.

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



PRESS PHOTOS BY BERNIE O'HARE

Just in time for Coretta Scott King's birthday, Bethlehem Mayor John Callahan and local civil rights activist Pastor Melvin Tatem of Grace Deliverance Church unveiled a memorial stone on Saturday, April 27, in her honor. This dedication took place at Martin Luther King Park, located on Carlton Avenue, before about 80 onlookers. Before the event started, some of the children were convinced that Martin Luther King (MLK) died in the pocket park that bears his name. But Tomacene Nickens, Callahan's former kinder-

garten teacher, set the kids straight. She described the wife of the martyred civil rights leader, who took up the banner after her husband was struck down by an assassin's bullet. "She filled a void at a time when we needed her most," noted Callahan. Civil rights activist Frankie West, one of the founders of the annual Martin Luther King March, was honored with a citation and a Moravian Star. West explained that the first march had just four participants, but has grown to more than 200. It ends at MLK Park.

Happy birthday, Coretta Scott King



Tomacene Nickens, Bethlehem Mayor John Callahan's former kindergarten teacher, describes the life of Coretta Scott King and her efforts to support women's and LGBT rights.



Thanks to the Cops 'n' Kids program, children are treated to free books.



Stone marker at MLK park now commemorates the life of Coretta Scott King.



Civil rights activist Frankie West is honored with a citation and Moravian Star.

Sophie (Yurasek) Krise

of Bethlehem

Sophie (Yurasek) Krise, 96, of Bethlehem, died April 6, 2013, at St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem. Born in Bethlehem, she was a daughter of the late Anna (Fecko) and Andrew Yurasek. She was the wife of the late William Krise.

She was the treasurer for the Senior Citizens Club, Greenleaf Court condos, Bethlehem. She was a former president of the Altar and Rosary Society at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Brodheadsville.

She is survived by a sister, Gertrude Kovach; four nephews, Andrew

Yurasek, John Kovach, Frank Tomko Jr. and James Kovach; and two nieces, Shirley Yochum and Elaine Whitesel.

She was predeceased by four sisters, Irene Vasko, Anna Yurasek, Mary Ihle and Katherine Tomko; and two brothers, Andrew and John.

Contributions may be made to Incarnation of Our Lord R.C. Church, 617 Pierce St., Bethlehem, PA 18015 or to Easter Seals of Eastern Pennsylvania, 1501 Lehigh St., Suite 201, Allentown, PA 18103.

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

Edward Faulstick

Cigna employee

Edward Faulstick, 81, formerly of Bethlehem, died April 4, 2013, in Alexandria, Va. Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Dewey and Isabel (Furry) Faulstick. He was the husband of the late Carole (Stoerrle) Faulstick.

He was a graduate of Liberty HS and Lehigh University.

He was in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1956.

He worked for Cigna

Insurance, Philadelphia.

He was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Southampton.

He was a member of American Legion Post 24, Alexandria.

He is survived by a son, Scott.

He was predeceased by a sister, Joan Todd; and a brother, Donald Faulstick.

Arrangements were made by Long Funeral Home Inc. Bethlehem.

Anna E. Walker

Just Born retiree

Anna E. Walker, 93, of Bethlehem, died April 4, 2013. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she was a daughter of the late Nazzio and Maria (Mazolino) Cetta. She was the wife of the late Harold Walker.

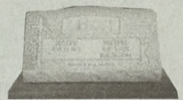
She was employed by Just Born until she retired in the late 1970s.

She is survived by a son, Richard and his wife Jean; two grandchildren, Stacey and her husband Greg Marino and Jeffrey and his

wife Aimee Walker; and four great-grandchildren, Ashley and Tyler Marino and Gavin and Rhyann Walker.

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 212 E. Broad St., Bethlehem, PA 18018 or Alzheimer's Association, 617 A Main St., Hellertown, PA 18055.

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



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ELECTION

NORCO
Hunter seeks council seat

Former Nazareth School Board member and Northampton HS teacher Deb Hunter has announced her run for an at-large Northampton County Council seat.



Hunter is a 25-year resident of the county and began her commitment to public service as a member of the Nazareth School Board, serving from 1991 to 2001. During her tenure, she served on various committees of the board as well as holding the office of president and vice president.

Hunter was appointed to the Northampton County Gaming and Economic Redevelopment Authority in 2009 and helped that agency award approximately \$1.3 million in grants to various local municipalities. She is currently serving on the Bethlehem Human Relations Commission.

Hunter graduated summa cum laude from Moravian College with a B.A. in history and a secondary teacher certification. She resides in Bethlehem with her husband and has three adult sons, two of whom live and work in the county and one son who attends Temple University in Philadelphia majoring in physics.



PRESS PHOTO BY MARK RECCEK

Saucon Valley HS senior Raymond O'Donnell holds the proclamation given to him by Hellertown Mayor Richard Fluck during council's April 1 meeting. O'Donnell was honored for becoming a PIAA state wrestling champion. He will attend Princeton University in the fall.

HELLERTOWN

Volunteers to begin work on town square fountain

By MARK RECCEK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

According to Hellertown resident Joe Delfoe, water will soon begin to flow from the fountain located in the town square.

Delfoe told borough council at the April 1 meeting he expected to begin the fountain restoration project the second week of April. The fountain is located in Detwiller Plaza.

"I do have volunteers who came forward," Delfoe said. "In three weeks we should have

water flowing."

Last November, Delfoe approached council members and informed them an unnamed individual donated funds to reactivate the fountain.

"It's [fountain restoration] something nice that's happening in the community due to volunteers," Delfoe added.

In other business, borough Manager Cathy Kichline announced the borough recently received a \$36,000 check from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The monies were reimbursed

to the borough for damage caused by Hurricane Sandy and various mitigation and repair work done throughout Hellertown.

Also during the meeting, Mayor Richard Fluck presented Saucon Valley HS senior Raymond O'Donnell with a proclamation for becoming a PIAA state wrestling champion. O'Donnell is also a member of the National Honor Society, Model UN and the Future Business Leaders of America. O'Donnell will attend Princeton University in the fall.

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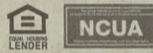
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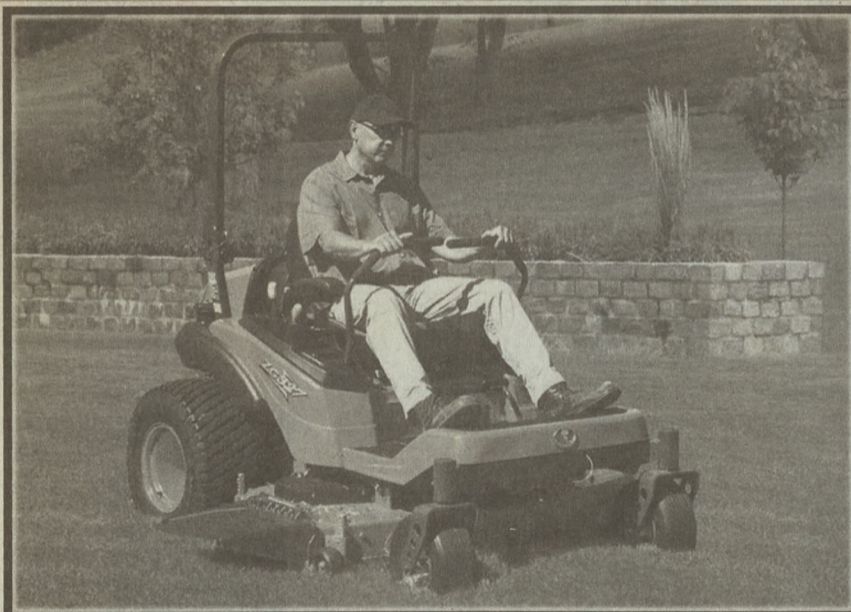
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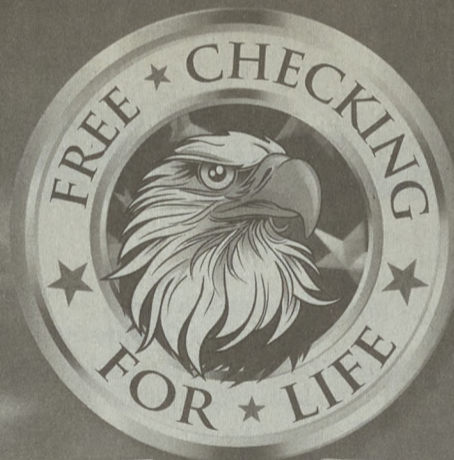
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Older Adult Behavior unit opens

Carol Kuplen, RN, MSN, COO of St. Luke's University Hospital-Bethlehem and Senior Nurse Executive, St. Luke's University Health Network, addresses the crowd of more than 100 people at the internal event held to mark the opening Older Adult Behavioral Health Unit at St. Luke's University Hospital-Bethlehem Campus. The new unit will serve the unique inpatient behavioral health needs of people aged 60 and over and will provide a secure and tranquil environment for older adults with long-standing or newly-diagnosed mental illnesses.

Axelband joins Gift of Life board

Gift of Life Donor Program – the region's non-profit, federally designated organ procurement organization (OPO) serving the eastern half of Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware – announced that Jennifer Axelband, DO, Associate Medical Director of Medical Critical Care Education at St. Luke's University Health Network in Bethlehem, has been named vice chair of Gift of Life's Medical Advisory and Policy Board.



Axelband

Dr. Axelband, a member of the MAPB since 2009, specializes in emergency medicine and critical care medicine and attended the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Bethlehem woman gets LVAD

A Bethlehem grandmother is the first patient to be implanted with a left ventricular assist device or (LVAD) at Lehigh Valley Hospital, the only hospital in the Lehigh Valley offering the leading edge heart surgery.



Schumann

The surgically implanted, battery operated pump is sutured to the heart and takes over the pumping action for a heart muscle that's too weak to squeeze blood out to the brain and other major organs. The device isn't an artificial heart, nor does it replace the patient's native heart.

For 74-year-old Dolores Schumann, the device is "destination therapy," meaning she will have the pump for the rest of her life.

This device should allow the wife, mother and grandmother, to carry out daily activities with minimal restrictions. By having this life-extending procedure LVAD, patients will have access to a support team at LVHN 24/7 and avoid the rigors of out-of-town travel for care.



Located at 527 Center St. in Bethlehem's Historic District, the James Funeral Home and Cremation Service, P.C. opened under new ownership March 12. A dedication ceremony was held April 20 at the former Snyder, Hinkle and Linsford Funeral Home.

James Funeral Home marks dedication

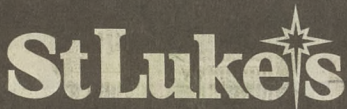


New funeral parlor director Louis James shows a casket display to Marianne Napravnik and Dianna Lazar, both of Bethlehem, after the dedication of the newly opened James Funeral Home.



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Following a dedication ceremony April 20, Louis James, owner of the James Funeral Home and Cremation Service, P.C. is congratulated by Rev. Msgr. Nevin Klinger of Assumption BVM Catholic Church and Rev. Jeffrey Bauer of Christ Church UCC who blessed the newest funeral service facility in Bethlehem. James, a longtime Bethlehem resident, is operating his first funeral home after 20 years of experience in the field which was preceded by seminary and priesthood studies.



Healthline calendar

Spring/Summer

FREE lectures, screenings and classes for a healthy community at St. Luke's University Health Network

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St. Luke's University Health Network Healthline Calendar

FREE Event Registration

Registration is required for all Healthline Calendar events.

Call St. Luke's InfoLink at 1-866-STLUKES (785-8537) unless otherwise noted.



Visit sluhn.org from your mobile device.

Cancer

Hope and Healing Newcomer Orientation

Cancer survivors introduce new members to programs offered by the Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley, such as Tai-Chi, drumming and art of healing dance. Call 610-861-7555 or email info@cancersupportglv.org to register.

E Second Tuesday of every month Starting April 9 10 am Cancer Center, 2nd Floor Hope & Healing Room St. Luke's Anderson Campus

St. Luke's Skin Cancer Screenings

Free screenings are provided for individuals without insurance coverage and who have not had a prior screening by a dermatologist.

Q Tuesday, May 21, 2013 5:30 – 6:30 pm Infusion Center suite St. Luke's Quakertown Campus

Bone & Joint Series

Non-surgical Treatment of Hip and Knee Pain

Overview of non-surgical options to treat hip and knee pain.

Q Tuesday, May 21 6:30 – 7:30 pm St. Luke's Bone & Joint Institute 1534 Park Avenue Quakertown, PA

Support Groups

Better Breather's Club

Support group for people with chronic lung disease providing education and socialization to help its members manage their condition and improve their quality of life.

E Thursday, May 16 6 – 7:30 pm Medical Office Building Conference Room A and B St. Luke's Anderson Campus

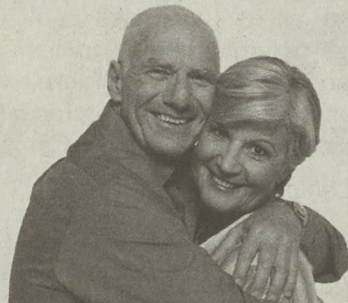
Weight Loss

Weight Loss Surgery: Informational Seminars

Learn about the types of weight loss surgery available and whether or not surgery is right for you.

A 1st Wednesday of Every Month 7 – 9 pm 3rd Friday of Every Month 1 – 3 pm Dimmig Education Center St. Luke's Allentown Campus

W Thursday, May 23 7 – 9 pm Auditorium St. Luke's Warren Campus



Healthy Living

Post-Shingles Pain Treatment

Learn more about a treatment option available to alleviate the pain caused by Shingles.

Q Thursday, May 16 6 to 7 pm St. Luke's Bone & Joint Institute 1534 Park Avenue Quakertown, PA

Neuroscience

Parkinson's Disease (PD) Steps

This group meets monthly to discuss topics as they relate to Parkinson's Disease. Meet and Greet with refreshments starts at 6 pm with the presentation beginning at 6:30 pm.

This month's topic: **Healthy Lifestyle** The benefits of living a healthy lifestyle for those dealing with Parkinson's disease.

A Wednesday, May 15 6 – 7:30 pm Dimmig ED Center A & B St. Luke's Allentown Campus

Stroke Survivor Spring Fling

Saturday, May 11 10 am – 2 pm Priscilla Payne Hurd Education Center St. Luke's University Hospital – Bethlehem

Stroke survivors, family members and friends are invited to enjoy a day of education and fun! Stroke resources, presentations for patients and caregivers, free health screenings and kids' activities.

Reserve your spot by calling St. Luke's InfoLink toll-free at 1-866-STLUKES.

Seniors' Health

Your Voice Heard – Making sure your end-of-life wishes are granted

Preparing for end-of-life situations can be difficult. Learn what you need to know about advanced directives and living wills to ensure your desires are followed.

B Tuesday, May 21 6 – 7 pm ED Center, Room 103 St. Luke's University Hospital – Bethlehem

Aging at Home With Dignity

Age in place! What do I need to know to keep Mom and Dad, or even myself living safe at home for as long as possible?

Q Tuesday, May 14 6 – 7 pm Taylor A Conference Room St. Luke's Quakertown Campus

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Location Key

- A** Allentown
- B** Bethlehem
- E** Anderson
- M** Miners
- Q** Quakertown
- W** Warren

3rd Annual Charity Bike Ride to benefit St. Luke's Hospice

Saturday, May 11
The Bob Rodale Cycling and Fitness Park Trexlertown, PA (ride will begin and end here)

Registration is required at www.active.com – Search: St. Luke's Hospice Charity Bike Ride

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Bethlehem Catholic: Film Fest panel

Trevor Kleckner, a junior at Bethlehem Catholic HS and his brother, Brody, were on the Sprout Film Festival panel April 20 at DeSales University. Trevor and Brody, who has Down Syndrome, spoke on the topic: "Inclusion, through the eyes of two brothers." They were also discussion panelists following the film presentation. Brody attends Mercy Special Learning Center, Allentown. The Sprout Film Festival, presented by The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, is a collection of high-quality films and videos of varying lengths that have been made for, by, or about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Freedom: Chef Challenge winner

Jaclyn VanBilliard, a junior at Freedom HS, won a Chef Challenge competition through SkillsUSA. She appeared on Channel 69 TV News April 19 where she cooked with a chef from the Northampton Country Club.

Liberty: Tax discount offered

LHS FBLA has teamed up with Men's Wearhouse for tuxedo rentals. By mentioning promo code PRFL6934688 at any Men's Wearhouse store, you can receive a discount on a prom tux rental. For every LHS rental, the company will donate money back to the school. Visit mwpromotion.com or email askelly@beth.k12.pa.us.

LVCSA: Choir opens Phillies' game

The Lehigh Valley Charter HS for the Arts Women's Choir sang the National Anthem for the opening of the April 25 Phillies baseball game at Citizen's Bank Park, Philadelphia. Ellen Ditmer, director of the Women's Choir, worked for more than a year to solidify this performance for the choir.

Calypso ES: Career Day May 9

Calypso ES will hold the fourth annual Career Day from 9 to 11:30 a.m. May 9 at the school, 1021 Calypso Ave.

The COMPASS Community School will collaborate with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem Area School District and Communities in Schools of the Lehigh Valley Inc. to host the learning experience. Potential career fields represented will include chiropractic, technology, business and the arts.

To get your news item in SCHOOL NOTES, send the information to George Taylor at gtaylor@ttonline.com or mail the information to SCHOOL NOTES, 308 East Third St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Partnership provides books

By DANA GRUBB
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Judith's Reading Room and the Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley have established a partnership that will provide 1,000 books valued at nearly \$9,000 to the center's WIC Program over the next year. At a recent dedication ceremony, officials associated with each organization unveiled the donation at the Center's East Fourth Street location.

The Hispanic Center serves nearly 2,500 low-income people every month, many of them young children without access to pre-K and daycare programs. Hispanic Center Executive Director Lorna Velazquez hopes to benefit that targeted audience in order to introduce reading into younger children's lives.

The collection features bi-lingual, SkippyJon Jones and Spanish titles. Children enrolled in the WIC Program will receive a new book on their first birthday as part of the Judith's Reading Room commitment.

Judith's Reading Room board member Ana Luhrs, a Lafayette College librarian, organized the collection. Luhrs, whose family benefited from the WIC Program when she was a child, dedicated the collection to her parents.

Judith's Reading Room was founded in 2010 by Scott and Cathy Leiber, in memory of their cousin, Judith Krug. Krug was director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom and executive director of the



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Julianna Mancuso celebrates her first birthday, so her mother Lillian Lopez selects the tot's first book, "My Clothes Mi Ropa." They live in Hellertown.



Lafayette College librarian Ana Luhrs, right, curated the collection of books that are being donated to the Hispanic Center. She related her own family's experience in the WIC Program and dedicated the collection to her parents, Nydia Theodorakis, center, and her late father, Luis Alberto Ramirez. Pictured is her sister, Catherine Ramirez on left.



Judith's Reading Room will donate 1,000 books to the Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program.

Freedom to Read Foundation.

To date, 46 libraries containing thousands of books have been established by Judith's Reading Room in six countries and six states.

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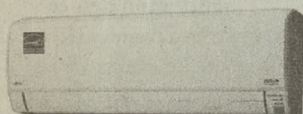
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Animals are available for adoption at the Center for Animal Health & Welfare no-kill shelter, 1165 Island Park Road, Easton. The shelter is working to end pet overpopulation by running a clinic so animals can be spayed or neutered before they go home.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



Acacia doesn't like other dogs at our shelter so she must be an only pet. She doesn't mind being handled and loves to be out and about playing and using her nose. She is ready to go.



Abandoned at our shelter, Tory is looking for love again. She is a young adult, just gorgeous and eager to please. She is current on shots, micro-chipped, spayed and ready for a new home.

VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEER CENTER OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY, Bethlehem, invites volunteers to the annual Environmental Clean-Up in honor of Global Youth Service Day and National Volunteer Week. Contact Christina for more info at 610-807-0336, youth@volunteerv.org.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, Bethlehem, needs volunteers who like to talk on the phone to make calls to invite Lehigh Valley corporations/employees to the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Kickoff Breakfast. Contact Liz McCool, 908-334-0168, Liz.McCool@cancer.org.

HISTORIC BETHLEHEM MUSEUMS & SITES is looking for groundskeeping help at the Moravian Museum. Contact Jill Caggiano, 610-691-6055, ext. 14, jcaggiano@historicbethlehem.org.

CEDARBROOK NURSING HOMES- Volunteers needed at Allentown facility to do hair and makeup for our residents for photo portraits May 22 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Contact Darlene Altrichter, 610-336-5684, darlenealtrichter@lehighcounty.org.

MIRACLE LEAGUE OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY, Whitehall, is looking for a few volunteers to be game day announcers for our baseball games. Contact Andy Squire, 610-984-5142, andy@miracleleagueiv.org.

THE LITERACY CENTER, Allentown needs volunteers to help non-English speakers learn/improve their English language skills. Contact Karen Ennis, 610-435-0680, ext. 123, kennis@theliteracycenter-iv.org.

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK, Allentown, needs volunteers to help with the annual Letter Carrier Food Drive from 2:30-6:30 p.m. May 11. Contact Lindsay Fly, 610-434-0875, lideemer@caclv.org.

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

The circus is coming

THIS WEEK IN BETHLEHEM HISTORY



Crowds of young and old alike swelled into Central Park's show grounds in late May 1945 to witness six fast-moving, head-spinning performances headed by the one and only Clyde Beatty, greatest wild animal trainer of them all.

Steam-powered calliope music floated across the show grounds, as did the cries of countless exotic animals displayed in an incomparable menagerie. No doubt many unique smells were also contributed by these wild animals.

One major attraction was the United Nations on Parade, "a radiant new spectacle of color and beauty in glorious professional pageantry."

All of this and more could be enjoyed for "popular prices," or so exclaimed the eye catching ads found throughout the Bethlehem Globe-Times. For a special price of 35 cents, school children could see their imaginations spring to life before their very eyes.

There were many wild personalities to behold.

Don Juan, 'the South American juggling wizard,' performed an electrifying routine. The Flying Escavitas delivered breathtaking moments on the flying trapeze.

Crowds delighted in Mickey and Minnie, famous Hollywood chimpanzees. Truly, Clyde Beatty was the star of his own show, as he presented the most thrilling and sensational wild animal act of his career.

In an amazing feat of adjectives, circus posters beckoned all to come see

"Clyde Beatty in person, battling 30 savage, cruel, blood-thirsty lions and tigers in mammoth steel arena."

Every one of Beatty's stunts was timed to a split-second with thrill following thrill.

Additional excitement was provided by Harriet Beatty, wife of the celebrated animal trainer. Harriet presented at one time two hostile lords of the jungle, the elephant and tiger!

In her daring act a ferocious Bengal tiger was made to ride atop a giant Siamese elephant and later jump through a flaming hoop of real fire.

Never again can such a memorable show be put on at Central Park, as all that remains of the Big Top is blacktop.

But for the attendees at 1945's performance, a splendid time was guaranteed for all.

Please share your comments and memories by writing to me at bethlehemhistory@gmail.com.

Pulse-quicken music. Dancing elephants.

Peanuts, popcorn, cotton candy! Yes, you've guessed it - the circus!

All the excitement and hoopla of America's favorite institution burst forth into the Bethlehem area with a gigantic new show, the Clyde Beatty Trained Wild Animal Circus, largest of its kind in the world.



Jason W. Rehm Columnist

Crowds of young and old alike swelled into Central Park's show grounds in late May 1945 to witness six fast-moving, head-spinning performances headed by the one and only Clyde Beatty, greatest wild animal trainer of them all.

Promised to contain a stupendous array of new and amazing features, the three-ring extravaganza did not disappoint. More than 250 of the most talented entertainers from all corners of the globe gathered together for the three-day exhibition held May 28, 29 and 30.

There were bounties of beautiful aerialists who scoffed at all laws of gravity. Courageous gymnasts dauntlessly dared disaster under the Big Top.

What circus would be complete without those joyful jesters? Riotous laughter was provoked by clowns galore as they frolicked throughout acre after acre of tents.

Like any good circus, Clyde Beatty's was a kaleidoscope of noise and color; a true sensory overload.



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Super conference formation begins

Bethlehem Catholic, Central Catholic left off invitation list

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Where there's smoke, there's fire and the news of a Lehigh Valley super-conference finally came to fruition last week.

After months of rumors and speculation about the future of the Lehigh Valley Conference, the Mountain Valley Conference stepped in and sent out an invitation to 12 neighboring schools to ultimately form a "big school, super conference," according to Stroudsburg Principal and MVC Pres-

ident Jeff Sodl.

All of the current LVC members, except for Bethlehem Catholic and Central Catholic, received the invites last week, along with Colonial League 4A qualifier Bangor, as well as Phillipsburg (NJ). The league would officially take place in 2014-2015.

"We've been looking to expand since we knew Leighton was going to be leaving," said Sodl. "We've thought about this since the fall and we've had good ideas. Things started to heat up in Jan-

uary and February and we felt confident this would fly."

Meanwhile, Bethlehem Catholic Principal John Petruzzelli was flying back into town Monday afternoon after a weekend in Florida, as Bethlehem Catholic's band was performing in Disney.

It was certainly a case of bad timing for the head of Becahi to be out-of-state, as word of the invite came out last Friday.

"I've basically been on the phone all weekend," Petruzzelli said. "I was a

little surprised when I heard the news. We want to be apart of any league that exists and we're committed to that. We're concerned about the recent developments, but we are proud to be apart of the Lehigh Valley Conference."

Lehigh Valley Conference President, Chris Schiffert, said it was too soon to comment at length about the developments on Monday afternoon. He had a planned meeting with the LVC's executive council slated for Tues-

day, where they would discuss the invite.

"It was definitely a surprise to get the letter inviting us," Schiffert said. "I really haven't had much time to digest this. I'll meet with our superintendent and athletic director to discuss the situation. Right now, it's new for everybody."

The news of the invitation might be new, but the reality of the situation developing has been festering for months, if not years.

Sodl said that the only

reason Becahi and Central Catholic were not invited was because of their classification and how it plays into the role of power points.

"That's absolutely the reason," said Sodl, a Whitehall graduate who enters his third year atop the MVC's power structure. "Those schools are not 4A. It has nothing to do with anything else."

That statement will certainly make eyes roll across the Valley, as everyone knows there is more

See **Super** on Page A11

DISTRICT 11 TENNIS

Sinai wins title

Downs EHS' FitzMaurice in finals

By CJ HEMERLY
Special to the Press

Andrew Sinai felt that he could have, and should have done better in the District 11 singles tournament last year, losing in the quarterfinals to eventual runner-up Egor Ivanov of Parkland. This year, he wanted to prove that he was the best tennis player in the district.

"Last season I wasn't totally satisfied with what happened," Sinai said. "I came in and I knew I was better than a lot of the kids, and I lost a lot of matches I shouldn't have. But that's what you learn from high school tennis. There's a lot of pressure to do something for your team, and this year I kind of emerged as a leader, and I think that really benefited me when I was playing."

Sinai is only a sophomore, but he came into the AAA singles tournament as the #1 seed. He breezed through the first four rounds, only losing one set, on his way to the

More Tennis A10

- Sinai golden at LVC tourney, too
- Other LVC results
- Rivalry week over

final.

Sinai finished his championship run by defeating Emmaus' Matt FitzMaurice, the #3 seed, 6-3, 6-2 last Monday afternoon at the West End Racquetball Club.

"I think I've realized over these last few weeks that I can do what I need to to win," noted Sinai. "It's great to learn from some of the best players in the district and be considered the best."

After taking the first game, Sinai led 3-1, but FitzMaurice battled back to tie it at 3-3 heading into the seventh game. That seemed to light a fire into Sinai as the sophomore took the next three to win the first set, and won the first two games of the second.

"His serve is tough to read," added Sinai. "He's got a really good serve,

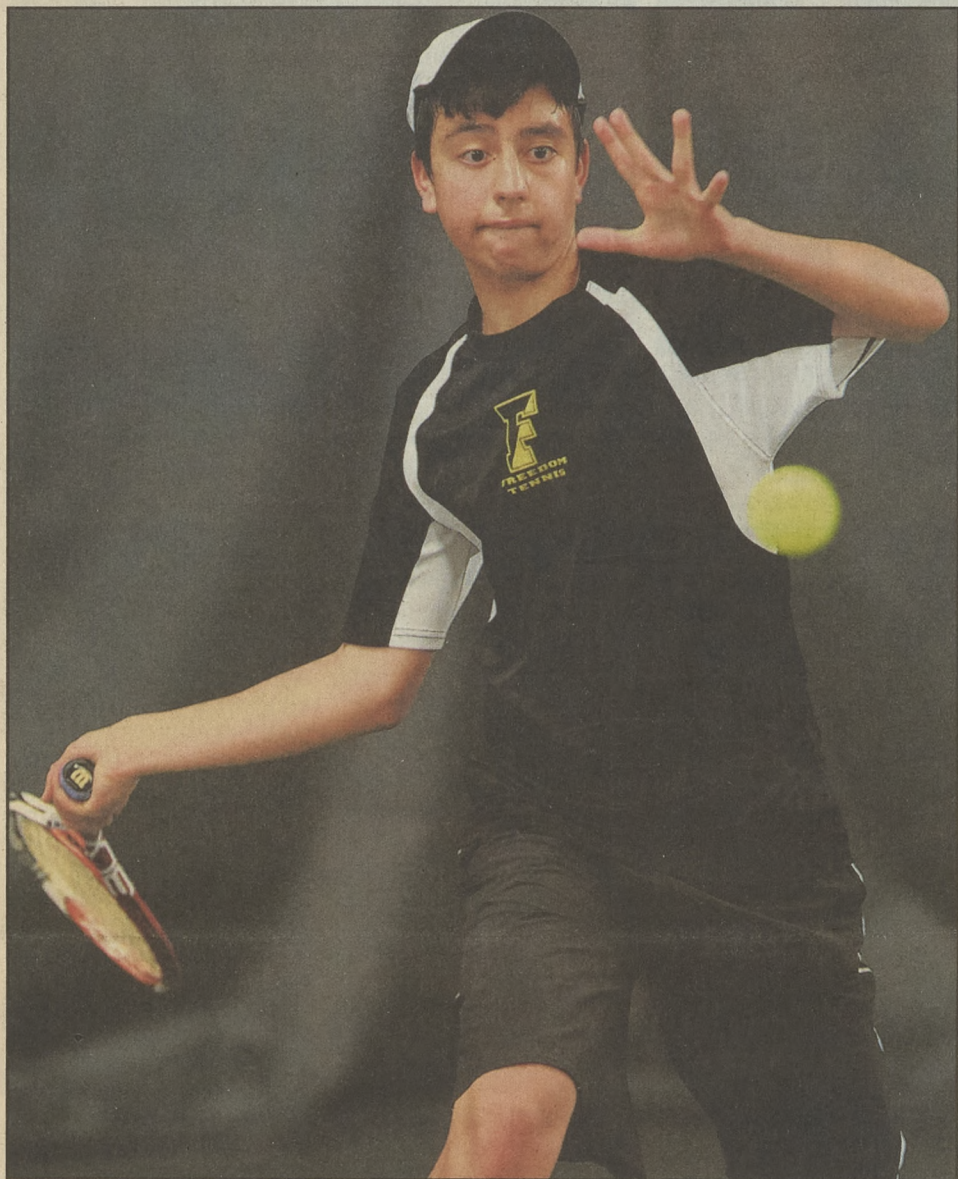
and that's where I was suffering. He was hitting a lot of good serves and winning a lot of games because of it. Once I was able to get a read on it, I could dictate how I needed to return it."

It was a battle in the first set, as expected from two of the top three seeds. Three games went to Deuce point, and both players had each other on the brink in nearly every game.

Once Sinai was able to read FitzMaurice's serve, he seemed to tire out the Green Hornets number one by placing his return shots on each end of the court.

In the second set, FitzMaurice tied it at two games, but once again Sinai surged to win the next four.

Sinai now has his gold, a year after losing in the quarterfinals of singles, and the final in doubles. He will now advance to the state singles tournament which beings on Friday, May 24, at the Hershey Racquet Club.



PRESS PHOTO BY NANCY SCHOLZ

Andrew Sinai of Freedom won the District 11 3A singles tournament Monday by defeating Matt FitzMaurice of Emmaus.

BASEBALL

Hurricanes have firm grip on division

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Liberty bounced back from a rare loss this season with, well, more wins.

The Hurricanes fell to Emmaus last week 4-3 to scratch their league record with only their second defeat of the campaign.

However, the Hurricanes (12-3, 8-2) bounced back with an 8-0 victory over Nazareth and a 12-5 win over Hazleton as they march into this week with a firm grip on the division lead.

"The loss to Emmaus actually didn't change any of the standings because the other teams in the division lost," said head coach Andy Pitsilos, "but it was a loss to a top team, so we feel we have some work to do. We are up three games in the division with four league games to go, so we are in decent shape if we can win a couple of games."

With Northampton,

Bethlehem Catholic and Pleasant Valley on the agenda, Liberty should maintain their stance toward receiving one of the top bids in the LVC playoff race.

"Losses can be good if they are learning experiences and we get better from them," Pitsilos said. "Both losses were good games that we lost by one. We have to learn how to win those tough games. We need to hit better against the better pitching and be more disciplined at the plate."

Freedom (9-7, 5-5) snapped a five-game losing streak last week with wins over Dieruff and Pocono Mountain West. The Pates knocked off Dieruff 9-6 to stop their slide and then trounced Pocono Mountain West 16-5 over the weekend.

The wins helped put them back into the playoff picture, as they enter the divisional home stretch of their season, outside



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Liberty shortstop Patrick Donnelly, left, tags out a Hazleton runner on Saturday afternoon after getting him caught in a dusty rundown. Tom Epsaro (right) was also involved in the play.

of Tuesday's contest with Emmaus, after Press deadlines.

"I think it has been a mixture of things," said head coach Nick D'Amico of the losing streak. "In

three of the five losses we were shut out, so those games would have been the hitting and our defense has not been as good as we would like it to be. We are making too

many mistakes physically and mentally and that has cost us in games.

"Beating Dieruff was very big and hopefully can get us mentally back on track."

Bethlehem Catholic (4-9-1, 3-7) will need to win out their final four contest against Dieruff, Liberty, Freedom and Easton to qualify for the postseason.



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SOFTBALL

Teams continue to win

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcDonald@tnonline.com

Last week, Liberty added two wins and one loss to its season record, while Bethlehem Catholic had three victories, and Freedom had one win and one loss.

The Patriots defeated Parkland 6-4 and lost to Whitehall 5-1, and the Hurricanes defeated Dieruff, 15-0, Emmaus, 4-2, but lost to Nazareth, 8-7.

Liberty pitcher, Debra Renner said, "Everything was working [in the game against Emmaus]. I just felt more comfortable."

Renner went 2-for-2 against the Hornets with a single and a triple.

"I haven't been hitting, so it felt great," she said.

In the Hurricanes game against Nazareth, the Blue Eagles jumped out to an early lead, but Liberty tied the game 4-4 on a two-out single by Nicole Iasiello, scoring Alyshia Dellatorre.

"I felt like a weight was kind of lifted because that was my first hit of the game. I just try to think about hitting the ball and getting line drives," Iasiello said.

Nazareth scored a run in the top of the sixth inning, but Liberty outfielder, Lauren Epsaro hit a three-run home run, giving the Hurricanes a 7-5 lead.

"I just knew I needed to

go up there with confidence, and I knew if I swung like I know I can, something was going to happen," said Epsaro.

Three Blue Eagle runs in the top of the seventh, however, was enough for a Nazareth victory.

Liberty Coach Rich Giering said, "When you score seven runs, you expect to win. We got ourselves out on a couple inside pitches. They got some good hits there. Maybe I should have gotten our pitcher out, but Nat [Tannasso] is fighting a wrist issue."

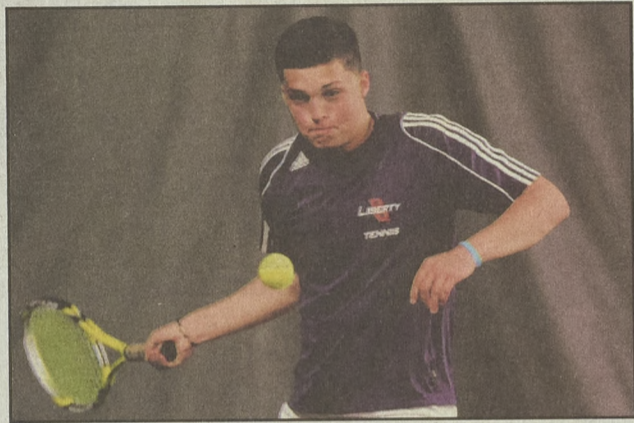
Also for the Hurricanes, first baseman, Mariah Kondravy, had three hits against

See Softball on Page A11



Liberty second baseman Nicole Iasiello fires to first baseman Mariah Kondravy for an out during the Canes victory over Nazareth last week.

TENNIS



PRESS PHOTO BY NANCY SCHOLZ

Brendan Cunningham of Liberty, shown here in the District 11 tournament, won against Freedom last week at number-three singles to conclude rivalry week.



PRESS PHOTO BY NANCY SCHOLZ

Becahi's Stephen Rossi, also shown here in the District 11 tournament, was a winner when the Hawks took on Freedom.



PRESS PHOTO BY KATIE MCDONALD

Alec Gerhart and Nico Thurow won for Liberty against Freedom at number-two doubles.

Becahi ends up on top in rivalry week

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcDonald@tnonline.com

Rivalry week ended for the boys tennis season with Bethlehem Catholic becoming the unofficial city champion, having defeated both Liberty and Freedom, while the Patriots defeated the Hurricanes, 4-3, last Tuesday.

With home court advantage for Freedom, Andrew Sinai defeated Chris Kapcsos, 6-0, 6-0 at number one singles, and Ross Sonnenblick defeated Milind Jagota, 6-1, 6-2 at number three singles for the Patriots, but Liber-

ty's Brendan Cunningham defeated Bill Leeson, 6-4, 6-1 at number two singles.

Two doubles wins for the Hurricanes then forced the match at number one doubles to decide the victory.

Winning for Liberty were Alec Gerhart and Nico Thurow over Evan Anthony and Doug Leeson at number two doubles, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3, and Jacob Claudio and Julian Mark over Matt Ashton and Jack Fried, 6-7, 6-3, 6-2.

Gerhart said, "In the first set, we were both sort of missing shots and got

down on ourselves. Our coach [Leo Schnalzer] told us to pick our heads up. We still needed to beat Freedom. In the second set, we just found our way to beat them. We found our spots."

The third set proved to be more of a challenge for the Hurricanes.

"It was close, 4-3, but in the last two games we took charge," said Gerhart.

Thurow is a junior exchange student from Germany.

"He's been really nice, an easy guy to play with. Once we played a couple

times, we understood what we wanted to do," Gerhart said.

Thurow's height was an advantage at the net, while Gerhart would make sure the point continued for a winner or until the other team would make a mistake.

"[The Freedom match] was sort of bittersweet. I know Nico and I are solid, but it's a team sport. Everything's got to pull together," said Gerhart.

Thurow and Gerhart finished the season with a record of 10-4.

Coach Schnalzer said, "They won the matches

they should have won and lost a couple they maybe could have won. They worked well together."

At number four doubles, Freedom's Matt Connors and Mike Samuelson defeated Jesse Claudio and Mike Noble, 6-1, 6-3, and Sinai and Sonnenblick defeated Cunningham and Capsos, 6-0, 6-1 at number one.

The following day at Bethlehem Catholic, the Hawks defeated the Patriots, 4-3.

Sinai defeated Kevin Hamilton, 6-0, 6-2 at number one singles, Stephen Rossi defeated Leeson, 6-4,

6-2 at number two singles, and Sonnenblick defeated Ryan Schmidt, 6-2, 6-1 at number three singles.

At number one doubles, Sinai and Sonnenblick defeated Hamilton and Schmidt 6-1, 6-4.

Marcin Boraganli and Paolo Turco defeated Anthony and Leeson, 6-3, 6-2 at number two doubles.

At number three doubles, Peter Demyan and Luke Mesko defeated Ashton and Fried 6-2, 6-0, and CJ Horn and Chris Landolfi defeated Connors and Samuelson 7-6, 3-6, 7-6 at number four doubles.

Andrew Sinai wins gold at LVC

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcDonald@tnonline.com

Freedom's Andrew Sinai breezed through three tennis matches last Monday to clinch the gold medal at number one singles in the LVC Tennis Championships.

"It was a different experience because last year I came close. This year I played against a fresh-

man, which is where I was last year, so I used my experience, and I was really happy to get through," said Sinai.

After a first-round bye, Sinai defeated Bethlehem Catholic's Kevin Hamilton, 8-0, Central Catholic's, Dan Schoenborn, 10-0, and Parkland's Nick Kshatari, 10-1.

Expecting another Egor Ivanov of Parkland versus

Sinai showdown, tennis fans were disappointed to learn Ivanov would not play. Earlier this season, Sinai defeated the defending LVC champion.

"My goal [this season] was to really emerge as one of the top players in the district, and beating Egor was one of those humps, and once I did it, I knew it would be a great season," Sinai said.

Sinai defeated Ivanov 7-6 (8-6), 6-2 at Parkland.

"Basically, I had more endurance than him. I was really happy to get through that, and it was great because a lot of my friends were watching, and a lot of people got to see great tennis," said Sinai. "That was the turning point. Today, the draw kind of worked out in my favor."



PRESS PHOTO BY NANCY SCHOLZ

The Patriot's Andrew Sinai took home gold at the LVC tournament last week at Freedom.

Sonnenblick wins bronze at LVC tourney

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcDonald@tnonline.com

Freedom's Ross Sonnenblick earned every ounce of his bronze medal at number three singles in the LVC Tennis Championships last Monday.

"It was amazing. I've played three sports, and this is the single best

moment," said Sonnenblick.

Seeded fourth, the Patriot freshman defeated Northampton's Tyler Nicholas, 8-7 (7-5), in his first match of the day.

"He was my kryptonite. He hits it back and doesn't go for power, so I had to play a little more consis-

tently, and that's what won it. [In the tiebreak] the most important thing is to get the first few points and consistency," Sonnenblick said.

Sonnenblick's 10-7 loss to Emmaus's RJ Dave set Sonnenblick up for the consolation match.

"I started off really

well. [RJ] was kind of underperforming, and then he turned it on, but I stayed at the same level," said Sonnenblick.

Sonnenblick's last match of the day was against Central Catholic's Trevor Grigoruk.

"It was grueling. A marathon. We couldn't

win more than one game in a row, and neither of us could pull away. I had to dig deep and go into full reserves and pull it out," Sonnenblick said.

Sonnenblick won the match, 10-8, and third place in the tournament.

"It was just relief," he said.



PHOTO BY NANCY SCHOLZ

Freedom's Ross Sonnenblick took third at last week's LVC tournament.

Two Hawk doubles teams bring home third places

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcDonald@tnonline.com

Bethlehem Catholic's Luke Mesko and Niko Franekic took home bronze medals at number three doubles in the LVC Tennis Championships last Monday.

"It feels good, but we're a little disappointed. We wanted to win it all," said Mesko.

The Hawks had been the top seed, but lost to Parkland in the semifinal, 10-4.

"Their lineup got moved around. They played a lot better than in the regular season, and we were not volleying well. It was fitting at the end because it was Parkland, Emmaus, us, which [reflects the regular-season standings]," Franekic said.

The Hawks had a bye in the first round, then defeated Northampton's Justin Burger and Andrew Serensits, 8-3 in the quarterfinal.

"Our serves were pret-

ty good. They were good the whole tournament," said Franekic.

In their final match of the day, Mesko and Franekic defeated Easton's Avery Lynch and Connor Payne, 10-5.

"We were down in the beginning, but we started playing better. We got more consistent," Mesko said.

The Hawks net game was also a factor in their victory.

"We were playing better at the net which is a

huge thing in doubles because it balances the team out. We took the lead and broke away," Franekic said.

Bethlehem Catholic's Marcin Boraganli and Paolo Turco won their first bronze medal at number two doubles at the LVC Tennis Championships last Monday.

"It's great. It was worth the sunburn," Boraganli said.

After a first-round bye, the Hawks defeated

Northampton's Andrew Burger and Nate Xander, 8-3.

"We were really consistent with our ground strokes and getting our first serves in," said Turco.

A 10-3 loss to Parkland's Marcus Spiegel and Mike Adams still gave the Hawks the opportunity to medal by playing in the consolation match.

"We played well, but they just played better," Turco said.

The Hawks went on to

defeat Liberty's Alec Gerhart and Nico Thurow, 10-4.

"We played it just as it came to us. We were finishing their volleys and tried to hit to their backhands," said Turco.

Boraganli and Turco had defeated the Hurricanes the week before in a three-set match.

"We were playing better all-around. We had them figured out. I guess you could say," Boraganli said

LVC TRACK AND FIELD TOP PERFORMANCES

The LVC released its track and field top performances for 2013. The following are as of April 25. Note that girl relay bests were not available at time of press.

Girls
100 - 1. (tie) Deontee Krayee (WHS), Gabby Pastor (LHS), Brooklyn Escobales (DHS) 12.5.
200 - 1. Kiana Farrar (Eas) 25.8, 2. Aleasha Gordon (LHS), 3. (tie) Deontee Krayee (WHS), Ariane Pizarro (WHS) 26.30.
400 - 1. Skyler Freyling (FHS) 55.4, 2. Hanna Brosky (Em) 59.65, 3. Allyson Stitzer (Naz) 1:01.45.
800 - 1. Hanna Brosky (Em) 2:20.3, 2. Agela Stella (WHS) 2:24.0, 3. Jessica Smith (Naz) 2:24.12.
1600 - 1. Hanna Brosky (Em) 5:23.0, 2. Mikayla Stoudt (PHS) 5:23.10, 3. Shaina Palmer (FHS) 5:28.0.
3200 - 1. Jennifer Perry (NHS) 11:33.3, 2. Shaina Palmer (FHS) 11:56.0, 3. Alexa Deemer (FHS) 11:58.0.

100 HH - 1. Ashley Williams (Eas) 15.0, 2. Maria Justus (Em) 15.19, 3. Allison Horn (NHS) 15.20.
300 IH - 1. Emmy Geis (CCHS) 45.60, 2. Lexi Reightler (BC) 45.80, 3. Maria Justus (Em) 47.73.
High Jump - 1. Jane Lukas (Naz) 5-5, 2. (tie) Casey Harewood (LHS) 5-3, Beth Nelson (LHS) 5-3.
Pole Vault - 1. (tie) Mara Blanchard (BC) 10-6, Greer Gumbrecht (Eas) 10-6, 3. Kristine Olsen (FHS) 9-6.
Long Jump - 1. Gabby Pastor (LHS) 17-2, 2. Jordan Luciano (Eas) 17-0, 3. Kaitlyn Remely (Naz) 16-11.
Triple Jump - 1. Kelly Robertson (PHS) 36-5, 2. Jane Lukas (Naz) 35-5, 3. Savannah Buckley (Eas) 34-8.
Shot Put - 1. Gracie Hargove (LHS) 39-7, 2. Avery Semler (PHS) 35-8, 3. Mikaela Fedor (WHS) 34-9.5.
Discus - 1. Gracie Hargove (LHS) 124-8, 2. Oksana Wittbrodt (PHS) 109-10, 3. Shay Gimbel (WHS) 102-8.

Javelin - 1. Hannah Marth (NHS) 116-7, 2. Jordan Luciano (Eas) 104-4, 3. Vanessa Huber (Em) 103-2.
Boys
100 - 1. Shakur Lester (DHS) 10.7, 2. Gerald Vital (LHS) 10.8, 3. Xavier Jenkins (Eas) 11.09.
200 - 1. Tanner Lipsky (Naz) 22.0, 2. Adam Uliana (LHS) 22.4, 3. (tie) KJ Williams (LHS) 22.5, John Johnson (WHS) 22.5.
400 - 1. Tanner Lipsky (Naz) 50.65, 2. Adam Uliana (LHS) 51.06, 3. Travis Witty (PHS) 51.60.
800 - 1. Colin Abert (Eas) 1:59.3, 2. (tie) Jeremy Motsko (PHS) 2:01.0, 3. Michael Leonhardt (WHS) 2:01.0.
1600 - 1. Colin Abert (Eas) 4:25.70, 2. Bill Nemeth (PHS) 4:29.80, 3. Michael Kopach (Naz) 4:41.19.
3200 - 1. Colin Abert (Eas) 9:52.0, 2. Chris Kelly (FHS) 10:07.5, 3. Alex Lederer (NHS) 10:12.5.

110 HH - 1. Tyler Horton (BC) 14.2, 2. Freddie Simmons (BC) 14.8, 3. Kareem Williams (PHS) 14.9.
300 IH - 1. Tyler Horton (BC) 39.9, 2. Carter Taylor (Naz) 39.4, 3. Andrew McFarland (Naz) 39.5.
High Jump - 1. Griffin Schwab (Naz) 6-5, 2. Jean Falcon (WHS) 6-4, 3. (tie) Austin Wildes (PHS) 6-3, Tyler Horton (BC) 6-3.
Pole Vault - 1. Jack Walton (PHS) 13-3, 2. Nicholas Miller (Naz) 12-9, 3. Kevin Siroka (PHS) 12-9.
Long Jump - 1. Nolan Hay (PHS) 22-2, 2. Darius Jones (LHS) 20-10, 3. Matthew Riddick (DHS) 20-9.
Triple Jump - 1. Darius Jones (LHS) 42-11, 2. Nolan Hay (PHS) 42-3.5, 3. Kyleen Harrison (WHS) 41-10.
Shot Put - 1. Kory DeCesaris (NHS) 51-1.25, 2. Jake Wygant (WHS) 48-2, 3. Jarrett Fenon (NHS) 46-7.
Discus - 1. Legend Boyesen (PHS) 145-11, 2. Kory DeCesaris (NHS) 141-2, 3. Adam Heinrich (Naz) 138.3.

Javelin - 1. Nicholas Nejad (WHS) 169-9, 2. Kory DeCesaris (NHS) 165-7, 3. Ryan Szoldatis (PHS) 165-6.
400 relay - 1. Parkland 43.7 (Nolan Hay, Kareem Williams, Jarel Elder, Elijah Redmond), 2. Bechah 43.8 (no names listed), 3. Liberty 43.85 (Elymer Ortiz, DuBois Ross, Josiah Wright, Gerald Vital).
1600 relay - 1. Liberty 3:32.0 (Adam Uliana, Roberto Marrero, Isaiah McDonald, KJ Williams), 2. Nazareth 3:35.08 (Carter Taylor, Andrew McFarland, Michale Kopach, Tanner Lipsky), 3. Whitehall 3:35.57 (Michael Eible, Jean Falcon, Michael Leonhardt, Josh Levano).
3200 relay - 1. Whitehall 8:24.65 (Jean Falcon, Michael Eible, Michael Leonhardt, Gabe Lamm), 2. Parkland 8:24.90 (Bill Nemeth, Darrin DaSilva, Steven Guetzlaff, Collin McConnell), 3. Nazareth 8:29.76 (Colin Henderson, Justin Faust, Matt Kelchner, Michael Kopach).

'Canes continue to win, keep lead over Hawks

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

It continues to be a season of highlights for Liberty's volleyball team, as the Hurricanes added another feather in their cap following a victory over Emmaus last week. The Hurricanes pulled out a five game victory — 21-25, 25-23, 19-25, 25-23, 15-10 — over the Hornets to improve to 7-1 in the LVC heading into this week's action. Liberty (9-2) pulled off a three-game sweep over Haverford on Monday night to start the week off as well, but the win over Emmaus (8-2, 4-2) was certainly something that head coach Neiad Ammary enjoyed. "It was big, but not big enough," Ammary said. "We want to keep challenging ourselves. I think that was only the second or third time we have beaten Emmaus since I have been coaching here." The last time Liberty beat Emmaus was in 2007 and last week's win helped them stay in the poll posi-

tion of the LVC East, keeping a two-game lead on Bethlehem Catholic (6-3, 6-3) after the Hawks lost to Parkland last week in five games. The Hawks took on Emmaus in another tough match Tuesday night, after Press deadlines, while Liberty hosted Nazareth before gearing up for Thursday's monumental match against a hot Northampton (8-2, 6-2) side. The Kids are currently in the lead for the wildcard spot and tomorrow's match will have direct ramifications on the playoff race. Both teams are soaring with the confidence, which is something that Ammary hoped would increase following the win over Emmaus. "The end result is nice, but we take more pride in the processes that lead to results like that," he said of the Emmaus win. "What makes me confident is the way our kids respond to adversity in life. Matches like that provide us with a lot of

opportunities to face adversity. Every time they rise to the occasion, it makes us all feel more affirmed in the processes that we work so hard on." Now that hard work is going to be put to the test, as to how well the 'Canes can close out the season, which so far, has been one of Ammary's most memorable years. "Our 2007 team went 19-2, won a District XI Championship, and produced a league MVP," Ammary said. "This team has potential to be equally great, if not greater. However, our definition of achievement is not primarily based on win-loss records or awards. We measure our successes by how faithfully we uphold our code of honor." Freedom (5-6, 3-4) suffered sweeping losses to Parkland and Whitehall last week, as they keep fighting for a district berth. Things get somewhat better this week, as they took on Dieruff Tuesday night but take on Emmaus Thursday.



PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT
David Bright and the Hawks swept Whitehall in three, close games.



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT
The Hawks celebrated their new state championship banner and used that momentum to knock off Whitehall last week.



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT
Zach Gallagher and the Hurricanes continue to pile up victories.



BY BOB BRANDMEIR
Freedom's Mike Daly and the rest of the Pates are hoping for some wins this week.

Softball
Continued from page A10
Nazareth. "We had a couple errors that prevented us and gave them runs. We just had to battle back with our bats," she said. The Hawks won their games against Whitehall

8-1, Parkland 4-0, and Emmaus 7-1. Becahi pitcher, Joelle Morey had a two-run homer, and leftfielder, Lauren Visconti went 3 for 4 with a run scored against the Hornets. Visconti also had a double, RBI, stolen base and two walks against the Zephyrs.

"When I hit like that, I know right away. I'm just trying to get runs in," said Visconti. Becahi rightfielder, Marissa Merriman, went 2 for 4 with 2 RBIs against Whitehall. "I'm really confident in our team and Joelle. Our outfield is stable, and our infield is stable too,"

Merriman said. Becahi catcher, Jean Markovic, also went 3 for 4 against Whitehall. Coach Rich Mazza said, "Whitehall gave us all we could handle for five innings. The competition is good. We're where we should be."

CORRECTION
In last week's track and field article, the Press used an incorrect name from the provided results sheet. The correct name

should have been Freedom's Sierra Jefferson, who won the 200 meter dash and was also part of the Pates 400 relay team that also won. The Press regrets the error.

Super
Continued from page A9
to the matter, but Schifert, Whitehall's Principal and first-year President of the LVC, plans to have discussions with both, Bethlehem Catholic and Central Catholic officials on the situation. "I will certainly reach out to those schools," he said. "They're part of our league [LVC] and we'll talk with them about the situation." The MVC has set a deadline of May 31 to respond to the invite. A June 6 meeting has already been put on the calendar to form the league and it's officers. Sodl made it clear this isn't an all or nothing affair for the invited members. "It's basically a decision that each individual school will have to make," he said, "but we feel good about the positive feedback we've gotten." Feeling good is probably the farthest thing that officials at Becahi and Central are harnessing at the moment, but Petruzzelli isn't giving up hope about finding a resolution. "I'm always going to remain hopeful," he said. "I'm hopeful that cooler heads will prevail and that this will work out in everyone's favor."

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BRIEFLY

NC-AAOA

Senior awards to be given May 2

Six area residents will be honored by the Northampton County Area Agency on Aging advisory council at 1 p.m. May 2 at Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St.

Receiving the Outstanding Senior Award will be Elayne Dellatore, Wilma Reinbold, Ismael Rodriguez and Harold Thomas, all of Bethlehem, and Margaret (Peggy) Fluck of Hellertown. The recipient of the Intergenerational Award is Lachlan Peeke of Lower Saucon. The ceremony includes short essays on each person's contributions to the community.

May, since 1993, has been designated Older Americans Month.

CWRT

meeting set for May 7

Civil War Round Table of Eastern Pa. Inc. will meet May 7 at the Day's Inn, 3400 Airport Road, Allentown. Dinner (reservation needed) is at 6:30 p.m. The talk, "The Trial of John Brown" with lawyer Malcom Gross, begins at 7:30 p.m. No reservations needed. Call 215-234-4884 or 610-253-4549 or email cdetweiler01@comcast.net or email Duffysocwk@aol.com.

BGC

Flower show set for May 11, 12

The Bethlehem Garden Club's free "Magic of Flowers" show will be held from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 11 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 12 at Steel-Stacks, 101 Founders Way. There will be presentations by floral and landscape designers, a tablescaping showcase, miniature dried plant arrangements and a flower, plant, garden gifts and gardening tools sale.

There will be a Mother's Day brunch. Call 610-332-3378 or visit artrequest.org for information and brunch tickets.

FOOD FEST

N.Y.C. benefit set for May 18

A bus trip to the ninth annual Food Festival and Street Fair in New York City's Hell's Kitchen district from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 18 benefits the MidAtlantic Great Dane Rescue League and Peaceable Kingdom Animal Rescue. Call 610-807-3605 or email wennersinbeth@enter.net.

NALC

Food collection May 11

Local members of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), assisted by volunteers from Teamsters Local #773, the Rutgers Alumni Club of the Lehigh Valley and the Northampton County Probation Department, will collect for Stamp Out Hunger/Second Harvest Food Bank on May 11.

The items most needed include cereal, peanut butter, pasta, rice, tuna, canned soup and canned fruits or vegetables. Non-food items requested include diapers, shampoo, toothpaste and deodorant. Non-glass containers are preferred. The clearly marked, factory-sealed, non-perishable food items should be in a visible place by a mailbox before the regular delivery time.

Postal customers should receive a post card or specially marked paper bag. If residents are unsure whether their letter carrier is participating, they should contact their local Post Office.



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN



Cello musicians for the combined orchestras' concert included Barbara Forry of Bethlehem, green blouse, and Vivien Gollatz of Allentown who play in the LV Pops Orchestra. Forry is also a member of the Really Terrible Orchestra.



LEFT: Harpist Bonnie Stoltz of Bethlehem handles an Oscar the Grouch puppet for a Really Terrible Orchestra opening concert tradition of performing the Muppet Show theme song at the start of the concert.

A not so terrible concert

ABOVE: The Really Terrible Orchestra of Pennsylvania, based in Bethlehem, and the Lehigh Valley Pops Orchestra performed together recently at Moravian College's Foy Hall. Violinist Ronald Haas of Bethlehem, who plays in both orchestras, was among 80 musicians in the joint performance. George Fennell, who conducts both orchestras separately, was the concert conductor.

BRIEFLY

SUN INN

Polka fest May 19

Revolutionary war hero Casimir Pulaski will be celebrated with a polka fest from noon to 6 p.m. May 19 at the Sun Inn courtyard, 556 Main St. There will be Polish crafts, ethnic and American foods. There will be live music with the Polka Country Musicians from 2 p.m. to close. Call 610-866-1758 for information and tickets.

SUN INN

Restaurant set to close May 31

The Sun Inn is accepting proposals from experienced restaurateurs with solid financial backing who are interested in running a restaurant on the second floor of the historic building. The current restaurant will temporarily close after May 31.

For restaurant reservations in April or May, call 484-634-0817 or 610-866-1758. Questions and or applications for the restaurant position may be emailed to suninn@rcn.com.

ROTARY

Spaghetti dinner to be held May 3

The Bethlehem Morning Star Rotary will hold a spaghetti dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. May 3 at East Hills Moravian Church, Butz-town Road.

Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club's Community Grant Program for local groups' special projects.

BETHEHEM

Flea market to be held May 18

The Salvation Army will hold a flea market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 18 at 521 Pembroke Road.

Event proceeds support the Senior's Group "Our Place" and Women's Ministries.

Call 610-867-4681.

VETS

Meetings to be held May 6

The Harry F. W. Johnson Post #379, American Legion, will meet at 7 p.m. May 6 in the DAR Rose Garden log cabin, Eighth Avenue and West Union Boulevard. The United Veterans of Bethlehem will meet immediately afterward.

All veterans are welcome to attend. Veterans who are not presently Legionnaires or those wishing to transfer to a local Bethlehem Post are also invited.

For more information, call 610-866-3835.

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GoodShepherd honorees



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bob and Sue Gadowski (above) of Bethlehem were among those honored with a Raker Memorial Award. Good Shepherd honors members of the community who, through philanthropy and volunteerism, honor the legacy of Good Shepherd's founders, The Rev. John H. and D. Estella Raker and their son, The Rev. Dr. Conrad W. Raker.

The Gadowskis have been longtime supporters of Good Shepherd as well as numerous other organizations in the community. Bob Gadowski, retired executive vice president of Air Products, is a key philanthropic leader on Good Shepherd's board of trustees and has served on the Development Advisory Board as well as chair of the Governance Committee. Together, the Gadowskis were founding co-chairs of The Raker Vision in 2011, a special donor initiative to fund innovative and priority projects at Good Shepherd that steward the Raker legacy into the future. To date, more than \$160,000 has been raised through this initiative.

Other Raker Memorial Awards honorees are John McKiernan of Emmaus, Susan Hakkarainen, Ph.D., of Coopersburg, the Lutron Foundation and Susan Golden of Coopersburg.

City resident recognized

David Corvino of Bethlehem, a freshman business administration major, was acknowledged by Lebanon Valley College for making an impact on the campus as a new student. He was included in the Celebration of Student Success reception Feb. 21 in the Mund College Center.

Bethlehem woman presents findings

Bryanna Garnett of Bethlehem joined fellow Lycoming College psychology class students in presenting their findings from an independent, semester-long research project recently. The group collected data, wrote a research paper based on the findings and presented the results as they would at a professional, scientific meeting. The junior psychology major's contribution was on "The Stereotypes and Perceptions of Tattoos in the Workplace."

Resident named Norton winner

Bethlehem resident Candy Barr Heimbach, a shareholder in the law firm Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, is the recipient of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession's annual Lynette Norton Award.



The award is in memory of Lynette Norton, a founding member of the group, who was an advocate for young women in the legal profession and worked to promote literacy and women's rights. An awards ceremony will be held in association with the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession annual conference at the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh Downtown May 9.

Local woman performs for inauguration

Jeannine L. Riley of Bethlehem was one of 35 students selected to perform for Dr. Lewis Evitts Thayne's presidential inauguration at Lebanon Valley College. She is a sophomore music recording technology major and a graduate of Saucon Valley HS.

Local student honored

Champlain College senior psychology major Adrianna Alpaugh of Bethlehem was recognized for her achievements at this year's fourth annual graduate and trustee dinner held at Champlain College. She received the H. Dean Pearl Memorial Award given by the members of the Student Government Association to the person who has demonstrated the most support for student activities.

NCC students receive academic honors

Academic honors were conferred upon students and a student club at Northampton Community College (NCC) during an Awards Convocation Ceremony on April 25. The awards, students and their hometowns include Khloud Hassan-Assran, Trustee Leadership award; Brian Fry, Hites Foundation higher education endowment scholarship; Lisa M. Wright, Liberal Arts award; Amy L. Dollak, Lehigh and Northampton Association for the Education of the Young Child award; Chloe Hoyak, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter American Institute of Architects award; Eder M. Florian, Outstanding Academic Achievement in Chemistry award; Gary George, The Lehigh Valley Chapter of the International Society of Automation Nicholas A. Stangil Memorial Scholarship; Katelyn Armbruster, 2013 Jack Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship; Allyssa Langer, Anna Macagnone and Rachel Reninga, Who's Who Among Students; all of Bethlehem; and William R. Rowe III, ACBSP Student Leadership award and Andrew Stauffer, Who's Who Among Students; both of Hellertown.

EM Coordinator honored



PRESS PHOTO BY CHRIS POST

Kristopher S. Mattson, Emergency Management Coordinator for Hanover Township, Northampton County Pennsylvania is presented with the "Spirit of KEMA" award by the Keystone Emergency Management Association's Eastern Area President Angel Gillette in Upper Nazareth. The award is given to a municipal emergency coordinator who fosters the spirit of emergency management and advocates the advancement of the field.

Western holidays come to China

By CAROLE GORNEY
Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Chinese just finished celebrating Spring Festival, the most important holiday of the year, when families get together from throughout the country to feast on special foods and rekindle relationships. Commemorating the start of the Lunar New Year, the holiday closely resembles our Thanksgiving, but it lasts for at least two weeks, usually in February, when almost all business grinds to a screeching halt.

When I first went to live and teach in Shanghai as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in 1991, I learned that the Chinese not only celebrated Lunar New Year, but our Western New Year on Jan. 1, as well. In fact, as a consultant to Radio Shanghai, I was invited to a celebration of our New Year's Eve at Longhua Temple, presided over by Buddhist monks, and attended by the Shanghai mayor and the U.S. consulate general.

That year it also was possible to find remnants of Christmas ornaments and "German" nutcrackers in some tiny shops. I even ordered a real Christmas tree from a local florist that was delivered on a bicycle-driven delivery cart. It was real, but calling it a live tree would be stretching the matter since its trunk was solidly imbedded in a pot full of dried dirt that was as hard as concrete. The needles began to fall as soon as it was placed indoors, and when we tried to get rid of the tree, we couldn't get it out of the pot. The only recourse was to throw it over the balcony so it could be dragged to the trash bin.

The skimpy Christmas decorations and straggly trees in 1991 were available mostly in Shanghai, and bought almost exclusively by ex-pats from other countries living in the city. There were no public displays of Christmas decorations anywhere, which was understandable because that was early in China's "opening up," as it was called, and almost every business was still owned and operated by the Chinese government.

Imagine my astonishment during my second Fulbright tour of duty in 1997 when public Christmas decorations began popping up all over Shanghai well in advance of Dec. 25, and lingered well into Spring Festival. In fact, decorations for both hung out together as if they were just one big holiday. What had changed was capitalism and commercialism. Foreign-owned department stores saw the marketing potential and jumped on it; Chinese merchandisers followed in order to compete.

Starting in about 2000, Feb. 14 became "Lovers' Day," which corresponded to one of my frequent trips during that time. I remember walking near Shanghai's famous



PRESS PHOTOS BY CAROLE GORNEY

Parker Wang and his wife Rae are typical of the growing number of affluent young couples in Shanghai with disposable incomes that retailers target at Christmas and the New Year.



Christmas trees and Chinese tom warriors stand side-by-side in a traditional neighborhood in Shanghai.

Bund, and seeing all the people sitting on the sidewalks selling single red roses. A Chinese friend explained that young men were buying the roses to give to their sweethearts.

Fast forward to January 2013, and my most recent trip to Shanghai. Christmas has become pervasive, with office buildings and restaurants joining department

stores in sporting decorated trees trimmed with ribbons and studded with multi-colored lights – the same ones the Chinese export to this country by the millions. Lighted stars in various shapes and sizes top trees and illuminate holiday displays on the busiest streets – the meaning, of course, is artistic, not religious.

Not to be left out, small



Santa Claus is becoming a familiar icon in China from before Christmas until past Lunar New Year in February. This holiday greeting was posted on the door of a restaurant in a small town two hours from Shanghai.

shops spray bells and Merry Christmas wishes on their windows with decals. Did I mention that "Jingle Bells" is a favorite song and is played incessantly during the holidays. And the Christmas spirit isn't limited just to Shanghai City. In the very small canal town of Xin Tang two hours away, rosy-cheeked Santas smiled at me from windows and doors in every direction.

One could say that Christmas is only acknowledged by retailers, but my Chinese friend Parker Wang and his wife Rae said many of their friends got together for dinner on Christmas Day this year. Interestingly, gifts are given by the Chinese at Spring Festival, not Christmas.

But by melding both holidays, the merchants have extended the shopping season, much as they do in this country.

One of my former Chinese students, Gu Wei, is now editor of "China Wealth and Luxury" for The Wall Street Journal. She wrote that luxury brands rolled out "a menagerie of merchandise" this year to capture

See HOLIDAYS on Page A16

Not to neglect the rest of the year, the Chinese also commemorate Mother's Day and Father's Day, but they are one up on us with Bachelor's Day in honor of the large number of single men in the country.

LETTERS

Promoting peace, understanding

Dear Editor:
Members of Muslims and Christians United (MCU) are shocked and horrified by the cowardly bombing at the Boston Marathon. MCU, based in the Lehigh Valley, condemns the attack in the strongest possible terms. The individuals who carried out the attacks do not represent Muslims, nor do their actions represent Islam.

Our group's vision is to promote justice and peace, and we will continue our joint efforts. We applaud the authorities for taking swift action and capturing one of the two perpetrators, who will be tried for his actions, while the other was killed during the search process. MCU members pray for the speedy recovery of all injured and ask for God to give patience and fortitude to the families of the victims as they recover from their injuries and trauma.

Our vision: To create a platform where Muslims and Christians work together to

fulfill their common divine command to love God and neighbor and to exemplify justice and peace

Our mission: Working together, we will learn more about one another, build relationships, serve others, communicate our efforts, and strengthen communities.

Kamran Siddiqui and Greg Cook, co-chairs of Muslims and Christians United
<http://muslimschristiansunited.blogspot.com>

The Southside Cleanup April 6

Dear Editor,
At 9:50 a.m. April 6, 2013, I heard people talking. I looked out my window at the corner of Fourth and Hill Street, South Bethlehem. There were boys and girls with garbage cans, shovels, brooms, cleaning up the streets. I want to say thank you for this. The boys and girls made our street clean. I don't know who they were, but I'm glad they found some time to do this. It's nice to see these young boys and girls do some good. Not many boys and girls do things like this. But seeing them do a neighborhood cleanup is fantastic. I would like to see these boys and girls get some kind of

recognition for this. It makes me thankful to see this, and not some of them in trouble. I want to thank them for cleaning up my area where I live.

Whoever the boys and girls are: Thank you so much for your support. I'm grateful for your effort to beautify our neighborhood at least for a while. This should be done every week by the neighbors who live here. But I don't see that. I try to keep it clean by picking up trash, but it's hard if people don't really care. We need to be more involved and try to keep our neighborhoods clean.

We all should be like these boys and girls and take the time to keep our town clean from litter. The mayor or council need to do something. I see how much they keep downtown Bethlehem clean, but they need to do something for the whole town. There needs to be some kind

of committee formed to keep Bethlehem clean from all of this trash. Where ever I go I see trash appear all over the place. Somewhere there needs to be more trash cans, but I see some people stand near the trash cans and throw it on the street with the trash can next to them. We need to make people realize that Bethlehem is a very busy town. A lot of people come from out of town to visit. We need to keep it clean. It's not hard to put trash where it belongs, in a trash can and not on the street. The City Council needs to do something about this. It is gross to see garbage on the street.

Again I want to say thank you to all of these boys and girls for cleaning up my street.

Sincerely yours,
Tina Miller
Bethlehem

Arielle Reed

Saucon Valley HS

Grade: 12

Family members: Stacy Reed, Tyrone Reed and Daxton Reed

Favorite subject: I always adore my English and art classes. They are some of the few subjects that allow for creative interpretation of literature or societal values, allowing me to develop opinions and openly express them.

Activities: National Honor Society, Writing Club, Reading Team, Model United Nations, UNICEF, Spotlight Uganda, Prom Committee, Art and Writing

Next steps: Go to college, major in English, minor in art

Career goals: I would love to be a full time writer and illustrator. My dream would be to write a young adult novel and design the cover.

Heroes: I've always admired my parents for their strength and ability to put others before themselves. They exemplify the qualities that I want to carry with me throughout my life.

Hobbies: Reading, writing poems and short stories, running

Current job(s): Babysitting
Volunteer/community work: United Friends School volunteer



Likes: Chocolate anything

Dislikes: Raisins!

Greatest accomplishment (so far): Being accepted early into the university of Pittsburgh and keeping pace with the exhausting series of Honors and Advanced Placement classes that seem to control my life

Advice for peers: "Act as if what you do makes a difference; it does." Try your best and work hard, but make sure to keep your values in line. No matter what, family comes first.

Julia Swan coordinates student profiles for the Bethlehem Press.



PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

ABOVE: An ensemble of current and past Liberty Theatre participants close the cabaret with "Night and Day" from "The Gay Divorcee."

Friends of Liberty Soiree

Nearly 200 hundred supporters attended the Friends of Liberty Theatre Soiree 2013. The annual fundraiser is held to support theater activities at the high school. Attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, beverages, a dessert buffet, an auction and silent raffle, and a round of cabaret performances by current and past Liberty HS theater participants. Friends of Liberty Theatre president Michele Pappalardo said funds raised by the event are used to offset the cost of master classes, school play production and to provide direction support.



Students Chris Clauser, Samantha Becker and Michael Saunders came to "support Liberty Theatre" according to Becker. Saunders also performs in the theater band.



Hannah Brown, Allie Sommons and Jessica Alderiso perform "Ooo-la-la" from "Dubarry was a Lady" during the cabaret performances.



Mona Santoro and her daughter Dana Kowalchuk, a Liberty Theatre alum, enjoy time together at the Soiree. Kowalchuk performed with other alumni during the cabaret.



Nitschmann Middle School principal Jackie Santanasto and Lorita Musselman attend the Soiree and taste hors d'oeuvres served by Angel de Jesus, a hospitality student at Northampton Community College. All three are Liberty HS alumni.



Liberty Theatre director Julie Mixtacki and Friends of Liberty Theatre president Michele Pappalardo enjoy a lighter moment as they welcome supporters prior to a cabaret presentation in the auditorium.

SAUCON VALLEYNEWS

Students ready lit mag

A colorful sanctuary where brilliant midnight ideas and captivating daydreams are given life, Saucon Valley HS's Writing Club is one of the most imaginative the school has to offer. The club's adviser, English teacher Megan Kern, has run the organization for several years now and has annually organized the publication of the club's literary magazine.



Arielle Reed
Saucon Valley HS

Students of all ages are invited to submit works to the magazine, regardless of membership in the club or participation in a creative writing class. Submissions may be entered anonymously, by name or by pseudonym. Compositions include short stories, poems, as well as a collaborative story in which members circulate a plot idea until a full tale is completed. The club receives poems which explore different linguistic techniques, including exploration of the irregular use of capitalization, punctuation and spacing. Stories range from tales of everyday teenage life to fantastic adventures in magical lands unknown, balancing on the border of realism and fantasy.

The cover of the yearly literary magazine seeks to mimic popular books or films of that year, attempting to spark interest among the potential student audience by calling upon well-known trends. Previous covers have included the cover of Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight" upon which a pineapple

is held instead of an apple, and J.K Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" with the head of a Saucon Valley panther superimposed upon the face of Harry. This year's cover-in-progress attempts to invoke imagery from J. R. R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit" which recently became a film. The club's members not only seek to modify the book cover's images, but also to use its stylistic font and phrasing to fit the purpose of the literary magazine.

With several hundred pieces submitted so far, this year's Writing Club members have a hefty job ahead of them as they edit and organize the pieces into a cohesive unit. Senior students are primarily charged with this job, as they have the most experience and fluency with the literary magazine. This year's seniors include Gabriel Bell, Dylan Berger, Katherine Smeltzer, Gabriela Vinson and myself, Arielle Reed.

When asked about the purpose that Writing Club serves, Dylan Berger responded swiftly: "Writing Club is a place where interested students can explore a medium to whatever extent they want," he said. For many, it is the first time they have allowed their innermost thoughts and emotions to be exposed to the harsh glare of the world's eyes. It is a place for freedom of expression, and a solace for those who wish for a voice to let the colors of their soul loose onto paper.

For copies of Saucon's 2013 literary magazine or further questions regarding the activities of the club contact Megan Kern at Megan.Kern@svpanthers.org.

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<http://bethlehem.thehighvalleypress.com/school>

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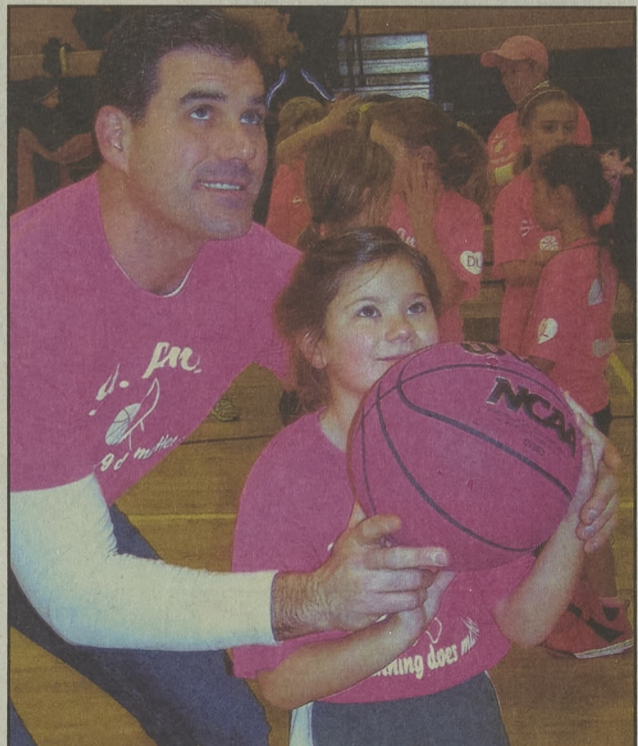
Stamp Out Hunger
FOOD DRIVE

LETTER CARRIERS' FOOD DRIVE
SAT., MAY 11, 2013



Pink Out basketball event co-organizer Nicole Medei of the St. Anne CYO shows a pink T-shirt to Ann Lefebvre and fourth-grade daughter Margaret at the sales table near the entrance to the gym. St. Anne School held a dress-down on Valentine's Day for students wearing Pink Out tees or any other form of pink clothing in support of breast cancer research being done in the Lehigh Valley. Participating students donate \$1 to the Pink Out fundraiser for the privilege of not wearing the customary school uniforms.

St. Anne wears pink for cancer



The first of two Saturday Pink Out youth basketball fundraisers for cancer was held Feb. 2 at St. Anne School in Bethlehem. Wearing pink T-shirts, Lauren Luszik of the school's third grade girls basketball team gets some shooting pointers from Lady Saints head coach Mike McGuire of Bethlehem before the game. The pink basketball proved to be lucky for Lauren, the youngest daughter of the late Donna Luszik of Bethlehem Township, who succumbed to cancer a year ago and in whose name the collected funds will support breast cancer research in the Lehigh Valley. Lauren, who sank all three baskets in the low scoring tie in the recreational league game against the Wind Gap Lakers. St. Anne boys and girls teams returned to the gym Feb. 16 for another round of regular league games in the admission-free Pink Out event which was presented by St. Anne CYO.

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FORECAST FOR LEHIGH VALLEY PENNSYLVANIA

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a slight chance of rain, high temperature of 67°, humidity of 37%. The record high temperature for today is 86° set in 1960. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 44°. The record low for tonight is 29° set in 1930. Thursday, skies will be mostly sunny with a high temperature of 68°, humidity of 42%. Skies will be partly cloudy Thursday night with an overnight low of 41°. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high temperature of 69°. Skies will become partly cloudy Saturday with a high temperature of 65°. Partly cloudy skies will continue Sunday with a high temperature of 64°.

Weather Trivia

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Answer: When the wind's speed or direction changes sharply.

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HOLIDAYS

Continued from page A14

italize on the Lunar New Year holiday, which she called Asia's biggest shopping season. She added that gifts ranged from a few bank notes in a red envelope (red is considered a lucky color) to limited edition Mercedes-Benz Smart Cars and \$150,000 watches purchased by the growing wealthy class (China now has more billionaires than the United States).

As for Lovers' Day, sometime between 2000 and 2013, it officially became Valentine's Day, and it is celebrated with great show. Thousands of young couples stroll through Shanghai dressed in their finest clothing. The single rose, however, has grown into huge bunches of flowers carried openly on the streets.

The Chinese take great stock in the meaning of numbers, almost to a superstition. Wang says giving 11 roses is a symbol of longevity. Of course, 99 is an even luckier number and Wang says some people actually do present their Valentines with bunches of that many roses - so much for the dozen long-stemmed roses in our culture.

Not to neglect the rest of the year, the Chinese also commemorate Mother's Day and Father's Day, but they are one up on us with Bachelor's Day in honor of the large number of single men in the country. The date for this day is auspiciously Nov. 1, which being 11-1, represents the single state to the Chinese.

Well, there's not much else to say, but I do have one question. With all this embracing of Western culture and holidays, can the Easter Bunny be far away?

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