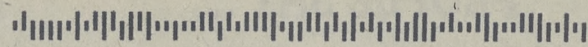




SPORTS

Pates keep on rolling

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JANUARY 11, 2012

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'Help us reach out to others'

Conference explores local effects of state funding cuts

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Funding cuts are hampering the ability of the Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley to deliver a high quality of service to the community, according to Executive Director Lorna Vazquez.

Vazquez hosted a conference Jan. 6 with state representatives Joseph Brennan, (D-133rd Legislative District), and Steve Samuelson, (D-135th Legislative District), and edu-

cators Dr. Joseph Roy, superintendent of Bethlehem Area School District, and Dr. George White, director of the Center for Developing Urban Educational Leaders at Lehigh University

Vazquez led a discussion of the social and educational needs of children in the community. She asked the political and education leaders to "help us reach out to others in our community for help."

"We've lost some ability to help provide serv-

es," Vazquez said. She cited as an example the loss of staff that helped people fill out applications for jobs.

She said that volunteers cannot be depended on to keep services going.

"There is no stability with volunteers," she said. "It results in poor customer service."

"It's hard to find grants to cover salaries and operational expenses," Vazquez said.

Loss of funding also

affects the school district, Roy said. "What goes on in the community affects our ability to educate," he said.

Funding cuts had forced the school district to reduce its staff of Family Development Specialists from 15 to four.

"We had a double whammy," Roy said, referring to loss of money for the SPARK pre-school program. "There were 300 children in SPARK; now there are 80."

Roy acknowledged that

Lehigh University has been a "tremendous partner" in teaming with neighboring Broughal MS to assist with education there. He said some "big time businesses" have also partnered with the school.

White explained that the Compass Program under the sponsorship of United Way has developed a Community Schools program that helps some BASD schools. Just Born Company has been a partner with Lehigh and Unit-

See CUTS on Page A2

COUNTY

Council reviews swaption issue

By CAROL SMITH
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Northampton County Council's first official meeting of the new year focused on the complex issue of the county's swaption agreement. In the next few months, council will need to take one of two actions: allow the terms of the bond swap option agreement to go forward or exercise an option to break the bond agreement. Either action will cost the county millions of dollars.

Details from financial advisers outlined the two plans available to council at a Jan. 5 meeting and drove home an important lesson for county officials that using taxpayer money to set up bond interest rate terms that gamble that future interest rates will go up is not a wise use of the public's money.

Since a previously elected council entered into the swaption agreement in 2004 to refinance \$67.5 million of the 2001 \$111 million bond issue at a 4.9 percent interest rate, bond rates have not increased above 3.1 percent. A swap option is very different from a swaption option on bonds. Swaption terms are meant to

See SWAP on Page A2

BETHLEHEM

Making sausage

Evans to head city council

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Bethlehem City Council elected Eric Evans council president and J. William Reynolds council vice president Jan. 3 in a new procedure that should dispel any suspicions about City Hall selecting its officers in smoke-filled rooms.

The election was completely transparent and a bit like making sausage.

Judge Stephen G. Baratta swore in newly elected councilman Michael Recchiuti and re-elected members Robert J. Donchez and J. William Reynolds and re-elected city treasurer Kaija Farber.

In a messy but democratic process, the seven council members then elected Eric Evans as president and William Reynolds as the vice president for 2012 and 2013.

Past president Robert Donchez relinquished the gavel while council solicitor Christopher Spadoni presided as president pro tempore and conducted the annual reorganization meeting.

Under new rules adopted by council designed to make the election process more transparent, nominations were allowed from the floor - that is, from within the council

body. Three members were nominated for president.

Councilwoman Karen Dolan nominated Reynolds, Councilwoman Jean Belinski nominated David T. DiGiacinto and Donchez nominated Evans. This alone made for a historic election on city council where past practice was to have a pre-meeting consensus as to who would be the single nominee and who would second the nomination for inter-council offices.

One new procedure was the council's compliance with the Robert's Rules of Order in that

unlike a motion, there is no need for a second nomination from the floor.

Also new was the manner of voting. This time, each member voted for each nominee. The council rules require that the winner have at least four votes. In the past, the first person to get four votes would win and other nominees would not be voted on. This was the case last year when Dolan and DiGiacinto were both nominees for council vice president, an election won by DiGiacinto.

Dolan, who had led the effort to change council's

See CITY on Page A3



Evans

SPRING TEASE



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Spring-like weather with a high of 61 degrees Saturday afternoon brought out Liberty HS friends Tino Mafundikla and Jay Morales to practice basketball at the Spring Garden ES playground.

Historic trail passes Steel's stacks

By DAN CHURCH
Special to the Bethlehem Press

At its zenith, the Bethlehem Plant of Bethlehem Steel Corporation extended four-and-one-half miles eastward along the Lehigh River. From a narrow strip near the current Fahy Bridge, iron-red brick buildings fanned eastward over 1,800 acres, ending in a network of rail yards and mountains of minerals near the Saucon Creek.

Deployed throughout were generations of workers, from scores of nations, in hundreds of

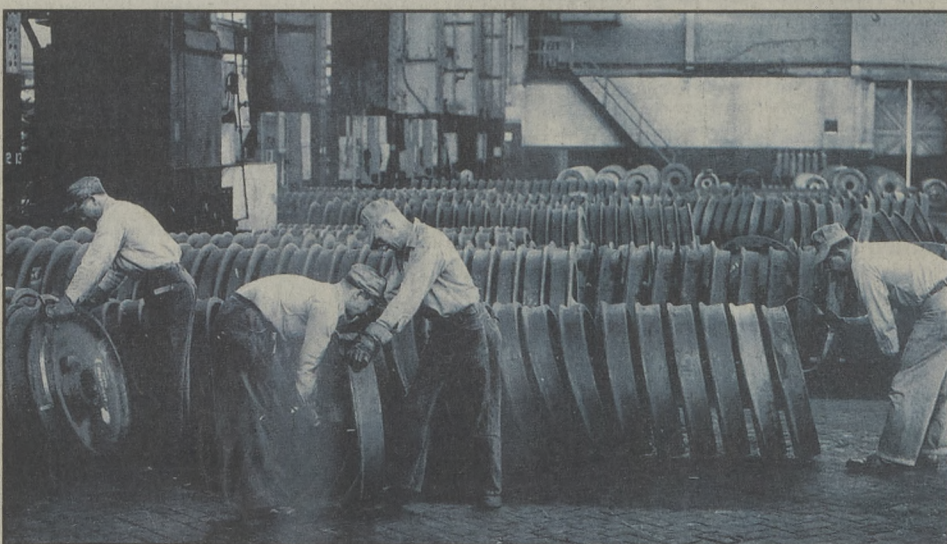


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOUTH BETHLEHEM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Bethlehem Steel workers inspect steel rail wheels.

trades and professions. The employee count during World War II is estimated at 30,000.

The works' beginnings, though, were far more modest, and are observable today in architectural remnants of more than a century of technical innovation.

Three afternoons weekly, the Historic Bethlehem Partnership - custodian of the city's 18th-century industrial heritage - offers a walking tour and narrative that spans the age of iron and the age of steel. It begins at the new Steel-

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BETHLEHEM PRESS

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 14

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BY DANA GRUBB

What do you think of Penn State University's selection of New England Patriots offensive coordinator Bill O'Brien to replace the legendary football coach Joe Paterno?



"I'm pretty indifferent. He's a solid coordinator in New England and he stood up to Tom Brady, which means he'll stand up to the players."

Luigi Ramelah
Bethlehem



"Surprising in terms of the track record of Patriots' coaches leaving Bill Belichick. I think no matter what, they need to get past the Joe Paterno thing."

Andy Rohmann
Bethlehem



"I think it's a smart move bringing an NFL coach to the college level."

Marc Kubushefski
Bethlehem



"I think it'll improve the team since he has professional experience."

Richard Repash
Nazareth



"I personally think it's a better move because the current coaching staff really isn't up to par."

Steve Campen
State College



"I think he's been placed in a tough situation because the Penn State community is very close-knit and he'll have an uphill battle to win their support, and because he's obviously not a Penn State alum. I wish him the best of luck."

Marcus Sandone
Bath

CUTS

Continued from page A1
ed Way to work with the Community Schools project.

White said Lehigh University places graduate students in Broughal MS, where they provide additional help to the administration and faculty. He said that Lehigh has invested \$150,000 in cash in the partnership.

"The Southside is a mobile community," White said, "there's increased poverty."

He said family development specialists could help build programs that help families transition into the community and the schools because it is cheaper to invest in education now than to pay for the consequences of not educating the community.

"Every time we fail to serve a client, it ripples through to incarceration later," White explained. "It's cheaper to fix now than later."

Samuelson and Brennan each decried the funding cuts to Pennsylvania school districts.

"We have a governor with a no-tax increase



PRESS PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley Executive Director Lorna Vazquez speaks with Pa. Rep. Joseph Brennan and BASD Superintendent Dr. Joseph Roy at a meeting Jan. 6. Pa. Rep. Steve Samuelson, on the right, also participated in the discussion.

pledge," Brennan said. "So we are looking at more cuts."

"Governor Corbett cut \$6 million in funding to the schools," Samuelson said. "But he pretends he didn't cut funding."

"About \$259 million in block grants were needed last year," he continued.

"The governor proposed zero in block grants. The state got a 61 percent reduction in block grants last year."

Government needs to fulfill its obligation, White said.

"We go to the community, but this community is doing 110 percent - it

can't do much more," White said, "Whoever says the community doesn't care, doesn't know the community."

"We're asking the community to get more involved," Vazquez said. "I'm asking you to advocate for us."

TOUR

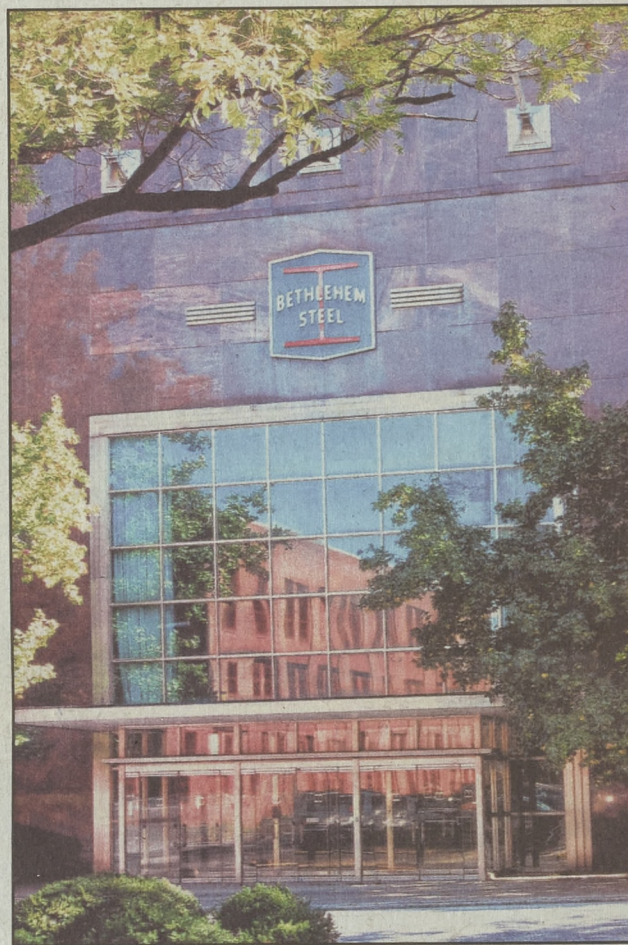
Continued from page A1
Stacks center in the shadow of the idled bank of blast furnaces.

These, likely, are the "seven large modern Blast Furnaces" praised in a 1915 souvenir history marking the 50-year anniversary of the Borough of South Bethlehem. First incorporated in 1857, the facility broke ground three years later as the Bethlehem Iron Works. Its first blast furnace nearby was "blown-in" in early 1863, feeding puddle furnaces for iron railroad rails rolled nearby.

Early rails required almost continuous replacement, explains tour guide Kathy Zoshak, ensuring a ready market for the hardened Bethlehem Iron rails processed through three stacked rollers.

In another quantum leap, one decade later, Bethlehem Iron produced its first railroad rails from steel, using the newly patented British Bessemer process. Figured to last 16 years, or three-times longer than iron, Bethlehem product from four furnaces helped complete the transcontinental railway.

Steel quickly edged out iron as the company's core product, with a new focus on such markets as the U.S. Navy, which needed armor plate and giant battleship guns as it rehabilitated its fleet. Steel also



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Visitors to Bethlehem Steel corporate headquarters first encountered immaculately groomed female greeters, then were passed to equally immaculate female guides for their passage up the bank of elevators.

replaced iron in the corporate charter, as assets were transferred in 1904 to the new Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

Further along, the tour passes a birthplace in 1900 of tool steel, an excessively hard alloy material suited for high-temperature

uses such as high-speed machining. (The patent by co-inventor Frederick W. Taylor, father also of scientific management, later was nullified.)

During these decades, Zoshak says, South Bethlehem boomed. In 1887, commercial ventures

included 12 hotels, eight restaurants, four liquor stores, six doctors, six hat shops and two undertakers.

Such enterprises pale, however, when compared with the corporate cocoon centered at the tall red-brick general offices near the end of the tour. Visitors first encountered immaculately groomed female greeters (a cosmetic consultant from New York City set the tone), then were passed to equally immaculate female guides for their passage up the bank of elevators.

Above the lobby, scores of chefs, bakers and other culinary specialists staffed kitchens on six floors, says Zoshak. For business or pleasure, top corporate employees turned to steel-sponsored Saucon Valley Country Club in Upper Saucon Township or, for Bethlehem Plant executives, the Bethlehem Steel (now Silver Creek) Club in Hellertown.

This legacy lives on, particularly for golfers. Faced with public criticism of their courses' exclusivity, Steel officials reached out to the City of Bethlehem as benefactor of the city's Municipal Golf Course.

Tours, lasting 45 minutes, are offered daily at 12:45 p.m. The cost is \$14. Participants are reminded to wear sensible walking shoes and protective headgear - against sun, not falling I-beam.

SWAP

Continued from page A1
protect against rising interest rates.

Doran J. Hamann, the county's acting director of fiscal affairs, reviewed for council members the swaption's history. When entered into in June 2004, the county received an upfront payment of \$1.9 million which helped to cover a \$1 million budget shortfall and finance the county's open space initiative and some other projects. Hamann said that the swaption's face value has ranged between \$10.2 million in 2009 to \$25 million in 2011.

Based upon Jan. 14's rates for the bond market, Gary Pulcini from Valco Capital, Ltd., walked council members through three scenarios and asked them to establish a swap counsel and a bond counsel to guide and monitor decisions on the swaption terms.

Pulcini's first scenario looked at the 2001 \$111 million debt service if a traditional bond agreement was in existence as a point of comparison.

The second scenario gave an estimate of the costs of breaking the swaption agreement and the third outlined the costs and fees with doing nothing to the current agreement.

If council were to decide to break the bond agreement, there would be a net cost of about \$7 million. This decision would need to be made between July and October of 2012. With the expertise of financial advisors, council would enter into negotiations to get the best interest rate available to refinance

the bond issue.

Financial adviser Robert Fuller told council members that in breaking the swaption agreement his goal would be to pay a price below the current face value, which is about \$25 million.

Pulcini said it was in the county's favor that the general fund had the \$25 million in reserve and that this sound financial picture would help with negotiating out of the swaption agreement.

If council were to follow the terms of the swaption, the net loss would

be closer to between \$14 million and \$20 million. This loss is primarily due to a required bank letter of credit fee which was not originally disclosed as part of the swaption agreement.

County solicitor Karl Longenbach said his office was exploring any legal action the county could pursue in seeking retribution for the terms.

Council's next regular meeting is at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 19 on the third floor of Northampton County Courthouse at 669 Washington St., Easton.

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TIM GILMAN PHOTO

The memorial bicycle for recently deceased cycling enthusiast Patrick Ytsma rests alone at the north end of the Fahy Bridge. Ytsma died four days after being struck by a car on the bridge Dec. 4. Lucille W. DeMartin, 79, of Center Valley, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of careless driving - unintentional death. According to court documents, her trial is scheduled for Feb. 6.

Happy New Year

Police arrested a number of people for intoxication at the turn of the new year.

According to police, a 17-year-old girl early the morning of Dec. 31 threw a chunk of cement through a car window. The vehicle, parked in the 400 block of Carlton Avenue, belonged to her boyfriend's brother. She is charged with public drunkenness and underage drinking.

About an hour later 31-year-old Damon Easterling, of Walnutport, was found passed out in a common hallway of Riverport. He was transported to St. Luke's Hospital for treatment and is charged with public drunkenness.

Around 9 p.m. 23-year-old Nicholas Sivillo, of Stratford Street, was found passed out on a bench outside Starters Riverport. He was also taken for treatment and charged with public drunkenness.

Just before 1 a.m. Jan. 1, police arrived at West Fourth Street for a man reportedly standing in a tub with his pants down. 20-year-old Matthew Capuano, of Harrisburg, is charged with underage drinking.

Around 1:20 a.m. 21-year-old Brittini Spedding, of Allentown, was also found passed out outside Starters Riverport., taken for treatment and charged with public drunkenness.

Around that time 20-year-old Tyler Grays of Easton was found passed out behind a Washington Street address. Police said he possessed an oxycodone pill and was intoxicated. He is charged with possession of a controlled substance, public drunkenness and underage drinking.

Around 3:55 a.m. police arrested James Nestor, 25, of Robin Way, for public drunkenness when he reportedly knocked on the door of a residence on Each Church Street.

At the Marriot on Hotel Drive 21-year-old Jason Posh, of East Fourth Street, was found passed out on a lobby couch around 5:15 a.m. He was not a hotel guest. He is charged with public drunkenness.

At the same time Megan Derkits, 21, of Emmaus, was arrested following a car accident on Vernon Street. She is charged with DUI and careless driving.



PRESS PHOTO BY CAROL SMITH

Northampton County Council 2012 - Bottom Row: Peg Ferarro, John Cusick, Barbara Thierry. Top Row: Bruce Gilbert, Lamont McClure, Ken Kraft, Thomas Dietrich, Robert Werner and Scott Parsons.

Cusick gets second term as president

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

By CAROL SMITH
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Northampton County Councilman John Cusick will serve a second year as council's president.

After Councilman Bruce Gilbert arrived late to break a tie vote between Cusick, a Republican, and Democrat Lamont McClure, Cusick was reelected by a 5-4 vote at the Jan. 3 reorganization meeting.

In accepting the presidency, Cusick outlined his priorities: the county's swaption bond agreement, a drug treatment center in West Easton, and an advisory council for Gracedale.

Other goals Cusick hoped to

accomplish with the cooperation of his fellow council members were to consolidate the Human Services department so that its employees were not in two different aging buildings and to bring the county's archives back to a county location. Cusick said paying to use the archives was an absurdity. In welcoming council's new members, he said he was looking forward to making things happen in Northampton County.

Council also re-elected Peg Ferarro as vice president. Ferarro told council members that their job as

elect officials was to make sure they governed well and met the needs of a diverse community.

"Now elected, the 'Ds' and 'Rs' disappear behind our names. This is a new era of civility and respect for taxpayers who honored us with their votes," Ferarro said.

Taking the oath of office Jan. 3 were Democrats Ken Kraft, Scott Parsons, Robert Werner and Lamont McClure. McClure is the only incumbent council member: Kraft and Parsons will serve four-year terms to expire in 2016. Kraft, who represents the City of Bethlehem in Dis-

trict 1, replaces longtime councilwoman Ann McHale. McHale did not seek re-election.

Kraft, who is no stranger to county or city positions, said he is comfortable talking to council members to get oriented to his new responsibilities. The former Northampton County Election Commission chairperson also serves on the Bethlehem Zoning Hearing Board.

The once Republican-led council now only slightly favors the Republicans with a 5-4 majority.

Council's next regular meeting is at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 19 on the third floor of Northampton County Courthouse at 669 Washington St., Easton.

Thode resigns from planning commission

By BERNIE O'HARE
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Dr. Stephen Thode, who directs Lehigh University's Real Estate Studies program, has been the backbone of Bethlehem's Planning Commission over the past five years and currently serves as its vice chair. But in a letter addressed to Mayor John Callahan and Planning Chairman James Fiorentio, Thode has resigned, citing

the out-of-town travel required by his work for Lehigh.

Thode thanks everyone, from his colleagues to staffers in the Planning Bureau, for their "exceptional dedication in their service to the people of Bethlehem." He remains confident that "the city we all love is in good hands."

Thode states he'll miss everyone, but he'll be missed, too.

With Thode's departure, the Planning Commission will drop to a bare quorum of three members - Fiorentino, Katie Lynch and Andrew Twigg. In March, Lawrence Krauter resigned from the Planning Commission to become executive director at Spokane International Airport.

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Isabelle gets along with other dogs, as long as they're not dominating, but doesn't like cats. Isabelle is on thyroid medication.



March is a playful female cat that is almost 3 years old. She is social, up to date on shots, spayed, litter-trained and ready to go.

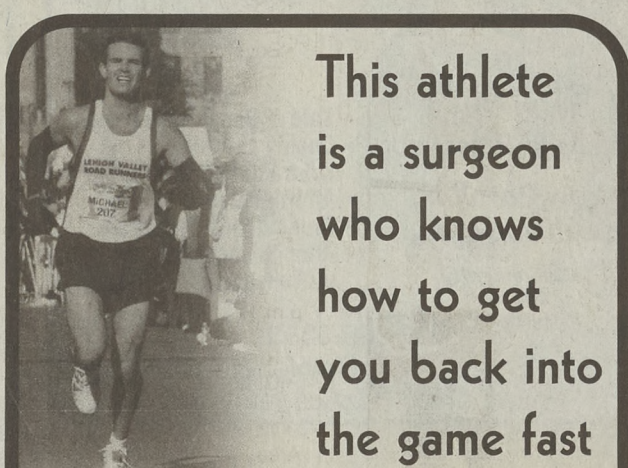
Holiday season ends



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Workers at St. Anne's Catholic Church dismantle the congregation's ornate nativity display after the final Epiphany Mass Sunday in Bethlehem. Decorating Committee volunteers Hillary Emrock and her father Thomas box the nativity figures while Dave Malloy removes the lights from the Christmas trees.

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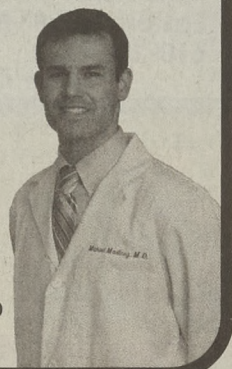


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'The rent we owe'

LV Volunteer Center honors organizations, individuals for community efforts

By CHRIS RICHIE
Special the Bethlehem Press

The Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley held its ninth annual "Spirit of Volunteerism" awards recently at the ArtsQuest Center on the SteelStacks campus in Bethlehem. The ceremony honors local businesses and employees for their commitment to volunteerism throughout the community.

Volunteer Center CEO Priscilla Schueck opened the program.

"We are fortunate to work in a community where business and corporate citizenship is taken so seriously," she said.

While outlining the mission of the center, Schueck said, "Our goal is for all employees to have the opportunity to volunteer with the encouragement and support of their employers, and for all employers to realize the strategic benefit that comes from the effective engagement of their employees as volunteers in the community."

The awards that evening went to PPL and Air Products' respective LEAD (Latino Employee Alliance for Diversity) and HOLA (Hispanic Organization of Latinos and Amigos) programs, which work together to provide youth who are aging out of the dependent care system or who have been homeless and are now attending college; Taminco Inc. for its volunteers donating 265 hours, cash and supplies to the Gress Mountain Ranch; T-Mobile for the "Huddle Up Day of Service" at



PRESS PHOTO BY CHRIS RICHIE

Lauryn Graves speaks on behalf of sponsor Air Products, during the Volunteer Center of Lehigh Valley's 9th annual "Spirit of Volunteerism" awards at ArtsQuest on the campus of SteelStacks in Bethlehem.

South Mountain MS, which saw 150 volunteers working eight hours each; and Wells Fargo Customer Connection for providing a team of volunteers twice a month to Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County.

Two standout individuals, Maureen Dresen of Capital BlueCross and Sylvia Merkel of RE/MAX Real Estate were also recognized that night, with Dresen being nominated by her employer and Merkel by the Gress Mountain Ranch.

In accepting her award Dresen said, "As those of you who volunteer know, when you choose to join an organization and to help, you do it because you believe in the organization. You think you can make a difference and you just want to help other people. You don't become

involved because you expect to get a great award like this."

After a speech describing the often down and dirty job of caring for animals in the colorful atmosphere of the Gress Mountain Ranch, a teary-eyed Kathryn Gress, accompanied by her husband Ben, said of Merkel, "Sylvia's spirit has touched all the hearts of myself, my husband and all the animals. Sylvia has come into our life, many people come into your lives and then they leave ... but Sylvia has come in and she's put the footprints on our hearts and she's put her footprints on our animals hearts."

Dr. Arthur Scott, retiring president of Northampton Community College, acted as the master of ceremonies for

the event.

"You know when I was new to the valley and just trying to figure things out in my life and completing graduate school at Lehigh University, I got to hear the then president of Lehigh, Peter Likins," Scott said. "He was speaking at a breakfast meeting in downtown Bethlehem and he was talking about volunteerism and he said, 'It is the rent we owe for the air we breathe.'"

Scott admitted, "To this day, I don't know if that's an original Peter Likins quote or if he stole it from someone else, but it stayed with me and I found myself using it many, many times - the rent we owe for the air we breathe."



Award recipient Maureen Dresen speaks during the "Spirit of Volunteerism" awards at ArtsQuest.



Dr. Arthur Scott, president of Northampton Community College, is master of ceremonies.



Sylvia Merkel, right, accepts her award from nominators Ben and Kathryn Gress, during the Volunteer Center of Lehigh Valley's 9th annual "Spirit of Volunteerism" awards.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL Hawks keep on winning

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcdonald@ttonline.com

Bethlehem Catholic resumed regular season play after the Christmas break with a 58-19 victory over Allen last Friday.

As of Press deadlines, the Hawks are the only undefeated team in the LVC and hope to hold onto that title after having faced Allentown Central Catholic on Jan. 10 at Rockne Hall.

Although Becahi Coach Bill Lanscek expected the Hawks to be competitive this season, he expressed some surprise over their 9-0 record.

"I thought we'd be in every game. I didn't think anybody would manhandle us," Lanscek said.

On Friday night, the Hawks got off to an 8-0 lead in the first 1:40, and by halftime, the score was 43-10.

Becahi captain, Brianna Morales, said, "The momentum does a lot for our team. It keeps the

team going."

Morales, Jaime Deisher, and Nicole Lacherza each had two points against Allen. Gabby Lacherza scored five points, Janelle Robinson, Cecelia Perez, and Bridget Smith scored six points apiece, Rana Plesko had eight points, and freshman, Kalista Walters, added 21 points.

Anxious to face the Vikettes, the Hawks will have approached the game like every other.

"You just have to be humble," said Plesko. "We know we're a good team. We can't play above ourselves, and we can't play down. We just have to play our game."

Also last week, Freedom and Liberty were hit hard with losses as Whitehall defeated the Hurricanes, 46-38, and Central Catholic defeated the Patriots, 57-40.

Liberty's overall record is 6-3, and Freedom has an overall record of 1-6.



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Freedom's Joe Lococo takes to the air against Liberty's Joel Torres during a Jan. 3, city showdown that the Patriots won.

Patriots stay hot

By PETER CAR
pcar@ttonline.com

Fresh off a grueling week of emotional wins, Freedom is back at it this with a three-game tilt on hand as the Patriots looked to stay undefeated in the Lehigh Valley Conference.

The Pates (10-0, 4-0) started those hopes on Monday at home with a 63-57 win over Pocono Mountain West and continued Tuesday night against Allen.

With the team off to its best start in head coach Joe Stellato's career following last week's wins over Liberty and Central

Catholic, Freedom basketball is officially on the map and part of it is because of the likes of senior sharp shooter Joe Lococo.

"It means a lot for us to be playing like this," Lococo said. "The seniors on this team have waited a long time for this and we just want to go out on a positive note."

"We go into every game like it's a championship and I think we're dealing with that bull's-eye on our

back pretty well."

Freedom held off a three-point halftime deficit to Liberty last week to storm out in front and put the 'Canes away by a 47-38 margin in front of a packed house at Freedom's gym, which included one of the most vocal student sections the Pates have ever seen for a basketball contest.

They followed that up with a 51-49 win over Central, holding off the Vikings after relinquishing a 10-point second half lead.

Stellato knows that keeping his team focused

See Pates on Page A8



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Kalista Walters led all scorers with 21 points against Allen as the Hawks stayed unbeaten.

Liberty learns from loss to Freedom

By PETER CAR
pcar@ttonline.com

Liberty bounced back from last week's loss to Freedom with a convincing win over Whitehall last Friday, but now we'll see if they can keep their form going this week.

The Hurricanes (5-3, 3-1) open up a stretch of three games per week over the next month in what head coach Chad Landis hopes will be a good stretch for the team.

Landis made a calculated decision to push some games back on the calendar in an effort to gain more practice time earlier for his young team, with the drawback being a crammed January schedule.

That now falls into place this week as the 'Canes took on Parkland (7-1, 3-1) last night and host Allen (5-5, 3-1) Friday night. They'll then get Saucon Valley on Saturday to round out their week.

After posting a 60-45 win over White-

hall last week, following their defeat to city rival Freedom, Landis knows his team came back with a renewed focus following the defeat to the Pates.

"I think our guys learned that playing well for three quarters isn't good enough," he said. "Some of them also were humbled and we learned that they need to listen to coaching. As much as I hate to lose, we probably gained as much as we could from that Freedom loss, so in essence it could be a good thing moving forward for us."

With such a tight schedule for the next month, Landis knows that their won't be much time to fix things, which is why preparation is the key moving forward. He also knows that playing multiple games in a week can have its pluses and minuses.

"If you can get on a roll and stay healthy, it's terrific," he said. "The problem is I don't know if either of those things are going to happen."

"The kids love this time of year

See Canes on Page A8



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

K.J. Williams and the Hurricanes will have a busy January schedule.

Pate swimmers sweep past Nazareth

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcdonald@ttonline.com

Freedom's girls won all but two events in their 106-81 victory over Nazareth last week.

Sweeping all relays, Freedom's Shannon Howell, Carly DelFranco, Brooke Munion, and Molly Magnan won the 200 medley relay in 5:00.00;

Howell, Carly Cussen, Helen Hsu, and Magnan won the 200 free relay in 1:45.65; and Rebecca Busby, DelFranco, Hsu, and Munion won the 400



Liberty swimming pg. A8

free relay in 3:49.19.

In individual events, Munion placed first in the 200 free in 2:02.12 and the 500 free in 5:23.66. Hsu took first place in the 200 IM in 2:16.07 and the 100 butterfly in 1:00.48. Magnan won the 50 free in 26.57, and DelFranco won the 100 breaststroke in 1:15.20.

"We've been having a really good year with everything. I don't think there's really a weak point," said Munion.

Carol Byrnes won the diving event for the Patriots with 228.70 points.

Freedom's boys also swept all three relays in their 104-72 victory over Nazareth.

The 200 medley relay was won in 1:52.78 by Stephen Yale, David Barlyski, Sam Magnan, and Eric Lawrence; the 200 free relay was won in 1:31.83 by Peter Conzola, Scott DelFranco, Seth Watlington, and Danny Csakai; and the 400 free relay was won in 3:26.03 by

See Swim on Page A8

INSIDE SPORTS

THEY SAID IT

"You just have to be humble. We know we're a good team. We can't play above ourselves, and we can't play down. We just have to play our game."

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SCHEDULE

BECAHI Jan. 11

• Wrestling vs. Nazareth, 7:15 p.m.

Jan. 12

• Boys vs. Stroudsburg, 7 p.m.
• Girls at Stroudsburg, 7 p.m.

Jan. 13

• Wrestling at Escape the Rock
• Boys at Northampton, 7 p.m.

Jan. 14

• Wrestling at Escape the Rock
• Boys vs. Nazareth, 7 p.m.
• Girls at Nazareth, 7 p.m.

FREEDOM Jan. 11

• Wrestling at Northampton, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 12

• Swimming at Parkland, 4 p.m.
• Rifle vs. Eastburg South, 4 p.m.

Jan. 13

• Boys at Nazareth, 7 p.m.
• Girls vs. Nazareth, 7 p.m.

Jan. 14

• Wrestling at Jersey Shore Area High School
• Girls vs. Susquehanna Twp, 1:30 p.m.

Jan. 17

• Swimming vs. Easton, 4 p.m.
• Rifle vs. Liberty, 4 p.m.
• Boys vs. Northampton, 7 p.m.

Jan. 18

• Girls at Northampton, 7 p.m.

LIBERTY Jan. 11

• Wrestling vs. Easton, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 12

• Swimming vs. Northampton, 4 p.m.
• Rifle at East Stroudsburg North, 4 p.m.

Jan. 13

• Wrestling at VA Duals
• Boys vs. William Allen, 7 p.m.
• Girls at William Allen, 7 p.m.

Jan. 14

• Wrestling at Virginia Duals
• Swimming, Diving at Emmaus, 10:30 a.m.
• Boys vs. Saucon Valley, 1 p.m.

Jan. 17

• Swimming at Nazareth, 4 p.m.
• Rifle vs. Freedom, 4 p.m.
• Boys at Central, 7 p.m.
• Girls vs. Central, 7 p.m.

SWIMMING

Canes split with Solehi

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcDonald@tnonline.com

Liberty's swim team split with Southern Lehigh on Saturday when the Hurricane boys defeated the Spartans, 108-77, and the Spartan girls defeated the Hurricanes, 100-86.

Despite six first-place finishes apiece, Liberty's boys' team pulled out the win with more second and third place finishes than

Southern Lehigh. In individual events, Liberty's Eric Burcin won the 200 free in 1:53.38 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:00. Cameron Angstadt won the 100 free in 54.45, and Sean Vanatta won the 100 backstroke in 1:00.39. Liberty clinched a 1-2-3 finish in the 400 freestyle relay, and the team of Angstadt, Vanatta, Burcin, and James Sheplock placed first in 3:42.67. Liberty's girls' team

had four first-place finishes, and took second place in all relays.

In individual events for the Hurricanes, Maggie Olock won the 50 free in 25.79. Olock also won the diving event with 187.65 points. Rachel Rider won the 100 backstroke in 1:03.30, and Courtney Desh won the 100 breaststroke in 1:11.60.

Liberty will host Northampton at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday.

Swim

Continued from page 7

Watlington, DelFranco, Conzola, and Csakai.

In individual events, Watlington placed first in the 200 IM in 1:58.83 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:03.03. Conzola took first place in the 100 butterfly in 53.34 and the 100 backstroke in 55.54. DelFranco won

the 100 free in 50.01, and Magnan won the 500 free in 4:53.82.

"The 200 IM was really exciting because [teammates] David [Barlyski] and Seth [Watlington] were swimming against each other, and Seth touched out," said Munion. "The 500 free was exciting because Sam [Magnan] and [Nazareth's] Grant [Durn-

er] are always competing against each other on their club team."

This Thursday, the Patriots will travel to Parkland. "I think the [Freedom] girls are going to do so much better than last year. I think all of us are so excited to swim because we know we'll do so much better than we ever have," Munion said.

'Canes

Continued from page 7

because they get to play, but there really isn't much time to work on things, which is why we pushed

some games back."

Now it's the task of taking on Allen after taking on a tough Parkland squad.

"Parkland is atop their division and Allen is

always tough," Landis said. "We feel good from an X's and O's standpoint moving forward, but we'll see how the guys move forward the rest of the season."

Pates

Continued from page 7

in this stretch is the most important thing, especially in terms of handling success.

"Our guys know that people are going to be gunning for us now," he said, "and we just have to keep

playing the way we have been. We have to focus on the defensive end every night, but these guys are learning what it takes to be a top level team and we'll keep moving forward."

Lococo also knows that if Freedom wants to keep their momentum going,

it all starts on the defensive end.

"That's what coach has been preaching to us all year," said Lococo, as the Pates final game this week is Friday against Nazareth. "It's everyone's job to play hard on defense, because that's where it all starts for us."

DARTS

Continued from page 7

Suburban Dart League
St. Paul's (13-1) at Salem Luth (2-1, 10-8)
SL - Bill Hoch Jr. 5-9 HR, Bob Williams, Tim Eichman 4-11, Scott Williams 4-12.
SP - Rich Kern 8-14, Zach Kern 7-14 HR, Brian Gross 5-13.

Salem UCC (5-3) at Christ UCC (2-1, 7-3)
C - Dave Dalcin 4-7, Darius Dalcin 8-11 HR, George Gasper 4-11 HR, Ron Wagner 4-14 HR.

S - Bill Rinker 4-9, Larry Bush 4-10, Bob Krause 4-13, Kim Bush HR.

Trinity Luth at Dryland (6-2, 3-2, 2-1)
D - Larry Golick 5-11, Bernie Yurko 4-9, Len Siegfried 4-10, Earl Sigley 4-11, Jim Goldman HR.
TL - Joe Smith 4-10, Judy

Hoffert HR. Bath Luth (4-1, 6-3, 2-1) at Messiah

BL - Doc Cavello 7-13, Bob Flyte 6-13, Doug Moser 4-11, Wendy Yacone 4-12, Matt Creyer 4-13.

M - Rick Hasonich 4-12, Andy Powell HR, Dave Casey HR.
Emmanuel (2-0) at Farmersville (5-4 10in, 2-0)

F - Ron Barron 4-11, Gene Grim 4-13.
Em - Jim Hill 8-13, Joey Hofert 5-13, Joel Dalrymple 5-14.
St. Stephen's (2-0, 8-3, 5-3) at Ebenezer
SS - John Hoysan 6-12, Travis Beahm 6-14 2 HR, Corey Oswale HR.
Eb - Kevin Voortman 6-12 HR, Carl Fraley 4-12 2 HR.

Makeup Games
Salem Luth (6-3) at Christ UCC (12-8, 5-1)
C - Jarod Vokorny 7-13 HR,

Mark Fujita 8-14, Joe Hunsicker 7-14 HR, Darius Dalcin 6-15, Sue Gasper 5-12 HR, George Gasper 5-12.

SL - Bill Hoch Sr. 6-13, Walt Hoffert 6-14, Scott Williams 5-13, Scott Hoffert 5-14.

St. Paul's (3-2, 8-2) at Emmanuel (2-1)
SP - Zach Kern 7-13 HR, Kevin Gross 6-12.
Em - Zack Hill 5-12 HR, Jeremiah 4-11.

Standings

St. Paul's	31	17	.646
Salem Luth	31	17	.646
Dryland	30	18	.625
Bath Luth	30	18	.625
St. Steph.	28	20	.583
Christ UCC	24	24	.500
Farmersville	23	25	.479
Messiah	22	26	.458
Emmanuel	19	29	.366
Trinity Luth	18	30	.375
Ebenezer	17	31	.354
Salem UCC	15	33	.313

LLL SIGNUPS

Lehigh Sports Association will be holding Little League registration at Lehigh Sports Associa-

tion Senior Field Clubhouse, Illick's Mill Road, Bethlehem.

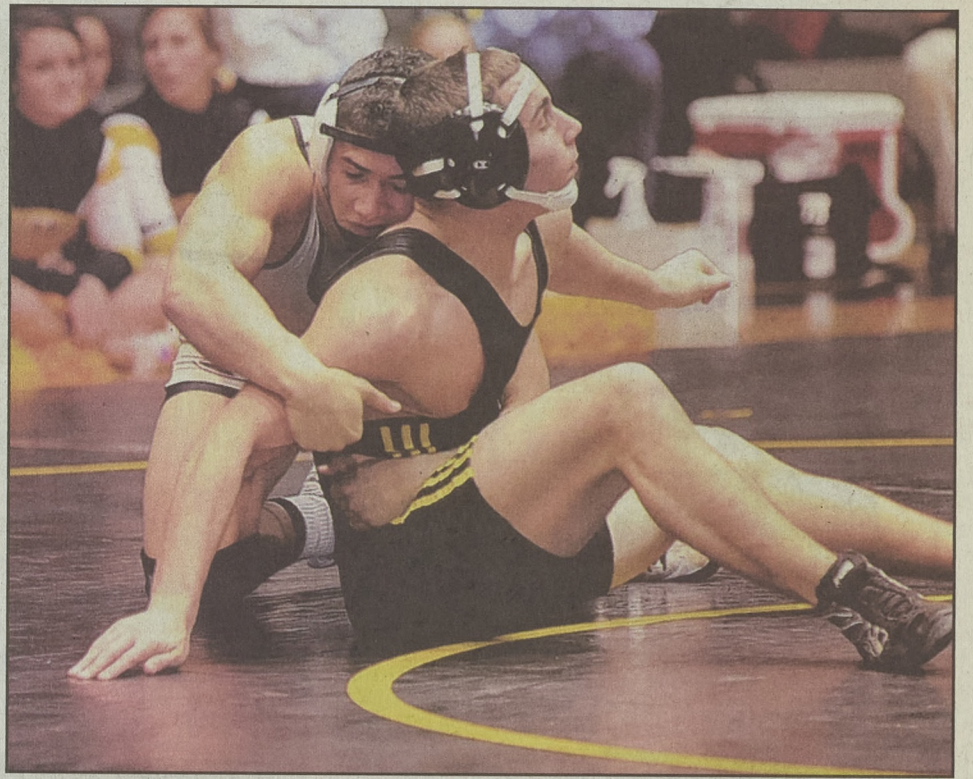
Sign ups will be held: Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012 from 9 a.m.-noon; Wednes-

day, Jan. 25, 2012 from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012 from 9 a.m.-noon.

To save time at registration, and for more information, go to www.lehighsportsassociation.org and click on the "Forms" button. Download, fill in and print.

Male players must be 5 years of age by 4/30/2012 and female players must be 5 by 12/31/2011 to start playing Little League this season. No exceptions. Players must reside within the boundaries of their home league.

For stories and photos, be sure to Like Bethlehem Press Sports on Facebook!



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Jose Ortiz of Becahi battles here against Kyle Spina of Freedom. The Hawks will take on Nazareth Wednesday.

WRESTLING

This time, Hawks favorites vs. NHS

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

This is why Jeff Karam loves coaching. The Bethlehem Catholic wrestling boss is entering the time of year that he fancies the most - dual meets.

Becahi (3-0, 3-0) welcomes Nazareth (2-2, 2-1) into town Wednesday for the Hawks biggest dual meet of the season so far. It's also the first challenger that Becahi will get a taste of in their run of difficult bouts over the next several weeks against perennial Lehigh Valley Conference powers.

With bouts against Northampton, Parkland and Easton all coming up over the next three weeks, tonight's tilt against Nazareth is the first step toward earning that LVC title the team has hoped for all season.

"This is when the real dual meet season begins for us," said Karam. "They've all been big matches so far, but Nazareth is always coached well and they're going to present a challenge for us. We definitely have to be on our guard."

The Hawks were put on the map last year when they knocked off Nazareth

in Blue Eagle country during an entertaining 33-25 victory.

Karam knew that was a major victory for his troops a year ago against a quality 3A opponent.

The Blue Eagles are young this season and enter Bethlehem as legitimate underdogs, while Becahi are experienced veterans who went through the ringer of expectations last year.

"Most of our guys are back from last year, so they should know how to handle themselves in matches like this," said Karam. "They know how important that win over Nazareth was last year, but they also remember losing to Northampton the following week as well."

"If we want to compete for the LVC title, we can't take any nights off."

Becahi closes out the week at Council Rock South for the Escape the Rock tournament, which is their final individual tournament of the season before districts.

Liberty (6-2, 3-0) welcomes Easton (6-0, 3-0) into Liberty's Memorial Gymnasium tonight as well in another key LVC tilt.

The Hurricanes have

knocked off Whitehall, Dieruff and Allen in their three league meets. Not exactly super powers, but the 'Canes will have a chance to show everyone what they have tonight against the Rovers.

"I look for our team to make less mistakes than last season and to show improvement by narrowing the gap on last year's loss to them," said head coach Jody Karam. "My veterans (Gonzalez and Lotito) should both perform well. We welcome the challenge of competing against a quality team like Easton."

Freedom (3-6, 1-2) opens a tough stretch of bouts over the next month tonight against Northampton (3-1, 2-0) on the road.

The Pates registered their first LVC victory of the season last week in a 36-34 win over Emmaus and hope to have a big weekend at the Jersey Shore dual meet.

"We really need to have a big weekend to help our chances for districts," said head coach Brandon Hall. "The Emmaus win showed us what type of team we can be and we need to continue that against Northampton and at the Jersey Shore."

BC positive despite struggles

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

It hasn't been the easiest start to a new era of Bethlehem Catholic boys' basketball for head coach Mike Frew.

The Hawks are off to a sluggish 1-7 start and still haven't found the win column in the Lehigh Valley Conference, but that isn't the most pressing issue for Frew - finding consistency is the top priority at the moment.

The Hawks have struggled to jell all year long because of an array of injuries and other factors that seemingly present a new lineup every night.

With Tuesday night's tilt against Central Catholic

past Press deadlines, followed by tonight's home game against Stroudsburg and Friday's road trip to Northampton, Frew hopes his team can have a breakthrough in this important week on the January calendar.

"We really haven't had our full team on the court this year because of several reasons," said Frew. "It's been a difficult start, but that doesn't mean we can't turn things around."

"All we need to do is get some momentum and confidence and things can turn around. It's just been tough because we haven't had consistency all year yet."

In the Hawks only win of the season, a 56-46 tri-

umph over York Catholic two weeks ago, the Hawks were without three seniors in that contest for several reasons.

In last week's 56-34 loss to Allen, Becahi struggled through a one-point second quarter. As frustrating as it has been for Frew and his players, it's easy to point at the record and rationalize that the 2011-2012 campaign has certainly been a disappointment, but Frew isn't looking at it that way.

"I know people from the outside look at our record and think one thing," he said, "but we look at it from a daily perspective and how we make progress and reach our goals in practice everyday and in games. We weren't going to just turn everything around in one-year here and we've had our chances in some games to pull out wins, but it's been a process for everyone and it takes time."

One thing that time can forge is a sense of unity. Every time the Hawks break the huddle, the word "together" comes out, which is exactly how Becahi has to stay if they want to have any chance at success the rest of the year.

"There's plenty of basketball left," Frew said. "I'm just glad we get to play two or three games a week now, because we love having the opportunity to come out and play."

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PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Bethlehem Rotary representatives P.K. Ghatak and Gerry Long and Morning Star Rotary representative Jim Santanasto present an \$11,000 check to BAPL Executive Director Janet Fricker. The funds were raised during the Rotary's 2011 golf tournament. Proceeds from the 2012 tournament will also be given to the library's 1407 capital campaign.

'1407' campaign under way

By DANA GRUBB
Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Bethlehem Area Public Library kicked off the public campaign, dubbed '1407', at a Nov. 10 fundraiser held at the Apollo Grill. The campaign got a boost as representatives from Bethlehem area Rotary clubs presented an \$11,000 check and a celebrity bartender event offered a special 'BAPLini' libation.

The \$1 million campaign will allow the BAPL to fit out the remainder of its 'Room to Grow' project, which will improve and expand children's and youth services at the Church Street main branch.

Funding consultant Carol Ritter explained that a number of library members had asked how they might become involved in funding the project's completion. With nearly 72,000 members, the million dollars needed calculates to \$14.07



The 1407 campaign was launched at the Apollo Grill and featured a celebrity bartender fundraiser that offered a special 'BAPLini' mixed drink. Library Executive Director Janet Fricker and Bethlehem Mayor John Callahan mixed the library-themed concoction for supporters and restaurant patrons. **ABOVE:** Fricker mixes up an order.



BAPL employees Catherine McCafferty, youth services librarian, Regina Kochmaruk, children's outreach librarian, and reference technician Chase Gobble manned the raffle ticket sales and saluted the campaign kick-off with a BAPLini.

Three Kings Day



PRESS PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

Donegan ES student Miguel Marrero presents a gift to Bethlehem Area School District Superintendent Dr. Joseph Roy in commemoration of Three Kings Day during Roy's visit to the Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations in South Bethlehem Jan. 6. Donegan Principal Sonia Vazquez is on the right. Daniella Palladino and Natalie Rojas, who were also dressed as kings, accompanied Marrero.

BRIEFLY

TRINITY CHURCH
Soup kitchen benefit Jan. 15

There will be Martin Luther King Jr. charity brunch at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 15 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 44 E. Market St. The event will benefit the church's soup kitchen and education program.

Oceola and Gladys Bragg, authors of "Country Cooking, City Style", will talk about their mother, cook Edna "Ma" Bragg. Bragg, a Tennessee farm girl, became a New York City caterer. There will be a buffet of dishes from the book.

For information, call 484-274-6841.

ARTSQUEST
Peas and Qs series continues

The Arts Quest Peas and Qs family hour programming series continues every Sat. from 11 a.m. to noon at Air Products Town Square, Founder's Way at Steel Stacks.

Bricks 4 Kids, geared to ages 3 through 13, on Jan. 14, features LEGO bricks and science and engineering projects.

On Jan. 21 there will be a storytime with Angela DeMuro, certified Usi Reiki Master and advanced level IET practitioner, artist and writer. She will read three books from her "Land of MU" birds book series, incorporating her Milo and Rosie Mu bird puppets. There will be a book signing.

CITY
Fluoride tanks to be replaced

The City of Bethlehem's drinking water customers are advised that as of Jan. 6 and continuing through the next four weeks, the City of Bethlehem will suspend adding fluoride to the drinking water. The suspension is due to the replacement of a fluoride tank.

The water is safe to drink.

For questions, call the city's Water Control department at 610-865-7077.

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Ad Council EPA ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

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PC FRI & SAT 1:00, 7:00 & 9:15
SUN 2:00, 4:15 & 7:00
MON & WED 1:00 & 7:00 PM
TUES & THURS 7:00 PM Only!

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THE EMMAUS ROTARY CLUB PROUDLY PRESENTS:



Rob Stoneback Big Band

An Evening of Music and Dance



17 Piece Band with 2 Vocalists
Performing hits of the 50's, 60's & 70's
including Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012 — 7-11 PM
AG-HALL, 302 N. 17th St., Allentown, PA
Tickets \$20.00 — BYOB+Food — Rain or Shine

Proceeds of this event will benefit the Emmaus Rotary Academic Scholarship Program, East Penn Community and International Projects

For Online Purchase go to www.EmmausRotary.org

For additional information, please call 484.664.2829

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MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO EMMAUS ROTARY CLUB

Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail by January 21, 2012
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THIS WEEK IN
BETHLEHEM HISTORY**Jan. 11, 2012****Immigrant workers****Karen M. Samuels**
Columnist

In the early 1900s, new immigrants who were seeking work completely overwhelmed the resources of Bethlehem. In 1918, Irving C. Norwood, the general secretary of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce wrote, "One-third of the workers in the industries of Bethlehem are aliens. The Bethlehem Steel Company alone has 10,266 aliens on its pay roll. The Americanizing of the industrial workers of Bethlehem is a big task to contemplate, but one more important from a community, industrial and national viewpoint cannot be imagined."

High taxes, low wages, and inflation drove people to emigrate from their home countries of Italy, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Russia and Germany. The immigrants found at every step of their journey, from their small villages to the steamship, that there were a slew of individuals waiting to make a profit off them.

Officials received tips to process paperwork for passports and the agent of the shipping company sold tickets at a great profit. During the wait for departure, vendors near the shipyards sold food and supplies at astronomical prices.

There were three classes of accommodations available on board and most immigrants traveled in third class at about \$40 a ticket. For two to three weeks they shared the lowest deck of the ship with as many as 2,000 other passengers. Passengers in this class stayed in small cabins with up to five other persons. The ship served meals in large buckets, which always caused a frantic rush for food.

After the steamship passed by the Statue of Liberty and arrived in the New York harbor, the third class passengers were always the last to leave the ship. They were ferried to Ellis Island on open barges. Depending on the weather, this part of the trip caused the greatest misery. Stuck on the barges for hours, many died from exposure.

When they finally landed on Ellis Island, they were led to into a large hall with rows of iron railings. People waited in long lines funneling through these railings. A multitude of inspectors examined the immigrants, looking for paupers, prostitutes, polygamists or persons suffering from contagious diseases. Each immigrant was checked by Public Health doctors for 60 symptoms, from anemia to varicose veins. Anyone suspected of being sick, immoral or poor was pulled from the line and eventually deported back to their country of origin, at the expense of the steamship line on which they arrived.

Permitted to enter the country, immigrants found their way to Bethlehem by an assortment of ways. Bethlehem Steel agents were stationed outside of the Ellis Island Registration Building to offer jobs to healthy young men. Many immigrants already had family or friends in Bethlehem. Once a new immigrant arrived in Bethlehem and was fortunate enough to secure a job and a room, life was still difficult. There was a pecking order for the better jobs at Bethlehem Steel. Native-born Americans were promoted first, and immigrants from England, Ireland and Germany were selected next. Blacks and Jews were excluded from most of the jobs at Bethlehem Steel.

The unskilled male laborers were given jobs that required working 80 hours, seven days a week. The women also worked long hours by raising the children, taking in laundry, or working in silk mills or cigar factories. The newest group of immigrants usually settled in the most eastern section of South Bethlehem. They needed to live within walking distance to work.

Each ethnic group scrimped and saved to establish their church. Through their churches the immigrants were able to enjoy the rituals and customs from their home countries. The beneficial societies formed at the churches provided a safety cushion during times of illness.

Our immigrant forebears endured a tough, arduous journey that is too easily forgotten by their fully assimilated offspring.

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Immigrant inspection at Ellis Island. Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.



BEIJING BLOGGER

Tea time in Hangzhou

PRESS PHOTOS BY BRANDON TAYLOR

A villager picks tea leaves in a field outside Meijiawu. While most tea leaf picking is done in the spring before summer rains douse the tea plants, locals still take to the hills and valleys in the western hills of Hangzhou to pick leaves for the many tea houses and restaurants in the villages nearby.

**Brandon Taylor**
Press columnist

There's a saying in China: "Above is heaven, below is Hangzhou." Having visited this city in east central China, I can vouch for this ancient Chinese adage, one that suggests the magnificence of heaven has somehow trickled down to earth. But I would suggest a slight amendment to the assessment: Above is heaven, below is Hangzhou ... and people, and people, and people.

The lakes, hills and pagodas make Hangzhou China's most visited tourist destination - around 20 million foreign and domestic tourists visit each year. Going there during China's National Day holiday in early October didn't help with the crowds.

The walkways around Hangzhou's West Lake bustled with camera-toting tourists, myself included, eager to photograph every inch of the area around the lake. Elbow to elbow, we shuffled along the lake's perimeter making our way to Leifeng Pagoda, a large tower overlooking the waters. Then it began to rain, a light drizzle that quickly turned into larger, steady droplets. The crowd trudged on.

From the pagoda's top tier, I got a decent look out over the fog-covered lake. Boats leisurely glided across the waters. Smaller, gondola-like vessels rocked back and forth in the wake of larger sightseeing boats. And all around the lake was the constantly moving crowd. In the distance were gentle rolling hills and taller mountains, their peaks hidden by mist.

Aside from its lakes, Hangzhou is known for tea, some of the best and most expensive tea in China. The hills and valleys to the west of Hangzhou were littered with villages and tea plantations - so that was where I wanted to be.

The invasion of tourists for the holiday made it impossible to flag down a cab to the villages. Buses were too crowded; biking was too dangerous. So I walked. My hostel concierge said it would take me two hours to hike to Longjing, the closest and most renowned village. It ended up taking five and a half.

The road to Longjing, which means dragon well, was long, snaking up hills, down into valleys and then back up other peaks, much like the curvature of a dragons body. After leaving the main road and trekking up a dirt trail, I finally reached the village just as the rain picked up again.

Approaching Longjing, my head concealed by the hood of my jacket and my umbrella, many of the villagers paid me no attention as I walked into town. When they realized I was a foreigner, the calling began.

With each little tea house I passed, an equally little Chinese woman would pop out and run my way. "You, drink green tea?" every



Boats zip across the water in front of Leifeng Pagoda. The pagoda provides a panoramic view of Hangzhou's West Lake - when it's not raining or a heavy overcast limits visibility to a few hundred meters.

one of these women asked. Although meant as a question, it sounded more like a command.

Since coming to China, I've been told to drink green tea. If I have a head cold, drink green tea. If my stomach aches, drink green tea. If my leg hurts, drink green tea. My feet were cold and wet from walking in the rain all day, so even without the badgering or insistence of the locals, I wanted to drink some green tea.

Before I could answer "Yes, I will drink green tea," an elderly arm latched around mine, dragging me in the direction of a few large umbrella-covered tables.

I started at the top of one of Longjing's side streets, near the former royal tea gardens of China's emperors. China's last dynasty crumbled 100 years ago, but even today, locals still labor away picking tea leaves by hands. I tried to stay away from the crowded tea houses where other tourists sat talking loudly, opting, instead, to enjoy my tea at smaller, mom-and-pop-like places.

At each house, I had the same tea, Longjing tea, one of the most popular and pricey varieties in China. The more expensive cups were brewed with water from the dragon well and at 80 yuan (\$12) a pop, so I expect-

ed nothing short of a magical tea-tasting experience. The teas didn't disappoint. Each tasted just a little different from the last; some stronger than others but all refreshing and providing a boost of energy from my long trek to the village.

The last tea house I stopped in was my favorite. It was a simple house: a two storey, white-walled structure with one door and no windows. A sign with the character for tea (cha) hung above the doorway, and there was one table and one chair - an appropriate setup for me, the lone traveler - out front. A few chickens clucked about.

Walking toward the house, a small woman saw me and ran out to usher me the rest of the distance - about 10 feet - to the chair. She ran inside, brought out a cup, threw in some tea leaves, repeating the words "longjing cha" several times and then added hot water. After each sip, she would quickly refill my cup. With the free refills by the time I had finished, I'd consumed about four cups of tea for the price of one.

Now full of tea, and in need of a bathroom, I decided to wrap up tea time. I thanked the woman, bought a small box of tea handpicked by her family and made my way back up the hill and out of the village to the nearest bus station.

The next day I ventured even further into the hills to the tea fields of Meijiawu. And much like in Longjing, the calls to "Drink green tea" were prevalent. It was time for tea, again, and I spent the rest of the afternoon sipping tea, exploring the quiet village and enjoying short walks through the peaceful, tourist-free hills.

Brandon Taylor is a language consultant/foreign expert for the Beijing Review, an English language weekly news-magazine in Beijing, China. A former intern at the Bethlehem Press, Brandon is the son of Press editor George Taylor and wife, Mary Ruth. Read Brandon's blog at <http://www.btay200.blogspot.com/>. He can be reached at btay200@gmail.com.

Weber leads borough councilBy MARK RECCEK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Hellertown Borough Council kicked off the 2012 year by approving a resolution appointing individuals to serve the borough for the upcoming year at its Jan. 3 council meeting.

Individuals appointed include Cathy Kichline to serve as borough manager and secretary, Robert Shupp as chief of police, Joseph Chemaskey as the zoning code enforcement officer and fire code official, Christopher Scherer as the emergency director, Rick Delmore as fire chief and fire suppression and

prevention officer, Corriere & Andres, LLC as the borough solicitor, and Barry Isett & Assoc. to serve the borough as its engineer.

Also during the meeting, council approved Resolution 12-02 establishing a schedule of fees and charges for services, permits, equipment, materials and park and recreation use for 2012.

Such fees approved include a \$15 fee for a tax certification, a daily \$4 charge for youth to use the Hellertown pool and a \$5 fee for adults. Resident youths will pay \$40 for a season pass and non-resident youths

will be charged \$65 while resident adults will pay \$60 and non-resident adults \$100 for the season. Approved fees for use of the Dimmick Park Pavilion are \$50 for the rental fee and a \$75 fee for the use of gas and electric as well.

Also during the meeting, Joe Pampanin was sworn in to serve a four-year term on council. Pampanin replaced Stephanie Kovacs, who did not seek re-election to council. Pampanin will serve on the borough's zoning hearing board.

Council also reappointed Philip Weber to serve as president of council and John Bate

to serve as vice president.

The 2012 council meeting schedule was also approved during the meeting. Council meetings will be held the first and third Monday of each month at the borough municipal building at 7 p.m. The Jan. 17 and Feb. 21 council meetings will be held on a Tuesday to avoid conflicts with holidays.

During the meeting, council also approved a pay increase of \$22.06 per hour for the borough truck driver Michael Schneider.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. in the borough municipal building.

HELLERTOWN

Jeena Rantuccio

Liberty HS

Grade: 12

Family members: My mom, Janice, my dad, Joe, and my brother, Joey

Favorite subject: My favorite subject is math because I have always excelled at it and have always had incredible teachers.

Activities: I dance at Miss Tanya's Expression of Dance and I am in SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and the National Honor Society.

Next steps: I plan on going to college and majoring in logistics, and obtaining my MBA.

Career goals: I plan to work for a major corporation doing supply chain management.

Heroes: My hero is my grandfather, who recently passed away. He was very wise and thoughtful. He has always inspired me to succeed.

Hobbies: My hobbies are tutoring kids and helping others.

Current job(s): I am an assistant dance teacher at Miss Tanya's Expression of Dance.

Volunteer/community work: I have completed more than 135 hours of community service through various



schools and my church, Notre Dame of Bethlehem.

Likes: I like to listen to music, spend time with my friends, and most importantly, help others.

Dislikes: I dislike people who are rude to others and do not respect the world around them.

Greatest accomplishment (so far): I have been invited to the National Young Leaders State Conference and the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference.

Advice for peers: Stay focused and work hard in school so that you can achieve your goals.

Julie Swan coordinates student profiles for the Bethlehem Press.



PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

Scouts Keith Grega, Tyler Fitch, and Jared Brown from Boy Scout Troop 29 from Forks Township perform community service by representing the local farms that were unable to attend.

Broughal marks 'Food Day'

BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Broughal MS hosted a screening and discussion of the documentary "Cafeteria Man" recently. The documentary chronicles an ambitious effort to "green" a public school's diet. They replaced the pre-plated, processed foods with local-

ly grown, freshly prepared foods for 83,000 students in Baltimore.

Prior to the screening local farmers provided samples of the fresh foods available for this program. The screening was followed by an expert panel discussion with Richard Chisholm, co-director of

"Cafeteria Man," Edward Docalovich, Broughal principal, Robert Irving of Sodexo, a leading provider of integrated food and facilities management services, and Jeffrey Frank of Liberty Gardens, a local organic farm.

The Kellyn Foundation sponsored the program as

part of the inaugural national "Food Day" celebration. Partnering with the Kellyn Foundation are Broughal MS, the South-Side Film Institute, the South Side Initiative, Lehigh University, ArtsLehigh and the Health, Medicine and Society Program at Lehigh.

BECAHI NOTES

Students get recognition

As the winter begins, Bethlehem Catholic High School has finished 2011 with success.



Gabriella Ciaccio
Bethlehem Catholic HS

Many seniors have academic accomplishments for the first quarter of the school year. The following achieved Honor Roll status: George Atiyeh, Kelsey Bruzgo, Kelsey Corrado, Charles Daniels, Rudy Geosits, Kelsie Hess, Kelsey Karabas, Patrick Keanan, Haley Koprivsak, Parry Livengood, Stephen Long, Marjorie Matuczinski, Sarah Moussa, Kayla Peterson, Rachel Sansonetti, Alex Schuster, Jasmine Singh, Lauren Spence, Stephen Stoddard, Dan Trempe, Jaime Deisher, Chris Blaszk, Michelle Fartel, Liam Hickey, Kim Hoang, Matthew Lazicky, Adrian Llanos, Nigel Mease, Libby Ortiz, Danielle Trottier, Nick Acampora. Leah Anthony, Mary Pulanco, Jacob Criscuolo, Gabriella Diodoardo, Kevin Gallagher, Paige Gurski, Amelia Llanos, Michaela Love, Randi Mosco, Rana Plesko, Nathan Rosa, Andrew Russo, Hayley Skinner, Lydia Shields, Gabriella Suarez, Sara

Beaupre', Marta Boraganli, Lorenna Caplette, Gabriella Ciaccio, Matthew Hoenig, Emily Lushis, Santino Mininni, Joey Shmidt, Caitlyn Schuster, Paul Thorley, Marc Blanchard, Bernie Brown, Maria Geonnotti, Cara Hackett, Michael Capobianco, Mary Kate Henry, Emily Ripper, Leslie Tintle, Gian Turco, Lizzie Zurek, Taylor Brady, Abby Caracio, Richard Cuddy, Stephen Dinh, Carlos Rojas, Lindsay Schodowski, Nick Stibrany, Elizabeth Waldt, Mary Hunsberger, Ashley McCauley, Erika Toth, Grady Barth, Abby Haas, Sophia Sewell, Haley Burke, Kevin Chomicki, Anna Domyan, Thomas Hart, Jacob Watson and Kevin Wood. Congratulations seniors!

Bechai's journalism class has been working extremely hard to publish a professional, factual newspaper for the school community. Its most recent issue included information about School Choice, the new Roman missal, college application deadlines, ice cream and Polish water ice reviews and the NBA lockout. Special thanks to students Cali Baskin, Sara Beaupre', Emily Bender, Zach Blasko, Erin Brill, Haley Burke, Alecia Caballero, Michael Chajnacki, Gabriella Ciaccio, Amelia Colon, Joe Currier, Angelo Degaetano, Courteny Dupont,

See BECAHI on Page A12

FREEDOM HS NOTES

Student section supports b-ball team

With the holiday season behind us and final exams approaching, many Freedom students are slowly returning to the reality that is



Tyler Alicea
Freedom HS

homework, studying and high school cafeteria food. Final exams will take place today, Jan. 11, and tomorrow with a makeup day on Friday. Many seniors are upset that they will be required to take exams after the school board voted last summer to remove the senior exemption privilege. In previous years, seniors could become exempt from taking exams if they received straight A's in a class.

However, amidst all of the studying and preparing for finals, many students are not letting exams get in the way of representing Freedom and having a good time.

The Freedom HS student section, also known as the "Riot Squad" during basketball season or the "Freedom Family," has been proving that Freedom fans might just be the best type of sports fans.

The "Riot Squad" has been following the boys' basketball team furiously no matter where the location of the game has been. The boys currently represent Freedom with an undefeated record of 8-0 after they defeated Liberty High School 47-38 last week. Senior Joe Lococo helped give the Patriots their win against their across-town rivals after scoring 15 points.

Not everything at Freedom is revolving around athletics, though. Senior Eddie Millisits was accepted into the PMEA District Orchestra and sophomore Priyanka Koti was accepted into the PMEA District Band. They will represent Freedom Feb. 9-11 and Jan. 12-14 at the PMEA district festivals, respectively.

Although Freedom has See FHS on Page A12



Lehigh University students Nick White, right, of Allentown, and Matt Moschella, of Commack, N.Y., look over the Kellyn Foundation display.



Ann Marshall, right, with the Wellness Committee in the Palisades School District talks with Lynn Prior and other representative of the Easton Farmers Market.



Denise Filo of Bechdolts Orchards in Hellertown pours applesauce samples.

BAVTS NOTES

Students make districts

SkillsUSA students collected \$512.53 for the Homes For Our Troops in honor of Robert Kislow, a BAVTS alumni and recent recipient of a home in Moore Township. He was a guest at the 15th annual Veterans Day Ceremony, where eighth grader Nichol Bifulco of East Hills MS sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and the Liberty HS's Pipes & Drums played to honor staff members who served.

National Technical Honor Society and Skills USA spread some holiday cheer with New Bethany Ministries recently. Students from cosmetology provided mini-facials and manicures, crafts were provided by the carpentry program, hand sanitation checks were provided by the health careers class and baked goods and cupcake decorating were provided by the commercial

See BAVTS on Page A12



Brady Vaclavik, of Bethlehem, tastes the Cheddar Crumbles from Flint Hill Farm in Coopersburg.



Kate Salava, a Lehigh University student from Princeton, N.J., attended the event as part of her "Food Culture and Politics of the Plate" class.

- OPEN HOUSE -

Thursday, January 19
9:00 a.m.

Please accept our invitation to see for yourself how a preschool through 8th grade education at The Swain School can benefit your child. Take a tour ... meet our teachers ... and observe our classes. See for yourself how small classes and big opportunities lead to amazing results!

If you can't attend this Open House, call for a personal tour.

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YOUR LOCAL WEATHER

7 Day Forecast	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	Scat'd Rain 47 / 36 5-8 mph S	Scat'd Rain 48 / 28 7-11 mph S	Snow Possible 36 / 20 10-15 mph SW	Partly Cloudy 34 / 17 9-13 mph SW	Partly Cloudy 30 / 15 5-10 mph W	Mostly Sunny 35 / 18 3-7 mph SW	Partly Cloudy 37 / 25 8-11 mph W

FORECAST FOR LEHIGH VALLEY PENNSYLVANIA

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a 40% chance of rain, high temperature of 47°, humidity of 76%. The record high temperature for today is 66° set in 1950. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 90% chance of rain, overnight low of 36°. The record low for tonight is -4° set in 1981. Thursday, skies will be cloudy with a 40% chance of rain, high temperature of 48°, humidity of 76%. Skies will be cloudy Thursday night with a 30% chance of rain and snow, overnight low of 28°. Expect mostly cloudy skies Friday with a 30% chance of snow, high temperature of 36°. Skies will become partly cloudy Saturday with a high temperature of 34°. Partly cloudy skies will continue Sunday with a high temperature of 30°.

Weather Trivia

Do tornadoes occur in January?

Answer: Yes, the average year sees 47 tornadoes in its first month.



COME ON BY ...



PRESS PHOTO BY JENNIFER LADER

Let's Talk Turkey co-owner Janet Tomeo and chef Jay Sporer offer succulent deep fried turkey with all the fixings, made from scratch at their location on Stefko Boulevard just south of Easton Avenue.

Let's Talk Turkey

By Janet Tomeo, co-owner as told to Jennifer Lader

This business is a new beginning for me. Sal Russo is my business partner, and he started with a backyard pot and propane for deep-frying turkey. He would bring it to me, saying, 'It's delicious, you have to try it.' Eventually he said, 'This is a good business idea; I don't see anyone else doing this.'

At that time, I was still a Special Education teacher, which helped build my people skills in the way I communicated with students, peers and parents. On the first day of school each year, I would ask myself, 'What's going to capture their attention?' You only get one chance to make a first impression, and sometimes you only get one chance to present your product. You want them to come back.

That job had a lot of paperwork that I would bring home at night or on the weekends; it doesn't leave you a lot of time for

the rest of your life. Then, too, there are so many good, young people and they have this energy. I thought, 'Why not move on and allow them to get their start?'

So Sal and I drove around looking for business locations. We each live an hour and a half or more away, but we saw Bethlehem as a place that is developing; people are coming here.

Sal's son-in-law Jay Sporer is our chef. He lives in Bethlehem and trained at Johnson and Wales. Although it takes only a short time to make each order, this isn't fast food. He makes everything from scratch—the gravy, the dressing, even the cranberry sauce. We get more dinnertime business because of this.

Jay says all the food is prepared 'a la minute,' which means fresh. When he deep-fries the turkey, he does so at the proper temperature so it sears the turkey and keeps all the juices inside. It's really delicious.

Seventy percent of our business is carry-out. People order for

the office party, for the workplace, or for family get-togethers.

Even though there are a lot of drive-through places around us on Stefko Boulevard, we are doing something totally different from what they're doing. We've been welcomed here, with management from nearby places coming in and saying, 'You enhance the area.'

People are grateful for comfort food.

Let's Talk Turkey

Sal Russo and Janet Tomeo, co-owners
2140 Stefko Blvd.
Bethlehem, PA 18017
610-419-6933
Call ahead for pick-up
610-419-6938
Hours: Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Closed Sundays

BECAHI

Continued from page A11

Cara Hackett, Jon Klardie, Paul Kropf, Danielle Marino, Marissa Marrison, Caitlin Moroney, Ryan Peppe, Nicholas Stibrany, Gabriella Suarez, Natasha Tax, Willie Tighe, Megan Toolan, Stephen Toth, Lauren Visconti and Jessica Weiss for creating "The Hawk."

Becahi had an outstanding fall sports season. On Dec.

23, Becahi had its annual fall sports assembly, and every coach raved about his team and the dedication his players exemplified. Sophomore John Donchez and junior Jenny Schadt were given MVP awards for the cross country team; senior Gian Turco was given the MVP award for the golf team; junior Lauren Visconti was given the MVP award for the field hockey team; and senior Anna Domyan was given the MVP

award for the volleyball team. Seniors Chris Blaszk and Marc Meny were given MVP awards for the soccer team; senior Paige Gurski was given the MVP award for the tennis team; and seniors Connor Casey, Bernie Brown, Marc Blanchard and Tom McLoughlin were recognized for their leadership in the football team. Academic athlete awards were given to Jamie Deisher, Todd Yildiran, Paige Gurski and Bernie Brown.

FHS

Continued from page A11

been calm since they defeated the Liberty football team in November, many events are being planned for the upcoming months. Other upcoming activities that will take place at Freedom include the carnation sale and a possible winter dance.

In February, the senior

class will be selling carnations that will be distributed on Valentine's Day.

The Friends of Rachel club is also in the process of planning a winter dance. If the event goes through, this would be the first winter dance Freedom has held in a few years.

Finally, the Freedom student council is planning the fourth pep rally of the school year and a second spirit week for the next Freedom vs. Liber-

ty basketball game in early February.

School will be closed on next Monday, Jan. 16 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and on Feb. 17 and 20 in observance of Presidents' Day weekend.

For more news and information about the happenings at Freedom, go to The Freedom Forum's website at www.fhsforum.com.

BAVTS

Continued from page A11

baking program. Students collected monies and purchased gifts for children one month to age six. Santa Claus delivered the gifts to the children and their families.

SkillsUSA started hosting their local competitions in preparation for district competition Feb. 1, which will be held at Agricultural Hall and the Best Western Hotel.

Local cabinetmaking winners were Randy Miller, Saucon Valley, first; Alex Bialbrzeski, Freedom, second; and Brendan Buttillo, Freedom, third.

Local cosmetology winners were Kelvin Lopez, Freedom, first; Yasmeen Gandia, Liberty, second; and Ariel Babb, Saucon Valley, third.

Local esthetics winners were Tiffany Reyes and Nicole Ortiz, Liberty, first; Jade Lyman, Freedom, and Madeline Noriega, Liberty,

second; and Crystal Moyer, Liberty, and Danielle Merkle, Northampton, third.

Local job skill demonstration winners were Amanda Ingram, Northampton, first; Ann Demyan, Liberty, second; Taylor Andrukaitis, Northampton, third.

Local Welding winners were Joseph Fronti, III, Northampton, first; Albert Arthofer, Northampton, second; and Jason Moran, Saucon Valley, third.

BRIEFLY

HBP SteelStacks tour package offered

Historic Bethlehem Partnership is partnering with ArtsQuest to present a winter combo package.

The movie, "Bethlehem - The Christmas City," and a personal in-depth steelworker's talk by a Historic Bethlehem Partnership guide, will

be held on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 12:15 p.m. at the SteelStacks Center, Founder's Way. The presentation will give guests a glimpse into the day-to-day life of a steel worker and of daily Bethlehem Steel operations.

For more information, call 1-800-360-TOUR or visit www.HistoricBethlehem.org or www.ArtsQuest.org.

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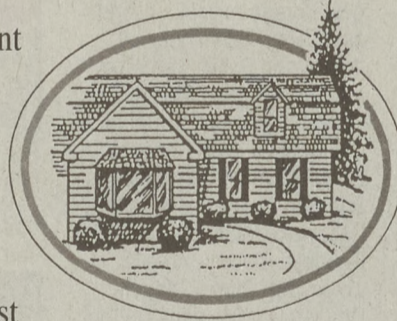
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"Do Angels Wear Overalls?"

Assemblies of God Missionary, William Bradney, was returning from a youth camp, years ago, in Costa Rica with his family and a Bible School student named Fonseca. Mrs. Bradney relates the story: "As we drove along, our car began to make strange noises. Bill pulled over to the curb just before the car jerked to a stop. He tinkered with the engine, but could not determine the trouble. We were stranded far from help—no house in sight. Only one garage in San Jose (many miles ahead) had the special tools to repair our English car.

When Fonseca saw our despondent faces he asked if we could pray. As he was concluding his prayer with 'Amen Thank you, Jesus,' an oncoming car slowed and stopped. Two men, dressed in mechanic's overalls, jumped out and came toward us. In the large pockets of their overalls they carried the necessary foreign tools that could fix our car. They worked silently and in a few minutes fixed the engine. We offered payment, but they wouldn't accept. They made a U-turn, and returned in the direction they had come.

We sat stunned. Questions raced through our minds. Who told them we had motor trouble? Who gave them the exact tools for our English car? Why did they wear overalls, which are not customary clothing in Costa Rica? Why did they return in the same direction from which they had come? We do not know! We do know they came in response to the prayer of Fonseca. Do angels wear overalls?"

In speaking of angels, the Bible says, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14). This is one of the benefits of serving the Lord as Psalm 91:11 promises, "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." Thank God for His help and protection even in those times when we were unaware of it!



415 Buchanan Street, Bethlehem