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 See page A9

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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER FOR THE BETHLEHEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

DECEMBER 28, 2011

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BASD

Patrick will fill vacant position

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Bethlehem Area School District (BASD) school board appointed Shannon Patrick to the school board, filling a position that Michele Cann declined to accept after winning two seats on the board.

Patrick, 35, was selected 5-3 on the second round of balloting, beating out David Sanders and David Weikert. Patrick is a local businesswoman, the owner of Puppy Palace Doggy Day Care.

David Weikert was eliminated, receiving only one vote in the first round. Sanders was defeated in the second round. He was supported by Aurea Ortiz and new members Basilio Bonilla and Sudantha Vidanage.

Patrick immediately took an oath of office and took a seat with other members at the Education Building on Sycamore Street.

The appointment was overshadowed by dark insinuations from former school board member Judith A. Dexter, who warned the school board that she suspected that

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BETHLEHEM PRESS

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Cyclists ride up Main Street to raise community awareness, promoting and improving bicycle safety.

PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

More than 300 cyclists participated in the Patrick Ytsma Ride of Respect Dec. 22. The cyclists observed a moment of silence as they rode past the spot where Ytsma was hit by a car while riding his bike across the Fahy Bridge Dec. 4. He died four days later. The ride ended at Payrow Plaza, where several people spoke about Ytsma's contributions to bicycle advocacy. The event was coordinated by the Bethlehem Police Department, the Lehigh Wheelmen Association and the Valley Mountain Bikers and the Coalition for Appropriate Transportation. Bethlehem Police officers on their city bicycles accompanied the evening ride through the Christmas City.



Cyclists cross the Fahy Bridge.



People at Payrow Plaza watch the cyclists ride across the Fahy Bridge.



Cyclists gather at Payrow Plaza to listen to speakers.



Cyclists return on the Fahy Bridge.

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PEOPLE SAY

BY DANA GRUBB

Why do you wait until the last minute to do Christmas shopping?



"It seems more like Christmas to me when I do it at the last minute."
Monica Rudis
Bethlehem



"We didn't wait. It's been continuous."
Dave Biemuller
Santa Monica, Calif.



"Sometimes it's best to do last minute Christmas shopping because you get the last minute deals."
Brandi Cherry
Allentown



"I guess I just wait for a reason to walk downtown. I just picked up a Moravian Star last minute to finish up."
Jessica Baker
Bethlehem



"It's fun!"
Pat Saeger
Walterboro, S.C.



"I'm doing my stocking stuffer shopping right now. I like to go out and find some fun things for my children and my husband. It's no rush and I enjoy the music and downtown."
Tina McIlhane
Bethlehem

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PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

With Bethlehem firefighter John Palmer at the controls of the ladder bucket, Rabbi Yaacov Halperin is joined by Mayor John Callahan in lighting the menorah.

Marking Hanukkah

For the second year, a relatively new Bethlehem holiday tradition, the lighting of the Chanukah 'festival of lights' menorah on Payrow Plaza took place in the early evening of Dec. 21. A small group of about 30 people watched as Rabbi Yaacov Halperin of Chabad Lubavitch, Rabbi Zalman Greenberg of Chabad Lehigh University and Mayor John Callahan conducted the lighting of the menorah and led the assembly in



Rabbi Zalman Greenberg, co-director of Chabad at Lehigh University, attended with his family including his son Menny, who enjoyed a traditional doughnut after the lighting ceremony.

us that shines brightly," Rabbi Halperin intoned "let us be inspired to add more acts of goodness to our lives" prior to the lighting. Afterward those in attendance enjoyed the taste of traditional potato latkes, doughnuts and apple juice to the sound of celebratory music. Chanukah, or Hanukkah, is an eight-day Jewish holiday that celebrates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

singing traditional Jewish Chanukah songs. Saying that "everyone has a divine soul within

Remembering Patrick Ytsma

A temporary memorial has been placed at the north end of the Fahy Street Bridge to Patrick Ytsma, who was struck by a motorist while riding his bike across the Bethlehem bridge on Dec. 4. The 53-year-old cyclist, who was known for bike safety awareness, died four days later in the hospital from injuries incurred in the tragic accident. The memorial consists of an all-white bicycle donated, painted and placed by several friends of Ytsma in his memory. Passing motorists and pedestrians crossing

the bridge which links North and South Bethlehem are attracted to the unusual sight. **RIGHT:** One such passerby is Eileen O'Donnell, who was traversing the bridge on foot after the memorial was set up and came over for a close-up view. O'Donnell said she is an avid cyclist who knew Ytsma and was shocked by his tragic death. She explained that she used to ride her bike regularly to cross the Fahy Street Bridge on business. Looking at the memorial bike sadly, the Beth-



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

lehem resident said, "I haven't used my bike since he was killed." She added that she was aware of Ytsma's advocacy for bike safety for cyclists and "followed his rules," which

include wearing a helmet, stopping at traffic signals and using hand signals for turns. As the cyclist spoke, a sporty black auto exited the bridge behind her in a speedy fashion.

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Wednesday, December 28

Bethlehem Parking Authority, 4:30 p.m. 85 W. North St.
Bethlehem Township Zoning Hearing, 6:30 p.m. 4225 Easton Ave.

Friday, December 30

Community Giving Day, 10 a.m. to noon. Arts and craft, puppetry, Dave Fry. Ice House, 56 River St. R.S.V.P. not required; but space is limited.

Monday, January 2

Bethlehem Township Commissioners, 7 p.m., Municipal Building, 4225 Easton Ave.
Fountain Hill Council, 7 p.m., 941 Long St.
Freemansburg Council, 7 p.m., 600 Monroe St.
Hellertown Council, 7 p.m., 685 Main St.

Tuesday, January 3

Bethlehem City Council, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 10 E. Church St.
Freemansburg Planning Commission, 7 p.m., 600 Monroe St.

Wednesday, January 4

Historic Architectural Review Board, 4 p.m., Town Hall, 10 E. Church St.

Thursday, January 5

Delaware Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, 7:30 p.m., Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech School, 3300 Chester Ave. Visit www.dlarc.org or KE3AW@ARRL.NET, or 610-432-8286.

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

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Daily

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.
Historic Bethlehem Visitors Center and Goundie House exhibit, Kill or Cure, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Bethlehem: The Christmas City film. Various times. Frank Banko Alehouse Cinemas, ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way. Call 610-332-1300.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday-daily

Central Moravian Church Christmas Community Putz and Star and Candle Shoppe, 73 W. Church St., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 610-866-5661.
Lehigh & Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum Inc. featuring Thomas the Tank Engine, 5 to 9 p.m. 705 Linden St. Call 623-810-5730 or visit www.lkvmrr.com.
Bethlehem bus tour with costumed guide; 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Christmas City Stroll walking tour with costumed guide, 3, 4 and (lantern led) 6 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Thursday and Friday- daily

Central Moravian Church Christmas Community Putz, 73 W. Church St., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 610-866-5661.
Historic Bethlehem's Smithy (historic blacksmith), 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 425 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Moravian Museum of Bethlehem exhibit and period decorations, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 66 W. Church St. Call 610-691-6055.
Kemmerer Museum of Bethlehem exhibit, Elizabeth Johnston Prime dollhouse collection and Victorian Christmas decorations, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 427 N. New St. Call 610-691-6055.
Christmas City Stroll walking tour with costumed guide, 3, 4 and (lantern led) 6 p.m. Visitor Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Historic Bethlehem 15 minute horse-drawn carriage rides, 4 to 10 p.m. Call 610-691-6055.
Lehigh & Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum Inc. featuring Thomas the Tank Engine, 5 to 9 p.m. 705 Linden St. Call 623-810-5730 or visit www.lkvmrr.com.
Bethlehem bus tour with costumed guide; 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Wednesday, December 28

Historic Bethlehem 15 minute horse-drawn carriage rides, 4 to 10 p.m. Call 610-691-6055.

Thursday, December 29

Peeps Fest, noon to 5 p.m. Christkindmarkt. Call 610-332-1300.

Friday, December 30

Peeps Fest, noon to 5 p.m. Christkindmarkt, SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way. Call 610-332-1300.

See HOLIDAY on Page A4



PRESS PHOTO BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI

The Lehigh County Community Correctional Center, on Riverside Drive in Salisbury Township, showcased renovations Dec. 12.

Lehigh Co. expands hidden jail

By NATE JASTRZEMSKI
njastrzemski@tntonline.com

Lehigh County Executive Don Cunningham at a press conference Dec. 12 announced the official reopening, with new features, of the Lehigh County Community Corrections Center. The facility – never actually called a prison – hidden a mile down Riverside Drive, has undergone a \$6.5 million expansion and renovation that included important upgrades and an

increased resident population. The facility is now fit for 400, Cunningham said. The center is designed for low-risk local offenders, Cunningham explained, which offers its combined male/female population a cost-effective support structure that helps prepare them for release back into society. County Director of Corrections Ed Sweeney described the barracks-style living areas as part of the overall scheme that

helps keep costs as low as \$20 per day per offender – which is only one-third the cost of the main county prison. Prisoners participate in mental health, religious and transition groups, as well as treatment and GED programs. They also have opportunities to assist the community in daily work-release programs geared toward community service and rehabilitation, Sweeney said. Cunningham said in a prepared statement it is

economical for taxpayers to house low-level offenders – such as DUI's – in unsecure rehabilitative settings and retain secure prison beds for violent offenders. County Commissioner Dean Browning said the job of commissioners is to serve as a check on spending, but with this project – which may finish \$200,000 below estimated cost – “I had very little to say ‘no’ to. This is the county’s responsibility.”

BASD

Continued from page A1
appointing David Sanders to the board would allow Mayor John Callahan have some degree of control of the school board. “There’s an elephant in the room,” said Dexter as she addressed the school board Dec. 19. It wasn’t apparent where the elephant was or what its name was, but Dexter quickly spelled out her conspiracy theory that placed Callahan at the center.

She was there to influence the board’s pending appointment of a ninth member to the board by asking the board to question candidate David Sanders’ ties to the mayor because Callahan had supported Sanders’ bid for city council five years ago.

She also reminded the school directors that Callahan had supported the successful election to the school board of Bonilla and of Vidanage.

Sanders, a Democrat who ran for city council several years ago, serves on the Bethlehem Housing Authority and owns a business and several properties in Bethlehem. He said he considers the mayor a friend who has supported his bid for city council, but that in no way does he take direction from Callahan.

Callahan, in a later interview, said he had supported Sanders’ campaign for city council. He said Sanders’ work on the Bethlehem Housing



PRESS PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

Shannon Patrick is sworn in as the newly appointed member of the Bethlehem Area School Board. Patrick was selected 5-3 on the second round of balloting beating out applicants David Sanders and David Weikert.

Authority was proof of Sander’s commitment to the city.

Callahan said he had publically stood beside and supported Vidanage and Bonilla during their campaigns for school board because he thought they would be good school directors.

The mayor said he has a perfectly legitimate right to be active in school board politics. “I am a product of the Bethlehem

Area School Board, K through 12,” Callahan said. “I have three children who attend the school system and are affected by the school board’s decisions. As the mayor, I also understand the importance of the school board.”

In an interview, Dexter expressed her concern that the mayor’s support for a proposed tax incremental finance plan for the Martin Tower on

Eighth Street motivated his support for Bonilla and Vidanage. She was opposed to the TIF when she was on the school board.

The Martin Tower TIF would, according to Callahan, bring \$17 to \$22 million into the school district over the next 20 years. He said the district loses \$230,000 annually that it could be earning by supporting the TIF for Martin Tower.

Dexter took a swipe at Bethlehem City Councilman William Reynolds, who attended the school board meeting as an observer, calling him the “mayor’s alter ego.”

Both Reynolds and Sanders responded to Dexter’s comments when they, in turn, addressed the school board.

“It’s the first time I have been accused of having a big bank account,” Sanders said.

“I was appalled,” said David Sanders in a later interview, referring to Dexter’s comments. “The mayor doesn’t control me.”

Reynolds told the board that Dexter’s comments were “unfair, wrong and offensive.” After the meeting, he confronted Dexter, and they had a heated exchange.

Asked in an interview why she called Reynolds the “mayor’s alter ego,” she claimed it was “commonly said.” She declined to name anyone who had said it or to cite any publication where she had read it.

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Continued from page A3

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Saturday, December 31

Moravian Museum of Bethlehem exhibit and period decorations, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 66 W. Church St. Call 610-691-6055.

Historic Bethlehem's Smithy (historic blacksmith), 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 425 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Kemmerer Museum of Bethlehem exhibit, Elizabeth Johnston Prime dollhouse collection and Victorian Christmas decorations, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 427 N. New St. Call 610-691-6055.

Central Moravian Church Christmas Community Putz, 73 W. Church St., 1 to 10:30 p.m. Call 610-866-5661.

Lehigh & Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum Inc. featuring Thomas the Tank Engine, 1 to 5 p.m. 705 Linden St. Call 623-810-5730 or visit www.lkvmrr.com.

Peep's Fest Peep drop countdown and fireworks, 5:45 p.m. Christkindmarkt, SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way. Call 610-332-1300.

New Year's Eve Vigil, 11:30 p.m. with the Rev. Carol Reifinger. Central Moravian Church, 73 W. Church St. Call 610-866-5661.

Sunday, January 1 and Monday, January 2

Lehigh & Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum Inc. featuring Thomas the Tank Engine, 1 to 6 p.m. 705 Linden St. Call 623-810-5730 or visit www.lkvmrr.com.

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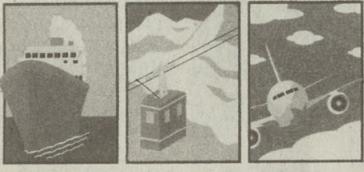
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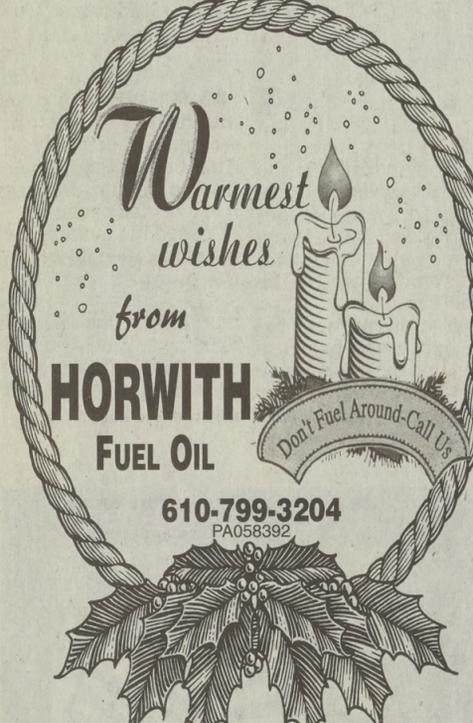
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Kalman D. Kollar Jr.

U.S. Navy retiree

Kalman D. Kollar Jr., 69, of Macungie and formerly of Bethlehem, died Dec. 17, 2011, at his residence.

Born in Allentown, he was the son of the late Kalman and Anna (Moyer) Kollar. He was the husband of the late Jean D. (Longenbach) Kollar.

He was U.S. Navy retiree who served as a radioman during the Vietnam era.



Charles Andrew Comito

of New Jersey

Charles Andrew Comito, 50, of New Jersey, died unexpectedly on Dec. 16, 2011. Born in New Brunswick, N.J., he was a son of Philip and Kathleen Comito of Bethlehem Township.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by two sisters, Jane and her husband Dennis Healey of Bethlehem Township and Ellen and her husband Tommaso Serra of New Bern, N.C.; a brother,

Joseph and his wife Rachel Comito of San Diego, Calif.; 11 nieces and nephews; aunts; uncles and cousins. He was predeceased by two brothers, Thomas Philip and Jeffrey Vincent Comito.

Contributions may be made to St. Francis Retreat House, 3918 Chipman Road, Easton, PA 18045.

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

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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Contributions may be made to St. Francis Retreat House, 3918 Chipman Road, Easton, PA 18045.

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

James Eugene Borso

turn foreman

James Eugene Borso, 90, of Webster, N.Y. and formerly of Bethlehem, died Dec. 16, 2011, at St. Anne's Community, Rochester, N.Y. Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Geza and Julia (Kuti) Borso. He was the husband of Mary E. (Lang) Borso for 67 years.

He was in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1942 to 1945. He served 24 months in the central Pacific.

He was employed by Bethlehem Steel Company as a turn foreman on the 40 #1 Standard Mills, retiring in October 1981 with 41 years of service.

He was a member of the former St. John's Capistrano Catholic Church, where he was a church choir member.

He was a vice president and a treasurer of St. John's Capistrano Sick and Benefit Society. He was a charter member of Silver Creek Country Club. He was a member of St. Bernard's Society, First Windish Fraternal Society and William Penn Fraternal Society. He was president of Beethoven Maennerchor and Beethoven Waldhem and was an honorary member of

the chorus for 46 years.

He was a member of the Boys and Girls Club of Bethlehem since 1931. He was a Troop 44 scoutmaster at St. John's and an assistant scoutmaster of Troop 41. He was a member and president of the Boys Club fraternity, Boys and Girls Club of Bethlehem fraternal alumni association. Active with the Banquet of Champions for 50 years, he was chairman of the 19th and 38th banquet. He was a member of the Boys Club Hall of Fame.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Judith Paul of Webster, N.Y.; three grandchildren, David and Kristin Borso and Michael and his wife Jennifer Paul; a great-grandchild, Marisa Borso; a sister, Katherine Matthews of Fullerton, Calif.; nieces; and nephews.

He was predeceased by a son, James M. Borso; five brothers, Geza, Stephen, Joseph, George and John; and two sisters, Helen and Elsie.

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

Charles F. Konkolics

Jamesway manager

Charles F. Konkolics, 85, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 11, 2011, at his home. He was a son of the late Stephen F. and Mary (Horvath) Konkolics. He was the husband of Annabelle (Poe) Konkolics for 52 years. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He was a graduate of Moravian College and earned a master's degree from New York University. He had a 40-year career in retailing, having retired as a manager of Jamesway, where he worked for 20 years. He owned several small businesses.

He was a parishioner of St. Anne's Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club in Tamaqua and the Knights of Columbus, Trinity Council 313.

Contributions may be made to the VNA Hospice of St. Luke's, 1510 Valley Center Parkway, Suite 200, Bethlehem, PA 18017 and / or to the church, 450 Washington Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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

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

Stephen Francis Balshi, M.D.

St. Anne's, Assumption churches member

Stephen Francis Balshi, M.D., F.A.C.S., 90, died Dec. 16, 2011, in Bethlehem. He was a son of the late Helen A. and Stephen M. Balshi. He was the husband of Josephine Marie (Bartos) Balshi for 66 years.

He attended Liberty High School, class of 1938. He graduated from Lehigh University with honors, class of 1942. He earned a degree in medicine from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He later completed a three-year residency in otorhinolaryngology at Jefferson.

He was in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. His active duty was at the U.S. Veterans Hospital, Coatesville.

He was as a board certified ear, nose and throat surgeon, serving as chief of Otolaryngology at St. Luke's Hospital where he developed the hospital's first speech and hearing center. He performed the Lehigh Valley's first microscopic ear surgery. He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. For 22 years, he staffed the free charity clinic weekly. In 2008, he established the Fund for Vascular Research, Education and Technology at the hospital.

He was a parishioner of St. Anne's Catholic Church, Bethlehem, where he was one of the first lectors post-Vatican II. He was a eucharistic minister. He established the St. Anne's School Balshi Scholarship. He was most recently a member of Assumption B.V.M. Roman Catholic Church, Center Valley.

He was a member in the Northampton County

Medical Society, the Pennsylvania Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He was president of the Catholic Professional Men's Association, a member of the American Academy of Otorhinolaryngology and the Pennsylvania Academy of Otolaryngology. Upon retiring from the medical field, he was a weekly volunteer at the ecumenical soup kitchen, Allentown.

He was a president of the Bethlehem Serra Club. He was a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus. He was a charter member of the Allentown Diocese First Synod, a charter trustee of the Lehigh University Newman Foundation. He was a founding member of the DeSales University Salesian Center for Faith and Culture and was a member of the President's Council.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by six children, Thomas J., D.D.S. and his wife Joanne, Stephen J. and his wife Paulette, Mary Ann and her husband Thomas L. Okner, M.D., Kathleen Kucer, M.D. and her husband Frank T. Kucer, M.D., James D., M.D. and his wife Jill and Philip J. and his wife Pamela Scott, J.D.; his 14 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the Jefferson Foundation, Balshi Prize, 925 Chestnut St., Suite 110, Philadelphia, PA 19107; DeSales University, 2755 Station Ave., Center Valley, PA 18034; St. Anne's Catholic Church, Balshi Scholarship Fund, 450 Washington Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18017; and/or Assumption Church of B.V.M., 4101 Old Bethlehem Pike, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

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

Pastor's Comments

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Your Best Year Ever!

It seems that everything peaks in life, and then it is downhill from there! As we age, our strength and capabilities disintegrate and often so do our hopes for the future. Just ask a sports hero who now lives on the memories of the past. Youth tend to be hopeful of the future—optimistic and visionary. But as life passes by and disappointments come, as dreams fail to materialize and unforeseen things happen in life, optimism turns to negativism. The quest for a happy life often succumbs to the reality of frustrations, disillusionments, and unfulfilled dreams. As you face this new year, maybe you are on the downside of life, and you feel as if there is nothing to look forward to—nothing worth living for. The hopelessness of it all leaves you discouraged with life and discontented. It may seem to you that this has been your worst year ever, and next year looks to be even worse!

But, I have good news for you—things can be different! This could be your best year ever! During my 43 years of serving as pastor here, I have seen many lives turned around—some of these occurred recently! It happened when they put their faith in Jesus and sincerely repented of their sin in humble prayer. The Bible declares, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Dale Oldham says it this way in the Gaither song, "Life was shattered and hope was gone—Crushing the load that I bore; Then out of the depths I cried, 'Oh God, Give me something worth living for.'" Reflecting on the life change that Jesus brings, one verse says, "O the joy of sins forgiv'n—Nothing's the same as before; My life overflows since Jesus came And gave me something worth living for." I urge you to earnestly cry out to Jesus now in humble prayer and let Him make this your best year ever!

LOOKING FORWARD TO SERVING YOU IN 2012



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CITY POLICE

Robbery

Employees of the Fourth and Fillmore streets' Noor gas station reported an armed robbery around 8:45 p.m. Dec. 13.

According to police, three darkly-dressed, masked people entered the store and stole about \$5,000.

All three suspects are described as Hispanic. The sole female was armed with a pistol, while a "chunky" male carried a baseball bat. The final male is described only as dark-skinned.

The three fled south on Fillmore Street.

BRIEFLY

STEELSTACKS

Peeps Fest begins Dec. 28

The Peeps Fest's four days of live music, art and peeps-related programming will run Dec. 28 through 31 at the ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way. It is presented by Just Born Inc. and ArtsQuest.

Creating cherished memory Peeps with Virginia Abbot will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Dec. 28 and 30.

A recycled art project with Beth Ann Ballek will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Dec. 29. At 2 p.m., the Lehigh Valley scholastic diorama contest winner will be announced. The winner will be invited to drop the lighted Peep on New Year's Eve.

There will be an Air Products ambassador liquid nitrogen ice cream demonstration from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Dec. 29.

The Peeps and Friends breakfast will be held from 10:30 to noon Dec. 30 in the

Holiday vendor



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

Heaven on a Bun owner Jack Sinnitz serves up a sandwich and fries to first-time Christkindlmarkt visitor Isabel Pietri from Chestnut Hill Township. Sinnitz has been a vendor at the holiday event for the last 15 years. At Musikfest, Sinnitz's stand is in the top three of the most profitable. His outgoing personality has a lot to do with his success. He can be found year-round at other festivals and athletic events.

BRIEFLY

Musikfest Café. The Just Born character mascots will be present. There will be live entertainment, a bounce house and a hot breakfast.

Mosaic demos with artist Kim Hogan are scheduled from noon to 5 p.m. on Dec. 30 and 31.

A mascot 50-yard dash is set for noon Dec. 31 along First Street in front of the ArtsQuest Center. The racers will be the Just Born Peeps chick, Hot Tamales fireball, the Peanut Chews bar, Lafayette College leopard, Lehigh Valley SteelHawks' mascot, Little Caesar's "Little Caesar," Red Robin's "Red" and Subway's "Subdued." It will be followed by the Kids Fun Run for ages 3 to 10.

Also on Dec. 31, there will be a hands-on mural creation with Holly Fields-Scott from noon to 5 p.m. in the ArtsQuest center. The family New Year's Eve party will be held from 1 to 4:30 p.m. The Peep Chick drop and fireworks will be at 5:15 p.m. on the Steel Stacks campus.

For information and tickets for all events, visit www.artsquest.org/peepsfest or call 610-332-3378.

SANDS

Job information night Jan. 3

The casino industry is expanding, and demand for trained dealers and surveillance professionals is brisk. Explore jobs and training in this field at Northampton Community College's Casino Operations information session, to be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Jan. 3 at the Fowler Family Southside Center, Room 305, Bethlehem.

For additional information, visit www.northampton.edu/hci or call 610-332-6580.

Council approves tax increase

By MARK RECCEK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Despite opposition, Hellertown Borough Council approved the 2012 budget by a vote of 5-2 during the Dec. 5 council meeting. The budget amounts to \$3.6 million and calls for a .75 mill increase.

According to Cathy Kichline, borough manager, residents will bear a \$37.50 increase in taxes for a property assessed at \$50,000.

The approved budget also includes \$60,000 which will help fund two full-time borough police officers through June 30, 2012.

HELLERTOWN

Council Vice President John Bate advised officers Michael Twerdi and Timothy Piotrowski to consider other opportunities that may arise elsewhere, due to a grant application for \$170,000 that was denied in October by the Northampton County Gaming and Revenue Redevelopment Authority. The grant would have provided funding for the two officers' positions through 2012.

Councilman Thomas Rieger and Councilwoman Stephanie Kovacs voted against the 2012

budget. Kovacs told The Press her reasons for not supporting the budget were primarily financial, due to the borough using money not readily available to support increases in salaries.

"We just do not have the revenue to support the salary increases that were given," Kovacs said. "I cannot justify giving more money and comp time when we are not bringing it in."

Rieger added he voted against the budget based on council's decision to use borough fund

reserves to assist with balancing the budget.

"We are pulling money out of our reserves to balance the budget with no plan on having a true balanced budget in the near future," Rieger said. "Our reserves will eventually run out which only creates more problems in the future."

Projected expenditures for 2012 amount to \$3.5 million.

The budget also included a 1.5 mill tax for fire appropriations, which is unchanged from last year.

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Visit slhn.org from your mobile device.

Weight Loss

Bariatric Surgery Free Informational Seminar

Understand your weight loss surgery options. Learn more about the bariatric surgery procedures available and the expected results from fellowship-trained bariatric surgeons.

Presented by: Leonardo Claros, MD and Maher El Chaar, MD

A Friday, January 20
1 - 3 pm
Dimmig Education Center
1st Floor
St. Luke's Hospital - Allentown

C Thursday, January 26
7 - 9 pm
Cafeteria
St. Luke's Hospital - Miners

A Wednesday, February 1
7 - 9 pm
Dimmig Education Center
1st Floor
St. Luke's Hospital - Allentown

E Thursday, February 23
7 - 9 pm
Medical Office Building
Conference Room
St. Luke's Anderson Campus

NEW - Bariatric Surgery Free Informational Seminar NOW ONLINE!

Visit www.slhn.org/bariatrics to participate.

Prenatal & Baby

Pregnancy Orientation Program

Free pregnancy orientation program for all expectant women and their families. Childbirth options are included.

A Program is offered weekly on Wednesdays or Saturdays
St. Luke's Hospital - Allentown
Call St. Luke's InfoLink for specific dates and times.

Newborn Care Class - FREE!

Classes are filled with practical information and strategies for caring for your newborn at home. Each session includes demonstrations and allows time for discussion and questions.

A Saturday, January 14
12 - 1 pm
Dimmig Educ. Cntr. - 1st Floor
St. Luke's Hospital - Allentown

A Wednesday, January 18
7:45 - 8:45 pm
Wieand Conference Room
3rd Floor East Wing
St. Luke's Hospital - Allentown

Support Groups

Bereavement Support Group

Hosted by St. Luke's Hospice, this group will meet on Mondays for eight weeks. This group requires pre-registration and may be cancelled for lack of registration. For more information or to register, call Wendy at 610-997-7121.

Presented by: Wendy Littner Thomson, M.Ed., LPC, NCC, Bereavement Coordinator and Counselor

Q Every Monday, January 9 - February 27
1:30 - 2:45 pm
Taylor B Conference Room
St. Luke's Hospital - Quakertown

St. Luke's Breast Cancer Support Group

B 2nd Tuesday of every month
7 - 9 pm
St. Luke's North
153 Brodhead Road
Bethlehem

St. Luke's Prostate Cancer Support Group

B 1st Tuesday of every month
7 - 8:30 pm
St. Luke's Cancer Center
Radiation Oncology
Waiting Room
St. Luke's Hospital - Bethlehem

Depression Support Group

This is a community service for people who are learning to manage their daily routine while dealing with the illness of depression.

Presented by: Terri Savacool, Occupational Therapist

B 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month
5:30 - 6:45 pm
Priscilla Payne Hurd Education Center
Lecture Room 112
St. Luke's Hospital - Bethlehem

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Location Key: **A** Allentown **E** Easton
B Bethlehem **Q** Quakertown
C Coaldale

Neuroscience

PD STEPS: Resources available for patients & family

This program will focus on resources available to help patients & family members live with Parkinson's Disease.

Presented by: Kris Levine, LPN, MSCS

A Wednesday, January 18
6 pm - Meet & Greet with light refreshments
6:30 pm - Presentation
Dimmig Education Center

Healthy Living

Yoga Classes

Reduce stress and increase fitness. \$10 fee per class. Bring a mat or towel and wear loose, comfortable clothes. Beginners to intermediate are welcome.

Presented by: Brenda Haslego

Q January 19, 26
February 2, 9, 16, 23
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
5:45 - 7 pm
Taylor A & B Conference Room
St. Luke's Hospital - Quakertown

Sleep Disorders Group

The purpose of the group is to improve the quality of life by addressing the obstacles that impede sleep.

Co-pay will be determined by your insurance plan.

Presented by: Stu Horowitz, LCSW, Psychotherapist

B February 8, 15 and 22
6 - 7 pm
St. Luke's Behavioral Health Services
1107 Eaton Avenue
Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP No tax hike 2012 budget approved

By **BERNIE O'HARE**
Special to the Bethlehem Press

At their Dec. 19 meeting, Bethlehem Township Commissioners unanimously approved a \$15.9 million budget for next year that holds the line on taxes and sewer rates next year.

Township finance director Andrew Freda provided a line-by-line overview. Under the 5.99 millage rate approved, a home assessed at \$75,000 would be taxed \$449.25.

The only item to come under scrutiny was the increasing cost for library

service, which has risen from \$360,000 to \$410,000 over the past year.

Commissioner Thomas Nolan noted that 42 percent of township residents are library card holders, but Commissioner Paul Weiss questioned how many of those card holders use the library on a regular basis.

"I'll bet it's a lot lower," he surmised.

Township commissioners will meet again Jan. 5, at 7 p.m., at the Municipal Building located at 4225 Easton Ave.

Salute to one who makes local government work



PRESS PHOTO BY BERNIE O'HARE

Stories about local government usually focus on elected officials. But they would be the first to tell you that it is the staff which makes a government work or fail. At their Dec. 19 meeting, Bethlehem Township Commissioners recognized recently retired Administrative Assistant Carol Moser for her 26 years of "outstanding" service to the township. Accompanied by her husband Ron and

daughters Trish Murphy and Dana Potts, Moser was awarded a plaque during a brief ceremony. Among those applauding her was Public Works Director Richard Grube, who took a night off from baking kiffles. He's just started his 45th year. **ABOVE:** Daughters Trish Murphy and Dana Potts, honoree Carol Moser and husband Ron Moser.

Township manager: Let there be light

By **BERNIE O'HARE**
Special to the Bethlehem Press

When driving through Bethlehem Township, do you see any street lights that are flickering, dim or completely out? If you do, township manager Howard Kutzler wants to know about it.

Calling it one of his pet peeves, he's prepared a link at the township's web page for reporting

outages.

Kutzler explains that the Township pays \$10-11 per light pole every month, regardless whether the lights are working. So it's a pet peeve that costs the township money.

So far, he and his staff have found 50 nonoperational lights.

"We're asking the public to help," Kutzler said.

A return to 'citizen' status



PRESS PHOTO BY BERNIE O'HARE

Jerry Batcha and Art Murphy served their last meeting as Bethlehem Township Commissioners Dec. 19. Both Republicans, Batcha has 12 years of experience while Murphy has eight. Saying it was time for somebody new, Batcha decided against seeking re-election. A teacher at Northampton Area HS with two master's degrees, he was a major proponent of the Bethlehem Township Community Center. He will be succeeded by Republican Felix "Phil" Barnard, a plant manager at Bay Insulation. He wished current and new board members luck. Murphy, a Notre Dame University grad and accountant at Selvaggio Enterprises, was defeated in November's election by developer Martin Zawarski. Murphy credited township staff as hard-working and outstanding people. Both Murphy and Batcha will soon re-join the ranks of the highest office in America - the office of citizen.

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Dec. 28-31 | noon-5 PM

ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks
101 Founders Way | Bethlehem, PA

Admission is free, but some activities require a ticket.

Activities & Events include:

Just Born Scavenger Hunt Dec. 28-31 FREE	Family Disco Lounge Dec. 28-29, 2-4 PM TICKET REQUIRED
PEEPS Fest™ Mascot Dash Dec. 31, noon FREE	PEEPS® & Friends Character Breakfast Dec. 30, 10:30 AM-NOON TICKET REQUIRED
PEEPS® Chick Drop and Fireworks Dec. 31, 5:15 PM FREE	Family New Year's Eve Party Dec. 31, 1-4:30 PM TICKET REQUIRED

610.332.3378 | artsquest.org/peepsfest

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REGISTER NOW - CLASSES FORMING

Intro to Mosaics
Wed., Jan. 4-Feb. 8 | 6:30-9:30 PM
\$180 | ArtsQuest Member Price: \$162

The Art of Stained Glass
Mon., Jan. 9 - Feb. 27 | 6:30-9:30 PM
\$240 | ArtsQuest Member Price: \$216

Mosaics and Your Child for Ages 7-10
Mon., Jan. 9 - Feb. 13 | 6:30-8:30 PM
\$120 (For parent and child)
ArtsQuest Member Price: \$108

Intro to Watercolors
Tues., Jan. 10 - Feb. 14 | 6:30-9:30 PM
\$180 | ArtsQuest Member Price: \$162

Classes in:

- Ceramics
- Mosaics
- Glassblowing
- Beadmaking
- Painting
- Drawing
- Photography
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- Silversmithing
- Video Game Design

Register/More info:
610.332.3378 | artsquest.org

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Upcoming Sessions

Adult Spring Session:

15 Week Session:
January 9 – April 21, 2012
8 Week Session I:
January 9 – March 3, 2012
8 Week Session II:
March 5 – April 21, 2012

Children's Spring Session:

10 Week Session:
February 20 – April 28, 2012

Adult and Children's Post Session:

6 Week Session:
April 30 – June 11, 2012

Adults, Children, Teens & Homeschool Classes In

- Ceramics
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- Drawing
- Fashion
- Illustration
- Jewelry
- Painting
- Photography
- Sculpture

Student Exhibitions

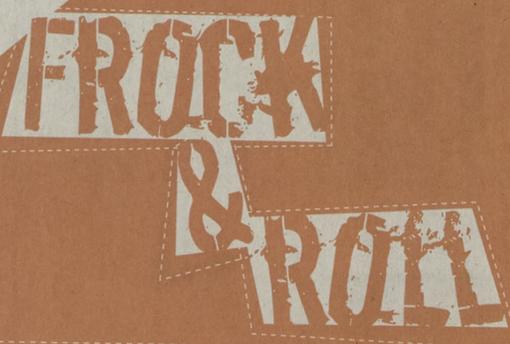
Take a class in the spring session and have your work featured in a student exhibition!

Adult Student Exhibition:
March 7 – March 23, 2012

Children & Teen Student Exhibition:
March 28 – April 15, 2012

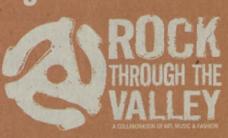


SPRING CLASSES FORMING NOW!



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 Opening Reception: February 13, 6-8pm

Designer Meet & Greet and Student Fashion Show
 Saturday, February 25, 2012
 call for more information 610.433.0032



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HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

All aboard ...

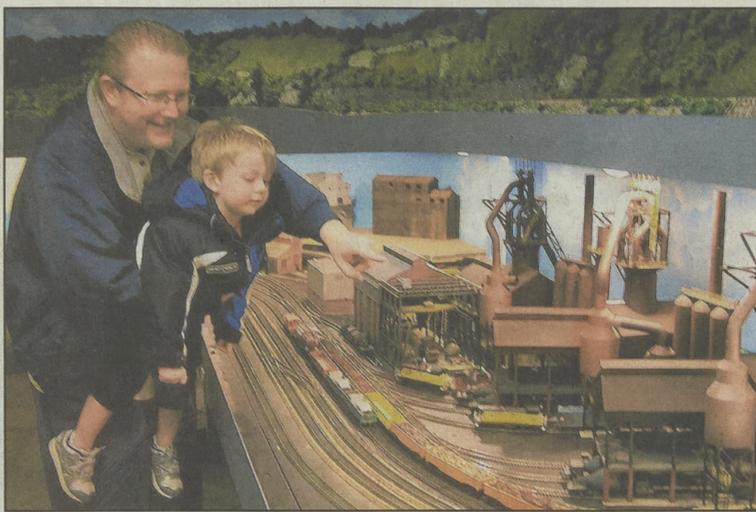
By TIM GILMAN
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Miniature train enthusiasts are flocking to the Lehigh and Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum in Bethlehem during its holiday season open house. Especially popular with families and young children are the miniature train displays, which feature Bethlehem and Lehigh Valley views.

There is more than 7,000 feet of train tracks with some 3,000 cars and engines which are rotated in and out of the unique winding, multi-level 5,000-square-foot display area. The recreated former Bethlehem Steel plant along the Lehigh River in South Bethlehem with its extensive railroad layout is a popular stop during the self-guided tours.

Operated by members of the Lehigh and Keystone Valley Model Railroad Club, the exhibit is housed at 705 Linden St., which the organization purchased 15 years ago. The annual Christmas Open House tradition started the next year.

An information station



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Visiting from Macungie, Scott McCarron holds his son Liam for a better view of the popular former Bethlehem Steel Plant railroad layout. McCarron said it was his son's first time to the Linden Street museum and that the family was "enjoying the sights and sounds around the Bethlehem area."

and a shop with new and used model train items are located in the lobby.

Catering to families and adult train collectors, the Bethlehem museum is open Saturday and Sundays from 1 to 6 p.m. during the holidays, including Christmas Eve and New

Year's Eve. Special holiday hours will be in effect after Christmas, Dec. 26 to 30, 5 to 9 p.m.

The club wraps up its holiday schedule with regular hours the first weekend in January.

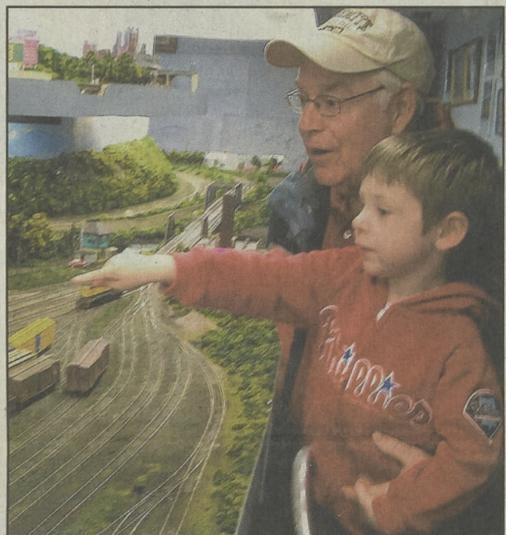
During the rest of the year the facility is open

the third weekend of each month. Train display tickets are \$7 per person and free for children 12 and under.

Additional information is available by calling 610-868-7101 or on the Web at www.lkvmrr.com.



Grandmother Anamarie Hartzell of Hanover Township, along with the train tracks of the model railroad display with her grandsons Matson and Justin Leggin of Philadelphia. The boys were visiting the Bethlehem tourist attraction for the first time and the younger Matson commented, "It's awesome."



Grandfather Bill Townsend from Allentown holds his grandson Kenny Aaron on a stepladder for a better view of the model railroad display. "He loves it," says Townsend, who has a permanent train display in his home which he and his grandson are regularly upgrading together.

CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE

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



Lavender is a sweet young lady. She has nice leash manners and enjoys going for walks. Lavender is always smiling and she is more than happy to climb up on your lap. She just loves people but is not a fan of other animals.



Kinski came to us with kittens and went into foster, but was returned as she has feline leukemia. She is now a gorgeous girl with amazing eyes and ready for a family again. She is very friendly and ready to go.

VOLUNTEERS

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, Bethlehem, needs volunteers to transport cancer patients to and from their treatments. Contact Pat Long, 610-921-2329, pat.long@cancer.org.

MEALS ON WHEELS NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, Bethlehem, is looking for volunteers to grocery shop for homebound seniors. Contact Emily Vadasz, 610-691-1030, emily@mealsonwheelspa.org.

MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER, Bethlehem, needs community volunteers throughout the Lehigh Valley at scheduled blood mobiles at churches, schools, and businesses. Contact Naomi Pratt, 610-691-5850, npratt@hsc.org.

SHARE CARE FAITH IN ACTION, Bethlehem, needs volunteers to assist clients in Lehigh and Northampton counties. Contact Lynn Marie Heiney 610-867-2177, ShareCare8@aol.com.

GIRL SCOUTS OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA needs troop leaders throughout the Lehigh Valley! Troop leaders work in partnership with girls within a specific grade level as they discover themselves, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place. Contact Chrissy Mittura, 610-933-7555 x1433, Cmittura@gsep.org.

THE COCO FOUNDATION, a new 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to raise funds for pediatric cancer and help families going through cancer-related illness is seeking volunteers who can assist with children's education and community programs. Contact Lisa Walker, 570-954-8024, Walker_J@SDEPA.com.

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

BRIEFLY

PENN STATE SAT courses
begin Jan. 14

Penn State Lehigh Valley, 2809 Saucon Valley Road, Center Valley, will offer SAT review courses to prepare test takers for the SAT exam.

The courses can assist students in learning the arrangement and format of the test, identifying ways to reduce the time necessary to answer questions, developing a study plan, and much more.

This comprehensive program is taught by Penn State instructors.

SAT Verbal will be presented 6-8 p.m., Jan. 16, 18, 23, 25, 30 and Feb. 1.

SAT Math will be from 6-8 p.m. Feb. 6, 8, 13, 15, 20 and 22.

A combined SAT Verbal and Math class will be offered 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, from Jan. 14 through March 3.

All courses are at the Center Valley campus.

For information, or to register, contact Diane McAloon at 610-285-5066 or dmcAloon@psu.edu.

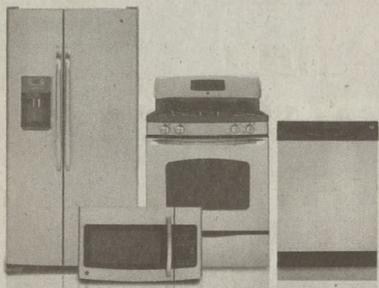
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Sat. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sun. Noon-4 p.m.

HOLIDAY WRESTLING

It's that time of year!

Hawks host 44th annual Christmas City tourney

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

After going on the road for two major high school wrestling tournaments this season already, Bethlehem Catholic will have a chance to enjoy the comforts of home this holiday season.

The Hawks host their 44th annual Christmas City wrestling tournament this Thursday and Friday and look to take home another team crown after running away with the team title last season.

Becahi crowned eight champions last year and accumulated 287.5 team points with Saucun Valley coming in a distant second with 174 points.

Head coach Jeff Karam knows that this tournament doesn't have the type of competition like the Ironman or Beast of the East, but it's Becahi tournament and it's an important one.

"This is a very special tournament to everyone at Bethlehem Catholic," Karam said. "Our kids and our fans look forward to hosting this and there's a lot of tradition with it."

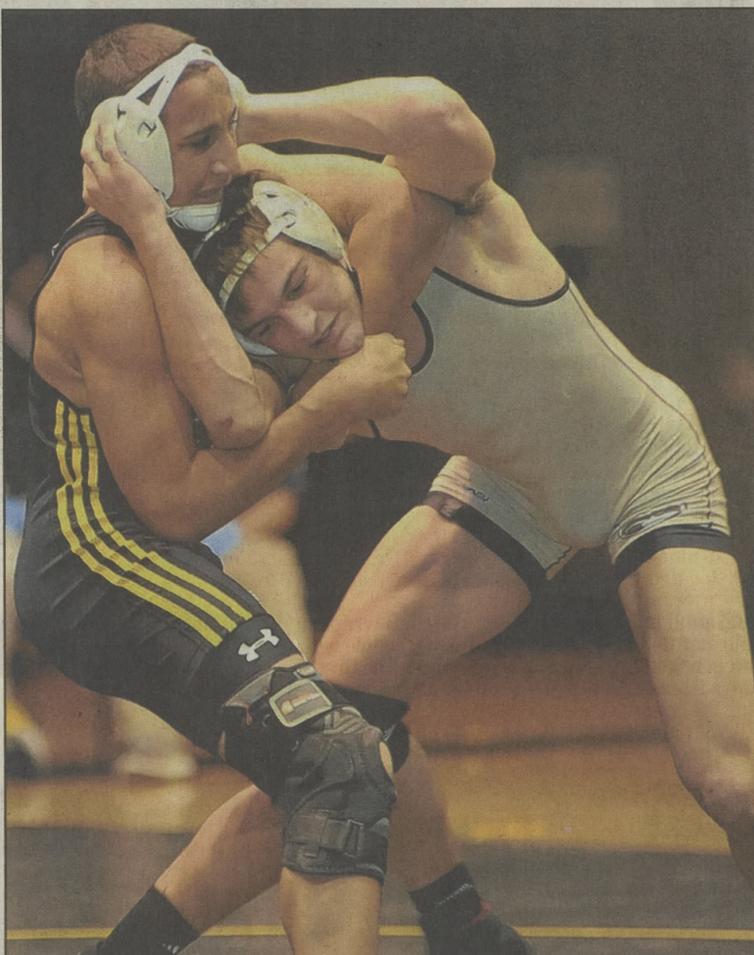
Darian Cruz (106), Zeke

Moisey (113), Randy Cruz (132), Ryan Todora (152), Elliot Riddick (170) and Josh Alpha (195) all won gold medals at the tournament a year ago and look to replicate their results.

More importantly though, Karam knows this is a chance for the other wrestlers in his lineup to have more success, which was hard to come by at such national power tournaments like the Hawks ventured in earlier this year.

"We expect our top guys to do very well in this tournament," he said, "but it's also important that our wrestlers get some confidence and wins in this tournament. When you're wrestling against some of the best teams in the country, it's hard to taste success and this is a chance for our whole team to enjoy success."

Participating teams include: Bethlehem Catholic, Dieruff, East Stroudsburg North, East Stroudsburg South, First Colonial (VA), Notre Dame, Palisades, Palmerston, Pottsville, Pius X, Pocono Mountain West, Port Jervis (NY), Saint See City on Page A10



Press photo by Rob Merchant
Becahi's Ryan Todora, right, battles with Freedom's Jake Young at 152. Todora eventually won by fall as the Hawks cruised 64-3 last week.

INSIDE
SPORTS

▼ **THEY SAID IT**

"This is a very special tournament to everyone at Bethlehem Catholic. Our kids and our fans look forward to hosting this and there's a lot of tradition with it."

JEFF KARAM
BECAHI WRESTLING
COACH

▼ **BRIEFLY**

HOOP TIME CHANGE

Due to the BASD holiday on Dec. 23, the date for the Liberty vs. Freedom boy/girl basketball double-header has been changed.

The date is now Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012. The girls varsity game will begin at 6 p.m. the boys varsity game will begin at 7:30 p.m. Both games will be held at Freedom High School on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Fred Harris via email at fharris@bethsd.org.

▼ **SCHEDULE**

BECAHI Dec. 29
• Boys at York Holiday Tourney
• Girls at Holly and Hoops Tourney
• Wrestling host Christmas City Tourney
Dec. 30
• Wrestling host Christmas City Tourney

FREEDOM Dec. 29
• Wrestling at Holiday Classic Tourney
Jan. 3
• Girls vs. Liberty, 6 p.m.
• Boys vs. Liberty, 7:30 p.m.

LIBERTY Dec. 28
• Wrestling host Holiday Classic
• Boys at Primetime Tourney
• Girls at Muhlenberg Tourney
Dec. 29
• Wrestling host Holiday Classic
Jan. 3
• Girls at Freedom, 6 p.m.
• Boys at Freedom, 7:30 p.m.

'Canes will host Holiday Wrestling Classic

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

The Bethlehem Holiday Wrestling Classic has cemented itself as the premier holiday wrestling tournament in the Lehigh Valley. But as much as it may mean to teams coming into town looking for some top notch competition, Liberty head coach Jody Karam sees it more as a seed that he and the late John Fenstermacher and Don Evans planted 17 years ago.

Now, the tournament celebrates another December entrance, starting today and concluding tomorrow, which is something that Karam and everyone involved are very proud of.

"It is a special event that has evolved into a national caliber tournament due to the current directors in Sandra Cabrera and Scott Fenstermacher (John's brother)," said Karam. "I have worked hard at maintaining the standard of this

event, as John Fenstermacher would have preferred.

We could have easily turned it into a meat grinder and used it as a fundraiser, but upholding the integrity of the event is an essential element of my philosophy."

This year's tournament has grown to 30 teams and the Hurricanes hope to have another gold medalist, as senior Devon Lotito (132) looks to win another title. Junior Grimaldi Gonzalez (120) will also

seek some redemption after settling for silver last year.

Freedom will join the festivities again with junior heavyweight Tyler Pearson looking for a breakout session at Memorial Gymnasium.

Despite who wins or loses, the event is something the whole Liberty program relishes.

"Without a doubt it is the crowned-jewel wrestling event in the Lehigh Valley," Karam said. "The beauty of the

event for me is, that I get to stay home and not spend another weekend traveling away from my family. My team gets the benefit of staying home and the familiarity of wrestling in Memorial Gym. Lastly, I get the benefit of being surrounded by so many quality people, volunteering for the event, that are such a positive reflection on Liberty High School and it's wrestling program."

Participating teams See **Classic** on Page A10

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Patriots look for a victory

Hawks, Hurricanes get wins before holidays

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldonald@tnonline.com

Freedom may have two LVC losses to start off the girls' basketball season, but that has not diminished their spirits, as they head into a holiday tournament this week, followed by a showdown with Liberty next week.

"We want a win," said junior, Ashley Gordon.

Most recently, the Patriots fell to Becahi, 52-38, but Gordon and teammate, Sydney Brown seemed unfazed.

"We're getting used to new coaches. It's a new team. Everyone has a positive attitude," said Brown.

Brown commended coach DeAnna Rayam for giving individual help to the Patriots, and for changing the way the team thinks about the game of basketball.

Regarding the Patriots' strengths, Brown and Gordon stressed positive energy, gamelike prac-

tices, communication, and frequent penetration to the basket.

Down 32-15 at halftime, Freedom regrouped for the third quarter.

Gordon said, "We talked about hustling on defense and offense, boxing out, and rebounding."

On January 3, the Patriots will host the Hurricanes at 6 p.m.

"They're our biggest rival. We want to beat them," said Gordon. "We lost by a buzzer shot last year, so we're ready for them."

At Becahi last week, Monique Latourette scored ten points, followed by Gordon, who had nine. Brenna Dosedlo and Rebecca Herman had four points each. Victoria McCaslin added three points. Brown, Leana Gonzalez, Kelley Rosete, and Ashley Husser all scored two points for Freedom.

For the Hawks, Rana Plesko scored 14 points, followed by Bridget Smith See **Girls** on Page A10

BOYS BASKETBALL

'Canes surprise Easton

Head to NJ for Christmas

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

Chad Landis wasn't sure what type of lessons he would learn about his Liberty basketball team early on this season, but carrying a 3-1 mark into the post holiday calendar certainly has the Hurricanes on the right path.

Liberty came back from a six-point halftime deficit at home last Tuesday night and clawed their way to a 32-31 victory over Easton (3-3).

The 'Canes held the Rovers to six second half points, as well as allowing only one-point in the final period to give Landis' crew another notch in their belts.

"I wasn't sure if our young guys were ready for that type of defensive battle, but with that young group playing in that type of environment, I'll take it," said Landis of last week's win over the Rovers. "With a young team, there's only See **Boys** on Page A10



Press photo by Rob Merchant
Becahi's Kalista Walters (32) tries to block a shot by Freedom's Kelley Rosete.

For a story and photos from each week, be sure to LIKE Bethlehem Press Sports on Facebook

OUTDOORS

Weather not helping this year's ski season

By NICK HROMIAK
Special to the Press

Temperatures in the high 50s, rain and fog just won't give local ski areas a break.

While Bear Creek in Macungie and Blue Mountain in Palmerton opened two weeks ago, last week's weather didn't help the cause. Particularly since this week is one of the most popular because schools are closed and some families take a vacation to join the kids on the slopes.

Skiers and boarders who visit Blue Mountain will find some new additions and transformations. For starters, Blue Mountain has become a US Luge Training and Recruitment Site, which was built next to the tubing park. It will be the only East Coast natural US Luge track that will be open to the public. US Luge coaches will be on site to evaluate those interested in being selected for the US Luge team. Guests can get three runs for \$10.

In the Vista Ballroom, visitors will be treated to a brand new pizzeria and coffee bar. And on

the trails, the Little Gap beginners trail pays homage to the past as it connects Midway and Burma, which allows easier access to the trails.

On Razorback trail, advanced to expert skiers can expect a new black diamond ride as it's located to the right of super steep Razor's Edge.

Blue Mountain has now expanded their trail system to a total of 39 over an ever-growing 164 acres.

Making snow early comes compliments of additional snow-guns plus seven fully automated fan guns that cover a large area. The mountain is expected to have a 24-36 inch base by opening morning.

Also new for this year is "Station Teaching" for beginners who can partake of a lesson and take as much time as they need to learn. A daily ticket can be used all day until the student can do stop and turn maneuvers.

An "early opening discount weekend" offers a special rate of \$40 per day to ski or board all day and night and on all open trails.



PHOTO COURTESY BLUE MOUNTAIN

If the weather cooperates, skiers and boarders should find decent skiing at local Blue Mountain and Bear Creek ski areas this season.

For added information and mountain conditions call 610-826-7700.

BEAR CREEK MOUNTAIN RESORT

Over at Bear Creek in Macungie, the 330 acre resort invested \$800,000 in improvements over the summer that include a new Piston Bully 600 groomer with winch, outdoor

Rock Garden, added a seasonal rental program and a Slopeside Sports shop which is a trendy retail store.

For après-ski enjoyment, the new 9000 square foot Rock Garden patio was installed over the summer in the base area. It will offer year-round outdoor seating, dining and a meeting place for friends and family.

SWIMMING

Liberty boys tie Vikes while girls get a victory

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldon@ttonline.com

Liberty swimming coach, Reik Foust, scrambled to change his boys' team line-up before the Hurricanes' meet against Central last week, but at the end of the day, the Liberty boys tied Central 92-92.

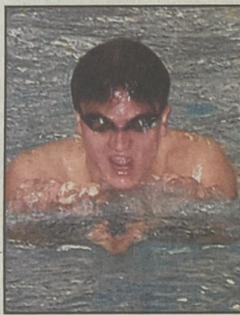
"I have a bunch of boys sick, so I had to rewrite the line-up for all but two events," Foust said, before the meet in which his girls' team defeated Central 135-51.

Liberty's Emily Cecchini, Courtney Desh, Rachel Rider, and Maggie Olock opened the meet with a first place finish in the 200 medley relay in 1:59.22.

"We're really happy about the relay," said Desh. "That was our best time this season."

Desh also won the 200 IM in 2:26.91 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:14.28.

Other first place winners for the Liberty girls were Olock in the 50 free with a time of 25.99, Rider in the 100 fly with a time of 1:03.04 and the 100 backstroke with a time of



PRESS PHOTOS BY KATIE MCDONALD

Left, Sean Vanatta and the boys team managed to tie Central despite swimmers missing in the lineup. Right, Courtney Desh won the 200 IM and the 100 breast against Central Catholic.

1:04.54, and Emma Williams in the 100 free with a time of 58.49.

Shelby Turner, Desh, Madison Sauers, and Williams won the 200 free relay in 1:47.05, and Turner, Anita Kundu, Sauers, and Williams won the 400 free relay in 3:58.82.

Desh said, "This is our first big challenge of the season. The girls really want to win before Christmas starts."

Individual event winners for the Hurricane boys were James Sheplock in the 200 IM with a

time of 2:18.68 and Will Updegrove in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:13.23.

"We knew this was a big meet, and I knew that every point was important. I wanted to take control and help the team," Sheplock said. "I always take it out as hard as I can for the IM because it's too hard to make it up later."

Jacob Jones, Sheplock, Evan Smith, and Cameron Angstadt also won the 200 free relay for Liberty.

Patriots sweep past the Huskies

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldon@ttonline.com

Freedom's swim team swept Dieruff last week with a boys' 145-34 victory and a girls' 138-30 victory over the Huskies.

Individual event win-

ners for the Patriot girls were Shannon Howell in the 200 free (2:00.49), Helen Hsu in the 200 IM (2:17.68) and the 100 free (55.22), Carly DelFranco in the 100 fly (1:07.00) and the 100 backstroke (1:04.38), and Brooke Munion in the 500

free (5:16.98).

Carol Byrnes won the diving event with 226.70 points.

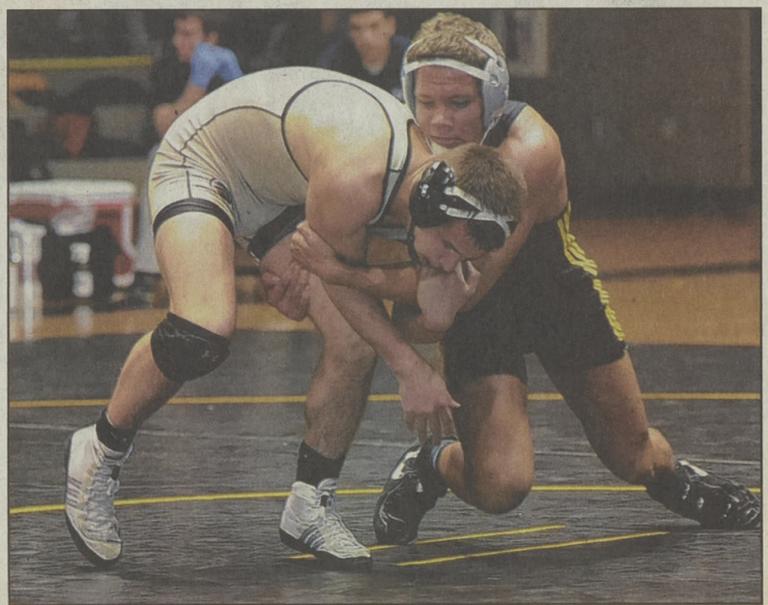
The Patriot girls also swept all relays.

DelFranco, Hsu, Munion, and Molly Magnan won the 200 medley relay in 1:57.36, Howell, Carly Cussen, Caitlin McCadden, and Rebecca Busby won the 200 free relay in 1:52.45, and Howell, Cussen, Munion, and Busby won the 400 free relay in 3:57.13.

Individual event winners for the Patriot boys were Seth Watlington in the 200 free (1:55.07) and the 50 free (24.16), Danny Csakai in the 200 IM (2:08.10) and the 100 breaststroke (1:03.41), Peter Conzola in the 100 fly (54.62) and the 100 backstroke (57.91), David Corvino in the 100 free (55.99), and Sam Magnan in the 500 free (4:58.14).

The Patriot boys also swept all relays.

Eric Lawrence, Csakai, Magnan, and Stephen Yale won the 200 medley relay in 1:51.15, Csakai, Scott DelFranco, David Barlyski, and Lawrence won the 200 free relay in 1:34.83, and Magnan, DelFranco, Conzola, and Watlington won the 400 free relay in 3:44.77.



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Freedom's Cody Gonzalez, right, was a 6-4 winner over Becahi's Aaron Morekin in a meet from last Thursday night. The Hawks won 64-3. Gonzalez and the Pates will take part in the Holiday Classic.

Classic

Continued from page 9

include: Big Spring, Bound Brook (NJ), Boyertown, Camden Catholic (NJ), Council Rock South, Delaware Valley, Freedom, Hazleton, Honesdale, Lehigh, Liberty, Mil-

ton, Nazareth, North Penn, Northampton, Northern Lehigh, Northern, Northwestern Lehigh, Pen Argyl, Pennridge, Phillipsburg (NJ), Quakertown, St. Mark's (DE), Saucon Valley, Selinsgrove, Southern Regional (NJ), Stroudsburg, Tri Valley, Warwick

and Wyoming Seminary. Session 1 (Dec. 28, 2011): 9 a.m. Session 2 (Dec. 28, 2011): 6 p.m. Session 3 (Dec. 29, 2011): 10:30 a.m. (semifinals) Session 4 (Dec. 29, 2011): 5 p.m. (Consolation Finals) Championship finals approx. 7 p.m.

City

Continued from page 9

Benedicts Prep (NJ), Pottsgrove, Schuylkill Valley, South County (VA), Southern Lehigh, Wallenpau-

pack, Wilkes-Barre-Myers, William Allen and Wyoming Valley West.

Session on December 29 begins at 10 a.m. and runs straight through with pre-prelims, preliminaries, quarterfinals and three

rounds of consolations. December 30 schedule runs from 10 a.m. starting with semifinals, consolations, third and fifth place bouts, followed by a 30 minute break in between for finals.

Boys

Continued from page 9

one way to gain experience and that's to go through it.

"We've been apart of an overtime game loss, a one-point win and some games that have gone our way, so it's been a good start but we have a brutal stretch coming up."

Landis mentioned the difficult part of Liberty's schedule coming up, which started yesterday in New Jersey as the Hurricanes are apart of the Prime Time Shootout at Trenton Catholic Academy, which

runs from December 27-30.

The highly prestigious tournament features three pools of four teams with Liberty opening their tourney yesterday at noon against Octorara (PA). Rancocas Valley (NJ) and West Windsor Plain South (WWPS) from New Jersey are also in Liberty's pool.

The Hurricanes were largely invited because of their exploits over the last two years, but the experience and exposure of playing in such a competitive environment will only help these young 'Canes grow.

"For sure, it's going to be a great experience," said Landis. "We're in a fortunate position to be sitting at 3-1 right now, but we know things are going to get much more difficult down the road. That's why we're soaking up every experience we can at this point."

Freedom traveled to Williamsport yesterday to take on Prep Charter and hope to reach the finals tonight.

Bethlehem Catholic went off to the York Classic and take on York Suburban tonight in the tournament opener.

Girls

Continued from page 9

who scored 12. Kalista Walters had nine points, Bri Morales added eight, and Janelle Robinson had

six. Ashley Brader scored two points, and Jaime Deischer had one.

Also last week, Liberty defeated Easton, 38-27.

Jody Chickey led the Hurricanes with ten

points, while JJ Hilliard and CJ Hilliard had nine points each. Kali Shumock scored six points. Amanda Pinter and Maggie Zerbe scored two points apiece.

LLL SIGNUPS

Lehigh Sports Association will be holding Little League registration at Lehigh Sports Association Senior Field Clubhouse, Ilick's Mill Road, Bethlehem.

Sign ups will be held:

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012 from 9 a.m.-noon; Wednesday, 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.

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PRESS PHOTO BY DENNIS HERBERT

Lilyanna Navarro, 2-1/2, of Bethlehem, is a little starstruck by Santa's presence at a Dec. 8 holiday party at LifeSpan Day Care in South Whitehall Township.



PRESS PHOTOS BY MARK RECCEK

Brandon and Jaydon Geraldino of Hellertown receive quite the stately welcome before their plane departs. The children were joined by their mother Diana Geraldino.



PRESS PHOTO BY SUSAN BRYANT

Kaela and Madeline Hallman, with their mother Naudia, all of Bethlehem, enjoy time together at the Dec. 10 Breakfast with Santa event at Nativity Lutheran Church, Allentown.



Rachel Weaver of Bethlehem accepts a warm Christmas hug from a friendly lion.

A flight of delight

The Lehigh Valley Dream Come True Foundation held its yearly North Pole Express Flight Dec. 17 at the Lehigh Valley International Airport. Children from across the Lehigh Valley were treated to a plane flight which circled Harrisburg then returned to LVIA. The children then met individually with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and enjoyed brunch, inside a Christmas decorated flight hangar.

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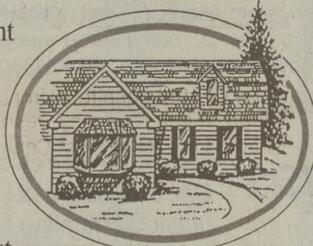
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Hi Neighbors



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

The Druckenmillers from Allentown performed holiday season and old-time traditional songs with string instruments at the Hi Neighbors Christmas program Dec. 19. The musical family is composed of Betty and Tom Druckenmiller and their son Nathan. The Hi Neighbors group of 55-plus persons meets weekly at the First Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem, 2344 Center St. and has two sessions open to the public at 10 and 11:15 a.m. Guest speakers and special senior events mark their busy calendar. The local organization has been in existence for 35 years. For additional information, call 610-866-0254.

Window shopping



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

George Andrews, originally from Allentown and now living in West Cliff, Colo., spent the evening of Dec. 23 doing some window shopping on Main Street. Andrews was in town to visit family and was looking for some Christmas gifts.

GOT NEWS?

Bethlehem area clubs, organizations
Call 610-625-2121 or e-mail
gtaylor@tnonline.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

Avoid succumbing to cold and flu season

Winter's arrival coincides with the arrival of other things as well. The holiday season. Snow days from school. Weekends spent skiing and snowboarding with family and friends.

While each of those things is something to look forward to, one thing also synonymous with winter is never welcomed with open arms. Cold and flu season impacts nearly every household each winter, forcing kids and adults alike to put life on hold as they rest and recover. To many people, flu shots are enough to keep them going strong through cold and flu season, but not everyone has access to flu shots. Even those who do might still get colds if they don't take steps to stay healthy when the mercury drops. This winter, people wanting to avoid the worst of cold and flu season can take several precautions to reduce their risks of getting a cold or the flu.

Around the House

People can take several steps to make their homes safer and warmer, which should help them reduce their risk of cold and flu. Winterizing a home is perhaps the best thing a homeowner can do to make a home safer and warmer. Install storm windows and caulk around doors and windows to keep warm air in the home and prevent cold air from coming in.

If winter has yet to arrive, inspect the heating system. If winter has already arrived, schedule an inspection as soon as possible. Make sure the system is working properly and is clean and ready for the winter that lies ahead. Ideally, the heating system should be serviced by a professional to ensure the ventilation is working properly. Homeowners with functioning fireplaces in their homes should have the fireplace inspected and cleaned before using it for the first time.

Addressing Attire

Winter weather should never catch adults or children offguard with regards to their wardrobe. Once cold weather arrives, dress appropriately whenever leaving the home to reduce the risk of cold and flu. Appropriate attire includes wearing outdoor clothing, such as winter coats, scarves, gloves or mittens, and wool ski hats. Those who live in areas with heavy snowfall should also wear waterproof boots whenever going outside. It's also important to dress in layers throughout the winter. Doing so provides extra insulation, and layers trap air effectively, ensuring that all that warm air produced by your body won't escape but will stick around and keep you warm.

Prepare for Emergencies

If a winter weather emergency arrives, cold and flu won't shut down and stop working just because schools close or power outages occur. In fact, during an emergency the chances are strong that families will be stuck inside for extended periods of time. When locked indoors for long periods of time, cold and flu viruses can spread easily. Men and women should prepare for such a scenario by having an air filter on hand to ensure air quality remains clean and healthy. In addition, stock up on items such as soup or cold and cough medicine to ensure that anyone who succumbs to cold and flu during a weather emergency will have remedies at their disposal should they be confined to the home. Parents of infant children should keep extra formula and diapers on hand and be sure there are extra batteries around the house should the power go out. For infants on medication, consult the child's physician before cold and flu season and devise a plan of caring for a sick child should a weather emergency occur. Get Outside and Exercise

Staying indoors all winter might seem like a great way to avoid cold and flu, but it might actually make adults and children more susceptible. Staying indoors could be trapping you indoors with stagnant air where cold and flu germs are floating around. Stay inside during weather emergencies, but be sure to get outside in the fresh air and exercise when the weather allows. Regularly working out boosts the body's immune system, which helps ward off cold and flu.

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HELLERTOWN

Borough moves forward with technology analysis

By MARK RECCEK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Hellertown Councilman Tom Rieger told his colleagues at the Dec. 19 council meeting the borough should have a technology analysis completed on its network system.

Rieger said the analysis would not cost the borough anything and is vital in highlighting both the borough's stronger technological areas and its weaker areas.

"This would enable us to outline areas we need to improve along with areas that are good within our technology infrastructure," he said. "This will allow an outside company to come in and take a look and give us an idea of what needs to be done."

Rieger said the borough is currently running two separate networks that do not support a paperless mode and do not accommodate the sharing of files among borough employees and departments.

"There's a lot more we could be doing if we had the infrastructure to support it," Rieger added. "This gives us a blueprint of where we want to go."

Rieger said he is looking at a few companies that will conduct the free technology analysis.

Council unanimously approved pursuing the technology analysis.

In other business, council approved retaining police officers Michael Twerdi and Timothy Piotrowski for another year. Chief of Police Robert Shupp thanked members of council for budgeting both officers for the 2012 year.

"I want to thank council for keeping

those officers on," he said. "It's really good for the officers and for the borough. We definitely appreciate it."

Shupp also told council that the K-9 shelter unit is nearly complete. The shelter will be heated and will temporarily house stray dogs found in the borough. Also during the meeting, Councilman Richard Staffieri asked council for confirmation that Dave Heintzelman, who was nominated to fill outgoing Councilwoman Stephanie Kovacs' position on the Northampton County Gaming Revenue and Economic Redevelopment Authority, is a resident of Hellertown. Staffieri said if Heintzelman spends more than 50 percent of his time residing in Lower Saucon that the borough could "be in trouble" if the gaming authority discovered two separate addresses.

Council Vice President John Bate disagreed with Staffieri. "It doesn't matter where he [Heintzelman] puts his head," Bate directly told Staffieri.

Bate then asked Heintzelman, who was in the audience, if he resides in Hellertown. Heintzelman told Bate that he is a resident of the borough.

At the conclusion of the meeting, council formally thanked Kovacs for her service as a councilwoman. Kovacs was not re-elected Nov 8. Her seat will be filled by councilman-elect Joseph Pampanin.

The next council meeting will be held Jan. 2 at 7 p.m. in the borough municipal building.

"This would enable us to outline areas we need to improve along with areas that are good within our technology infrastructure. This will allow an outside company to come in and take a look and give us an idea of what needs to be done."

TOM RIEGER

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Young performers



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

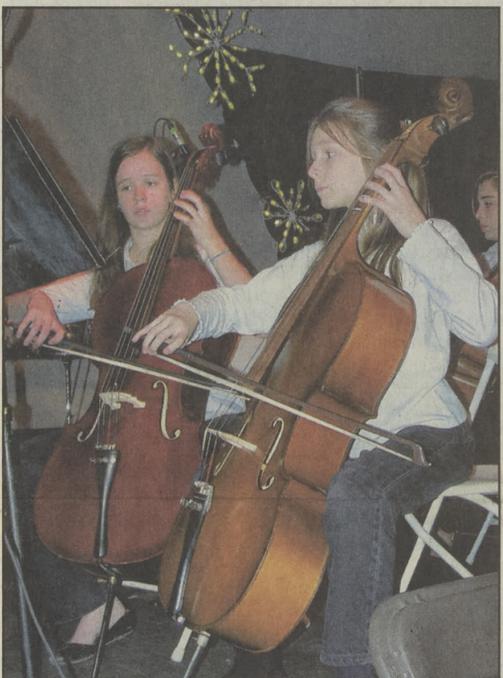
Christkindlmarkt musical performers from Holy Infancy School in South Bethlehem entertain visitors to the indoor holiday market at SteelStacks. Special young musicians accompany the String Ensemble, directed by Rosemary Frey on violin. Elementary students who take music lessons, Jillian Templeton, Tahlia Colon Torres and Erig Frey, son of the orchestra's director, participate in the holiday music show with tambourines and other handheld percussion instruments.



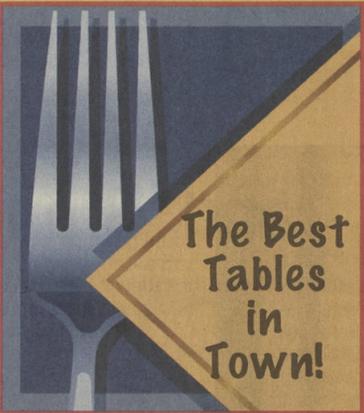
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

St. Michael's Christmas

St. Michael the Archangel School first grade students Sofia Frey of Bethlehem, Michael Wakely of Hellertown, Charles Probst of Coopersburg, and Sophie Babashak of Bethlehem, perform at the primary school's Christmas program that was held at St. Joseph's Church Dec. 13. Students in kindergarten through fourth grade serenaded parents and extended families with songs celebrating the anticipation of Jesus' birth.



Holy Infancy School String Ensemble sisters Elizabeth and Teresa Marlin play their cellos on the indoor stage for Christkindlmarkt visitors. The 19th annual holiday market ended its run at its new South Bethlehem location Dec. 18.



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**Dec. 28, 2011
Sanborn Map Company**

The number of commercial, residential and industrial buildings in the United States grew rapidly during the mid 19th century. A major fire often wiped out the resources of the local insurance companies within a city. Larger insurance companies, which covered several cities, had more resources to counter disasters, however, those companies required information on buildings that were far away from the company office. The need arose for mappers to record the vital information required to assess risk.



**Karen M. Samuels
Columnist**

Along with this need a new printing technique called lithography came into use around 1850 to accelerate the printing of maps.

Daniel Alfred Sanborn was born in 1827 in Somerville, Mass., to David A. and Hannah (Adams) Sanborn, owners of a prosperous brick manufacturing company. Daniel was trained as a surveyor, but found he had a gift for creating large detailed city maps.

In 1866, the Aetna Insurance Company hired Sanborn to draw insurance maps for several cities in Tennessee. The next year, Sanborn established his own business, the D.A. Sanborn National Insurance Diagram Bureau in New York City, and quickly set the standard for insurance maps. By the end of 1868, he had already mapped 50 U.S. cities and towns.

The company was so well managed that it became the primary American publisher of fire insurance maps for nearly 100 years. The company produced maps for more than 12,000 U.S. cities and towns. They absorbed many other mapping companies through the years, adding those acquired company's maps to their inventory.

Sanborn had his surveyors in all the states, as many as 300 employees in the field. Their names never appeared on their maps but the job offered travel to far-away cities. Employees estimated that 25 percent of the men found future wives on the road.

Some mappers became well known for their other projects. Sanborn surveyor Daniel Carter Beard was a naturalist, illustrator, author of books for boys and one of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America. More than 400 employees were needed at the production end in the plants in New York, and Chicago and San Francisco.

Large cities were re-surveyed every six months during the 1920s. Usually a surveyor would check for new construction in a city the size of Bethlehem every two years. Bethlehem needed more attention than usual because of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, which was the second largest steel maker in the U.S.

Nothing more clearly illustrates the history of a city than a series of maps over the years. The Library of Congress holds 623,000 Sanborn maps. A surveyor would visit a city and prepare a drawing, measured to scale of 50 feet to the inch of the size, shape, construction material and use of each building. The number of stories, roof type, doors, windows, stairs, skylights, elevators, sprinkler systems, firewalls and occupancy were noted.

Exterior information such as property boundaries, streets, transportation terminals, fire alarms, water mains and hydrants were also included. Signs and symbols were developed to differentiate such details of construction features. These symbols were identified on a key included with the map.

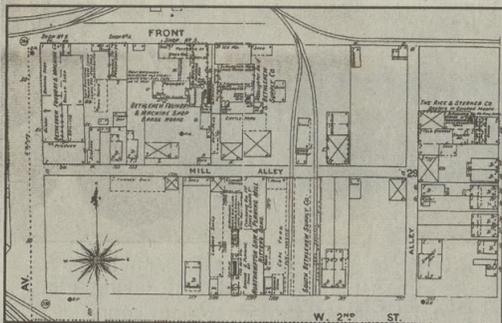
Draftsmen, back at the office, transferred the surveyor's plan to lithographic stones for printing. Women employees added the color coding by hand, using waxed paper stencils. A special "paster corps" constantly updated the maps over the years.

The year D.A. Sanborn died, 1883, the company began its first systematic registration of maps. By the 1960s, the fire insurance industry was undergoing a number of changes, ending the use of fire insurance maps.

During slow times, Sanborn always found a way to diversify. The company made military maps during World War II when little new construction occurred. The old maps are still indispensable today, however, for city planners, historians, utility companies and Federal census takers, just to name a few. Because of websites, such as Lehigh University's "Beyond Steel" (<http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/beyondsteel>), we now have access to these valuable maps that were once hidden away in a few libraries.

The Beyond Steel map online is a composite of more than 100 Sanborn maps of the Bethlehem area. The Sanborn "pasting corps" was very busy in Bethlehem during the steel years.

Today the Sanborn Map Company, in cooperation with the Proquest Information and Learning Company, has made all of its fire insurance maps available online for a fee. Sanborn now has utilized new technologies in their mapping such as geographic information systems.



This small section of the 1904 Sanborn map of South Bethlehem, between Front and Second streets, shows details of the buildings and their use.

Christmas memories sought

A book is currently being planned that will gather people's recollections and memories of Christmas in Bethlehem during the 30s, 40s, 50s, and 60s. The success of this book is dependent on you.

Please share your favorite memories of Christmas in Bethlehem, Pa. Perhaps you grew up during the Great Depression, or remember a Christmas during WWII. Maybe you have fond memories of shopping downtown or of Christmas on the Southside.

Also, please dig through your family albums and look for Christmas photographs, or images of Bethlehem's snowy streets. Please include a return address so all photographs can be returned.

Please write your memories and send your photos to Jason Rehm, 1428 Shelbourne Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18018
No memory is too short or too long!



PHOTO BY BRANDON TAYLOR

At one of the stops on our tour around Hebei province, we stopped at an ancient city park where women dressed in traditional garb served us a special drink. I drank this one slowly.

BEIJING BLOGGER

**Baijiu, business
and 'Brandon the Great'**

I was sitting on a bench by the Bohai Sea in northeast China, half conscious and rubbing my head in a futile effort to relieve a throbbing headache. Pain also resonated from my stomach, and I had that funny feeling in my throat, the kind you get just before you're about to throw up.



**Brandon Taylor
Press
columnist**

A large statue of one of China's emperors stood nearby, shooting me a disapproving look that said: "Know your limits, Brandon."

How I wound up on this bench next to this judgmental statue was a mystery, but I knew the culprit of my memory lapse and head trauma immediately: baijiu.

Baijiu, China's equivalent of Russian vodka or Irish whiskey, is this wonderful Chinese white liquor that shares more similarities with gasoline than anything you would ever willingly drink. And yet drink baijiu I had. A lot of it.

This story begins three days prior. I had been invited (read, told) to join several other foreigners at Beijing Review for a short tour of Hebei, the province that surrounds Beijing municipality. The provincial government wanted to promote a few up and coming high-tech innovation zones and eco-friendly cities.

Before embarking, my boss had briefed our group on Beijing Review's expectations — she also added that there would be no drinking on this trip.

No drinking? On a business trip? Past experience from being toted around on these government tours has taught me two things: much of what I see and hear is either a lie or heavily diluted truths; and after a hard day's touring, everyone is treated to a massive feast with lots of alcohol.

Drinking is as much a part of Chinese culture as the Great Wall or chopsticks. Any meal for esteemed guests, especially foreigners, comes with a smorgasbord of delicacies and enough alcohol — be it wine, beer or baijiu — to knock out China's few remaining pandas.

The ridiculousness of my boss' state-

ment faded before it really had a chance to set in. She would have had more luck stopping the sun from rising than preventing us from drinking.

And I was right.

At each stop, local officials brought out their best bottles of baijiu. My reputation as a baijiu drinker grew with each toast.

When drinking China's sacred white wine, I've mostly stuck with cheaper brands from the many 7-Eleven mini-marts across Beijing. Cheaper brands taste like battery acid, though I must admit I have never tasted battery acid. The baijiu at each feast came in orb-shaped bottles of aqua blue and ceramic white. While maintaining its kick as it slipped down my throat, this better quality baijiu had less of an explosive, eroding effect on my stomach. I liked this top-shelf baijiu, about as much as you can like something you know is shaving years off your life with each swig.

When we reached Luanzhou, a city three hours east of Beijing, one of my

around the room, he rose from his chair and stumbled over to me.

"Beijing Review, number one magazine," he said. "You are number one foreigner. Great drinker. Great man. Ganbei!"

We drank, turning our cups upside to prove they were empty. He looked at me again, or tried to look at me, with glazed eyes and a wobble that suggested he was on the verge of collapse.

"Great man. Brandon the Great!"

That was the last time I saw him. The official stumbled toward his seat, then changed course, heading instead for the door, and was gone.

My interpreter was also very drunk. He looked at me and said, "I want to throw up."

By this point, I'd switched into Chinese mode, speaking the language and refilling other people's glasses. I told him throwing up was not allowed. There was more toasting to do. Slowly, I began working my way around the table, at the encouragement of one of the Party officials, toasting all 11 of the remaining guests. After completing my circuit, I headed straight to the bathroom.

Then it was time to go. Everyone was ushered outside where hands were shaken, business cards exchanged and promises to revisit made. I got in our tour van and passed out.

The next fully conscious memory I had was sitting on the bench by the statue. We had

One of the local Party officials had taken a liking to me, constantly giving me the thumbs-up every time a toast was proposed. I tried to avoid looking in his direction, knowing that eye contact would result in a raised glass and another ganbei.

Chinese colleagues let slip that I enjoyed drinking baijiu. I was doomed.

At lunch the following day, I became the toasting target of every government official in the banquet room. Toasts were incessant, followed by shouts of "ganbei!" (bottoms up). Finishing my glass each time would yield cheers and a refill. Not finishing meant just a refill. Either way, I was losing it.

In between glasses, I would scarf down noodles or rice, anything to absorb the baijiu that was quickly filling my stomach. I also tried to sneak in a few bottles of water.

One of the local Party officials had taken a liking to me, constantly giving me the thumbs-up every time a toast was proposed. I tried to avoid looking in his direction, knowing that eye contact would result in a raised glass and another ganbei. Noticing my evasive glances

arrived in Qinhuangdao, near the coast of the Bohai Sea. The statue was of Qin Shihuang, China's first emperor. Apparently, before making our way to the sea, we had taken a quick tour of a small park. I didn't remember that part.

For the rest of the trip, I stuck with tea and an occasional beer. "Brandon the Great" would have to wait to reign another day.

Brandon Taylor is a language consultant/foreign expert for the Beijing Review, an English language weekly newsmagazine 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.

READERS' LETTERS

Let's keep the limits on billboards

Dear Editor:

It had been decided in a meeting of the Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Task Force that billboards would be allowed only on I-78, because state law apparently requires that billboards be allowed somewhere.

At a recent meeting of the Planning Commission, Darlene Heller announced a new provision in the draft zoning ordinance on page 124 at 1320(b). This new provision would allow billboards on Route 22, bill-

boards on Route 378 (no larger than 100 square feet), and also billboards on Steffo Boulevard, Airport Road, Schoenersville Road and Hellertown Road, only limited to 300 square feet.

Separation between billboards, or between billboards and residential areas, would only be 300 feet, or less than one block. After the city has held the line on billboards, the administration is proposing to greatly increase visual pollution by opening

up five new areas all over the city to billboards, with great potential for more digital electronic billboards.

The only additional proposed restriction on digital and electronically changing message signs is that they be at least 1,000 feet from each other, which is less than two blocks. Existing or new billboards could be converted to electronics.

At the Zoning Hearing Board meeting on Aug. 24, Adams Outdoor Advertising was granted a variance to replace an existing billboard

with an electronically changing message sign at 1022 Hellertown Road, larger than the existing billboard, and using both sides instead of one.

Let's limit any new billboards to Routes 22 and I-78, and prohibit the conversion of any other billboards to digital or electronically changing message signs. Eventually it would be good to get rid of all billboards not on routes 22 or I-78.

Bill Scheirer
Bethlehem, PA 18018



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Eighth graders at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Bethlehem stepped up to the plate Dec. 14 to help their "kindergarten buddies" make gingerbread houses. According to principal Harry Reese, the buddy program has been in place for more than 15 years and is designed to give older kids a chance at mentoring and to help the younger kids ease into the school's full-day kindergarten program. **ABOVE:** Madelyn Dundon and Jessica Hoffman, both of Bethlehem, show off their gingerbread house chef d'oeuvre. "Teens have a natural tendency to want to be helpers and role models," explains eighth grade teacher Ann Chiappinelli. "They really look forward to spending time with their kindergarten buddies."



PRESS PHOTOS BY LORI PATRICK

You can build an appetite on First Friday. Stopping in at Lehigh Pizza for a bite are Matthew Thompson of Center Valley, Jessica King of Bethlehem, Brianna King of Bethlehem, Samantha Thompson of Center Valley and Chelsea King of Bethlehem.

First Friday festivities

Holiday festivities and shoppers were center stage during First Friday, Dec. 2. Carolers were singing, music filled the air and warm welcomes came from many of the businesses on Bethlehem's Southside. The shops were all decked out for Christmas and Hanukkah with twinkling lights, shiny ornaments and gifts to serve everyone on

shoppers' lists. Boutiques offering everything from designer clothing to chocolates, books, antiques, decorative accents, specialty and handcrafted art, salon/spa services and so much more awaited this holiday season. Southside Bethlehem brings out the spirit with unique discoveries and treasures to delight all visitors.



Kyle Elliot of Bethlehem gives some pointers to Cameron Coulter of Bethlehem as they put the finishing touches on a gingerbread house they made together.



Doing some holiday shopping and enjoying the festivities at Cleo's are Mia and DiOdoardo Faus-to of East Allentown.



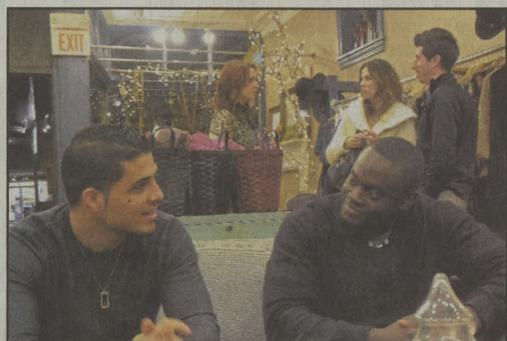
On the second floor of 109 East 3rd St., artist Donna Haney shares her paintings of Lehigh Valley landscapes at the D.J. Haney Art Studio on First Friday, with holiday shopping ideas. Here, Haney features a piece of her portrait work that would be an excellent choice as a gift certificate option.



Delaney Jordan and Valerye Susino, both of Bethlehem, work together to perfect their graham cracker gingerbread house.



A popular stop for First Friday shoppers is Home and Planet. Testing out products by Sonoma Lavender Bath & Body are [left to right] Tim Larney of Bethlehem, Becky Latshaw and Brent Nolasco, both of Allentown.



At the trendy Apotheca Salon & Boutique, friends gather on First Friday to catch up. Taking a time out on the sofa are on left, William Leone of Whitehall and Caleb Michaels of Bethlehem.

Happy Holidays

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FORECAST FOR LEHIGH VALLEY PENNSYLVANIA

Today we will see mostly sunny skies with a slight chance of rain and snow, high temperature of 40°, humidity of 70%. The record high temperature for today is 63° set in 1982. Expect mostly clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 20°. The record low for tonight is -8° set in 1950. Thursday, skies will be sunny with a high temperature of 41°, humidity of 59%. Skies will be partly cloudy Thursday night with an overnight low of 27°. Expect mostly cloudy skies Friday with a high temperature of 43°. Skies will become partly cloudy Saturday with a high temperature of 42°. Partly cloudy skies will continue Sunday with a high temperature of 40°.

Weather Trivia

Is there a difference between a frost and a hard freeze?

Answer: A hard freeze is when the temperature is 26 degrees or less for four hours. It does not need to be this cold for frost to form.




PRESS PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

Scouts crowd around a lantern to transfer the Peace Light and its message to their communities, churches and schools.

Recognizing world peace

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

In a quiet ceremony at the Boy Scout Service Center on Postal Road Dec. 14, local Boy Scouts received the Peace Light after it had made the flight from Bethlehem, Palestine, via Austria.

Cub Scout Pack 352 and Boy Scout Troop 352 from Notre Dame of Bethlehem Church conducted the 25th annual ceremony that included a Scout color guard and escort for the yellow flame that fluttered from a wick in a red kerosene lantern carried by a Scout.

According to information provided by the Minsi Trails Council, the Peace Light is from an oil lamp that has been burning for centuries in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

That flame was used to light an explosion-proof minor's lamp Nov. 2, and an Austrian scout carried it to Austria aboard Austrian Airlines. Local Boy Scouts received the Peace Light as part of an annual program originated by Austrian scouting, Austrian Airlines and the Austrian Broadcast Corporation.

Organizers held a flame transfer ceremony Nov. 29 at JFK International Airport's Our Lady



Boy Scout Saleh Abdussalan of Lehigh Valley Academy and his mother Yasmin Abdussalan were among the several scouts and parents in the small audience.

of the Skies Chapel. Retired New York firefighter and first responder to the 9/11 terrorist attack Jim Sorenson brought the Peace Light from JFK to Bethlehem. His grandson Steven Schneible, a member of Boy Scout Troop 352, and his daughter, Cathy Schneible attended the ceremony.

peace in the world," said Cub Scout William Wyckoff from Easton Area MS.

Scouts who accepted lighted candles from the flaming wick of a kerosene camp lantern took the light back to share its message with their communities, families, schools and places of worship.

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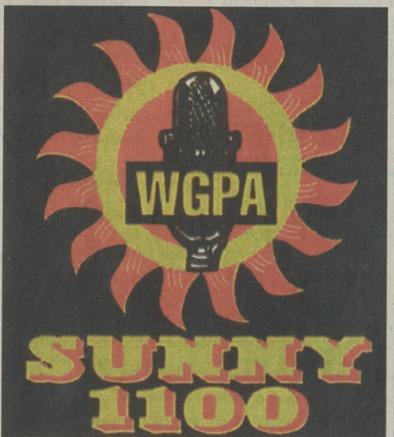
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2011: The year in review

Arts, education, health projects got \$100-million boost

By PAUL WILLISTEIN
 Focus Editor

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

"A Tale of Two Cities" (1859)
 — Charles Dickens

The Great Recession, an economic tsunami that roared through the financial and housing markets in 2008, continued to wash ashore in the United States in 2011.

Despite economic belt-tightening, the Lehigh Valley seemed to fare better than many regions, especially in the highly-visible Arts and Entertainment, Education, Health Care and Business sectors.

You be hard-pressed to find another year to not only equal the estimated \$100 million or more in area cultural, education and health projects but also the number and breadth.

The big story was the opening of Bethlehem's SteelStacks. However, there were projects and cultural events from Allentown to Easton, giving new impetus to the tourism incentive: Discover Lehigh Valley.

Here's what made 2011 a year to remember:

Arts and Entertainment

ArtsQuest SteelStacks

Bethlehem Mayor John Callahan put it best at the Feb. 27 press conference for Air Products Town Square at SteelStacks: "As we do announcement after announcement, it won't be long before we have event after event."

ArtsQuest's SteelStacks, with 1,400 performances annually, 400 of which are free, is a joint project between ArtsQuest, PBS39, City of Bethlehem, Bethlehem Redevelopment Authority and Sands Retail LCC, which donated 10 acres of its 132-acre site.

SteelStacks, which opened April 15, provided 168 construction jobs and 100 full and part-time jobs. Spillman Farmer Architects was design principal for SteelStacks.

Musikfest Cafe presented by Yuengling offers a dizzying array of performers, with a view through its huge glass wall of the boldly-lit gigantic Bethlehem Steel blast furnaces.

The Levitt Pavilion SteelStacks, with 30 free

concerts, launched July 2. There will be 50 free concerts May - August 2012 at the 2,500-capacity outdoor venue.

The Frank Banko Alehouse Cinemas books two screens of independent cinema. The Fowler Blast Furnace Room has cabaret and improvisational comedy.

The \$26.6-million campaign goal for the 65,000-square-foot ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks was achieved.

Christkindlmarkt moved from the north side downtown to the south side SteelStacks, joined there by new festivals: Latin Festival, RiverJazz Festival, SteelJam Festival, Blast Furnace Blues Festival, Oktoberfest and, in 2012, Indie Rock Festival. The InVision Photography Festival went Valley-wide. SteelStacks Farmers' Market ran weekly May 10 - Nov. 8 at PNC Plaza.

"The Bridge," a steel and fire sculpture by Elena Colombo, is lit for special events.

Work began and continues on the former Steel Stock House building, which will become Bethlehem Landing, a visitors' center.

The former Bethlehem Steel Corp. plant's Turn and Grind Shop is to be transformed into the \$5-million Festival Center at SteelStacks, with 20,000-square feet for exhibitions, performances, concerts and family and youth programming.

Musikfest's main concert venue, Sands River-Place, moved from Sand Island to PNC Plaza and became Sands Steel Stage, with a capacity of 7,200, an increase of 500. Americaplatz also crossed the Lehigh River, from Payson City Center Plaza to the Levitt Pavilion SteelStacks. Candlelight Concert Series at Foy Hall, Moravian College, and Performing Arts Series at Zoellner Arts Center, Lehigh University, were consolidated at Musikfest Cafe.

Liederplatz, Lyrikplatz, Plaza Tropical, Chamber Series at Central Moravian Church and Vesper Concert Series at Moravian Church continued



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Da Vinci Horse at The Baum School of Art points to expanded and renovated Allentown Art Museum.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Allentown Symphony performs free July 4 concert at Levitt Pavilion, SteelStacks, Bethlehem.

on the north side at Musikfest.

ArtsQuest, with Volkspatz and Handwerkplatz shut down by Aug. 13 and 14 flooding in the Monocacy Creek area, posted a \$750,000 deficit. It was the first time in the 28-year-old festival's history that weather shut down venues and stages.

PBS39 WLVT

PBS39 WLVT-TV moved its studios from atop South Mountain to the \$17-million Public Media and Education Center at SteelStacks. It includes two television studios with HD produc-

tion-broadcast equipment and public access to satellite uplink communications. The 29,288-square-foot center's 100-seat Studio A will allow community discussions and Town Hall forums, both on-air and off.

Allentown Art Museum

The \$15.4-million Allentown Art Museum expansion and renovation project adds 8,000-square-feet, including a refurbished Kress Gallery, a new gallery, cafe, classroom, storage space, and new entranceway and sculpture garden (to be dedi-

cated September 2012), designed by Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates and constructed by Alvin H. Butz, Inc. The museum celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Kress collection with the exhibition, "Shared Treasure: The Legacy of Samuel H. Kress." The grand reopening is Feb. 11, 2012, with the exhibition, "Who Shot Rock & Roll: A Photographic History, 1955 to the Present."

Bach Choir of Bethlehem

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem moved into new offices at 440 Heck-

ewelder Place, Bethlehem, a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission historic building dating to 1810. The building, for which a \$500,000 fundraising campaign was launched, is owned by Bethlehem Area Moravians. The Bach Choir of Bethlehem represented Pennsylvania in Sept. 9 concerts at Trinity Wall Street and St. Paul's Chapel, New York City, to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, World Trade Center attacks.

Baum School of Art
 The Baum School of Art See 2011 on Page B6



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Greg Funfgeld conducts Bach Choir of Bethlehem in St. Paul's Chapel, New York City, for 10th anniversary observance concert of Sept. 11, 2001, World Trade Center attacks.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Rose Ackerman, left, accepts retirement plaque from Pamela Ptak, right, at Baum School of Art gala.

Restorative Practices Institute credited

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to The Press

The International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) has celebrated its accreditation by the Middle State Commission on Higher Education.

The commission, a unit of the Middle State Association of Colleges and Schools, judged restorative practices "to be a field worthy of advanced study," according to officials at the event held at IIRP, 531 Main St., Bethlehem.

"With this designation, the Institute's graduate credits, certificates and master's degrees are now acknowledged across American and around the world," said IIRP Presi-



Ted Wachtel

dent Ted Wachtel prior to the Oct. 16 ceremony that celebrated the designation, which was conferred in June.

Buxmont Academy and the Community Service

Foundation founded the school in 2000. From its Bethlehem campus, it has grown to international stature with licensees worldwide and has taught practitioners from 55 countries.

Restorative practices constitute a social science that helps "restore community in an increasingly disconnected world," according to Wachtel.

"Our schools and communities are plagued by bullying, violence and disrespect among young people," said Wachtel, who grew up in Allentown and is a co-author of the best-selling book, "Toughlove."

"The IIRP is the leading organization in the world that is reliably mak-

ing schools and communities safer," Wachtel said. IIRP is said to be the world's first graduate school dedicated to the field of restorative practices. The Institute has conferred 111 master's degrees and graduate certificates in restorative practices.

One of the Institute's programs, "SaferSafer Schools Whole-School Change," is believed to have reduced bullying, violence and other behavior problems in Philadelphia's toughest high schools and in schools around the United States.

Bethlehem Area School District implemented the program at Liberty and Freedom high schools.

Some aspects of Christmas should last all year

Many years ago when I was covering a small community for a weekly newspaper, it was my responsibility to fill an entire section with community news.

With a town that had a population around 5,000, it wasn't always easy to find enough stories. Maybe that was one reason I noticed every small thing. One January, I noticed one particular home still had a lighted Christmas tree in the window. It was still there in February, too.

When St. Patrick's Day came and went and the tree was still there, I worked up my nerve and rang the doorbell, asking if there was any significance to the tree.

The woman who answered the door was friendly and welcomed me with a cup of hot chocolate.

She told me she promised her son, who was in the service, the tree would remain lighted until he could come home for Christmas.

"It doesn't matter when he comes home," she said. "It won't be Christmas until he gets here."

Her son finally made it home in early April. He was touched when he saw the Christmas tree still shining, waiting for his homecoming.

I had somewhat of the same experience many years later when my husband and I were supposed to spend New Year's Eve in Hazleton with our best friends, Frank and Priscilla.

Instead, Andy got sick and was rushed to intensive care where he remained for more than a week.

When Frank and Priscilla came to visit Andy in the hospital, they told him they weren't taking down the tree until he got there.

With one health crisis after the other, he never got to Hazleton until one hot day in July.

Imagine our surprise when we opened the door to see the entire house decorated for Christmas, complete with a big tree.

"We told you we were going to wait for you until we celebrated Christmas," they told Andy.

We learned that year Christmas starts in the heart and remains there as long as love prevails.

I've always thought Christmas should have more to do with feelings of the heart than with observing a day on the calendar.

And each year I find myself wishing that all the goodwill of the Christmas season could last all year.

Christmas often brings out the best in people. It certainly seems to make us more generous.

Ask any charity what month brings in the most money and they will say December. It's the one time of year people open their hearts to those in need.

My friend Pat runs an outreach ministry for those who are needy or homeless.

She says the good news is this year people recognize how much families are hurting and donations are at an all-time high.

The bad news is the number of people desperate for food is also at an all-time high. Every foreclosure, every job loss

WARMEST REGARDS

By Pattie Mihalik
newsgrl@comcast.net



translates into another family struggling to get by.

"The sad thing is we have people all year who don't have money for food. Hunger doesn't go away when Christmas is over. But much of the generosity we see during the Christmas season does go away," Pat said.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could think of those less fortunate year round rather than just during the Christmas season?

Food pantries for needy families are now filled. It's the time of year when people donate groceries and checks.

In almost every community, churches and organizations are putting on Christmas dinners for needy families. There are enough donated turkeys and enough volunteers to serve the dinner.

In coming months the hunger will remain. But the volunteers will disappear and so will much of the donations.

Our small community puts on a monthly dinner for those who find it hard to have a hot meal.

Each month an individual, family or church comes forward to buy, cook and serve the dinner.

"I have 24 families who volunteered to do December," said the outreach coordinator. "In the summer, we won't be able to find enough volunteers."

She speaks from experience. Last August they couldn't put on the monthly dinner because they didn't have the food or financial resources.

Again, wouldn't it be nice if the generosity we see at Christmas could last all year?

I love what I'm seeing during the Christmas season in almost every town. I've come upon so many sweet and inspiring stories I can't write about them all.

One story that touched me was the 10-year-old girl who heard her mother talking to her dad at the dinner table about giving to the homeless coalition. The mother mentioned some families were sleeping in cars because they lost their homes to foreclosure and had no place to go.

The little girl left the table and went to her bedroom where she pulled the blanket off her bed and went into her sock drawer for the \$50 she received from her grandmother for her birthday.

She insisted her mother take both the blanket and money for the homeless.

But she didn't stop there. The fifth grader went to school the next day and mobilized her classmates to have a food drive for needy families.

Few people can say no to a child. The kids canvassed their neighborhoods and brought in an impressive pile of food and stuff.

Scenes like that are taking place in every community.

How I wish that aspect of Christmas would last all year.

New Year's resolutions for the gardener

Gardening is supposed to be a fun and leisure activity, yet many times there are a lot of frustrated gardeners out there.

While it's great to be challenged, there are a number of things you can do to make your gardening life easier. Here are some resolutions for you to make:

1. Take down all those holiday greens before they lose the freshness that made them so attractive during the holidays. Coarse materials, such as evergreen boughs, can be used to mulch chrysanthemums when extra protection is needed during winter. This is a great use for leftover holiday tree branches.

2. Keep a gardener's journal. It can just be a spiral bound notebook, where you keep records of what you planted and when, what did well, and what didn't. Record when you found an infestation of some kind of insect or disease. It was probably too late to treat for by the time you discovered it, but it will remind you of what to be on the lookout for and when to look next year.

3. Only plant as many vegetables as you can handle. Every spring, gardeners say they will only have at most three tomato plants and a few peppers. Then you see some unusual vari-

GROWING GREEN

L.C. Cooperative Extension
LehighExt@psu.edu



ety at a garden center or in a seed catalog or you pick up way too many plants at a plant exchange. That leaves gardeners overwhelmed in August and September, canning like crazy, vowing to never grow vegetables again! But, if you do plant too many vegetables, give your excess to the local food bank.

4. Rotate your vegetable crops. If space allows, don't plant your tomatoes in the same spot year after year. It allows for insects or disease problems to build up. This year, put your tomatoes where you usually plant your green beans or plant lettuce where you usually put your cucumbers, and so forth.

5. Do your research and select plants that are disease-resistant and appropriate for your landscape's growing conditions. It saves so much time, energy and aggravation, and cuts down on pesticide use. At least read the tag before you buy.

6. Take a Penn State soil test before creating a new lawn or garden area. For \$9, you get a good idea of the soil's pH and nutrient lev-

els. Again, it saves money on unnecessary fertilizer use and allows you to work with your soil's natural chemistry. If your lawn just hasn't been looking good for some time, that just might do the trick.

7. Start composting. It's amazing how much we throw in our landfills that could be turned into great soil enhancements for very low cost and effort. Kitchen scraps, coffee grounds and grass clippings are just a few of the things that could go into a small compost pile.

8. Use natural resources wisely. During a dry year, water early in the day or in the evening to save water.

9. When using salt to melt ice on walks and driveways, spread it carefully to avoid damage to nearby shrubs. Damage to needle-type evergreens will be evidenced next spring by copper and yellow tones. Damaged deciduous plants will have bronze or reddish leaves. Consider using sand or sawdust instead.

10. Avoid walking on grass or groundcovers while they are frozen. The frozen leaves are brittle and easily damaged.

11. Check houseplants closely for insect infestations. Quarantine gift plants until you determine that they aren't harboring any pests.

12. Don't top trees. Topping trees results in large areas of decay and fast-growing, weak and unattractive watersprouts. In the most severe cases, topping can lead to the death of a tree.

13. Plant the right tree in the right place. Plant tree species that fit and will thrive in the places where they are planted. Don't plant large trees under power lines, in small tree lawns, in sidewalk cutouts or close to buildings or signs.

14. Resolve to call your local county Extension Office and get help with any of the above or to help solve other garden dilemmas. It's free, and that's what we're here for.

For answers to your garden questions, call the Lehigh County Cooperative Extension Office, 610-391-9840, or Northampton County Cooperative Extension Office, 610-746-1970, and ask to speak with a Master Gardener. Volunteers staff phone lines several days a week, Monday - Friday.

Growing Green is contributed by Lehigh County Cooperative Extension Office Staff and Master Gardeners.

Three questions from the email bag

Q. I'm concerned that I may not be seeing as well as I used to. What should I do?

There are many signs that indicate possible vision loss.

Under normal circumstances, do you have trouble recognizing faces of people you know?

Is it difficult for you to read, sew, match the color of your clothes?

Do lights seem dimmer than they used to?

Vision changes like these could be early warning signs of eye disease. Usually, the earlier your problem is diagnosed, the better your chances are for successful treatment and maintaining your vision.

Regular eye exams should be part of your routine health care. However, if you think your vision has changed, you should see your eye-care professional as soon as possible.

Devices and rehabilitation programs can help you adapt to vision loss. They may help you maintain your lifestyle.

These devices include:

HEALTHY GEEZER

By Fred Cicetti
fred@healthygeezer.com



adjustable lighting, large-print publications, magnifying devices, closed-circuit televisions, electronic reading machines, computer systems with voice-recognition, telephones, and clocks and watches with large numbers.

Q. I'm beginning to have trouble with my hearing. Is there anything I can do short of getting hearing aids?

There other "hearing aids" you should consider.

There are listening systems to help you enjoy television or radio without being bothered by other sounds around you. Some hearing aids can be plugged directly into TVs, music players, microphones, and personal FM systems to help you hear better.

Some telephones work with certain hearing aids to

make sounds louder and remove background noise. Some auditoriums, movie theaters and other public places are equipped with special sound systems that send sounds directly to your ears.

Alerts such as doorbells, smoke detectors, and alarm clocks can give you a signal that you can see or a vibration that you can feel. For example, a flashing light can let you know someone is at the door or on the phone.

Q. Recently, my pharmacist told me to take my statin before bedtime. She said that was the best time. It made me think what other information she has that I should ask her about. What questions should I ask?

Don't be afraid to throw a lot of questions about your medicines at your doctor, nurse or pharmacist. Here are some good ones:

When should I take it? As needed, or on a schedule? Before, with or between meals? At bed-

time?

How often should I take it?

How long will I have to take it?

How will I feel once I start taking this medicine?

How will I know if this medicine is working?

If I forget to take it, what should I do?

What side effects might I expect? Should I report them?

Can this medicine interact with other prescription and over-the-counter medicines, including herbal and dietary supplements, that I am taking now?

And, ask your pharmacist to put your medicine in large, easy-to-open containers with large-print labels.

Order "How to be a Healthy Geezer," a 218-page compilation of published "Healthy Geezer" columns, at: www.healthygeezer.com

Have a question? Email: fred@healthy-geezer.com

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INDIAN MUSEUM Workshops set in native crafts

The Museum of Indian Culture, 2825 Fish Hatchery Road, Allentown, hosts four Native American Life Ways Workshops this winter.

Porcupine Quillwork

Part 1: Colors of the Past, Jan. 15, 10 a.m. - noon; Porcupine Quillwork, Part 2: Stories in the Quills, Jan. 15, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. — Using dyed porcupine quills, you'll learn how to create pictures and symbols on leather in the tradition of Lenape (woodland) and Plains Indians. Instructor: Susan Newquist

Coiled Sweetgrass Basket Making, Part 1, Jan. 21, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Part 2, Jan. 28, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lunch Break both days. Noon - 1 p.m. (Age 12 and up) — Learn how to create a coiled project using fragrant sweet grass. Instructor: Lawrence Harris

Horse Hair Jewelry: Create a four-strand adjustable Horse Hair Bracelet, Feb. 4, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — "Spin" individual horse hairs into "pulls" and braid them into a four-strand braid. Instructor: Susan Newquist.

Information and to register: Pat Rivera, 610-797-212.1

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Peeps Fest expands programming in move to SteelStacks

Peeps Fest, the fun-filled family festival presented by Just Born, Inc. and ArtsQuest, is back for 2011 with an additional day of programming Dec. 28 - 31 at ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem.

For the first time in Peeps Fest's three-year history, admission to the event is free, although select events will require an admission ticket.

Peeps Fest features four days of live music, art and programming that culminate Dec. 31 at 5:15 p.m. with the dropping of the 85-lb., 4.5-foot-high lighted Peeps Chick and fireworks to welcome in the New Year.

One of the highlights this year is that families will be able to enjoy free programming based on the popular "Peas & Qs" family series that takes place Saturday mornings at ArtsQuest Center.

Scheduled to perform are folk singer Dave Fry, singer-songwriter Robbi K, rocker Yosi, magicians Joe Keppel and Tom Yurasits, and Balloons the Clown.

Children will be able to combine music with

exercise during "Kids Zumba," laugh and learn with "2 + 1 Math Rocks" and discover the wide world of animals during a special presentation by the Lehigh Valley Zoo.

Other free activities during the festival include daily Xbox 360 video game competitions (highest score each day wins a prize), a scavenger hunt in which children can search for hidden Peeps and be entered to win a daily prize, a Peeps Diorama Competition by area school children, and photo opportunities with the Peeps Chick, Peepster car and 20-foot-tall Peeps Tree.

More than 10 area nonprofits, including the Allentown Art Museum, Alzheimer's Association Delaware Valley Chapter, Bethlehem Area Public Library, Bethlehem Special Olympics, Cancer Support Community, Center for Humanistic Changes, Cetrionia Ambulance Corps, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley and Via of the Lehigh Valley will offering fun and educa-

tional activities.

Activities include make your own friendship bracelets, face painting, storytelling, and arts and crafts.

There will be dishes and desserts featuring Peeps and Just Born treats at the ArtsQuest Center's Mike and Ike Bistro, and a fun-filled party (admission ticket required) each and every day of the festival.

On Dec. 28 and 29, 2-4 p.m., the ArtsQuest Center's Musikfest Café will be transformed into a Family Disco Lounge featuring a children's DJ, dancing, bounce tent, live entertainment, and children's juice bar.

The following day, Dec. 30 from 10:30 a.m. - noon, children and their parents and grandparents are invited to enjoy a sweet morning with the Peeps Chick during the "Peeps & Friends Character Breakfast" in the Musikfest Café. Tickets for the event, which includes a hot breakfast, live entertainment and photo opportunities.

On New Year's Eve, families are invited to take part in the first

"Peeps Fest Family New Year's Eve Party" 1 - 3 p.m. in Musikfest Café, with music by a children's DJ, New Year's-themed arts and crafts, bounce tent and face-painting.

Peeps Fest hours are noon - 5 p.m. Dec. 28 - 31. The fireworks display and Peeps chick drop Dec. 31 takes place at 5:15 p.m.

For more information and tickets to the character breakfast, family disco lounge and New Year's Eve Party: www.artsquest.org, 610-332-3378.

Free activities, events Peas & Qs Performances

Dec. 28 Noon - 1 p.m. - "Kids Zumba" 1 - 1:30 p.m. - Balloons the Clown 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. - "2 + 1 Math Rocks" 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - "2 + 1 Math Rocks" 4:30 - 5 p.m. - Balloons the Clown

Dec. 29 Noon - 1 p.m. - Magician Tom Yurasits 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Robbi K

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Robbi K Dec. 30 Noon - 1 p.m. - Moe's Drum Circle 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Yosi 2:30 - 3 p.m. - Magician Joe Keppel 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - Yosi

Dec. 31 Noon - 12:30 p.m. - Balloons the Clown 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. - Dave Fry 2:30 - 3 p.m. - Balloons the Clown 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - Dave Fry

Guess the Number of Just Born Candies - Dec. 28 - 31 Just Born Scavenger Hunt - Dec. 28 - 31 Plush Peeps Chick and Peeps Tree Photo Opportunities - Dec. 28 - 31 Video Game Competition - Dec. 28 - 31, noon - 2 p.m. Peeps Fest Mascot Dash - Dec. 31, noon Peeps Chick Drop and Fireworks - Dec. 31, 5:15 p.m.

Nonprofit Activities Dec. 28 - 31 - Bethlehem Area Public Library Dec. 28 - Via of the Lehigh Valley, Alzheimer's

Association Delaware Valley Chapter, Center for Humanistic Changes

Dec. 29 - United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Cancer Support Community, Allentown Art Museum, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Dec. 30 - Cetrionia Ambulance Corps Dec. 31 - Bethlehem Special Olympics

Ticketed - Admission Fee Events

Family Disco Lounge - Dec. 28 - 29, 2 - 4 p.m. Peeps & Friends Character Breakfast - Dec. 30, 10:30 a.m. - noon Cookie Decorating Workshop - Dec. 30, noon - 2 p.m.

Family New Year's Eve Party - Dec. 31, 1 - 3 p.m. Make your Own Glass Ornament - Dec. 28 - 31 S'more Making - Dec. 28 - 31

Peeps Fest 5K - Dec. 31, 1 p.m., Downtown Bethlehem. Race starts at the ArtsQuest Center Peeps Fest Kids Fun Run Ages 3 - 10 - Dec. 31, noon

8 DAYS A WEEK

YOUR LEHIGH VALLEY ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

By ALEXANDRA RACINES Special to The Press

ART EXHIBITS

ALLENTOWN ART MUSEUM 31 N. Fifth St., Allentown. 610-432-4333

Salvatore Grippi: Through Invented Terrains, through Jan. 15, Rodale Gallery

Noble Impressions: Renaissance, Baroque Master Prints from the Permanent Collection, through Jan. 18, Payne Hurd Gallery

The Art of India and Tibet from the Permanent Collection, through Jan. 15, Fowler Gallery

Shared Treasure: The Legacy of Samuel H. Kress, through Jan. 15, Scheller Gallery

Heaven on Earth: Textiles of the Renaissance and Baroque, through Jan. 15, Goodman Gallery

Mapping the World: 18th-Century Visions, through Dec. 31, Fuller Gallery

ALLENTOWN BREW WORKS 812 - 816 Hamilton St., Allentown. 610-433-7777

Lisa Kappes: The Circle of Life, through Dec. 31

AMBRE STUDIO 310 W. Broad St., Bethlehem. 610-428-2484

Out of the Blue: Photographs by Local, Regional Photographers, through Feb. 3

AMERICA ON WHEELS 5 N. Front St., Allentown. 610-432-4200

A Different View, through Jan. 29

BANANA FACTORY 25 W. Third St., Bethlehem. 610-332-1300

Theo Anderson: Cowboy, through Jan. 22

Marc Cohen: Grim Street Photos: View of Allentown State Hospital, through Jan. 16

BETHELEHM CITY HALL ROTUNDA City Hall, 10 E. Church St., Bethlehem. 610-865-7000

Bethlehem Palette Club, through Jan. 8; Reception, 2 - 4 p.m. Jan. 8

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE Lachaise Gallery, Miller Family Building, 100 College Drive, Allentown. 800-360-1222

Neil Powell: Quiet Little Voices, through Jan. 7

DA VINCI SCIENCE CENTER 3145 Hamilton Boulevard Bypass, Allentown. 484-664-1002

Family New Year's 2012 Party, 6 - 10 p.m. Dec. 31

Winter Around the World, Dec. 26 - 30

Ice Cream Wars 4.0, noon - 2 p.m. Jan. 7; Alternate Date, 2 - 4 p.m. Jan. 14

FOX OPTICAL & GALLERY 28 E. Third St., Bethlehem. 610-332-2400

Howard Zoubek: Transient Spaces: Photography, through Dec. 30

GOUNDIE HOUSE 501 Main St., Bethlehem. 610-691-6055

Kill or Cure: The Unintended Consequences of Medicine in the 19th Century, through January

HOME AND PLANET 25 E. Third St., Bethlehem. 610-866-7370

Metallizing in Materials: Lehigh University Student Design Exhibition, through Dec. 31

JEVISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF ALLENTOWN 702 N. 22nd St., Allentown. 610-435-3571

Melissa Bryant: Watercolors, Oil Paintings, through Jan. 12

KALMBACH MEMORIAL PARK 200 Cotton St., Macungie. 610-965-1140

Parkland Art League Exhibit, through December

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Kathy LaRose: Paintings, January - February

KEMERER MUSEUM OF DECORATIVE ARTS 427 N. New St., Bethlehem. 610-691-6055

Design in Divided America, through December

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE Grossman Gallery, Williams Visual Arts Building, 243 N. Third St., Easton. 610-330-5831

Ewa Monika Zebrowski: Vendute Di Venezia, through December, Lass Gallery, Skillman Library, 710 Sullivan Road, Easton. 610-330-5151

From Quill to Keyboard: The Writing Life of the Lafayette Student, 1832 - 2011, through December, Simon Room, Skillman Library, 710 Sullivan Road, Easton. 610-330-5151

LEHIGH COUNTY SENIOR CENTER 1633 Elm St., Allentown. 610-437-3700

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Pat Blum, Joanne Tracey: Paintings, through Dec. 31

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Pat Blum, Pat Talijan, Joanne Tracey: Paintings, January - February

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY Zoellner Arts Center, 420 E. Packer Avenue, Bethlehem. 610-758-2787

That Was Then, This Is Now, through Fall 2012: Paintings from the late 19th, early 20th centuries juxtaposed with contemporary photographs, video works

LEHIGH VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL 840 Hamilton St., Suite 201, Butz Building, Allentown. 610-437-5259

Sandra Corpora: Plein Air paintings, through Jan. 1

LEHIGH VALLEY HERITAGE MUSEUM 432 W. Walnut St., Allentown. 610-435-1074

Glorry and Triumph: Trains Made America, through July 1

Railroad Exhibit: Trains in the Lehigh Valley, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Dec. 28, 29, 31, Jan. 3 - 7; 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Dec. 30

Energy Past and Present: Creating, Consuming and Conserving, through December

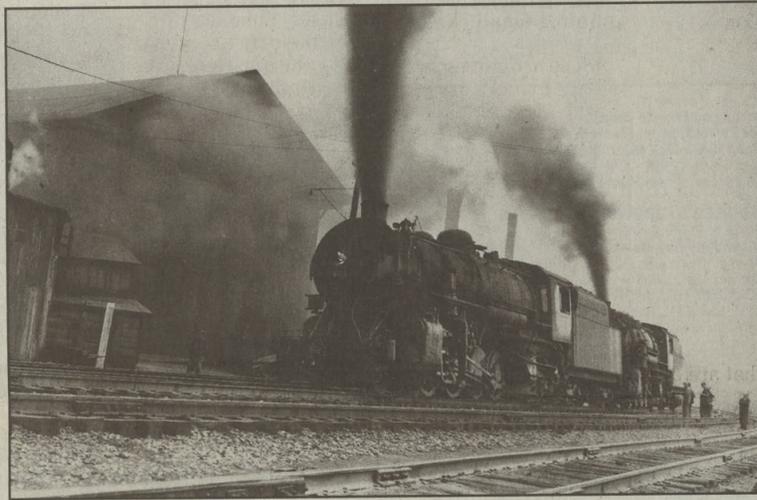
LUTHER CREST RETIREMENT COMMUNITY 800 Hausman Road, South Whitehall Township. 610-391-8011

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Ron Pratt, June Zimmerman: Paintings, through December

MACUNGIE INSTITUTE 510 E. Main St., Macungie. 610-966-7830

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Pat Ryder, through Dec. 31

MITCHELL CENTER 555 Harrison St., Emmaus. 610-965-6418



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Photo of Lehigh Valley Railroad Engine 464, above, taken in south Easton, is part of a railroad train exhibit, Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum, 432 W. Walnut St., Allentown, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. through Dec. 30; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Dec. 31; closed New Year's Day.

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Jane Brankner: Paintings, through December

Parkland Art League Exhibit: Betty Allender: Paintings, January - February

MORAVIAN COLLEGE Payne Gallery, Priscilla Payne Hurd Campus, Main and Church streets, Bethlehem. 610-861-1667

Recent Acquisitions: Art of the Lehigh Valley and Surrounding Area, through Jan. 15; Works of Joseph Barrett, Walter Baum, Renzo Faggioli, Roy Nurse, Steve Tobin

MORAVIAN MUSEUM OF BETHELEHM 66 W. Church St., Bethlehem. 610-867-0173

Weighted Spirits: Bethlehem and Salem Moravians in the Civil War, through April

MUSEUM OF INDIAN CULTURE 2825 Fish Hatchery Road, Allentown. 610-797-2121

Southwest Visions: The Photo Portraits of Carl N. Wertz, through May

Mystery Unearthed: The Extraordinary Story of Two Lenape Rock Shelters, through April

George Melloy: Kachinas: Spirit Dolls of the Hopi, through March 19

NAZARETH CENTER FOR THE ARTS 30 Belvidere St., Nazareth

Ruth Bishop Vargo: Jewelry, Fiber, through Dec. 28

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Sigal Museum, 342 Northampton St., Easton. 610-263-1222

The Civil War in Northampton County, through December

RECOVERY PARTNERSHIP 70 W. North St., Bethlehem. 610-861-2741

Artists in Recovery, 1 - 3 p.m. Third Thursdays

SAUCON VALLEY CONSERVANCY HELLER HOMESTEAD ART GALLERY 1890 - 92 Friedensville Road, Lower Saucon Township. 610-216-0566

Bethlehem Plein Air Palette Group Exhibit, through Jan. 30

SOFT MACHINE GALLERY 725 N. 15th St., Suite 7, Allentown. 484-838-4252

Technifying, through Jan. 18

STATE THEATRE FOR THE ARTS Brown-Daub Gallery, 453 Northampton St., Easton. 610-258-7766

Kim Robertson: Working Acrylics, through Feb. 11

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

AMERICA ON WHEELS 5 N. Front St., Allentown. 610-432-4200

Toys for Tots Train Time Charity Exhibit, through Dec. 29

CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH Main and Church streets, Bethlehem. 610-866-5661

Christmas Putz, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Thursdays - Saturdays; 1 - 8 p.m. Sundays; 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Dec. 28 - 30; 1 - 10:30 p.m. Dec. 31

CHRISTMAS AT STEELSTACKS First Street and Founders Way, Bethlehem. 610-330-1300

"Bethlehem - The Christmas City," Holiday Music, Fire Sculptures, Light Show, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 p.m., through Dec. 31

COMFORT SUITES 120 W. Third St., Bethlehem. 610-882-9700

Ethnic Christmas Trees from Around the World, through Jan. 8

DOWNTOWN BETHELEHM Bethlehem by Night Bus Tour, 5 - 8 p.m. Saturdays; 4, 5, 6 p.m. Sundays, through Dec. 30

Holiday Carriage Rides, 4 - 10 p.m., Dec. 28 - 30. Reservation recommended

Holiday Ghost Tours, 7 - 9:30 p.m., through Dec. 29

EAST HILLS MORAVIAN CHURCH 1830 Butztown Road, Bethlehem. 610-868-6481

Christmas Putz, 6 - 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays; 3 - 7

p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, through Dec. 30

EASTON FARMER'S MARKET 20 S. Third St., Easton

Holiday Mart, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Dec. 30

KEMERER MUSEUM OF DECORATIVE ARTS 427 N. New St., Bethlehem. 610-691-6055

Holiday Museum Tour, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mondays - Saturdays Dec. 28 - 30

LEHIGH, KEYSTONE VALLEY MODEL MUSEUM RAILROAD 705 Linden St., Bethlehem. 610-868-7101

14th Annual Christmas Open House, 5 - 9 p.m. Dec. 28 - 30; 1 - 5 p.m. Dec. 31; 1 - 6 p.m. Jan. 1, 7 - 8

LEHIGH PARKWAY Lehigh Parkway East and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Allentown

Lights in the Parkway, 5:30 - 10 p.m. through Jan. 1

LIBERTY BELL SHRINE MUSEUM Zion's Reformed United Church of Christ, 622 Hamilton St., Allentown. 610-435-4232

Pip's Winter Wonderland - A Conestoga Wagon Christmas, through Dec. 31

MORAVIAN MUSEUM OF BETHELEHM 66 W. Church St., Bethlehem. 610-867-0173

Holiday Museum Tour, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursdays - Sundays, through Dec. 31; Mondays - Saturdays Dec. 28 - 30

MUSIKFEST CAFE ArtsQuest Center, SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem. 610-332-3378

Cookie Decorating Workshop, noon - 2 p.m. Dec. 30

NAZARETH AREA SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS 212 Main St., Stockertown. 610-252-8082

Nazareth Area Society of Model Engineers Holiday Train Show, 7 - 9 p.m. Fridays; 1 - 5 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, through Jan. 30

SMITHY AND BLACKSMITH SHOP Main and Church streets, Bethlehem. 610-691-6055

Christmas at 1750 Smithy and Blacksmith Shop, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursdays - Saturdays; 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sundays, through Dec. 31

CINEMA

ALLENTOWN SYMPHONY HALL 23 N. Sixth St., Allentown. 610-432-6715

"Rodeinda," 6:30 p.m. Jan. 4; The Met: Live in HD: Encore Performance

ARTSQUEST CENTER AT STEELSTACKS Frank Banko Alehouse Cinema, First Street and Founders Way, Bethlehem. 610-332-1300

"My Week with Marilyn," 4:15 p.m. Dec. 28; 7:30 p.m. Dec. 28, 29; 2:45, 4:45 p.m. Dec. 29

"The Descendants," 1:30, 4 p.m. Dec. 29

"Tucker and Dale vs. Evil," 11:15 p.m. Jan. 6, 7

BETHELEHM AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY Main Branch, 11 W. Church St., Bethlehem. 610-867-3761

Family Films, 2 p.m. Dec. 29

CIVIC THEATRE 527 N. 19th St., Allentown. 610-432-0888

"My Week with Marilyn," 7:30 p.m. Dec. 28, 29, 31, Jan. 2 - 5; 8 p.m. Dec. 30; 4:30 p.m. Dec. 31, Jan. 1; 1:30 p.m. Jan. 1

"The Descendants," 7 p.m. Dec. 28, 29, 31, Jan. 2 - 5; 7:30 p.m. Dec. 30; 4 p.m. Dec. 31, Jan. 1; 1 p.m. Jan. 1, Civic Theatre 514, 514 N. 19th St., Allentown. 610-432-0888

COFFEEHOUSES, NIGHTCLUBS, RESTAURANTS

ARTSQUEST CENTER, STEELSTACKS Capital BlueCross Creativity Commons, ArtsQuest Center, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem. 610-332-1300

The Barrel House Brothers, 8 p.m. Dec. 30. Free

Brosky 'n Meyer, 8 p.m. Jan. 6. Free

Mike Lorenz Trio, 6 p.m. Jan. 7. Free

Bethlehem Music Settlement, 2 p.m. Jan. 8. Free

CROCODILE ROCK CAFE 520 W. Hamilton St., Allentown. 610-434-4600

Taking Back Sunday, 7 p.m. Dec. 30

Halestorm, East of Eden, Jes Loren, 8 p.m. Dec. 31

GODFREY DANIELS 7 E. Fourth St., Bethlehem. 610-867-2390

Blues Jam, 8 p.m. Dec. 28. Free

Steve Kimock and Friends, 8 p.m. Dec. 30

Dave Fry, 7 p.m. Dec. 31: "Homegrown Godfrey's for Kids"

Dave Fry, Dina Hall, Brittany Ann, 8 p.m. Dec. 31: "Three Generations of Homegrown Godfrey's"

For the Sake of the Song: Townes Van Zandt tribute, 7 p.m. Jan. 1

Irish Seisiún, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 4. Free

Jim Weider's PROJECT PERCOLATOR, 8 p.m. Jan. 6

MUSIKFEST CAFE ArtsQuest Center, SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem. 610-332-3378

Jimmy and the Parrots: Jimmy Buffet tribute, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 30

Start Making Sense: Talking Heads tribute, Great White Caps, 9 p.m. Dec. 31

Mickey Hart Band, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 5

Little Feat, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 6

Carbon Leaf, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 12

Chris Smither, Ellis Paul, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 13

Everclear, 8 p.m. Jan. 14

Bronze Radio Return, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 25

Peter Dinklage, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3

David Sanborn Trio, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 7

Citizen Cope, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 9

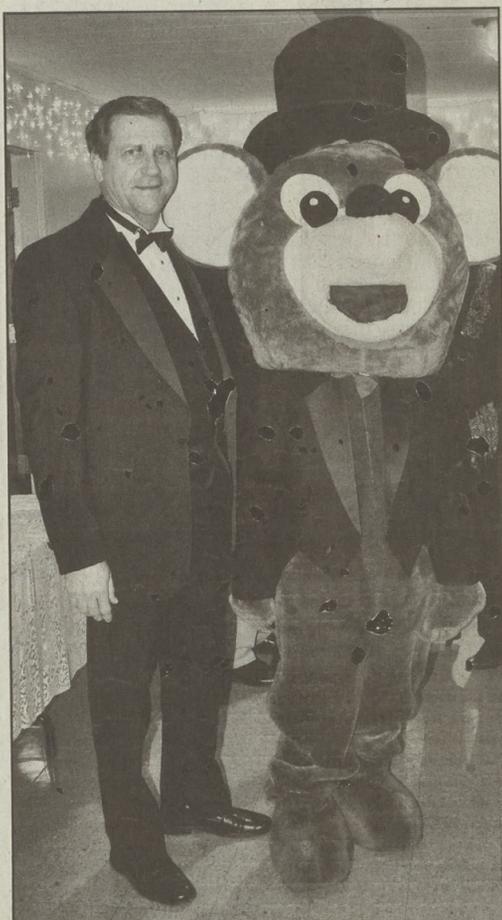
Pip a hit in 'Conestoga' show

This year's Pip the Mouse offering, "A Conestoga Christmas with Pip the Mouse," is a hit, breaking Pip's 2010 attendance records at the Liberty Bell Museum, Zion's Reformed United Church of Christ, 622 Hamilton St., Allentown. More than 27 pre-school and Kindergarten - Third Grade school groups have attended the puppet show.

According to George B. Miller, Interim Director of Educational Programming at the Liberty Bell Museum, this year's success is because of an increase in school groups attending and an increase in families bringing their children to see "Pip." The 2011 season, which continues through Dec. 31, has also seen a significant increase in volunteer involvement with Pip the Mouse.

"We were actually able to offer more performances this year because our Volunteer Circle has doubled in size since last year," said Miller. The Pip the Mouse volunteer circle greets Pip's guests, read stories to the children and helps run the holiday puppet show.

Each year, the holiday programming attracts children to the museum to see the mouse and his Christmas Eve antics. This year, the Liberty Bell Museum and Pip introduced its newest treasure: a handcrafted, child-sized Conestoga wagon.



PRESS PHOTO BY ALYSSA WARNER

The Rev. Bob Stevens, left, pastor, Zion's UCC, Allentown, with Pip the Mouse.

Performances are noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. through Saturday. There are no performances Dec. 24 and 25. The "Last Performance Party" and "The Closing Ceremony" precedes the final performance at 2 p.m. Dec. 31.

'Sherlock' Downey by Law

Sherlock Holmes as martial arts expert?

No kidding, Sherlock. The game's afoot in "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows," sequel to the popular 2009 "Sherlock Holmes."

"A Game of Shadows" seems to have taken a page from "Iron Man," that other blockbuster starring that unlikely of superheroes Robert Downey Jr. As Holmes, Downey is so adept at punching, kicking and hitting, you might think you're watching a Mixed Martial Arts match, or a Victorian Era foreshadowing of the movie, "Fight Club."

I lost count of the number of fisticuffs scenes in "Game of Shadows," but it seems the first 15 to 30 minutes consist of Holmes alternately fending off his attackers or attacking a Bolshevik anarchist.

The screenwriters — Kieran Mulroney (Dermot's brother and writer of "Gettysburg," 1993) and Michele Mulroney, based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's characters — seem intent on drawing a parallel between the impending breakup of the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the turn of the 20th century and the War on Terror in the 21st Century.

The storyline, set in 1891, emphasizes the armaments race. Instead of the bomb-carrying pilotless drones of contemporary warfare, "Shadows" displays the machine guns, Gatling guns and huge cannons that changed warfare in what would become World War I.

Director Guy Ritchie is back to direct the "Sherlock Holmes" sequel, this time with fewer, if any, supernatural, or science fiction aspects of the first movie, but still up to his cinematic tricks.

Ritchie, again working with Director of Photography Philippe Rousselot ("Big Fish," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory") and editor James Herbert, is big on hyper-stylized staccato sequences, using a mix of slow-motion, stop-action and fast-motion in "Shadows" numerous fight scenes, chases and scenes where Holmes analytical mind goes to work sleuthing the scene of a crime, or sizing up what might happen.

The depiction of Holmes' minds-eye at work is effective, but is shown so fast as to require repeated viewings, or plans to acquire the DVD release, to sort it all out.

Intentional or not, the

MOVIE REVIEW

By Paul Willistein



near-incessant use of the slo-mo, stop-action, and speeded-up action sequences gets annoying. I suspect it's a way to juice up the film, as the storyline is spare and lacking in the kind of fascinating and deliberate detail one would think is of interest to members of The Baker Street Irregulars, the oldest literary society dedicated to Sherlock Holmes.

Then again, maybe Holmes' fans love the movie adaptations. I found the sequel wanting, as I did the original.

"Shadows" is incredible-looking. It is lush in tone and detail. It is really an example of epic filmmaking that spans England, Paris and Austria. We are whisked along via a tiller-steered horseless carriage, on horseback, and by train.

The whole film caroms from 1891 London to Paris, Vienna, and beyond.

There are sumptuous scenes in Holmes' mansion, in posh restaurants and hotels and the ballroom of a magnificent castle, where lavishly-gowned women and tuxedoed men twirl to the strains of Schubert.

A scene at an opera where "Don Giovanni" is being staged and a gypsy encampment where Romani music is played symbolizes the range and breadth of Holmes' personality, from the rough and ragged to the ultra-sophisticated.

So, you might be thinking, "Gee, A Game of Shadows' sounds fantastic." For me, I felt as though I was being bludgeoned by special effects.

The saving grace, or graces, of "Game of Shadows" are the eminently likeable Robert Downey Jr. as Sherlock Holmes and the similarly enjoyable Jude Law as Dr. Watson.

Their scenes together are the movie's most enjoyable. Downey plays Holmes as the wink, wink, nudge, nudge verbal sparring partner with whomever is on the receiving end. Downey's personal history — not unlike Johnny Depp as Jack Sparrow in "Pirates of the Caribbean" — provides his own baggage for the adventure, further enhancing the role with his every arched eyebrow, dismissive snarl and enigmatic disguise.

Who is Holmes, indeed? Who is Robert Downey Jr.?

Jude Law is crisp, brisk and forthright as Dr. Watson, a perfectly straight counterweight to Downey's ramshackle Holmes.

Along for the ride are Jared Harris as Holmes arch nemesis, Professor James Moriarty; Stephen Fry as Holmes' brother, Mycroft Holmes; Noomi Rapace (of the original "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" and its sequels), as a gypsy, Madam Simza Heron; Kelly Reilly as Watson's wife, Mary; and Rachel McAdams as Irene Adler, Holmes' love interest.

Hans Zimmer's score is compelling, especially a repeating violin figure.

The game's afoot. I just wish "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" was on better footing.

"Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows," MPAA Rated PG-13 (Parents Strongly Cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13) for intense sequences of violence and action, and some drug material; Genre: Action, Adventure, Crime, Mystery, Thriller; Run time: Two hours, nine minutes; Distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures.

Credit Readers Anonymous: The castle in "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows" is perched atop Reichenback Falls, where Holmes and Moriarty are locked in a death struggle, as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote in "The Final Problem."

Box Office, Dec. 21: Because of early deadlines for the Christmas holiday, box office results were not available.

Still playing: Continuing at ArtsQuest Cinema, Bethlehem, and Civic Theater of Allentown are "My Week with Marilyn" and "The Descendants."

Unreel, Dec. 30: Most releases from the Christmas holiday weekend were expected to hold over, with a few exceptions for limited release films going into wider release.

Hear Paul Willistein's movie reviews on Lehigh Valley Arts Salon, 6 - 6:30 p.m. Mondays, WDIY 88.1 FM, www.wdiy.org, Lehigh Valley Community Public Radio. Read previous movie reviews at www.tnonline.com. Email Paul Willistein at: pwillistein@tnonline.com and on Facebook.



8 DAYS

Continued from page B3

days, Thursdays; 10 a.m. Saturdays; 10:30 a.m. Thursdays; 10 a.m. Saturdays; 6 p.m. Thursdays
MAUCH CHUNK OPERA HOUSE
 14 W. Broadway, Jim Thorpe, 570-325-0249
The Tartan Terrors, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 30
SELLERSVILLE THEATRE 1894
 24 W. Temple Avenue, Sellersville, 215-257-5808
Splintered Sunlight: Grateful Dead tribute, 8 p.m. Dec. 28
Marcia Ball, JD Malone and The Experts, 8 p.m. Dec. 29
Live Wire: AC-DC tribute, 8 p.m. Dec. 30
Kenny Vance and the Pianotones, 1 p.m. Dec. 31
Craig Thatcher, Nyke, 6 p.m. Dec. 31
Barley Juice, 10:30 p.m. Dec. 31
Edwin McCain, 8 p.m. Jan. 5
George Cole Quintet, 8 p.m. Jan. 6
Satisfaction: Rolling Stones tribute, 8 p.m. Jan. 7
Stuffy Sainte-Marie, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8
SHERMAN THEATRE
 524 Main St., Stroudsburg, 570-420-2808
Wu Tang Clan, 8 p.m. Dec. 29. Also: Dan D.C. Cohowicz, Gino Lispi and The Clever Gents, Track Masons, Dale Piccioni
Set Phasers to Stun, 6 p.m. Dec. 30. Also: Brookline Drive, Down A Lifetime, Think Big, This Condition, Twisting Life, Where the Truth Lies
SOUTHERN LEHIGH PUBLIC LIBRARY
 3200 Preston Lane, Center Valley, 610-282-8825
Valley Music Together, 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays; 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays, Fridays
STATE THEATRE FOR THE ARTS
 453 Northampton St., Easton, 610-252-3132
Jesse Cook, 8 p.m. Jan. 7
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH NAZARETH
 200 S. Broad St., Nazareth, 610-759-3090
Jam Session, 8 p.m. Tuesdays

DANCE

FEARLESS FIRE COMPANY
 1221 Front St., Allentown, 610-767-2549
Allentown Area Swing Dance Society, Con Gallagher, 7 p.m. Jan. 3: lesson; 8:30 - 10:30 p.m.: open dancing, Lindy-East Coast Swing, California Mix
Allentown Area Swing Dance Society Holiday Ball, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 7
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF ALLENTOWN
 702 N. 22nd St., Allentown, 610-435-3571
Israeli Dancing, 7:30 p.m. Mondays: Beginners; 8:30 p.m. Mondays: Experienced dancers
MUSIKFEST CAFE
 ArtsQuest Center, SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem, 610-332-3378
Family Disco Lounge, 2 - 4 p.m. Dec. 28, 29
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 610-923-0997
Folk Dance, 6 p.m. Sundays

EVENTS

ALLENTOWN FAIRGROUNDS AGRI-PLEX
 302 N. 17th St., Allentown, 10-433-7541
2012 Millennium Bully Fest, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Jan. 7
ARTSQUEST CENTER, STEELSTACKS
 First street and Founders Way, Bethlehem, 610-330-1300
Peeps Fest, noon - 8 p.m. Dec. 28 - 31

Peeps and Friends Breakfast, 10:30 a.m. Dec. 30
Peeps Chick Drop, Fireworks, 5:15 p.m. Dec. 31
Along the Lehigh River: The Rise and Fall of Bethlehem Steel, 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. daily, through Dec. 31: Historic Bethlehem Partnership: Walking Tour
CHARLES A. BROWN ICE HOUSE
 56 River St., Bethlehem, 610-332-1400
Community Day, Dave Fry, Mock Turtle Marionettes, 10 a.m. - noon Dec. 30
Literacy Day, Jan. 7
COLLEGE HILL MORAVIAN CHURCH
 72 W. Laurel St., Bethlehem, 610-867-8291
Bethlehem Palette Club, 9 a.m. Wednesdays: Weekly meeting
MERCHANTS SQUARE MALL
 1901 S. 12th St., Allentown, 610-797-7743
Garage Sale, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Jan. 7, 8
MORAVIAN MUSEUM OF BETHLEHEM
 66 W. Church St., Bethlehem, 610-867-0173
Hunt for History Club, noon - 4 p.m. Jan. 7: "Tick Tock ... Look at Our Clocks"
MUSIKFEST CAFE
 ArtsQuest Center, SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way, Bethlehem, 610-332-3378
Family New Year's Eve Party, 1 - 3 p.m. Dec. 31
MUSSELMAN ARTS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
 Sixth Street Gallery, 610 W. Hamilton St., Allentown, 610-821-0345, ext. 124
Family Drum Circle, 10 a.m. Mondays: Host: Moe Jerant. Free
Kids, Family Jam Time, 11 a.m. Saturdays: Hand Drumming Sessions: Host: Moe Jerant. Free
NANCY RUN FIRE COMPANY HALL
 3564 Easton Avenue, Bethlehem Township, 610-691-2021
Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 6: "Elecraft K3 Demonstration." Monthly meeting
SOUTHSIDE BETHLEHEM
 First Friday, 6 - 10 p.m. Jan. 6

LITERARY EVENTS

LEHIGH COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
 1633 Elm St., Allentown, 610-437-3700
Current Events Discussion Group, 2 p.m. Thursdays
LUTHER CREST RETIREMENT HOME
 800 Hausman Road, South Whitehall Township, 610-398-8011
Shared Wisdom Discussion Group, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays
MUHLBERG COLLEGE
 Seeger's Union, 24th and Chew streets, Allentown, 484-664-3470
Rev. Tony Sundermeier, noon Jan. 6: "North American Responses to Christian Minorities around the World": Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
 Sigal Museum, 342 Northampton St., Easton, 610-253-1222
Ed Henning, 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Fridays: "Stories about Northampton County: Lenape Lifeways - What the Rocks Tell Us." Reservation required
Carol Kuhn, 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays: "Stories about Northampton County: Lenape Lifeways, Lenape-Pennsylvania German Connection." Reservation required
William Marley, James Pruznick, 2 p.m. Dec. 28: "Easton's Peace Candle" Submission deadline for 8 Days A Week is noon Monday, 10 days prior to the Wednesday-Thursday Focus section publication date. Email: alexandra.racines@racines.eightdays@gmail.com

CENTRAL Putz hours set for holidays

The 74th annual Central Moravian Church Christmas Putz continues to be open after Christmas. The putz and the adjacent Star and Candle Shoppe is closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. After Christmas, the putz is open 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily and 1 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. New Years Eve. The putz includes a

crèche scene retelling the Nativity story through narration, music and lighting. The program features antique miniature figures of German origin set on a landscape of rolling hills, deserts, streams and live trees constructed by Central members who collected the natural material on "Moss-gathering Sunday" in early November in the Pocono Mountains. The putz (from the German word putzen, meaning "to decorate") is in the Christian Education Build-

ing on the church campus, Main and West Church streets, Bethlehem.

The practice of putz building in Bethlehem began with the early Moravian settlers who brought their putz figures with them in the 18th century from Germany.

More recently, in 1937, Central Moravian Church began building a Community Putz on its church campus and opened it to the public.

Information: 610-866-5661.

Globes shaping Oscar race

Academy Awards nominations will be announced Jan. 24. The Oscars will be presented Feb. 26. Frontrunners are lining up with the announcement of the 69th Annual Golden Globe Awards Dec. 15. Awards are presented Jan. 15.

Best Motion Picture - Drama
 "The Descendants"
 "The Help"
 "Hugo"
 "The Ides of March"
 "Moneyball"
 "War Horse"
Best Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy
 "The Artist"
 "Bridesmaids"
 "50/50"
 "Midnight in Paris"

"My Week with Marilyn"
Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama
 George Clooney, "The Descendants"
 Leonardo DiCaprio, "J. Edgar"
 Michael Fassbender, "Shame"
 Ryan Goslin, "The Ides of March"
 Brad Pitt, "Moneyball"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture - Drama
 Glenn Close, "Albert Nobbs"
 Viola Davis, "The Help"
 Rooney Mara, "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"
 Meryl Streep, "The Iron

Lady"
 Tilda Swinton, "We Need to Talk About Kevin"
Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy
 Jean Dujardin, "The Artist"
 Brendan Gleeson, "The Guard"
 Joseph Gordon-Levitt, "50/50"
 Ryan Goslin, "Crazy, Stupid Love"
 Owen Wilson, "Midnight in Paris"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy
 Jodie Foster, "Carnage"
 Charlize Theron,

"Young Adult"
 Kristen Wiig, "Bridesmaids"
 Michelle Williams, "My Week with Marilyn"
 Kate Winslet, "Carnage"
Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture
 Kenneth Branagh, "My Week with Marilyn"
 Albert Brooks, "Drive"
 Jonah Hill, "Moneyball"
 Viggo Mortensen, "A Dangerous Method"
 Christopher Plummer, "Beginners"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture
 Berenice Bejo, "The Artist"
 Jessica Chastain, "The

Janet McTeer, "Albert Nobbs"
 Octavia Spencer, "The Help"
 Shailene Woodley, "The Descendants"
Best Director - Motion Picture
 Woody Allen, "Midnight in Paris"
 George Clooney, "The Ides of March"
 Michel Hazanavicius, "The Artist"
 Alexander Payne, "The Descendants"
 Martin Scorsese, "Hugo"
Best Screenplay - Motion Picture
 "The Artist," Michel Hazanavicius
 "The Descendants," Alexander Payne, Nat Faxon, Jim Rash
 "The Ides of March,"

George Clooney, Grant Heslov, Beau Willimon
 "Midnight in Paris," Woody Allen
 "Moneyball," Steven Zaillian, Aaron Sorkin, Stan Chervin
Best Animated Film
 "The Adventures of Tintin"
 "Arthur Christmas"
 "Cars 2"
 "Puss in Boots"
 "Rango"
Best Foreign Language Film
 "The Flowers of War" - China
 "In the Land of Blood and Honey" - USA
 "The Kid with a Bike" - Belgium
 "A Separation" - Iran
 "The Skin I Live In" - Spain

BGLV 'Nutcracker' party



PRESS PHOTOS BY SHERI BAYNE

Above, left to right: Karen Knerr, Ballet Guild of the Lehigh Valley artistic director; with "Nutcracker" guest artists Jennie Somogyi (Sugar Plum Fairy), New York City Ballet principal dancer, and Ask la Cour (Cavalier), New York City Ballet soloist, at tea party and cocktail party following Dec. 17 performance, Baker Hall, Zoeliner Arts Center, Lehigh University, Bethlehem.

Right, Left to right: Zander Ritchey, 5 (one of the Children) and his father, Julian Ritchey (Party Guest), of Bethlehem were in BGLV "Nutcracker."

Below, left to right: Jillian Sinko (Clara), 13, Bethlehem; Patty Kennedy (Party Guest), Salisbury; and Colleen Reed (Columbine), 16, Easton, also in BGLV "Nutcracker."



Kimock brings it all back home



Steve Kimock

Following an acclaimed guest appearance with Hot Tuna at the Beacon Theatre, New York City, and a sold-out weekend in Chicago, Steve Kimock returns to his native Bethlehem to play at Godfrey Daniels, 7 E. Fourth St., Bethlehem, with Steve Kimock and Friends Dec. 30.

With tickets to the first show at 8 p.m. selling out quickly, Godfrey Daniels has added a second show at 10:15 p.m.

The seminal guitar wizard has yet to perform with his own project in Bethlehem and will be joined by a powerhouse line-up including bassist Bobby Vega (Sly & the Family Stone, Etta James), legendary keys player Bernie Worrell (founding member Parliament Funkadelic) and his son, the prodigy drummer John Morgan Kimock.

The four-piece project that bears Kimock's name is known for exploratory cross-cultural rock performances that encompass funk, rhythm and blues, rock anthems and soaring epic ballads that has earned Kimock a national following.

Kimock co-founded the quintessential Bay Area jazz-rock-blues band Zero in the 1980's, KVHW in the 1990's, and has since toured with various Kimock projects.

Bolstered by his association touring in numerous bands with Grateful Dead members (The Other Ones, Phil Lesh and Friends, Rhythm Devils, Ratdog, Bruce Hornsby), Kimock's name is forever entwined with psychedelic rock. Jerry Garcia put him on the map decades ago when he praised him as "the best unknown guitar player."

Kimock is a chameleon, adding his

fluid style to an impressive array of musical genres through an arsenal of custom and vintage guitars from electric, lap steel, fretless, bottleneck slide and Hawaiian.

During the past three decades, Kimock has performed alongside the likes of Bruce Hornsby, John Cipollina, Jerry Garcia and all members of the Grateful Dead, as well as Peter Dinklage, Bonnie Raitt, The Allman Brothers, all members of Phish, Buddy Miles, Jorma Kaukonen and Hot Tuna, Buddy Cage, Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Martin Fierro, Joe Satriani, Baaba Maal, Angelique Kidjo, Elvin Bishop, Steve Winwood, Derek Trucks, Ivan Neville, Grace Slick, Papa John Creach, Norton Buffalo, Amos Garrett, Warren Haynes, Nicky Hopkins, Freddie Roulette, G.E. Smith, and Dave Bromberg.

Steve Kimock and Friends has been a perennial side project of Kimock's since the 90's, enabling him to feature a revolving lineup.

LCCC Singers sought for Tri-Cees

The Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC) Tri-Cees (Cougar Community Chorale) is seeking people from the community who share a

passion for music and derive joy from singing with others.

Students study and perform choral music with a variety of styles and historical periods, as well as music reading skills and choral technique. They may have an opportunity to perform outside of the classroom and will per-

form one concert at the end of the semester.

The Tri-Cees meet 7 - 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 16 - May 7, at the main campus, Schnecksville, North Whitehall Township. There is no charge.

Noncredit course and registration information: 610-799-1197

ALLENTOWN FAIR Hurricane Irene had an impact

The Lehigh County Agricultural Society (LCAS), the nonprofit membership organization that operates the Allentown Fair and owns the Allentown Fairgrounds, held its annual meeting Dec. 14.

In the society's annual report mailed to its members, a letter from the organization's President Bill Albert and Chairman and

General Manager Ed Charles cited the "good fortune" mixed with unfortunate circumstances of the 159th edition of The Great Allentown Fair that started Aug. 30, two days after the remnants of Hurricane Irene caused extensive and long-lasting power outages, and ended Sept. 5, the Labor Day Monday holiday besieged by flooding rain that continued into the week following the Fair.

Calling six of the seven Fair days "the calm between two storms," the

officials reminded members that the Fair lost its usual booming Labor Day business, a full day of box office hours the weekend before the Fair; a percentage of online sales because of inoperable computer modems on the Eastern Seaboard and even the entries from blue ribbon competition participants whose homes and working ovens were impacted by the severe weather and loss of electricity.

The 2012 Great Allentown Fair runs Aug. 28 - Sept. 3.

PRESCHOOL FEATURE

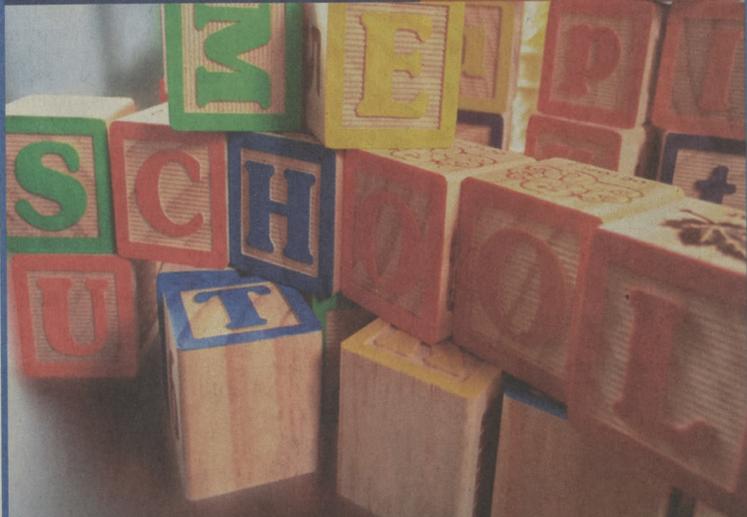
THE PRESS invites you to include your PRESCHOOL in this special feature as our readers are in search of the right place to send their little ones.

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CANCER SUPPORT Programs listed for January

The Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley (formerly The Wellness Community) offers free education and support programs for cancer patients and their caregivers in January.

Unless otherwise noted,

programs are held at The Cancer Support Community, 3400 Bath Pike, Bethlehem. Starting in January, programs at 83 S. Commerce Way move to Park Plaza, 1st Floor, Suite 103, in the building adjacent to the main location.

Soul Collage, Jan. 5, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Images will be cut from magazines and calendars or cherished photos to glue on 5 x 8 matt board "back-

grounds." Instructor Diane Brandstetter

Book Swap, Jan. 6, 10 a.m. - noon - Bring your used books and search through "new" ones to read.

Heart Rhythm Meditation, Jan. 16, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Heart Rhythm meditation teaches a way to synchronize the heart and the breath. In this one-day seminar, survivors and caregivers will learn to accomplish this goal through simple instructions and by practicing as a group. Kate Lampe, LPC. A light lunch will be provided. RSVP, as space will be limited. Young Adult Group, Jan. 17, 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Call for details. This group is offered in collaboration with LLS.

Healthy Cooking, Jan. 25, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Spice up everything, from soup to nuts. Instructor Janice Kay, 511 E. Third St., Fowler Family South Side Center, Bethlehem.

Family Bingo, Jan. 26, 6 - 7:30 p.m. - Bring an inexpensive item for a "white elephant" giveaway to be used as game prizes.

For more information about these and other programs of The Cancer Support Community, or to register: 610-861-7555.

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WEDDING

Robertson-Foster Couple married at Faith U.C.C

Sharon Foster, daughter of the late Patricia Maurer of Nesquehoning, and Matthew Robertson, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Stephen Robertson of Emmaus, were united in marriage Nov. 11, 2011, at Faith United Church of Christ, Grantville, East Hanover Township, Dauphin County.

The Rev. George Robertson, brother of the bridegroom, officiated at the double-ring ceremony.

Bridesmaids were the daughters of the bridegroom: Cassie, 9, and Emma, 7.

The ring bearer was the bridegroom's son, Steven, 5.

A reception in the church hall was held immediately after the ceremony.

Mrs. Robertson is employed by B. Braun Medical, Inc., Bethlehem.



Sharon and Matthew Robertson
Her husband is employed by Lehigh Fuels, LLC, Whitehall.
The newlyweds reside in Emmaus.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

FloreAnt Projects Studio-Gallery, 215 Main St., Emmaus, joined the Lehigh Valley art scene in 2011. Left to right: Florence Rodale, gallery co-owner; Lydia Panas, photographer, who signed copies of her book, "The Mark of Abel," at the gallery Nov. 19; and Anthony Rodale, gallery co-owner.

2011

Continued from page 1

Art celebrated its 85th anniversary with a September gala honoring its benefactors. A March 5 gala honored the retirement of Baum School of Art development director Rose Ackerman and established a scholarship in her name for young women.

Symphony Hall

The Allentown Symphony Association 60th anniversary \$6-million capital campaign at the 100-year-old Symphony Hall, Allentown, included \$3 million for a new stage floor and inner lobby doors. The season concluded with record-breaking attendance. Concerts, theater and dance were added to the Allentown Symphony's concert series and "The Met Live in HD" telecasts.

Mayfair

Mayfair Festival of the Arts made it to its 25th anniversary. The festival shed its executive director of six years, Terry Glenon. Artist applications for Mayfair 2012 began Dec. 1.

Allentown Fair

The 100th anniversary of the Allentown Fairgrounds Grandstand, "the home of the stars," was celebrated.

FloreAnt Projects Gallery

FloreAnt Projects Studio and Photo Gallery, a new addition to the vibrant Emmaus retail district and the Lehigh Valley's gallery scene opened by Florence and Anthony Rodale, aims its viewfinder at sustainability.

Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem

The Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem opened its 14-story, 300-room hotel May 27. The 50,000-square-foot Sands Bethlehem Events Center is to open May 2012.

Sands partnered with Vision Entertainment Group and Live Nation to book entertainment at the 3,000-capacity venue. The Shoppes at the Sands opened in November. Paul Anka headlined a second annual Musik at the Sands benefit for Art'sQuest in a series that included Michael Feinstein.

Emeril's Italian Table,

which opened June 4, joined Emeril's Chop House and Burgers and More by Emeril to become TV celebrity chef Emeril Lagasse's third restaurant at the Sands.

Delaware and Lehigh Heritage Corridor Trail

The expansion of the Delaware and Lehigh Heritage Corridor Trail continued with new segments dedicated in Laurys Station, Whitehall and Slattington. The 165-mile trail for hiking, bicycling and walking will extend from Wilkes Barre, Luzerne County, to Bristol, Bucks County.

Education

Lehigh University

Lehigh University's Science, Technology, Environment, Policy & Society (STEPS) building received Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification. The five-story facility along Packer Avenue has 50 teaching and research labs, 10 classrooms, auditorium, seminar rooms, computer labs and faculty and graduate student offices.

See 2011 on Page B7

Pair LV wines for the holidays

By MARY FRANCES FRABOTTA
Special to The Press

Pairing the right wine with a meal is "not just a science, but an art."

Three of the eight family-owned vineyard and wineries Lehigh Valley vintners that participate in the Lehigh Valley Wine Trail were contacted to find out what wine lovers should know about bringing the basic principles of food and wine pairings to their home for the holidays and everyday meals.

The Lehigh Valley Wine Trail promotes agritourism and is committed to growing and producing premium wines. The Lehigh Valley is said to be Pennsylvania's fastest-growing wine region and was designated an American Viticultural Area (AVA) in 2008.

The Lehigh Valley AVA includes portions of Lehigh, Northampton, Berks, Schuylkill, Carbon and Monroe counties. This picturesque region has won numerous regional, state, national and international awards, including more than 50 wines made from Chambourcin, the area's signature grape.

The Lehigh Valley Wine Trail promotes Pennsylvania wines from the Lehigh Valley region.

"From the farm to the table, people want to buy local," says Elaine Pivinski, first-generation family owner of Franklin Hill Vineyards and Winery.

Franklin Hill, the oldest vineyard in Pennsylvania, was the first, in 1976, to grow French-American Hybrids, a whole new grape, and a Cayuga white in the foothills of the Poconos.

Franklin Hill's first winery was opened in 1982, producing a modest 3,000 gallons and sold out in four months. Thus began the realization that the Lehigh Valley had some serious wine consumers.

"We were very unique," says Pivinski, who was a little unsure at the time as to how well their first winery would be received.

Today, Franklin Hill has expanded to 53-plus acres and with wineries in Bethlehem and Easton, as well as Tannersville. Pivinski is preparing the second and third generation of her family to pass her wine-making legacy on to and says it's a joy to see this happen.

Franklin Hill Vineyard's specialty is Sauvignon Blanc, Vidal Blanc and De Chaunac wines. Most recently, Chambourcin has been added to the list.

Let's begin the holiday meal pairing with the first course.

"When guests arrive you should give them a medium bodied wine, such as the Sauvignon or Vidal Blanc," says Pivinski. These white wines compliment light appetizers from crab to deviled eggs and even a salad. Red wine drinkers can choose Franklin Hill's "Simply Red," a dry Chambourcin with no oak.

When it comes to the main entrée, we turn to Clover Hill Vineyards and Winery. The Breinigsville facility is Pennsylvania's largest producer of wine at 75,000 gallons.

For 36 years, the Skrip family has been producing a wide range of premium grape varieties from Chardonnay, Cabernet and Merlot, to hybrids such as Vidal Blanc and Chambourcin to native East Coast American grape varieties such as the Concord, Niagra and Catawba grapes. With 22 wines on its list, Clover Hill Vineyards stretch from the Lehigh Valley to Berks County.

Second generation family owner Kari Skrip suggests pairing your holiday turkey or ham with either red or white. On the red side, she suggests Clover's Pinot Noir, a softer, not so full-bodied wine, or Chambourcin, a fruit-forward and less tannic red wine that gives your turkey local flair.

For the traditional pork and sauerkraut, you can't get much more local than pairing it with a Spiced Apple Wine. Patterned off of German vines, this wine is made from local apples and can be heated up and served warm. You can also cook this meal with this wine. "So it is a great pairing," Skrip says. The Clover Hill Holiday Rose makes an excellent holiday ham glaze.

And finally there's the dessert course. Gregg Amore, owner of Amore Vineyards and Winery, a boutique winery north of Bethlehem, says the basic principle of food and wine pairing is the best wine that pleases your palette. "It should be both complimentary and contrasting. Sweet wines go with

sweet desserts," says the Amore Vintner.

Amore began growing grapes on his family's 100-acre farm in the 1990s. A friend and former colleague at DeSales University became Amore's consultant and taught him the basics of wine-making. The winery opened in 2003, producing Cayuga, Vidal, Chambourcin, Niagra, Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc and Concord grapes. Amore Vineyards is the "baby" of the eight LV area wineries.

In pairing something like chocolate cheesecake, Amore suggests Amore's Rapport, a sweet port style wine with slightly higher alcohol content, or their Blackberry Bliss can be savored and enjoyed with dark chocolate Hershey Kisses.

Amore Winery has five sparkling wines on their list. Ring in your New Year with Celebrations, a pink bubbly or toast the morning after with Peach Mist for a nice mimosa.

For pairings with everyday meals, all three agree you should look to the flavor of the food, the sauces or spices used. The fruit of the wine should complement and not dominate, but be in the background.

Thus, intense, spicy food, bold cheeses and pasta dishes should be paired with dry wines like Chardonnays and Sauvignons that have more oak. "Oak" wines have more tannin which absorbs the heat of the spices.

Riesling wines pair nicely with acidic and salty foods, such as vinaigrettes and white meat dishes, along with a Vidal Blanc. For variety, add a full range of a red Chambourcin, the most native grape to East Coast soils, pairs nicely with beef, salmon and red sauce pasta dishes. Don't forget to add a sparkling Pinot or Niagra grape wine for mixing up some fun cocktails.

To learn more about your ultimate wine pairing experience, just "follow your taste buds" down the LV Wine Tasting Trail and don't be afraid to ask for advice from your local wineries along the way. And, when you taste it, you'll know it.

For more information on each of the local eight wineries and their events: www.LehighValleyWineTrail.com



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

John Skrip III and his sister Kari Skrip "nosing" wines in the barrel room at Clover Hill Winery, Breinigsville.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Taking in the 25th anniversary edition of Mayfair at Cedar Beach Park, Allentown, left to right: Atty. John W. Ashley, Salisbury, and his daughters, Claire, an Allentown Central Catholic student; and Patty, a Moravian College student.

Share the Moment in Color!

As a service to our readers, The Press weekly newspapers will print engagement, wedding and anniversary photos in color in the Focus section.

The fee for each article with color photo is \$25.00.

The weekly newspapers will continue to run one black and white photo at no charge. Two photos, color or black & white, are \$35.00.

The Press will not accept photos that are computer printouts. The printed or emailed, high-quality digital color photo, article information, contact name, telephone number and a check, made payable to The Press, need to be sent to: The Press office, 1633 N. 26th St., Allentown, PA 18104.

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Just click on any of the newspaper tabs and click on NEWS for Form Downloads.



Wedding

Anniversary

Engagement



Eight selections from Lehigh Valley Wine Trail

2011: The year in review in arts, education, business



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Spiral staircase at ArtsQuest Center, SteelStacks, Bethlehem, is painted in international orange. View is from third floor at Musikfest Cafe.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

ArtsQuest Center, SteelStacks, Bethlehem, includes Sands Deck, overlooking Founders Way, Air Products Town Square and Levitt Pavilion.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

The Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem Hotel opened in May, adjacent to the Shoppes at the Sands, which opened in November.



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Paul Anka, right, inaugurated the Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem Hotel in song with a parody of "My Way."



PRESS PHOTO BY PAUL WILLISTEIN

Emeril Lagasse, above, previewd Emeril's Italian Table in June, his third restaurant at the Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem.

2011

Continued from page B6

Lehigh, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson and Alvin H. Butz teamed to achieve the LEED designation.

Muhlenberg College
Muhlenberg College, Alvin H. Butz, Inc. and Bruner-Cott and Associates, Inc., received the Construction Management Association of America Mid-Atlantic Chapter's Project of the Year award in the Higher Education Project under \$20-million category for the Seegers Union renovation and addition project. The 66,000-square-foot facility has a new bake shop, catering kitchen, expanded bookstore and student life area. The first floor 30,000-square-foot addition includes a 600-seat dining room, food gallery and kitchen.

Health Care

St. Luke's Hospital - Anderson Campus
St. Luke's Hospital & Health Network's Richard A. Anderson Campus, Route 33 and Freemansburg Avenue, Bethlehem Township, opened. The \$30-million campus includes a 108-bed hospital, cancer center and medical office building. Construction created 350 jobs for 45 area firms. The campus created 400 jobs.

Business

Ben Franklin

TechVentures
The board of directors of Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Northeastern Pennsylvania named Ben Franklin TechVentures, Lehigh University Mountaintop Campus, Bethlehem, in honor of R. Chadwick Paul Jr., Ben Franklin President and CEO. TechVentures2, a 47,000-square-foot addition, is projected to create 200 jobs, retain 100 jobs and provide 20 university student internships. There are 29 early-stage firms, employing 158, at TechVentures.

Lehigh Valley International Airport
Lehigh Valley International Airport, dedicated a renovated terminal, a new web site and a new logo: Always a Better Experience! (as in ABE, for Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton).

Lehigh Valley Industrial Park
Lehigh Valley Industrial park VII, a 1,100-acre site on former Bethlehem Steel Corp. plant land, has welcomed 11 new companies.

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9 a.m. Holy Communion
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Rev. Joseph S. Falzone

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

NORTHAMPTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD
3449 Cherryville Road
Northampton - 610-262-5645
www.NAOG.ws

Daniel E. Lundmark, Pastor
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer & Bible - 7:30 p.m.

BAPTIST

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
(American Baptist)
4601 Tilghman Street
Allentown - 610-395-5441
Rev. Manfred vonHarten
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:50 a.m., Nursery
Handicapped Accessible
BYF - Small Groups - Bible Study
55+ Group - Vocal & Bell Choirs

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
5300 Green Pond Rd., Easton
610-365-5300
Sunday Worship: 8:45 & 10:20 a.m.
(with classes for all ages during both services)
Wed. Dinner with Programs (for all ages)
www.calvarybaptista.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1808 N. 19th St., Allentown
(South Whitehall Township)
SUNDAY SERVICES
Contemporary Worship 8 a.m.
Traditional Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m.

Study Groups 6 p.m.
WEEKDAY MINISTRIES
Awana Clubs & Prayer Groups
Student & Singles Groups
610-432-3414, www.fbcalltown.com

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH OF SCHNECKSVILLE
3749 Route 309 North
Orefield - 610-395-4970
James E. Barr, Pastor
Sunday Services: 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wed. Service 7:30 p.m.

LEHIGH VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
4702 Colebrook Ave.
Emmaus
610-965-4700
Pastor Roland Hammett
Bible Discovery Groups, S.S. 9 a.m.
Sunday - 10:15 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Mtg. - 7 p.m.
www.lvbaptist.org

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

BETHANY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
3300 Seventh Street
Whitehall, PA 18052
610-434-8661
www.WhitehallBFC.org
Timothy Schroyer, Senior Pastor
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
6 p.m. Bible Study
7 p.m. Youth Group

CALVARY CHAPEL

CALVARY CHAPEL LIVING WATER OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY
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Pastor David Massie
http://www.cclivingwater.org
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Wed. 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
(Healing Service: first Wed.)

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3900 Mechanicsville Rd.
Whitehall, 610-435-3901
The Rev. Frank S. St. Amour
Sunday Mass, 8 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Mass, 10:30 a.m.
www.ststephenepiscopal.org

EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
7974 Claussville Rd., Fogelsville
610-285-6967
Christian Ed., 9 a.m.
Snack & Chat, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 10:15 a.m.
Rev. Ken Kalsz

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Emmaus - 610-965-5570
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Traditional Worship, 8:45 a.m.
Contemporary Worship, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
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Kids Club - Wed. 6:30 p.m.

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Rev. Ray A. Ricketts, Sr. Pastor
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Sunday of each month)
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9:15 a.m. Fellowship
9:30 a.m. (Family Education)
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concordia-macungie.com

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3355 MacArthur Road
Whitehall, Pa. 18052
(610) 435-0451
8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School, all ages
The Rev. Michael J. Bodnyk
e-mail prayer requests to
mbodn@aol.com
Handicapped Accessible
Hearing Devices Available

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
28 W. Main St., Macungie
Worship: Sunday, 8 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul E. Bartlett, Pastor
610-966-3325
www.GraceMacungie.org

HEIDELBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH
Irvin & Church Roads
Heidelberg Township
Rev. David L. Hess
610-767-9513
Info and map on website:
www.heidelberg-lutheran.org
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JERUSALEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF EASTERN SALISBURY
1707 Church Road
Allentown, PA 18103
610-797-6933
Rev. Shirley Guider
8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship

JORDAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
5103 Snowdrift Road
Orefield 610-395-5912
The Rev. Herbert H. Michel, D.D.
8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
1st & 3rd Sun. at 10:30 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sun. at 8 a.m.
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Sunday Worship 8 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
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610-965-9885
Rev. Wayne A. Matthias-Long, Pastor
Rev. Fred S. Foerster, Pastor Emeritus
Melanie E. Werley, Associate in Ministry
Worship, 8 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Church School
for All Ages, 9:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1028 Church Street,
Fogelsville - 610-395-5535
Pr. Andrew Carlsson, Interim Pastor
No Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Communion Service
(Handicapped Accessible-Elevator)
www.stjohns-fogelsville.org

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
417 Howertown Road
Catonsville, PA 18032
610-264-3221
Rev. Gary L. Walbert
8 a.m. Holy Communion
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sun./month

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
4331 Main St., Whitehall
610-262-1600
Rev. James W. Schlegel
Wheelchair accessible
8 & 10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship
Communion every Sunday, 8 a.m.
Every 1st, 3rd & 4th Sun. 10:15 a.m.
8 & 10:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship
5th Sunday of the Month

UNION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5500 Rt. 873, Schnecksville
610-767-6884
Rev. Dennis Moore
Worship Service, 8 & 10:45 a.m.
Youth & Adult Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
Handicapped Accessible
All Welcome
Ulcw.org

WEISENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH
7645 Weisenberg Church Rd.
New Tripoli, PA 18066
610-298-2437
Pastor Ray Hand
Worship, 9 a.m.
Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.
Holy Communion - 1st Sunday
Wheelchair accessible

ZIEGELS LUTHERAN

9950 Ziegels Church Road
Breinigsville, PA 18031
Phone: 610-285-6157
www.ziegelschurch.org
Worship, 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Handicapped Accessible
Pastor Bruce MacLaughlin

MENNONITE

WHITEHALL MENNONITE CHURCH
4138 Wilson Street
Whitehall (Egypt), PA
610-262-1270
Sunday School
10 a.m. Worship Service
Child Care provided
"To be the people of God
inviting others to know Him."

MESSIANIC JEWISH

BEIT SIMCHA "House of Joy"
Rejoicing with the God of Israel
Shabbat Service every Saturday 10 a.m.
Shabbat School 11 a.m. Oneg 12:15 p.m.
Our services are at:
5042 Schantz Road, Allentown
Home havurah groups and bible studies
For more info, see www.beitsimcha.org
Call 610-289-2011 or
beitsimcha@gmail.com

MORAVIAN

EMMAUS MORAVIAN CHURCH
146 Main St., Emmaus, PA 18049
610-965-6067
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Nursery during worship
www.emmausmoravian.org
Rev. Kevin J. Henning, Pastor

SONrise COMMUNITY CHURCH
Next Worship Service:
January 22, 2012
The Macungie Institute
510 E. Main Street
Rt. 100, Macungie
4 p.m.
Contact: Kate Dekker, LCL
610-965-1879
CHURCH WITH NO WALLS

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

CALVARY FELLOWSHIP OF EMMAUS
Emmaus Fire Company #1
50 South 6th Street, Emmaus
610-691-3411
Pastor Steve Feeley
484-547-5235
calvaryemmaus.org
Teaching Verse by Verse thru the Bible
Contemporary Worship
Relaxed Atmosphere
Sunday Worship Service, 9:45 a.m.

FREEDOM FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
560 Dalton Street
Emmaus, PA 18049
Phone 610-928-4036
Pastors Bill & Sue Whitney
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
Bible Study - Tuesday - 7 P.M.

JACOB'S CHURCH
Route 143, Jacksonsville, PA
Rev. Scott L. Shay, Pastor
610-756-6352 or
610-756-6676
Church School, 9 a.m.
Family Worship, 10 a.m.
Nursery Available
Bible Study Wed, 7:30 p.m.
Handicapped Accessible

ST. PETER'S UNION CHURCH
(Lutheran & UCC)
Lynnville, PA 610-298-8064
Pastor Carol Ivey
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Handicapped Accessible
All Welcome!

UNITED CH. OF CHRIST

CEDAR U.C.C.
3419 Broadway
(2 blks. W. Cedar Crest Blvd.)
610-395-6332
Pastor Lee Schleicher
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

CHRIST CHURCH U.C.C.
75 East Market Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018 - 610-965-6565
Rev. William J. Kuntze, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Jeffrey V. Bauer, Assoc. Pastor
email: christ@christucc.org
8 a.m. - 1 p.m. "The Gathering Place"
Services: 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Traditional Worship

CHRIST'S CHURCH AT LOWHILL U.C.C.
4695 Lowhill Church Road
New Tripoli - 610-298-2527
Rev. Russell Campbell
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Ramp Accessible
christchurchatlowhill.com

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD U.C.C.
135 Quarry Rd., Alburis
610-966-2991
Rev. Scott M. Sanders
Communion Feast, 10 a.m.

EBENEZER U.C.C.
Route 143, New Tripoli
610-298-8000
Rev. Kevin Fruchtl, Pastor
10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Nursery Available
Handicapped Accessible
Hearing Devices Available

ALLENTOWN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Cedar Crest Blvd. & Tilghman St.
8:45 & 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9 a.m. Church School, all ages
8:45 a.m. & 10:10 a.m. Alternative Worship
10 a.m. Arabic Worship in the Chapel
Childcare provided
610-395-3781
www.fpcallentown.org

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EMMAUS
N. 2nd & Cherokee Sts.
Emmaus - 610-967-5600
Rev. Timothy Michael Dooner
10:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
Nursery care provided
www.faithchurchemmaus.org
faithchurch@faithchurchemmaus.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM
2344 Center Street
610-967-5865
Rev. Dr. Aih Halvorson, Sr. Pastor
Saturday Oasis, 6 p.m.
Sunday Worship:
10:15 a.m. Traditional Service
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
Childcare & Handicap Accessible
www.fpcbethlehem.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOKENDAUQUA
3005 S. Front Street
Whitehall, PA 18052
610-264-9693
Puppet Ministry
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service
Handicapped Accessible
Air Conditioned
www.ucchokedauqua.org

JORDAN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1837 Church Road, Allentown
(Corner of 309 & Walbert Ave.)
jordanucc.org
610-395-2218
Rev. Dr. David Charles Smith, Sr. Pastor
8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

PRESBYTERIAN

EGYPT COMMUNITY CHURCH
4129 S. Church Street
Whitehall - 610-262-4961
Pastor Larry E. Pickar, Sr.
Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Series: Plan to Win!
Message Outlines on Website
(Child-Care Available)
Adult/Children's Sunday Sch., 9 a.m.
Visit Our Website: www.EgyptUCC.org

GRACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
902 Lincoln Ave.
Northampton, Pa. 18067
610-262-7186 graucc@rcn.com
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Handicapped accessible

U.C.C. GREENAWALDS
2325 Albright Avenue
Allentown, PA 18104
610-435-1763
Jeffery A. Brinks, Pastor
9 a.m. Education Hour
10:30 a.m. Worship
(Nursery available)
Sanctuary handicapped accessible

HEIDELBERG U.C.C.
Irvin & Church Roads
Heidelberg Township
Pastor Karen Yonney
610-767-4740
Puppet Ministry
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service
Handicapped Accessible
Air Conditioned
www.ucchdelberg.org

JORDAN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1837 Church Road, Allentown
(Corner of 309 & Walbert Ave.)
jordanucc.org
610-395-2218
Rev. Dr. David Charles Smith, Sr. Pastor
8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

ST. JOHN'S U.C.C. FULLERTON
575 Grape Street, Whitehall 18052
Rev. Dr. Becky J. Beckwith, Sr. Pastor
Rev. George R. Eckstein, Assoc. Pastor
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Worship
Accessible & Elevator
Everyone is Welcome!
610-264-8421
stjohnsucc.pastor@rcn.com

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
139 North Fourth St.
Emmaus 610-965-9158
Sr. Pastor, Rev. Paul Knappenberger
8 & 10:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School

ST. PAUL'S UCC OF INDIANLAND
787 Almond Road
Walnutport (Cherryville)
610-767-5751
Rev. Martin E. Nuscher
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Traditional Worship
8 a.m. Contemporary Worship,
2nd & 4th Sunday
Nursery Available, Handicapped Accessible

ST. PETER'S UNION CHURCH
(Lutheran, UCC)
7863 St. Peters Road
(on Macungie Mountain)
610-966-3030
Rev. Jerel W. Gade, Pastor
9 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

LEHIGH VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING
4116 Bath Pike, Bethlehem, PA
1/2 mi north of US 22 on PA 512
610-691-3411
Meeting for Worship at 9:30 a.m.
Everyone welcome
Childcare provided
Web: LehighValleyQuakers.org

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3441 Devonshire Road
Allentown, PA 18103
610-797-4242 or 610-791-4979
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
and the United Church of Christ
Rev. Homer E. Royer Jr., Sr. Pastor
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion, pew

UNION

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
South Rt. 100 & Church Lane
Trexlerstown - 610-395-4571
Rev. Al Bastin, Co-Pastor
Rev. Carol Bastin, Co-Pastor
9 a.m. Sunday School
9 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Worship, Nursery

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
19th St. & Lincoln Ave.
Northampton - 610-261-2910
Rev. Todd Fennell
9 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship
Nursery & Child Care provided
Sally Jane Payson,
Child Care Teacher
Sanctuary, Handicapped Accessible

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
615 Third Street
Catasauqua, PA 18032
610-264-4091
Pastor Robert Lewis, Interim Pastor
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Sunday Worship
8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
Handicapped Accessible
Nursery Available

SOLOMON'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
82 S. Church Street
Macungie, PA 18062
Office 610-966-3086
Rev. Dr. Martha H. Boyer, Pastor
9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages,
Confirmation classes
10:15 a.m. Worship

TRINITY U.C.C.
Third & Copley Sts.
Coplay, PA 610-262-8933
Pastor Steve Hummel
9:30 a.m. Divine Worship
(Child Care Available)
Communion, 1st Sunday/mo.

UNION U.C.C.
5550 Route 873, Neffs
(610) 767-6961
Rev. Thomas N. Thomas,
Senior Pastor
Rev. Kris P. Snyder-Samuels,
Associate Pastor
8 a.m. Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

ZIEGEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9990 Ziegels Church Road
Breinigsville, PA 18031
Phone: 610-285-6157
www.ziegelschurch.org
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 11:05 a.m.
Handicapped Accessible
Pastor Cand Cain-Borgman

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1208 Brookside Road
Wescosville 610-395-3613
Contemporary Worship, Sat. 5 p.m.,
Sun. 9:15 and 11 a.m.
Blended Worship, Sun. 8 a.m.
(Child Care Available, Hearing Asst.,
Handicapped Access at all services.)
(Signing for the Deaf at 11 a.m.)
9:15 & 11 a.m. Sunday School
5 p.m. Children's Church
Jr. & Sr. High Youth, Friday 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Sr. High Cafe, Friday 9-11 p.m.

UNITY

UNITY OF LEHIGH VALLEY
26 North 3rd Street
Emmaus, PA 18049
Rev. Joy Wyley, Spiritual Leader
610-965-3036
10 a.m. Sunday Service
Otc. Hrs. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tues.-Fri.
Bookstore Open Sunday Mornings
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DIAL-A-PRAYER 610-966-3577

WESLEYAN

CALVARY WESLEYAN CHURCH
1414 Pennsylvania Avenue
Bethlehem - 610-866-1988
www.calvarywesleyanchurch.org
Blended Worship, 9 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.
Sunday a.m. Children, Youth & Adult Classes
Wednesday Fellowship Meals
AWANA (Wednesday evenings)
Autism Ministry
Youth Ministry
Senior Pastor, Dwight Mikesell

TRINITY WESLEYAN CHURCH
"Home of the Live Nativity"
6735 Catonia Road
Allentown, Pa. 18106
610-398-1711
www.twcalledtown.org
Rev. Jake Lee, Sr. Pastor
Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship (Blended), 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Family Night, 7 p.m.

Celebrating Advent



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN
During the annual Christmas Musicale at Edgeboro Moravian Church in Bethlehem Dec. 11, the Tiny Tots Choir sang "Away in the Manger" and raised their fingers to their heads during "the cattle are lowing" verse.

Guitar players The Rt. Rev. J. Christian Giesler, left, and student pastor Aaron Linville from Edgeboro Moravian lead the Musicale Service with holiday songs on the third Sunday of Advent.

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HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answer to previous puzzle

9	1	6	5	8	7	4	2	3
8	3	4	2	9	1	7	5	6
2	5	7	4	3	6	9	1	8
7	9	1	3	6	2	8	4	5
3	8	5	1	4	9	2	6	7
4	6	2	8	7	5	3	9	1
6	2	9	7	5	3	1	8	4
5	7	8	9	1	4	6	3	2
1	4	3	6	2	8	5	7	9

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		4	6					
	8		3					
6				7				9
5	2	8			1	6	3	
		3						2
		1						8
		9	4	1	3	2	6	5
		5		8		4		7
		6		5		8		3

Difficulty Level ★★★

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LEHIGH COUNTY SENIOR MENUS

For locations call 610-782-3254
Wednesday, Dec. 28: Baked pork loin, mashed potatoes, peas and pearl onions, rye bread, diced peaches.
Thursday, Dec. 29: Beef stew, mixed vegetables, biscuit, fruit cocktail.
Friday, Dec. 30: Closed. Happy holidays.
Monday, Jan. 2: Closed.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY SENIOR MENUS

For locations call 610-559-3245
Wednesday, Dec. 28: Cream of potato soup, breaded chicken with sage stuffing, whole kernel corn, wheat bread with margarine, dark sweet red cherries.
Thursday, Dec. 29: Navy bean soup, cheese steak sandwich, potato chips, cole slaw, ambrosia.
Friday, Dec. 30: Roast pork with gravy, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, wheat roll with margarine, apple pie.
Monday, Jan. 2: Closed. Happy New Year!

#1,548 FOR RELEASE DEC. 25, 2011

PREMIER Crossword

By Frank A. Longo

HOLIDAY TEAM

ACROSS

- 1 Guns, as a motor
- 5 Doorway sidepiece
- 9 Place-setting base
- 12 "Scram!"
- 18 Rink jump
- 19 Morales of "Bad Boys"
- 20 City near Mauna Kea
- 21 See 5-Down
- 22 Holiday team member #1
- 25 Loving type
- 26 British coins
- 27 Holiday team member #2
- 29 Rains down cold pellets
- 31 Three-in-one M.D.
- 32 Atop, to a bard
- 33 Mlle. who's canonized
- 34 Holiday team member #3
- 41 Honolulu's home
- 45 Swiss river to the Rhine
- 46 Stew globule
- 47 Marine route
- 51 Holiday team member #4
- 57 Actor's quest
- 58 Having no wheels
- 59 Gold, in Rome
- 60 Wild cats
- 63 Poet Tate
- 64 Holiday team member #5
- 69 Utters again
- 71 Archer's skill
- 72 Prefixed with paganism
- 73 Director Van Peebles
- 77 Holiday team member #6
- 81 Sister's daughter
- 82 "The Real McCoys" star Walter
- 85 The "4" of 4/1/11: Abbr.
- 86 Auto garage worker, at times
- 88 Rice-A-—
- 89 Holiday team member #7
- 94 Port in Denmark
- 97 Playa — Rey
- 98 Bitter beer
- 99 "Guarding —" (1994 movie)
- 100 Holiday team member #8
- 106 Thurman of movies
- 109 Valueless
- 110 Quite a ways
- 111 Antenna
- 116 Holiday team member #9
- 123 "Leave It to Beaver" role
- 124 Marrying minister, e.g.
- 125 Holiday team
- 127 Like trains and ears
- 128 Kitchen gadget brand
- 129 Chilled
- 130 A while ago
- 131 Record label for Kenny G
- 132 Charisse of "Brigadoon"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18				19				20			21							
22				23				24			25							
26							27				28							
29				30				31			32				33			
				34		35	36			37	38	39			40			
41	42	43	44		45					46			47		48	49	50	
51				52				53	54	55			56			57		
58								59			60	61	62					
63						64	65			66	67	68						
69					70		71			72			73		74	75	76	
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82	83	84								85			86	87				
88							89	90	91	92			93					
94				95	96		97				98					99		
				100			101			102	103	104			105			
106	107	108		109						110			111		112	113	114	115
116				117				118	119	120			121	122		123		
124								125					126					
127								128					129					130
131								132					133					134

- 133 Aware of
- 134 Storied Fed Eliot
- DOWN**
- 1 Scraping files
- 2 Boot out
- 3 Novelist Jules
- 4 Pizza part
- 5 With 21-Across, motor for a Boeing 777
- 6 China setting
- 7 "One — meat is ..."
- 8 Ohio State's conference
- 9 Very small: Prefix
- 10 Opposite of aweather
- 11 Big name in lawn mowers
- 12 Standard — (leaders of movements)
- 13 Sanction
- 14 Really eager
- 15 Bicycle pair
- 16 Unreactive
- 17 Concise
- 20 Port-au-Prince's land
- 23 Captures
- 24 Telephoned
- 28 Young pal of Pooh
- 30 Fixes, as a pet
- 35 — Rizzo ("Midnight Cowboy" role)
- 36 Feeling of rage
- 37 "Science Friday" airt
- 38 "How about that!"
- 39 Partakes of
- 40 Dawn's illumination
- 41 Muppet grouch
- 42 "Behold — Horse" (1964 drama)
- 43 Tosses
- 44 Breaking, as a bad habit
- 48 Be a suitor of
- 49 Cockpit datum: Abbr.
- 50 "I agree"
- 52 Paul Newman's Ohio alma mater
- 53 Giant in oil
- 54 First-rate
- 55 Little kid
- 56 Bawl
- 61 Amazon —
- 62 Blissful
- 65 Hotfooted it
- 66 Ham-handed
- 67 United — College Fund
- 68 Oozy stuff
- 70 Little, in Scotland
- 74 — cavae (big blood vessels)
- 75 Cake finishers
- 76 Square ones
- 78 Ampersand's meaning
- 79 Dirt Devil, e.g., briefly
- 80 "The Little Rascals" girl
- 82 Pal
- 83 Axle, for one
- 84 Compass pt.
- 87 "Therein — tale"
- 90 Lupino of Hollywood
- 91 Pal of Stimpny
- 92 Pixieish one
- 93 "Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo —" (Irish lullaby)
- 95 Keystone Kops creator Mack
- 96 Nation north of Ethiopia
- 101 Livy's 1,051
- 102 — a bad start
- 103 Popular nickname for tennis star Nadal
- 104 Bay Area city, briefly
- 105 Axed down
- 106 Palate dangler
- 107 Grand house
- 108 Trial excuse
- 112 A noble gas
- 113 Actress — Kristen
- 114 Smart — (wiseacres)
- 115 Harps' kin
- 117 LAX guesses
- 118 Tiny division of a min.
- 119 Tasting of wood, as some wines
- 120 Like albums, nowadays
- 121 Dianetics proponent — Hubbard
- 122 Defreeze
- 126 Oath answer

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CRYPTOGRAM

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L I G B I Z I E X E K K I X Q X M W V H V W D L I C M X
G I E C B A Q Y E C M A C Z A Q N Q A H I L W X B M B ' X B M B ?
Y A M V B N M H L Q A D C M E X .

See cryptogram answer on page B12

Today's Cryptquip clue: B equals D

WHAT'S IN THE CLASSIFIEDS?

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EOE

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PUBLIC NOTICE
SALISBURY TOWNSHIP
2012 SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that in 2012, the Regular Meetings of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 2900 South Pike Avenue, Salisbury Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

SALISBURY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Second Tuesday of each month
Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
(*except November meeting will be held Wednesday, November 7, 2012)

SALISBURY TOWNSHIP ZONING HEARING BOARD

First Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

SALISBURY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Third Wednesday of each month
Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

SALISBURY TOWNSHIP CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Quarterly on the First Tuesday of the month
Regular Meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Randy Soriano, Township Manager
Dec. 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, HANOVER TOWNSHIP, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA HAVE ADOPTED THEIR 2012 GENERAL FUND, CAPITAL RESERVE, STATE FUND AND RECREATION BUDGETS. THEY ARE ON DISPLAY FROM 8 A.M. TO 4 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY AT THE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 3630 JACKSONVILLE ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, 18017.

ALSO, THE TOWNSHIP HAS ADOPTED A RESOLUTION FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2012.

HANOVER TOWNSHIP
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
Resolution 11-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE Township of Hanover, County of Northampton, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the tax rate for the year 2012.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED, and it is hereby resolved and enacted by the Board of Township Supervisors of the Township of Hanover, County of Northampton, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that a tax be and the same is hereby levied on all property transfers and occupation tax within said municipality subject to taxation for the Fiscal Year 2012 as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Tax Type and Rate. Includes Earned Income Tax (1%), Emergency Municipal Services (\$52.00), etc.

Table with 2 columns: Tax Type and Rate. Includes Mercantile Tax (1 1/2 Mills), Performance of Services (1 Mill), etc.

Lori A. Stranzl
Township Secretary
Dec. 28

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant Section 709(a) of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, 65 Pa.C.S. §709(a), that the boards and commissions of the Township of Bethlehem, Northampton County, Pennsylvania will hold their regular public meetings during the 2012 calendar year at the Bethlehem Township Municipal Building, 4225 Easton Avenue, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as follows:

Board of Commissioners - First and Third Monday of each month commencing at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time with the exception of the meetings of January 2, 2012 which will be rescheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2012 and September 3, 2012 which will be rescheduled for Tuesday, September 4, 2012.

Planning Commission - Fourth Monday of each month commencing at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time with the exception of the meetings of May 28, 2012 which will be rescheduled for Tuesday, May 29, 2012 and December 24, 2012 which will be rescheduled for Wednesday, December 19, 2012.

Zoning Hearing Board - Last Wednesday of each month commencing at 6:30 p.m. prevailing time with the exception of the meeting of December 26, 2012 which will be re-scheduled for Thursday, December 27, 2012.

Recreation Commission - Second Monday of each month commencing at 6:00 p.m. prevailing time

Municipal Authority - Fridays, January 13th, February 10th, March 9th, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July 13th, August 10th, September 7th, October 19th, November 16th, commencing at 1:00 p.m. prevailing time and Wednesday, December 12, 2012, commencing at 5:00 p.m. prevailing time. All meetings will be held in the Physical Plant Building, 3535 Orth Street

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Howard L. Kutzler
Township Manager

Dec. 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners will hold a Workshop Meeting at 6:00 pm, prior to their regular Public Meeting on Monday, January 9, 2012, at the Township Municipal Building, 3219 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA.

/s/Paul F. Geissinger
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL

Dec. 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

ESTATE of LAFERNE G. HERSH, Deceased, late of Emmaus, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. Letters Testamentary, have been granted to the undersigned, who requests all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payments without delay to:

JOANNE HARIU, a/k/a
JOANNE DOROTHY HARIU and
MAHLON HARIU, a/k/a
MAHLON EDWIN HARIU,
Co-Executors
Address: 636 Ridge Street
Emmaus, PA 18049

Dec. 14, 21, 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

ESTATE of CLARA D. KOCH a/k/a CLARA KOCH a/k/a CLARA DEVINE KOCH, deceased, late of Allentown, Pennsylvania, Letters Testamentary have been granted to the undersigned, who requests all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the Decedent to make payment without delay to:

JUDITH A. KAZMAR, Co-Executrix
LINDA D. ROSS, Co-Executrix
c/o WILLIAM P. BRIED, ESQ.
RITTER & BRIED, PC
1600 W. Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA 18102-4287

Dec. 28, Jan. 4, 11

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of South Whitehall Township will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Ordinances summarized below during its public meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at 7:30 P.M. at the South Whitehall Township Municipal Building located at 4444 Walbert Avenue, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania 18104, at which the Board of Commissioners will consider enacting the proposed Ordinances summarized below:

A. An Ordinance Of The Township Of South Whitehall, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, Amending The Zoning Ordinance To Create Additional Provisions For Certain House Pets; Establish Restrictions For Housing More Than Four House Pets And Chicken Hens As Pets; Delete, Re-number And Re-State Certain Existing Provisions Pertaining To The Keeping Of Animals And Provide For A General Repealer, Severability Clause, And Effective Date

B. An Ordinance of the Township of South Whitehall, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, Amending Section 12.39 of the South Whitehall Township Zoning Ordinance to Provide for the Use of Electronic Graphic Display Messaging on Billboards and On-Premise Signs; To Provide For Performance Standards, Such As The Maximum Electronic Maximum Display Area, The Frequency That Images May Be Changed, Automatic Dimming And Brightness Standards, Setbacks From Various Traffic Control Devices, Intersections And Property Lines, Height Standards, Special Exception Review Procedures For On-Premises Identification Ground Signs Including Digital Messaging For Schools, Public Buildings And Places Of Worship; To Provide For Definitions Relative To Electronic Graphic Display Messages; and To Provide For A General Repealer; To Provide For A Severability Clause and to Provide for an Effective Date.

All properties are located in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. Copies of plans, applications and supporting documents are available for public inspection at the Township Municipal Building.

Jeff Higgins, Director

Dec. 28, Jan. 4

PUBLIC NOTICE

Estate of PAUL D. STAUFFER, deceased, late of Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. Letters of Administration have been granted to the undersigned who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known all the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payments without delay to:

Donald P. Stauffer
c/o John O. Stover, Jr., Esquire
537 Chestnut Street
Emmaus, PA 18049

Dec. 28, Jan. 4, 11

PUBLIC NOTICE

ESTATE of ARLENE M. STAUFFER, deceased, late of Devon House, 1930 Bedin Dr., Allentown, PA.

All persons having claims or demands against the said estate are requested to make known the same, and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, without delay, to the executrix or her attorney named below:
Executrix: DIANE KESHEL
c/o Feldman Law Offices P.C.
221 N. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18104

Dec. 14, 21, 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that in the estate of the decedent set forth below the Register of Wills has granted Testamentary Letters to the person named below. All persons having claims or demands against said estate are requested to make known the same, and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment without delay to the Executor* or his attorney named below.

ESTATE OF: WALTER P. L. MINNICH, JR.
DATE OF DEATH: November 8, 2011
Late of the City of Bethlehem, County of Northampton
EXECUTRIX: Robin Lee Pontz
234 E. New Street
Lititz, PA 17542

Dec. 14, 21, 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

ESTATE of BETTY L. BARTOSIK deceased, late of 6688 Tollgate Road, Zionsville, Lehigh County, PA 18092, Letters Testamentary have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the Decedent to make payments without delay to:

Personal Representatives of the Estate of Betty L. Bartosik, Deceased:
Vincent A. Bartosik and
Steven P. Bartosik
c/o James A. Ritter, Esquire
Gross McGinley, LLP
111 E. Harrison St., Suite 2
Emmaus, PA 18049-2916

Dec. 28, Jan. 4, 11

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
SALISBURY TOWNSHIP
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Salisbury Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Meeting on the proposed Comprehensive Plan at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at the Salisbury Township Municipal Building, 2900 S. Pike Ave., Allentown, PA 18103. Attendees may preview the Plan starting at 7 pm.

The Comprehensive Plan sets overall policies for preservation and development over the next 10 to 15 years. The Comprehensive Plan addresses Natural Features Conservation, Land Uses, Housing, Transportation, Community Facilities and Services, Community Development, and Ways to Put the Plan into Action. The Plan may be reviewed at the Township Building M-F, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. Copies of all or portions of the Plan will be made available at cost. To purchase a complete paper copy of the Plan or to request special accommodations due to disability, please contact Cynthia Sopka at 610-797-4000 in advance.

Cynthia Sopka, Director of Planning and Zoning
Dec. 28, Jan. 4

PUBLIC NOTICE

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING NOTICE
The Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners will hold a Reorganizational Meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, at 8:00 p.m., in the Public Meeting Room of the Whitehall Township Municipal Building, 3219 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA.

/s/Paul F. Geissinger
FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL

Dec. 28

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL
ZONING HEARING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING

The regular monthly meeting of the Whitehall Township Zoning Hearing Board will be held on January 17, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., in the Public Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, at 3219 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA 18052, to hear the following appeals:

DOCKET # 1738 - GFY Real Estate Development, LLC - 343 Springfield Way, Easton, PA 18045. Location: 3629 Columbia Street, Whitehall, PA 18052, PIN 548993343045, the subject property is located in an OS1 Open Space Residential/Agricultural Zoning District. Applicant is requesting a use variance to Sec. 27-68 A and Sec. 27-68 E (2)(a)(b)(c)(d) and (3) of the Zoning Ordinance regarding change of the present use of the property from a single family residential to an office with dimensional and impervious coverage variance requests. Continued to this meeting at the request of the Applicant.

Copies of plans, applications and supporting documents are available for public inspection at the Township Municipal Building.

The Whitehall Township Municipal Building is accessible to the physically handicapped. Any person that requires special assistance to understand the nature of the business conducted at the above meeting because of visual, hearing or other impairment, is requested to contact Melissa A. Ceasar, Zoning Officer, at least five (5) days prior to the scheduled meeting to arrange for the necessary assistance.

Applicants, and all interested parties MUST appear at this hearing to be considered.
MELISSA A. CEASAR, Zoning Officer
Dec. 28, Jan. 4

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Meeting Notice
A special meeting of the First Regional Compost Authority has been scheduled for Tuesday January 10, 2012 at 9:30 A.M. The meeting will be held at the Allen Township Municipal Building located at 4714 Indian Trail Road Northampton, Pa. 18067. The purpose of the meeting is to interview potential candidates for the Director of Operations position.

Dec. 28

PUBLIC NOTICE

Estate of GRACE A. WOTRING aka Grace Wotring, deceased, late of Bath, Northampton County, PA, Letters Testamentary have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payments without delay to:
Dennis G. Ziegler
840 Hickory Road
Walnutport, PA 18088

Dec. 21, 28, Jan. 4

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