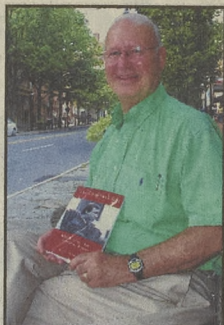




SPORTS
Big games coming up
 See page A11



INSIDE
Mower's memories
 See page A20

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DECEMBER 22, 2010

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CITY

The horses stayed home

Tax hearing yields many concerns, few solutions

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

At Bethlehem City Council's final budget hearing Dec. 15, a CPA in financial services was among city employees begging for her job. She offered to work part-time and without benefits. Her plea fell on deaf ears. So did the concerns of firefighter Dave Saltzer, who bluntly stated that the proposed elimination of two positions in his department "is going to increase the potential for more disasters." In fact, City Council voted to freeze all step increases for all non-union workers, and deferred a 1.5 percent annual increase until July 1.

These are just some of the painful measures that appear likely in what Mayor John Callahan called the "most difficult budget" he's encountered in his 13 years in city government. And that pain will extend to taxpayers too.

Council member Eric Evans also proposed a 3/4 mill tax increase, which is expected to bring in a little more than \$1 million next year. That tax hike was approved 5-2, with Council members David DiGiacinto and J. William Reynolds voting no. In addition, Council intends to borrow another \$16 million for unpaid bills, which includes \$1.2 million for the city's annual pension payment.

Callahan had asked for \$20 million and had said he could live with \$18.5 million. But he'll have to make do with \$16 million.

An independent audit of Bethlehem's finances revealed that in 2009, Bethlehem was several months late in making its annual pension contribution. City administrators blamed the late payment on cash flow problems, and assured Council President Bob Donchez during an August Finance Committee hearing that this year's payment would be on time.

It now appears the money must be borrowed.

Callahan's administration also wants to borrow \$6 million for capital projects, including a new EMS Center and upgrades to the City's 911 system. City Council authorized a loan in August, but Mayor Callahan told Council he spent the money on medical costs and now is asking to See **CITY** on Page A3

32ND LIVE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

An angel gets well-deserved recognition

After the 32nd annual performance of the live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant Dec. 11, a birthday party was held in the nearby First House log cabin for Florence Liberto of Bath. Florence was actually 81 on the first day of the 32nd annual performance of the pageant. Lisa Villani of Bethlehem, coordinator of the Metropolitan Commu-

nity Church Choir angels, surprised Florence with a birthday cake. Florence has been a dedicated volunteer and member of MCC choir for 11 years. The pageant committee also dedicated its program book to the late Betty Milander for her many years of service.



Holy mother Mary, played by Amanda Moyer of Northampton, holds her newborn son Jesus (actually 7-month-old Caleb Moyer) in front of the stable and its lighted star.

'A baby is waiting to be born'

By **TIM GILMAN**
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

It has been said that there are always two sides to every story. In the case of the 32nd annual performance of the Live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant Dec. 11 and 12 at Rose Garden Park, it holds true. Saturday was a mildly pleasant day with some

sun which attracted a crowd of 400-plus, while Sunday's forecast for intermittent rain came true as some 100 persons defied the weather to watch the pageant under dark gray skies.

The pageant seemed blessed by nature, as there was a downpour just before the pageant started and threatening skies gave way



This shepherd woman with glasses enjoys a well-earned hot dog after the Saturday performance ended. More pageant photos appear on page A2.

to more rain after the pageant ended. As a result jackets, hats and umbrellas were in use during the pageant.

The cherished holiday tradition in Bethlehem was presented for the first time on Christmas Eve in 1978 on Fourth Street at Our Lady of Pompeii Church in South Bethlehem. The next year the pageant became a

citywide ecumenical observance of the birth of Jesus.

Today, a volunteer ecumenical committee of the LBCP continues to present the pageant and raises funds to support it. On a good day the pageant cast can number as many as 75 volunteers with 25 animals — sheep, camels, ponies and goats.

BASD

'Contrary to public comment'

Teachers praise school board for contract approval

By **DOUGLAS GRAVES**
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

Bethlehem Education Association's teachers came out in force Dec. 13 to thank the school board members for acting early to approve their new contract and pay raises.

"This board is courageous," said BEA President Jolene Vitalos during public comment.

Stung by reaction in the press and the blogs, Vitalos went on to defend the board's action. She said that "contrary to public comment," the school board and BEA had followed all applicable laws and bargaining rules.

"Our nation continues to demonize teachers," Vitalos said. "According to the on-line comments and editorials this week, the Lehigh Valley is no exception. I cannot remain silent."

She went on to list numerous instances where BASD teachers have benefited children and society in acts outside their expected duties. From being scout leaders and Little League coaches to filling the roles of Cupid delivering a Valentine to the kids who didn't get one from their classmates, Tooth Fairy to kids whose parents forgot a tooth was under the pillow, and the Easter See **BASD** on Page A3

BETHLEHEM PRESS

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10

INSIDE THE PRESS

Arts	B4
Business	B7
Calendar	A3
Classified	B11
Dining	A17
Focus	B1
Lifestyle	B6
Milestones	A4
News&views	A18
Police	A5
School	A19
Worship	B8

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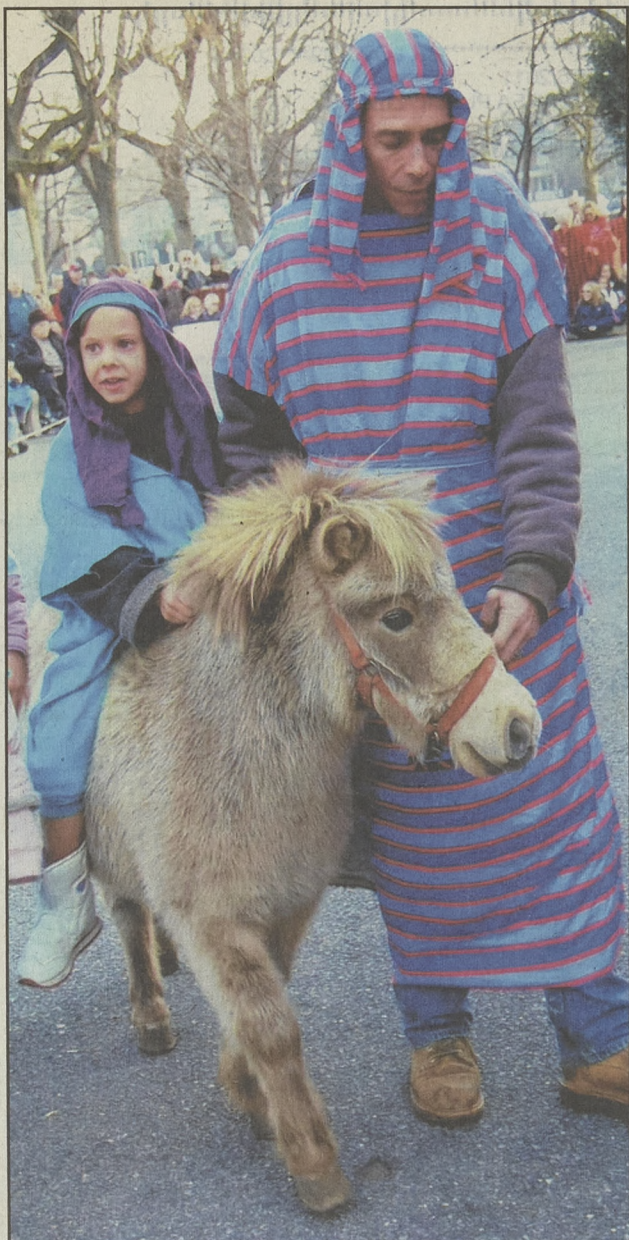
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32ND LIVE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Starr O'Neil gets a ride on a miniature pony with her father, Kevin O'Neil. The O'Neil family of Bethlehem has been volunteering for three years.



Nathan De Pietro, son of Derek and Cassandra De Pietro of Bethlehem, flanks adult soldiers guarding King Herod and the High Priests. Nathan's grandfather is the high priest on the left with the red headpiece.



The Van Camp family from Bethlehem Township has their own seats on wheels during Saturday's crowded performance of the live nativity at the Rose Garden in Bethlehem. Wearing animal knit hats Adam and his brother Jason sit in a red wagon.



The Holy Family – Gary Snyder of Bethlehem plays Joseph, angels from the Metropolitan Community Church Choir, and Mary (Amanda Moyer of Northampton) holds her infant son who played Baby Jesus (7-month-old Caleb Moyer) pose for pictures by passing spectators after the Saturday performance ended.

'A baby is waiting to be born'



Inclement weather forces neighborhood resident Elena Helmuth to hold an umbrella over her grandson Noah Helmuth as they watch the Live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant Sunday afternoon, Dec. 12, from mostly empty bleachers at the Rose Garden.

PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN
MORE PHOTOS APPEAR ON PAGE A6



Pageant donations collector Barbara Penberth, with plenty of empty seats behind her, watches the Sunday performance with light donation buckets. Collections were low due to the inclement weather which reduced Saturday's high attendance of 400-plus to just some 100 spectators Sunday. Penberth said that last year's heavy rains on Sunday attracted only several dozen spectators and that the pageant's position that the show must go on despite the weather held firm. Smiling she said, "A baby is waiting to be born."

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Wednesday, December 22

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

Thursday, December 23

Northampton Mock Turtle Marionette Theater Christmas Carol workshop, 6:30 p.m. Ice House, 56 River St. Call 610-867-8208 or visit www.mockturtle.org.

Tuesday, December 28

Hanover Township Board Supervisors, 7 p.m. 3630 Jacksonville Road.
Saucon Valley School Board, 7:30 p.m. Audion Building, 2097 Polk Valley Road.

Wednesday, December 29

Bethlehem Township Zoning Board, 6:30 p.m. 4225 Easton Ave.

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

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Wednesday, December 22

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.
Edgeboro Moravian Church Putz, 645 Hamilton Ave. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 610-866-8793.

Historic Bethlehem Visitors Center, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Historic Bethlehem's Goundie House exhibit, "Bethlehem's Past Revealed," 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Live Advent Calendar, 5 p.m. Goundie House, 501 Main St.
Old Bethlehem 45-minute walking tour with costumed guide, lantern led, 6 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

East Hills Moravian Church Putz, 6 to 8 p.m. 1830 Butz-town Road. Call 610-868-6481.

Thursday, December 23

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.

Historic Bethlehem Visitors Center, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Historic Bethlehem's Smithy (historic blacksmith), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 425 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Historic Bethlehem's Goundie House exhibit, "Bethlehem's Past Revealed," 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Moravian Museum of Bethlehem exhibit, "House on the Lecha (Lehigh): An Architectural History of Bethlehem's Gemeinhaus" and period decorations, noon to 5 p.m. 66 W. Church St. Call 610-691-6055.

Kemmerer Museum of Bethlehem exhibit, Elizabeth Johnston Prime dollhouse collection and Victorian Christmas decorations, noon to 5 p.m. 427 N. New St. Call 610-691-6055.

Central Moravian Church Christmas Community Putz, 73 W. Church St., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 610-866-5661.

Old Bethlehem 45-minute 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.

Live Advent Calendar, 5 p.m. Goundie House, 501 Main St.
Bethlehem bus tour with costumed guide; 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

East Hills Moravian Church Putz, 6 to 8 p.m. 1830 Butz-town Road. Call 610-868-6481.

Friday, December 24

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.

Children's Lovefeast, 1 p.m. Vigils, 5:30 and 8 p.m. Central Moravian Church, 73 W. Church St. Free but ticket required. Call 610-866-5661.

Lehigh & Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum Inc. featuring new Saucon Yard, 2 to 5 p.m. 705 Linden St. Call 623-810-5730 or visit www.lkvmmr.com.

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.

Sunday, December 26

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.

Historic Bethlehem Visitors Center, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Historic Bethlehem's Smithy (historic blacksmith), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 425 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

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PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Fountain Hill Fire Company chief Rick Reis helps fasten newly purchased Christmas tree to the car of Ted Collier, a Fountain Hill resident. Collier said it was his first visit to the tree sale lot at the Fountain Hill swimming pool. "The trees are so darn nice - I always try to purchase a 'cause' tree." He explained that he likes to purchase a holiday evergreen which benefits a nonprofit organization. Reis said the locally cut trees are from a farm in the Lehigh area and are available in four varieties - Fraser fir, Douglas fir, Blue Spruce and Concolor. The fund-raising Christmas tree lot is open 3 to 9 p.m. weekdays.

Need a last minute tree?

BASD

Continued from page A1
Bunny to kids without an Easter Basket.

She recounted the teachers' contributions as "surrogate parents making sure no child goes without a backpack, pencils, folders," and mittens and coats for kids sent to school without warm clothes.

Vitalos said teachers are local citizens with more than 600 BEA teachers living within the school district.

"Instead of attacking us from the sidelines," she said, "please join our efforts."

She encouraged citizens to volunteer in local schools help children learn and citizens to be positive adult role models to students.

"Our district has reached AYP [annual yearly progress] for two years running despite slashing of professional staff and support programs," Vitalos said.

"All BEA's members asked for during these [recently completed] negotiations were to be treated fairly, professionally and compensated comparably to other districts in our



PRESS PHOTOS BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

"This board is courageous," says Bethlehem Education Association President Jolene Vitalos while addressing the BASD school board.

two-county area. "The BEA, the BASD administration, or the board of directors cannot possibly solve all of society's issues," Vitalos said. She concluded by saying the BEA, BASD administration and school

board remain "committed to plan for and deliver the tools and time necessary."

A standing ovation erupted from the teachers as Vitalos finished her oration.

Stephan Antalics, a fre-

quent critic of local government, immediately followed Vitalos at the microphone. Referring to her remarks, he expressed appreciation for what Vitalos had said about the role of teachers and their importance to students.

Antalics referenced a Stanford University report that places responsibility for poor performance by students on parents, not the schools or the teachers. Poor study habits are related to poor support by parents.

To Antalics' surprise, his remarks also got a spirited ovation from the crowd of teachers. Antalics said in an interview that he had heard the report recently feature on National Public Radio.

A search by The Press found a Stanford Center for Youth Development paper published in 1987 and written by Dornbusch and others, titled "The Relationship of Parenting Style to Adolescent School Performance."

The paper cited studies that found permissive parenting styles are associated with bad grades while authoritative parenting is associated with good grades.

CITY

Continued from page A1

"replenish" the fund. At Donchez' direction, City Council Solicitor Chris Spadoni asked to review the loan documents, but they were still unavailable before the hearing.

"This city budget has been a disaster and farce from the start," complained Dana Grubb, a former city worker. "No city administration has ever shown such little integrity or alienated the city workforce like this one has."

Callahan poured himself a glass of water as

Grubb spoke.

Karen Dolan, who dominated much of the discussion during a five-hour hearing, seemed irritated that money borrowed for capital projects was spent for something else.

"It's distasteful and we don't like it," she said. "There's a mess and we gotta clean it up and do better next time and every time in the future."

David DiGiacinto was all for letting City administrators solve it themselves.

"There's no funding for it. There's no revenue source," he complained. DiGiacinto, Dolan,

Evans and Donchez all proposed \$350,000 in reductions to Callahan's budget, some for as little as \$500. DiGiacinto even suggested that the City should consider selling its golf course, which is losing money.

Although Reynolds chairs the Finance Committee, he offered no spending cuts. Instead, he focused on the golf course and the advantages of requiring patrons to pay for carts on weekends.

A CPA and fire fighters are being eliminated and step increases are being frozen, but funding

for Bethlehem's mounted police unit was left intact. Donchez and Evans had proposed its elimination, but a firestorm of protest erupted, and several police officers and Bethlehem residents were among the 75 people at the hearing.


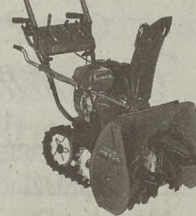
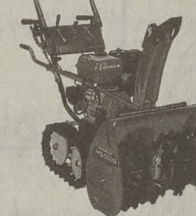
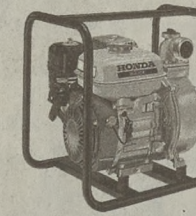

The horses stayed home.

City Council will vote on the final budget Dec. 21.

If the 3/4 mill tax increase is adopted, a homeowner whose property is assessed at \$100,000 will see taxes increase \$75.

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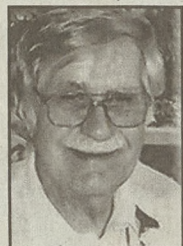
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Howard F. Creyer Jr.

Trinity U.C.C. member

Howard F. Creyer Jr., 82, of Bethlehem, died Nov. 22, 2010, in St. Luke's Hospital, Fountain Hill. Born in Allentown, he was the son of the late Howard and Helen (Smith) Creyer Sr. He was the husband of Rose J. (Zardanhazy) Creyer for 60 years.



He was a cement worker for the Keystone Portland Cement Company for 42 years.

He was a former member of the former First U.C.C., Bethlehem and a member of Trinity U.C.C., Bethlehem.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Samuel H. and his wife

Susan of Bethlehem; two sisters, Esther and her husband James Kunsman of Bethlehem and Elva and her husband Paul Stahley of Bath; a brother, Richard Creyer and his companion Shirley of Kreidersville; and two grandchildren, Emily and her husband JT Menten-sana, Amanda and her husband Matthew Woodruff and their two children, Nathaniel and Darren.

He was predeceased by six siblings, Wilbert, Kenneth, Warren, Ernest, Claire and Bertha.

Contributions may be made to the church, 81 E. North St., Bethlehem, PA 18018.

Arrangements were made by Cantelmi Funeral Home Inc., Fountain Hill, Bethlehem.

MaryAnn Feehan

Notre Dame R.C. Church member

MaryAnn Feehan, 81, of Hanover Township, died Nov. 29, 2010. Born in Homestead, she was a daughter of the late Nicholas and Ann (Cherup) Siebert. She was the wife of John D. Feehan for 60 years.



She was a graduate of Carteret High School.

She was a bookkeeper. She was a member of Notre Dame Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

At the church, she served as eucharistic minister; was involved in the prayer group and other church activities.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by four daughters, Margaret

"Marbo" F. Hansen of Wellesley, Mass., Susan M. Kinsey of Fogelsville, Karen V. Weiss of Carrollton, Ga. and Mary F. and her husband Jonathan Wirth of Pennsylvania Furnace; a son, John D. Jr. and his wife Kathleen of New Hope; 11 grandchildren, Kattlyn, Jack, Rebecca, Paige, Scott, Kevin, Megan, Thomas, Kimberly, Laura and Erin and her husband Justin and their son Caleb.

She was predeceased by a brother, Raymond.

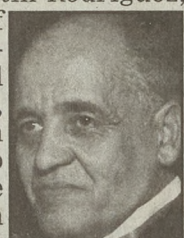
Contributions may be made to the church, 1861 Catasauqua Road, Bethlehem, PA 18018, or Alzheimer's Association, 399 Market St, Suite 102, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

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

Valentin Rodriguez

construction worker

Valentin Rodriguez, 80, of Bethlehem, died Nov. 26, 2010. Born in Puerto Rico, he was a son of the late Jose and Teresa (Santiago) Rodriguez. He was the husband of the late Amalia (Ortiz) Rodriguez for 42 years.



He was a pipelayer and construction worker for various Lehigh Valley firms including Renda,

Nena and Frayn, Bethlehem Fabricators, and Victor Balata.

He is survived by five children, Marcial and his wife Judith, Jose, Maria and her husband Fernando Cintron, William and his wife Magali and Ruth Vazquez and her husband Jose Vazquez; eight grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a sister, Luisa Feliciano; and a brother Florencio Rodriguez.

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

John Prystasz

St. Josaphat's Church member

John Prystasz, 87, of Bethlehem, died Nov. 30, 2010. He was born in Ukraine. He was the husband of the late Theresa (Fekete) Prystasz.

He was employed by Bethlehem Steel Corp.

He was a member of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian

Catholic Church.

He is survived by a son, Greg; friends; and caretakers, Cheryl and Michael Piccoli, Maria Figueroa and Enid Santiago.

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

Joseph S. Bedics Sr.

Steel bridge engineering draftsman

Joseph S. Bedics Sr., 81, of Bethlehem, died Nov. 22, 2010, in St. Luke's Hospital. Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the John and Rosie (Melmauer) Bedics. He was the husband of Dorothy (Barth) Bedics for 59 years.



He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

He was a draftsman in the bridge engineering department of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation for 35 years before retiring.

He was a member of University Parish of Holy Ghost.

He belonged to St. Bernard's R.C. Society and the Bethlehem Area MORA Club.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Joseph S. Jr. and his wife Carolyn of Horsham and John P. of Bethlehem; and a granddaughter, Elyse.

He was predeceased by a daughter, Dorothy Elizabeth; a sister, Mary Sakovics; and five brothers, Stephen, John, Frank, William and Charles.

Contributions may be sent to the church, 417 Carlton Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

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

John "Johnny" J. Peters III

of Bethlehem

John "Johnny" J. Peters III, 30, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 3, 2010, in St. Luke's Hospital. He was a son of John and Terri B. Peters.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by sister, Sarah M. of Bethlehem; his maternal grandmother, Margaret

Boyer of Lycoming County; uncles; aunts; and cousins.

Contributions be made to the funeral home, 245 E. Broad St., Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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

Lillian M. Hall

realtor, Dorr-Oliver employee

Lillian M. Hall, 64, of Lower Saucon Township, died Nov. 23, 2010, at the VNA Hospice House of St. Luke's, Lower Saucon Township. Born in Fountain Hill, she was a daughter of the late Mary T. Molnar and Joseph F. Szy Jr. She was the wife of Alan V. Hall for 36 years.

She was a realtor for several real estate offices in the Lehigh Valley Area for many years. Previously, she was an industrial engineer at Dorr-Oliver, Inc., Allentown. She was a purchasing expeditor for Ingersoll-Rand Company in New Jersey.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Kim A. and her husband Anowar Shahjahan of Houston, Texas; two brothers, Francis J. and Lenny J. Szy, all of Hellertown; and two grandchildren, Alexis and Kaden Shahjahan.

Contributions may be sent to the VNA Hospice of St. Luke's, 1510 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

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

Daniel R. Martisofski Sr.

owned Peacock Hotel

Daniel R. Martisofski Sr., 79, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 3, 2010, in his home. Born in Hazleton, he was a son of the late John and Verna (Duschek) Martisofski. He was the husband of Lois (Sauers) Martisofski for 57 years.



He was in the Naval Reserve.

He owned and operated the former ABE Trading and the Peacock Hotel, both in Bethlehem. He was a warehouse manager and buyer at Unclaimed Freight.

He was a member of Notre Dame Roman

Catholic Church, Bethlehem.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Daniel R. Jr. and his wife Lynn of Bethlehem; three daughters, Debra and her husband Frank Pavlov of Bethlehem and Joyce Gerber and JoAnn Lukniki, both of Allentown; 11 grandchildren, Michael, Eric, Nicole, Jaime, Jarad, Kristen, Lindsay, Daniel III, Davis, Jenifer and Cassandra; and two great-grandsons, Connor and Austin.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3893 Adler Place, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

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

Barbara S. Cabrera

of Fountain Hill

Barbara S. Cabrera, 72, of Fountain Hill, died Nov. 27, 2010.

She is survived by two daughters, Nanette McCall

and Deborah Tavares; a son, Cain Cabrera; and seven grandchildren.

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

Louis R. Bruno

Steel Coke Works employee

Louis R. Bruno, 74, of Bethlehem, died Nov. 30, 2010, at his residence. He was a son of the late Juana Bruno. He was the husband of Consuelo (de Leon) Bruno for 53 years.

He worked for the Bethlehem Steel Company, Coke Works division, retiring in 1996 after 30 years. He was a member of Holy Infancy Catholic Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Jeffrey and his wife Bev-

erly and Carl and his wife Kimberly of Bethlehem; two daughters, Carmen and her husband Eugene Takach of Fountain Hill and Linda Rebimbas of Whitehall; a brother; two sisters; 11 grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a daughter, Lisa J. Skrip. Arrangements were made by Connell Funeral Home Inc., Bethlehem.

Helen C. Kunkle

Bethlehem Steel Club hostess

Helen C. Kunkle, 96, of Hellertown, died Dec. 1, 2010, in Saucun Valley Manor. Born in Lower Saucon Township, she was a daughter of the late George and Florence (Bortz) Pearson. She was the wife of the late LeRoy H. Kunkle.



She was a hostess at Trainer's Restaurant and at the Bethlehem Steel Club.

She was a member of First U.C.C. Church, Hellertown.

She is survived by a daughter, Marlene Troccoli of Quakertown; four grandchildren, Cathy Balliet, Kim Settles and Matthew and Daniel Kunkle; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by a son, Roger Kunkle; a great-grandson, Andrew Balliet; three brothers, George, Robert and James Pearson; and four sisters, Mae Mindler, Blanche Hesse, Martha Dawson and Jane Chunko.

Contributions may be made to one's charity of choice.

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

Donald C. Boose

St. Peter's Lutheran Church member

Donald C. Boose, 77, of Bethlehem, died Dec. 5, 2010, in ManorCare. Born in Fountain Hill, he was the son of the late David and Eva (Keiper) Boose. He was the husband of Jean M. (Williams) Boose for 53 years.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

He was employed at the Bethlehem Steel Company for 40 years before retiring in 1992.

He belonged to St.

Peter's Lutheran Church, Bethlehem.

He was a life member of United Steel Workers of America, Local 2600.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a sister; Jean B. Dougherty of Allentown.

Contributions may be sent to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 474 Vine St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

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

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POLICE

Possession

Freemansburg police observed a man allegedly slumped over the steering wheel of his car around 1:45 p.m. Dec. 1, and stopped to determine his status.

Officers smelled a strong odor of marijuana and searched the vehicle. They found marijuana and several bags of suspected heroin.

Ryan Newman, 68, of Macungie, is charged with possession of narcotics.

Fraud

Fountain Hill police arrested a woman for using another resident's personal information to order items via the Internet Dec. 10.

Shirley Montalvo, 46, of 907 Broadway, is charged with identity theft, fraud, receiving stolen property and unlawful use of a computer.

Police said the 79-year-old victim reported Dec. 1 she'd been contacted by credit companies claiming she had delinquent bills for credit cards she did not apply for. The charges were worth about \$1,800.

Police determined where the packages were delivered – the 900 block of Broadway – and that the credit applications had been filed electronically in September from Montalvo's computer.

Police obtained a warrant and arrested Montalvo, who admitted during an interview she had used the fraudulent accounts to buy clothing and gifts for her children.

CITY POLICE

Robbery

Three masked men invaded the Easton Avenue Domino's pizza store around 10:40 p.m. Dec. 16.

According to police, pistols were brandished at the employees present, and the men emptied the till of an undisclosed amount of cash and fled the scene on foot.

One employee, who had tried to flee, was struck with a pistol and taken to St. Luke's Hospital for treatment.

Police are examining video footage of the crime.

Mischief

An employee of the 2109 Motel Drive Applebees restaurant reported damage was done to her car around 10:15 p.m. Dec. 16.

The vehicle was parked in the lot while the 30-year-old victim was working, police said, and a window was found shattered, though nothing was missing from inside.

The victim spoke with an officer at the scene and returned to her hostess podium for her information, only to discover someone had stolen her purse. Officers helped her search the business, but the purse was not found.

'This is really special'
Lehigh University athletes host Adopt a Family Night

By PAT KESLING
Special to the Bethlehem Press

There were few dry eyes during many moments as 600 Lehigh University athletes presented \$29,000 worth of Christmas gifts to 18 families from Southside Bethlehem at Donegan ES during "Adopt A Family" night Dec. 8.

As the 12th annual Community Outreach by Athletes Who Care (C.O.A.C.H) was about to begin, young men and women in Lehigh uniforms and sweatshirts were pouring into the school with huge packages for their respective "families," who were selected as deserving by Donegan staff. Each team and family was assigned a room where they met and watched as the children opened some of their gifts.

"The athletes are so proud to do this. They try their very best to make dreams come true," said Roseann Corsi, public relations coordinator for Lehigh's Athletic Department and founder of the event. This year, co-chairs were field hockey team member Cassie Willard and volleyball squad member Brittany Dickenson.

The big surprise was revealed when 38 children



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Each team and family was assigned a room where they met and watched as the children opened some of their gifts.

saw their special gifts of new bicycles and helmets. A father of a football player who wants to remain anonymous donated all the bikes and athletes assembled them. Kids were wide-eyed and some didn't know what to do with them as they had never had a bike.

Corsi said of Tom Ruley a tall, big, blondish football player on the C.O.A.C.H board of directors, "He was so excited about the bikes that he put 10 of them together by

himself. He is a big guy with a big heart."

One little guy with a huge smile walked beside his bike with training wheels as a very large football player steered the new treasure. His smile was as big as the boy's.

A family of five was awe-struck by the mound of gifts for them. The father said, "I feel so blessed. We couldn't have Christmas without this. We won't open our gifts until then." Three of his children got bikes early

and were left wide-eyed and beaming. On Dec. 17, the father was scheduled for a major heart valve operation.

All the athletes said they were pleased to participate.

Golfer Doug Marcincin said, "I've lived here my whole life and have never seen anything like it. It is a great feeling to give back like this."

Basketball team member Colin Gotzon said, "I've been involved in fundraising before but

never saw the recipients. This is really special. And I remember wanting a bike when I was little. I was so excited when I got it. It's special to see these kids so happy."

Field hockey player Caitlin Donnelly said, "We raised funds all first semester. People were so generous and it was fun, especially tonight seeing everyone together with the families."

Corsi shopped with upperclassmen at Marshall's in Bethlehem, where they received a "nice discount." Families had given wish lists and gifts included toys, sporting goods, clothes and even a broom and a vacuum. Bedding, including pillows, was also a common request.

Fraternities, sororities and Lehigh departments also raised money for "Adopt A Family." Families also received gift cards for food, gasoline, bagels, Walmart and more.

To conclude a wonderful evening, everyone gathered for a visit to Santa Claus and food donated by long-time supporter, Tony Silvoy, the always-chipper owner of Goosey Gander on Fourth Street. He estimated those gathered went through 500 of his famous meatball hoagies.

Union seeks last-minute salary talks
Council lacks authority to seek voter input on Gracedale

By BERNIE O'HARE
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Peg Ferraro announced at Northampton County Council's Dec. 2 meeting that union officials and the John Stoffa administration will make one last-ditch effort to keep Gracedale, the county-owned nursing home, in public hands.

There have been no formal negotiations between county officials and the union since April, when union agent Justus James walked out of talks just as a giant inflatable rat suddenly appeared at the courthouse.

"Basically, the death knell has been sounded for Gracedale," Ferraro said, but she said she is hopeful that "something can come together." If not, she warned,

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"I'll be 100 percent in favor of selling."

In the meantime, a referendum movement is under way. Elections office records reveal that Gracedale proponents have gathered and submitted 10,774 of the 19,630 signatures needed to have the nursing home's sale decided by voters. But they only have until Jan. 17, 2011, to complete the task.

Spokesperson Mario Martinez said, "My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ does not approve of the sale of Gracedale." He adds they are "now withholding the petitions" in the hope that County Council sees the light and agrees on their own to allow voters to decide. But he adds, "We, the people, will

demonstrate our resolve in May ... You will see just what true resolve is Mr. Angle, and so will the rest of council. Again, make no mistake about it ... we do not bluff, we act according to our inalienable rights."

At County Council's Nov. 18 meeting, Ann McHale – well aware that a majority of Council wants to sell Gracedale – argued they should let the voters decide and put the question to the voters themselves.

"I'll direct our solicitor to prepare an ordinance to have a question put on the ballot," she said. "Prepare an ordinance for us and we will take a position on that."

But Solicitor Phil Lauer prepared no ordinance and explained that the Pa.

See TALKS on Page A7

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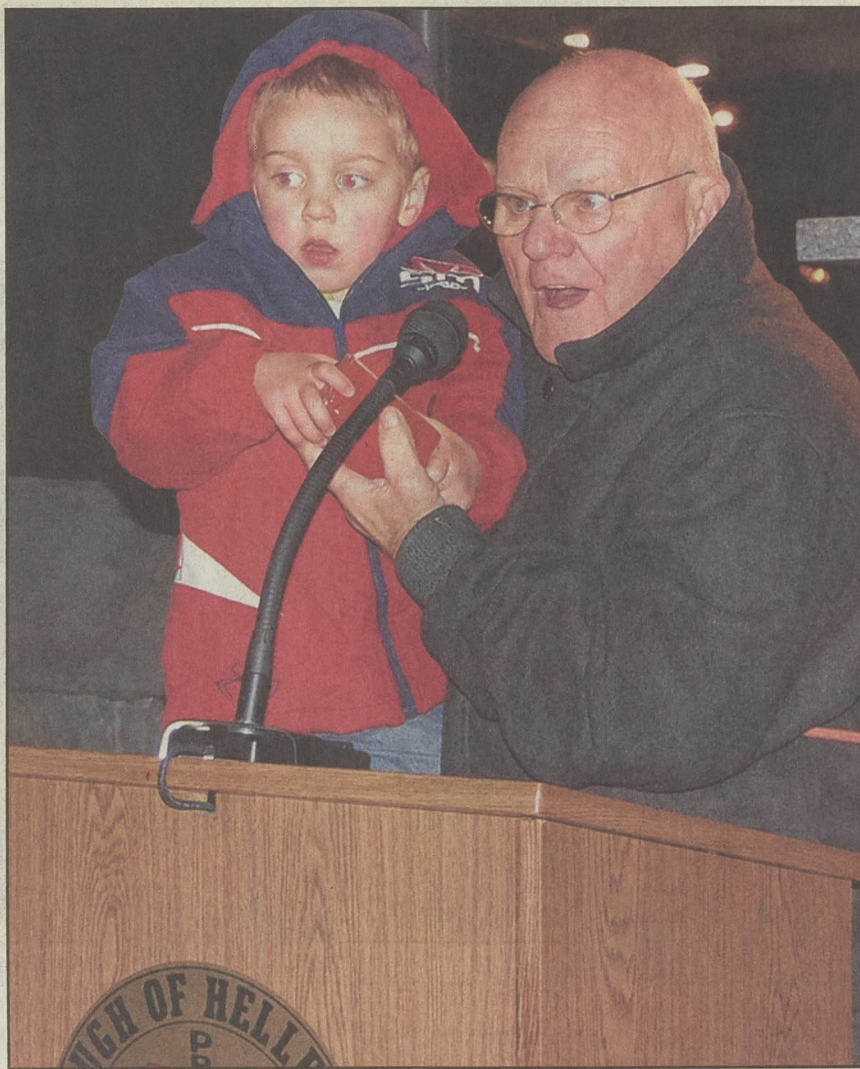
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Hellertown marks holiday season

RIGHT: Hellertown Mayor Richard Fluck assists Brandon Lipp with lighting Hellertown's Christmas tree. The borough's tree lighting ceremony was held Nov. 26 in the borough square. Brandon and his parents, Brian and Laura Lipp, are from New Jersey. The Lipps attended the tree lighting ceremony with Brian's grandfather, Hellertown resident Bob Lipp.



PRESS PHOTOS BY MARK RECCEK

'A baby is waiting to be born'



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

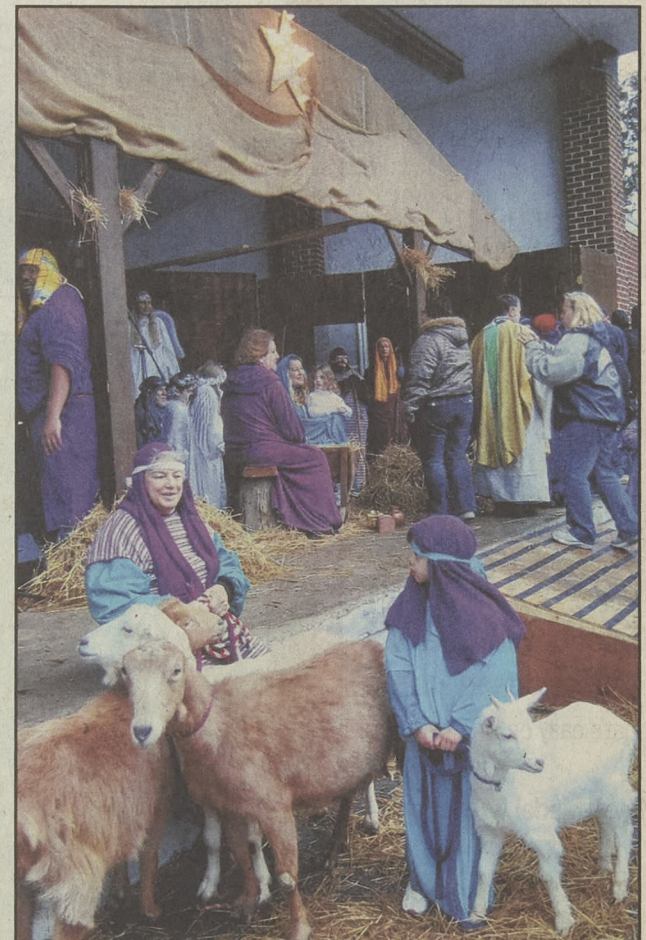
Looking like two brightly-colored cocoons, Irma Karabinos and Helen Kersting, from nearby Heart Senior Living facility, are all wrapped up in their afghan.



Longtime pageant narrator William Schellhaas of Lower Saucon Township leads the program for his 27th year from the customary position alongside the manger scene.



Despite a light drizzle after the Sunday pageant performance, Natalie Seier is enamored with one of the pageants camels, "Autumn", who was waiting near the special animal truck for the return trip to the Natural Bridge Zoo in Virginia. Wearing a shepherd's costume from the performance, Natalie said she loves the outdoors and animals. One of the camel attendants said the zoo owns a herd of 20 camels and two other wise men and camel teams were working the same weekend.



Spectators file past the holy family for an up-close look after the performance ends and shepherds continue to tend to their goats. Bethlehem Area Vo-Tech students helped to build the stable/manger scene.



At the conclusion of the Hellertown tree lighting ceremony, Santa visited borough children inside borough hall. **ABOVE:** Hellertown resident Sadie Statler enthusiastically tells Santa what is on her Christmas wish list.

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CITY POLICE

Burglary

Residents in the 300 block of West Fourth Street reported a burglary at their home around 6 p.m. Dec. 16.

Police said a window appeared to have been tampered with to gain entry, which took place some time after 9:30 a.m. A camera, two laptop computers, and a cellular phone were stolen.

Burglary

A resident on the first block of East Fourth Street reported a burglary around 10:35 p.m. Dec. 14.

Police said unknown persons broke through the front door of Derricos Barber Shop and invaded an attached apartment. A wii game system, X-Box and a global positioning system were allegedly stolen.

BRIEFLY

BETHLEHEM

Christkindlmarkt sets record

ArtsQuest has announced the 7,673 visitors attended Christkindlmarkt on Dec. 11, setting a new single-day attendance record for the event. The previous record was 7,100 attendees in one day. Overall attendance for the Dec. 9 through 12 weekend was 17,304. This was the third highest weekend attendance in the event's 18 years.

Christkindlmarkt is closed Dec. 16 to 19. Proceeds from Christkindlmarkt Bethlehem support ArtsQuest's arts and educational programs, including programs for at-risk youth at the Banana Factory community arts center. Visit www.artsquest.org for information.

TECH GYRLS

TechEXPOS held Dec. 2, 3

The YWCA's TechGYRLS program recently hosted two TechEXPOS. The Dec. 2 MicroWorlds projects held at Marvine Elementary School, included girls from Freemansburg, Marvine and William Penn elementary schools. It included a slideshow and video game which were presented to family and friends. The Dec. 3 event took place at Nitschmann Middle School. Girls from East Hills, Northeast, Broughal and Nitschmann middle schools presented projects including the animated movies they had created. Bethlehem Area School District Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph J. Roy attended the Marvine school event. TechGYRLS is an after-school program that gives girls a hands-on exploration of graphic arts, web design, animation and robotic.



Moravian alumnus and volunteer Fred Reinhard helps Bianca Rodriguez with her dessert choice during the Community Holiday Feast hosted by Moravian College at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity.



Michele Reyes of Bethlehem shows off the bird that she made at the craft table during Moravian College's holiday luncheon.

TALKS

Continued from page A5

Supreme Court in a 2009 decision has ruled that County Council has no authority to allow voters to decide these matters. The court noted that, unlike in California, referenda are relatively rare here.

"[W]e hold strong to the ideals of representative democracy and have no general constitutional provision for voter initiative or referenda." The High Court adds, "[I]t is at the ballot box that a voter may express his disapproval of the legislative programs of his elected officials."

BRIEFLY

PEEPS

Desserts contest ends Dec. 23

Seven Bethlehem restaurants are serving desserts through Dec. 23 for the second annual Just Born PEEPS Delightful Desserts competition. The contest is in conjunction with the Dec. 29 to 31 PEEPS Fest. The top five vote-getters advance to the fest's Dec. 30 finals. Entries will be judged on taste, presentation and creative use of PEEPS. Judges include Diane Stoneback, food editor of The Morning Call; Kelly Huth, The Express-Times assistant features editor; Matt Broderick, meteorologist with 69-WFMY-TV; and Just Born representatives.

Restaurant participants are Blue Sky Café, Edge Restaurant, Looper's Grille and Bar, Molly's Irish Grille and Sports Bar, Starter's Riverport, Tika's and The Vineyard. The grand prize is a handcrafted glass PEEP from ArtsQuest's glass studio at the Banana Factory. All participants will also receive an official 2010 Delightful Desserts Competition certificate. The fest is presented by Just Born and Arts Quest.

College hosts 12th holiday luncheon

The Church of the Nativity on Wyandotte Street and Rt. 378 provided the dining hall for the 12th annual Community Holiday Feast hosted by Moravian College.

Residents were invited to the Dec. 4 luncheon by New Bethany Ministries, Victory House, Trinity Episcopal Church, Fountain Hill Scholl Family Center, Fowler Family Center, Turning Point and

Clearview Elementary School Family Center. Hundreds of Bethlehem residents enjoyed a warm meal of roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, corn, cake and pie. Volunteers

from Moravian College made the residents feel warm and welcome as they filled their plates, carried their drinks and offered to help find an empty table to relax and enjoy their meal.



Carla Ross pours gravy for Jacquelin Palladino. Ross works in the Bursar's office and was a volunteer for the event.



Moravian College President Dr. Christopher M. Thomforde joins Moravian students as they sing Christmas songs.

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Run, reindeer, run!

More than 500 runners turned out for the 2010 Christmas City Classic 5 miler in Bethlehem Dec. 11. The weather was perfect for the participants who came out in costumes. Laura Warmkessel, of Coplay, won for top female costume with a reindeer suit, and David Watts, of Bethlehem, won for top male costume for his Santa suit.

The top two male and female finishers were awarded prizes. First place male was Ian Walsh of Slatington, and second was Rich Ryan of Easton. First place female was Kathlene Jobes of Bethlehem, and second was Katie O'Regan of Lebanon, Pa.



PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

Laura Warmkessel, of Coplay, won top female costume for running the entire five miles dressed as a reindeer.



David Watts, of Bethlehem, won top male costume for running in a Santa suit.



Carly Stasak, #248, and Lauren Diehl, #62, both of Bethlehem, ran dressed as leg lamps.



"Mommies on the Run" from Bethlehem Township, dressed as holiday gifts for the five-mile run. They included #184 Dana Neuffer and #268 Jean Vincent.



Steven Weikheiser, of Bethlehem, showed his holiday spirit at the race.



Kathlene Jobes, of Bethlehem, was the first female to finish the race.

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BRIEFLY

ARTSQUEST

Red Elvives set for Dec. 31

“Countdown in Downtown” New Year’s Eve celebration is set for 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Dec. 31, 2010 through Jan. 1, 2011. The event, headlined by Musikfest favorites Igor & The Red Elvives, takes place in the Christkindlmarkt tents at Spring and Main streets.

There will be a fireworks display at midnight. A limited number of VIP packages are available. For information call 610-332-3378 or visit www.artsquest.org.



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

Santa photo benefits MDA

Having your photo taken with Santa Claus in the lower level of the Main Street Commons benefits a good cause this holiday season. Each photo costs \$5 and all proceeds are going to Limb-Girdle 2A Muscular Dystrophy for research according to co-sponsors Karen Merkel and Kathy Graybill. The Santa photo opportunity is set up outside Merkel’s Girlfriends Boutique business and Graybill is the owner of Spa Soleil located at 113 East Third St.. They hope to raise \$10,000 through their efforts. For additional information or to contribute you may visit <http://beyondlabel-limitations.com>. **LEFT:** Bethlehem resident Jessie Farrell supports a good cause and gets to tell Santa what she’d like for Christmas.

Council terminates officer despite praise

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Bethlehem City Council voted to terminate police officer John Nye’s employment Dec. 7. The decision before a packed hearing room at City Hall followed a series of public hearings during which Nye fought to keep his job.

Nye was fired for misconduct during and following the arrest of Cory Vazquez in March.

Nye, a decorated Marine Corps veteran of three combat tours, had been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in combat. He was accompanied by his attorney and friends as he sat in the back row of City Hall chambers.

Council, unconvinced by Nye’s testimony, voted 6-0 to terminate Nye. Councilwoman Jean Belinski didn’t vote because she had missed



Olga Negron, executive director of CSSO Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations, explains her plan to tear down the roof and most of walls of the garage at 502 East Fourth St.

two of the hearings on the case.

At the conclusion of the vote to terminate Nye, Councilman Gordon B.

BETHLEHEM



“There’s a spending problem in this city,” says Thomas Carroll. He suggested that city employees use their private cars and bill the city for business-related mileage.

Mowrer said that he believed that Nye deserved a chance to work again as a police officer.

“Just not here,” Mow-



“I’m proud of you guys,” says Sue Fang, referring to council’s support of her and other citizens in their action to keep Elias Market from expanding.

er said.

Councilwoman Karen Dolan, who made the motion to terminate Nye, tempered her decision by

complimenting Nye for his “openness” during the previous hearings. Councilman William Reynolds seconded Dolan’s motion.

In a related issue, Officer Michael Lenner’s case, which is related to Nye’s case, is still under consideration by the City Council.

In other business council, in the first reading of amendments, gave initial approval to a series of measures to raise fees on a wide variety of services and inspections. The amendments were to become law after a final reading and vote at the Dec. 21 meeting.

Streets and sidewalks, excavations, poles and wires, curbs and gutters, trees and shrubs, storm water management, recycling fees, rooming house and rental units all will get more money for the city in the form of increased fees.

City Business Administrator Dennis Reichard said the increased fees will bring about a million dollars in revenue per year.

In other business, the council approved Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations’ (CSSO) plan to partially raze the garage at 502 East Fourth St.

Olga Negron, executive director of CSSO, spoke in support of her plan and explained that the building was falling down before she assumed leadership of CSSO.

Bethlehem Area School District school board member Aurea Ortiz also spoke in favor of granting the “certificate of appropriateness” needed to partially tear down the recently condemned building.

ArtsQuest President Jeffery Parks spoke in

See CITY on Page A10

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~~~~~	
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PRESS PHOTO BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

Benton Schwartz, of Bath, carries the Christmas Peace Pilgrimage sign during the walk. Leading the walkers with him are Peter Swavely of Allentown and Gayle Hendricks of Bethlehem. Ruth Walden and Ed Delussio, both of Bethlehem, walk in the grass along Rt. 191 in Bethlehem.

## Walking to Bethlehem

The weather was perfect for the approximately 150 participants in the 51st Christmas Peace Pilgrimage from Nazareth to Bethlehem Dec. 11. After arriving in Bethlehem, the walkers sang carols on the steps of the Central Moravian

Church. Then they enjoyed a light meal while listening to Nancy Tate, coordinator of Lepoco, the oldest continually active peace organization in the Lehigh Valley, present "We Have Only Begun: Reflections on our Work for Peace!"

## CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE

The center is open Christmas Eve and New Years Eve til 4 p.m. and it will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. 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](http://www.healthyanimalcenter.org).



Solstice is too cute. He is up to date on shots, altered, litter trained and ready to go.



Crayola is very cute and friendly, and who can't love those animated ears.

## CITY

Continued from page A9

support of granting Negron permission to take down the building and make a contemplative place.

The building is designated historically important and Negron's application had been reviewed by the South Bethlehem Historical Society. Southside resident and South Bethlehem Historical Society board member Mary Pongracz accused CSSO and the administration of "playing games." She objected to allowing the building to be torn down. "I don't like it," she

said.

A low section of the masonry walls and the iron fence will remain. A bench and landscaping will be added by the CSSO, which owns the property.

In other business, Councilman and former Bethlehem Mayor Gordon B. Mowrer asked Police Commissioner Stuart Bedics to provide him with a monthly report of warnings, citations or arrests or people who have violated the new ordinance banning use of cell phones while driving.

Administration critics Antonio Simao and Dana Grubb were joined by attorney Thomas Carroll

in protesting the 24-hour use of city cars by public employees.

"There's a spending problem in this city," said Carroll. He suggested that city employees use their private cars and bill the city for business-related mileage.

Resident Sue Fang, a nurse anesthetist who lives near the Elias Market, praised City Council and its solicitor for supporting the citizens in their quest to rein in what they see as an over-reaching Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB).

"I'm proud of you guys," said Fang. She is originally from Tianjin, China, a coastal city

southwest of Beijing and has lived in the United States for 21 years. "People come here for a better life," Fang said. She said she doesn't like to see the government protect the special interest groups. Al Bernotas, also a resident living near Elias Market, suggested that City Council appoint a liaison person to attend ZHB meetings.

Both Fang and Bernotas have been striving to keep Elias Market from expanding its operations. "They hear the facts and they ignore the record," Bernotas said, referring to the ZHB. "We need the City Council to continue to support us."

## VOLUNTEERS

**CAMELOT FOR CHILDREN**, Allentown, is looking for volunteers to staff their Holiday Gift Wrap Booth at the Lehigh Valley Mall. Call Cassie Kemmerer at 610-791-5683.

**PEACEABLE KINGDOM, Whitehall**; During the holidays help is always needed: walking dogs, feeding dogs and cats, clean and care of the shelter Dec. 24-26. Contact Katherine Haberman, 610-758-9275, [kddh001@hotmail.com](mailto:kddh001@hotmail.com).

**PHOEBE HOME NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER**, Allentown, needs volunteers for Christmas parties/programs to transport residents, serve refreshments, etc. through December. Contact Joan Wickel, 610-794-5362, [jwickel@phoebe.org](mailto:jwickel@phoebe.org).

**SPIRIT OF LEHIGH VALLEY**, Fogelsville, needs volunteers' time, treasure and talents to support a free dinner/dessert buffet to be held all day Dec. 24 at the Holiday Inn-Fogelsville. Contact George, 610-391-1000.

**THE SALVATION ARMY**, Bethlehem, needs volunteers for bell ringing for Red Kettles until Dec. 24. Contact Jean Dlugose, 610-867-4681, [jdlugose@use.salvationarmy.org](mailto:jdlugose@use.salvationarmy.org).

**THE SALVATION ARMY**, Bethlehem, is looking for volunteers to prepare, cook and serve a meal for approximately 50 people every Sunday of the year. Contact Jean Dlugose, 610-867-4681, [jdlugose@use.salvationarmy.org](mailto:jdlugose@use.salvationarmy.org).

**WARM HEARTS 4 COLD NOSES**, Allentown, needs volunteers to walk dogs Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m. Contact Donna Dougherty, [wh4cn@aol.com](mailto:wh4cn@aol.com)

Contact the Volunteer Center to receive a brochure listing agencies in need of volunteers at 610-807-0336 or e-mail: [vc@volunteerlv.org](mailto:vc@volunteerlv.org). Visit our website [www.volunteerlv.org](http://www.volunteerlv.org) for a larger listing of volunteer opportunities.

## Northampton County promotes 4 deputy sheriffs

By BERNIE O'HARE  
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Stately Courtroom 1 was the stage for the first-ever promotional ceremony for Northampton County Deputy Sheriffs Dec. 6.

Lt. Christopher Ziegler was promoted to chief deputy. Sgt. Darlene Coia, whose husband is a captain in Lehigh County Sheriff's department, is now a lieutenant. Deputies Michael Orchulli and Jeffrey Heller are now sergeants.

The ceremony was Sher-

iff Randy Miller's idea. Noting that there has been a Northampton County Sheriff's Department for the past 258 years, he said he wanted a ceremony to honor those whose "experience and devotion to duty" merits advancement in the ranks. Miller is former Bethlehem police commissioner.

Executive John Stoffa told deputy sheriffs they are "terrific ambassadors" for the county. "I've seen you stop and help people. I've seen you stop when somebody looks bewildered

in the hall." He added, "You've got a thankless job. Too few people understand what you do. I know it is sometimes dangerous. We read about people being shot across the country, and yet you go out every day knowing what could happen, and I very much appreciate that."

Deputy Patrick Cabbage, the sheriff's chaplain, started and ended the ceremony with a prayer.

In addition to Stoffa, Judge Edward Smith sat quietly in the jury box. Two of the deputies who pro-

vided security for his courtroom were being promoted, and he wanted to be there.

Lehigh County Sheriff Ron Rossi came in from Allentown. Court Administrator James Onembo witnessed the ceremony on behalf of the judges. Two of Stoffa's cabinet officers — John Conklin and Archie Disidore — also attended.

But the real dignitaries were the families. Margaret Orchulli, who works in the Civil Division, gave her husband a kiss, and his red face matched his blue uniform.



### Keep Kids Healthy Through Cold and Flu Season

Winter is upon us, and with it comes the return of cold and flu season. For the parents of the world, this means the annual challenge of keeping kids healthy through a season that's often as hazardous as it is hectic. In early winter, when colds and flu first start to circulate, parents are commonly overwhelmed by the holiday season. Once the holidays have passed, the temperatures drop significantly and cold and flu season hits full swing. While there's no way parents can guarantee their kids won't succumb to the occasional cold this winter, there are steps parents can take to help lessen kids' risk.

*Encourage exercise. Like their adult counterparts, kids tend to live a much more sedentary lifestyle once winter

begins. Colder temperatures outside and less available hours of sunlight make it difficult to spend quality time outdoors. However, when the weather permits, parents should encourage kids to spend at least 30 minutes exercising outdoors during the winter. Doing so helps boost immunity and, contrary to popular belief, the cold weather does not cause cold or flu. Instead, sitting indoors and facing increased exposure to infected adults and fellow kids is often the culprit when cold and flu is spread.

*Choose healthy snacks instead of standard holiday fare. Adults aren't the only ones who should avoid all those cookies and cakes around the holiday season. Kids need to eat healthy as well. Instead of another unhealthy

snack of cookies and cocoa this winter, parents should provide kids with healthier fare that is low in calories but still packs a tasty, nutritive punch. Eating a healthy snack, be it in the school cafeteria or at home after school, helps keep kids' minds sharp and their energy up, a struggle many people, adults and children alike, must deal with throughout the winter months.

*Emphasize washing hands. Aside from a vaccine, perhaps nothing is more effective at fending off cold and flu than washing hands. While many adults instinctively wash their hands when they use the restroom or arrive home, kids are much less likely to do so. When emphasizing the importance of washing hands, illustrate the proper way to do so, which includes washing with soap and water for at least 15 to 20 seconds, ensuring all parts of the hand, and especially those like the fingertips

which regularly come in contact with germs, are adequately cleaned.

*Monitor kids' daily diets. Kids who get too little vitamins and minerals are open to a host of potential problems, both in the immediate future as well as later in life. Soft bones, poor muscle function and even heart disease are among the potential side effects kids with poor diets might be susceptible to later in life. When watching what kids eat, parents should ensure their kids are getting enough vitamin D, vitamin C and enough fiber. As any health-conscious parent knows, getting kids to eat enough fiber can be very difficult. But fiber helps adults fight off type 2 diabetes and high cholesterol, and might do the same for kids. What's more, fiber helps kids feel more full, which can be an especially valuable asset in fighting off overweight and obesity.

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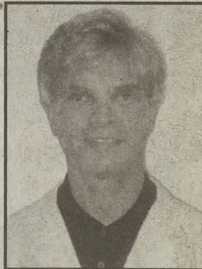
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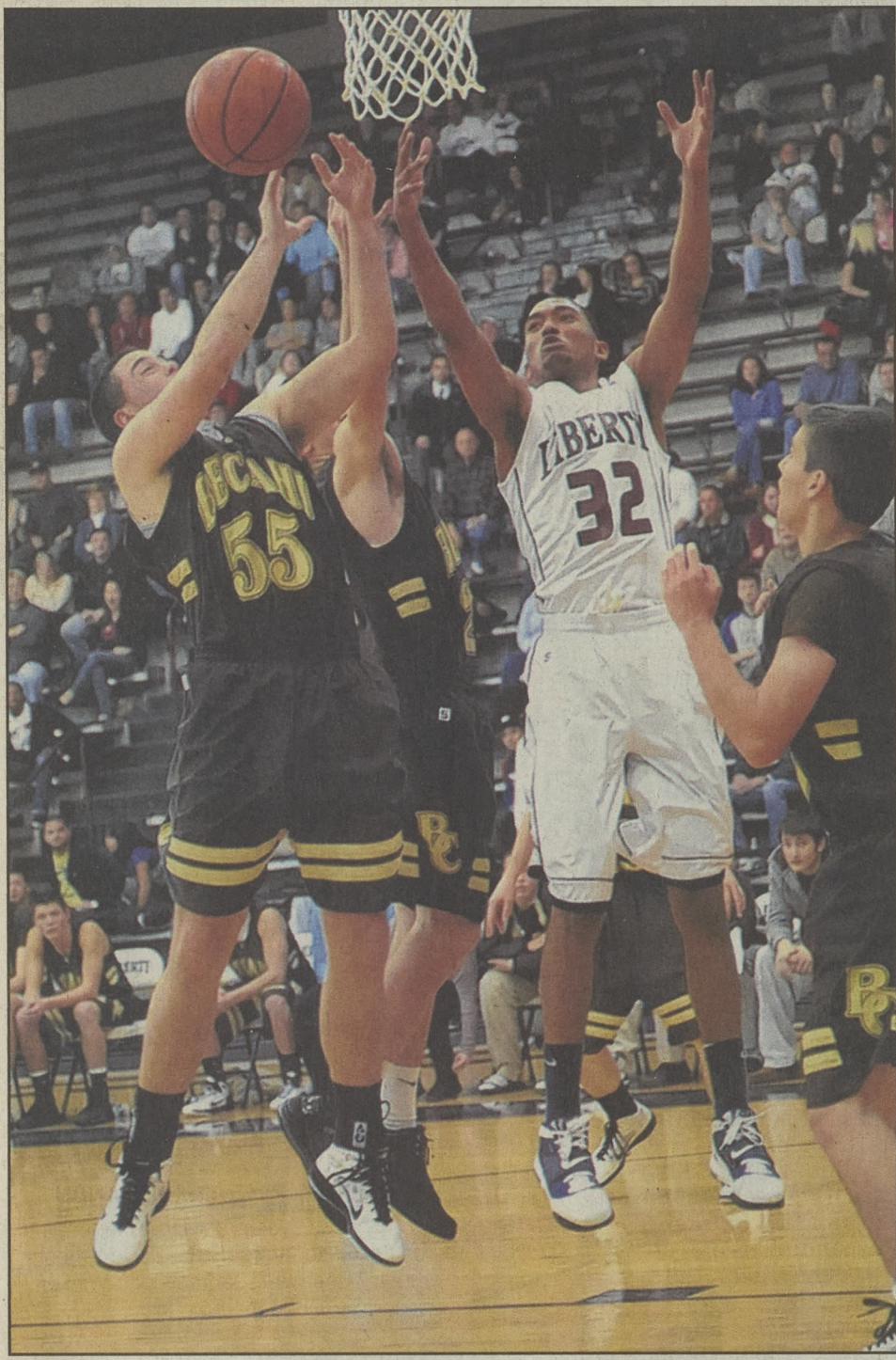


BARRY A. RUHT, MD



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PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Becahi's Mark Mery, left (55), and Liberty's Darrun Hilliard (32) battle for the ball during an all-Bethlehem showdown last week.

## Big Games

### Hurricanes take on Easton, Lower Merion

By PETER CAR  
pcar@tnonline.com

Liberty may have had only one game on this week's basketball slate, but the Hurricanes knew it was going to be an important venture when they headed to Easton last night.

Unfortunately, the results of last night's contest are past Press deadlines, but head coach Chad Landis knows it was going to be another early season test for his team.

"Easton is probably going to be our biggest rival for the division crown and we know they're a good team," said Landis. "It'll be a great test to show us where we stack up at the moment."

The Rovers (4-0) have knocked off Pocono Mountain West, Central Catholic, Freedom and Oley Valley to start the year unblemished, while Liberty (3-1) suffered their first loss last week during a Tuesday night 60-59 overtime defeat at Pocono Mountain East.

"East played really well in stretches during that game," said Landis. "We just didn't match them at certain times and it ended up costing us. They're a good team that we can see

down the road in districts, but we'll learn from it."

The learning phase for the 'Canes will be a little longer than usual before the Christmas break, since this week's tilt with Easton is the only one on the schedule.

That gives them an extra day to prepare for next week when they head to Plymouth-Whitemarsh to take on Lower Merion in the Jameer Nelson Classic on Dec. 27, at 4 p.m.

The 'Canes are slated as the second of four contests at the site. Teams and times are listed below.

"It's going to be another great game against a tough opponent," said Landis of taking on Lower Merion. "It's just another opportunity for our kids to experience playing a big-time school in a major atmosphere. It's going to be a great experience."

#### DEC 27, PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HS

• Norristown-Dobbin, 2:15 p.m.

• Lower Merion-Liberty, 4 p.m.

• Rustin-Neumann Goretti, 6 p.m.

• Plymouth Whitemarsh-Long Island Luth, 8 p.m.

## INSIDE SPORTS

### INSIDE

#### HOCKEY

Freedom is on a bit of a winning streak and the team would like it to continue.

A12

#### SWIMMING

A look at Freedom and Liberty's recent action in the pools.

A12

#### OUTDOORS

There's another chance for hunters to get their deer.

A13

### THEY SAID IT

**"I think we're all pretty tired. I'm exhausted and all I had to do was sit in the corner of the mat over the weekend. I gave the kids off on Monday and we'll use this week of Christmas to recuperate."**

JEFF KARAM  
BECAHI WRESTLING  
HEAD COACH

### SCHEDULE

#### BECAHI

##### Boys

12/28 at York Invitation- al, TBA

12/29 at York Invitation- al, TBA

##### Girls

12/27 at Holly and Hoops, TBA

12/28 at Holly and Hoops, TBA

12/29 at Holly and Hoops, TBA

##### Wrestling

12/22 Emmaus, 7:30 p.m.

12/29 Christmas City, TBA

12/30 Christmas City, TBA

#### FREEDOM

##### Boys

12/27 at Tottenville (2010 KSA Holiday Basketball Tournament), 12:45 p.m.

12/29 at KSA Holiday Basketball Tournament

12/30 at KSA Holiday Basketball Tournament

##### Girls

12/27 at Warwick

12/28 at Warwick

##### Wrestling

12/22 Whitehall, 7:30 p.m.

12/28 at BASD Tournament

12/29 at BASD Tournament

##### Swimming

1/4 at Dieruff, 5 p.m.

#### LIBERTY

##### Boys

12/27 Jameer Nelson Classic at Weidner U. vs. Pl. Whitemarsh

##### Girls

12/28 at Muhlenberg Holiday Tournament vs. Cumberland Valley, 6 p.m.

12/29 at Muhlenberg Holiday Tournament

##### Wrestling

12/22 Dieruff, 7 p.m.

12/28 Holiday Wrestling Classic

12/29 Holiday Wrestling Classic

##### Swimming

1/4 Central, 4 p.m.

## Pates, Hawks look for wins

By PETER CAR  
pcar@tnonline.com

Bethlehem Catholic's basketball team took a backseat in competition last week, losing to both Wilson West Lawn and Liberty to bring them back to a .500 mark.

The Hawks (2-2) hoped to alleviate that last night with a contest against a struggling Freedom (0-4) side.

Unfortunately, the results of that game are past Press deadlines, but head coach Al Blount isn't worried about the mini-slump his team is enduring.

"We knew that we were heading into a tough two games last week," said Blount of the losses to West Lawn and Liberty. "Obviously, both of those teams were good but I think we thought too much out there,

instead of going out and just playing."

Wilson topped the Hawks 50-32 and Liberty earned another 18-point victory by securing a 57-39 win.

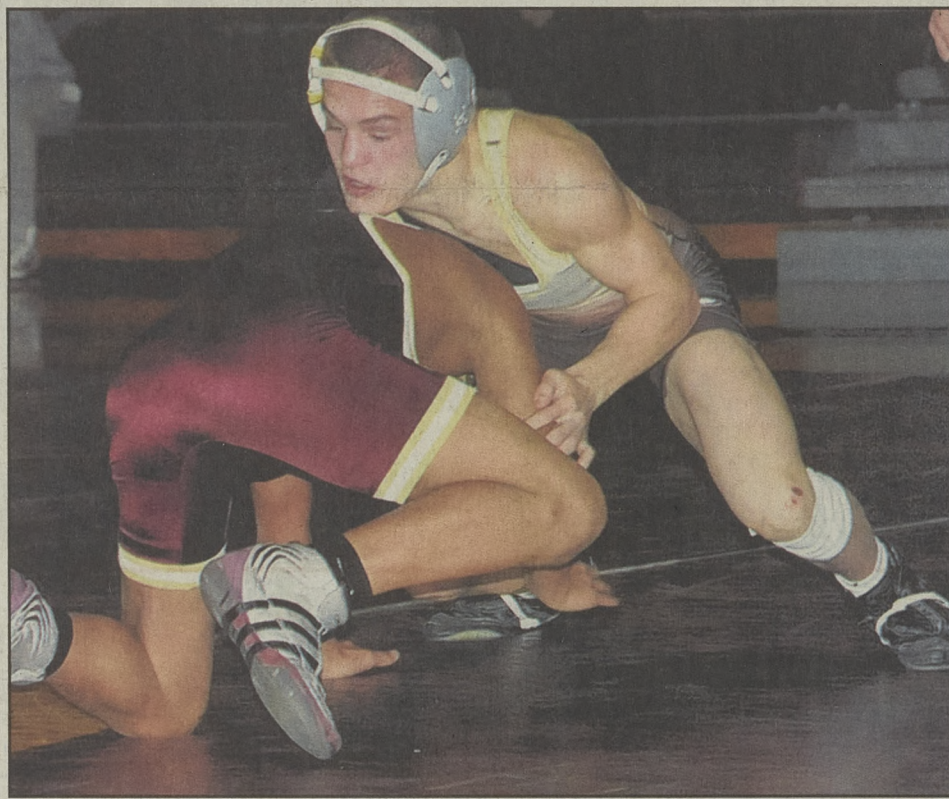
Freedom has had their own share of problems after battling a tough Nazareth team on opening night.

The Pates lost to Easton last week 63-38 and followed that with a 30-point setback to Pocono Mountain West on Saturday, losing 63-33.

On Monday, the Pates fell to Holy Redeemer 66-62 in triple overtime.

Last night's game was surely an episode of dire straits for Freedom, who would like to post a win before the Christmas break, but for Blount and Becahi, it was just business as usual.

See Win on Page A13



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Zeke Moisey, right, of Becahi, was one of three Hawk wrestlers to medal at the Beast of the East tourney as the Hawks took fourth place.

### WRESTLING

## Hawks take fourth at Beast of the East

By PETER CAR  
pcar@tnonline.com

It has been an exhausting two weekends of wrestling for Bethlehem Catholic and the Hawks finally got a day off on Monday.

After competing in out of state competitions in back-to-back weeks, Becahi returned from the Beast of the East tournament in Delaware Sunday night with its highest finish ever.

The Hawks finished in fourth place out of 102 teams and had three medal winners to go along with the fourth-place trophy they received.

It was a weekend of memories and also one of exhaustion.

"I think we're all pretty tired," said head coach Jeff Karam. "I'm exhausted and all I had to do was sit in the corner of the

mat over the weekend.

"I gave the kids off on Monday and we'll use this week of Christmas to recuperate."

Becahi's trio of nationally ranked wrestlers spearheaded the charge on the medal podium as Darian Cruz (103), Zeke Moisey (112) and Randy Cruz (119) all came away with hardware.

Darian Cruz, who dropped to second in the country after losing in the finals of the Ironman tournament two weeks ago, came back to win the Beast with a 3-1 overtime decision over Blair Academy's Joseph McKenna in the finals.

The sophomore 103-pounder was the only Hawk to win the tournament after he scored the winning takedown with 27 seconds left in the extra frame.

Freshman Zeke Moisey, who's ranked 11th in

the nation, lost to JR Wert of Christianburg (Va.) 3-0 to settle for silver.

Randy Cruz, who brought a top 20 national ranking into the tournament, walked away with fifth, but despite Becahi bringing home only three place winners, Karam could not have been happier with how his team produced thus far this season.

"As a team, it was our goal to finish in the top five," he said. "We were in first place going into Sunday, but we knew that as we get into the later rounds, things get more difficult."

"We don't even have our full lineup yet and we did a great job. We finished higher than any other team in the area too and I think it's great that our kids are experiencing this type of success early in the year."

See Hawks on Page A12



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Freedom's Jacob Solano puts up a bucket during a game against Easton last week.



# Patriots hockey team finding success

By JEFF MOELLER  
Special to the Press

Five games into this Lehigh Valley Scholastic Hockey League (LVSHL) season, Freedom head hockey coach Mike Mould certainly was a coach searching for some answers.

Mould watched his team drop their first five games by considerable margins, and he really didn't have many solutions among his players. Most of the time, his squad skated with nine players.

But Mould has been around the game long enough to know that it

can be a long season with some quick turnarounds. In the past month, Freedom won three of its last five games and quickly positioned itself for a post-season bid.

"We had a number of guys hurt, and also a number who really didn't have a lot of experience," reflected Mould. "I have worked with one player who just starting playing hockey four years ago. It has been a different year for us in many ways.

"But these kinds have continued to work hard and they have never quit. There still is gap between our top and bottom players, but we are working

to bridge that."

Freedom also receive a huge lift when they defeated cross-town rival Liberty, 5-1, Nov. 29 in a contest that still has some bragging rights at stake.

"That (Liberty win) was huge for them," said Mould. "It (win) made the kinds feel good about each other. We played a sound game against them and the kinds wanted to play hard."

The Liberty win fueled them to an 8-4 victory over Southern Lehigh the following week, their third triumph in their last four games. However, Freedom dropped a 4-0 decision to Pure Division leader Park-

land last Monday night.

Heading into this week's play, Freedom fought itself in a similar situation as last season, looking to capture a play-off spot. They have a 2-4 league mark, five points behind third-place Emmaus. Freedom began a pivotal four-game stretch Monday night when they tangled with second-place Quakertown. The following week, they have a rematch with Emmaus followed by matchups with Parkland and Quakertown to begin the new year.

Freedom has one more meeting with Emmaus on Feb. 7.

"It comes down to us beating those teams," Mould stated. "They are in front of us and we need to get around them. We had a 4-1 lead on Quakertown the first time we played them and ended up winning 4-3.

"We also played Parkland tight in both games, but we couldn't hold on at the end. When we are out there with nine skaters, we run out of gas. It is very demanding on the kinds, but they have really worked through it."

Mould noted the play of goalie Ben Wykosky, who has been progressing throughout the season and team captain and

leading scorer Sean Driscoll, who has provided strong and steady leadership throughout the year.

"Ben (Wykosky) has been getting better for us and he has been a plus," Mould said. "Sean (Driscoll) is a great leader for us. He (Driscoll) wants to win and he has inspired everyone else along the way.

"This is a good bunch of players and they will keep fighting until the end."

In the end, Freedom will hope to have some questions answered.

## SWIMMING

# LHS girls top Easton...

By KATIE MCDONALD  
kmcdonald@tnonline.com

Liberty's girls swim team placed first in seven events during its meet against Easton for a 109-65 victory over the Red Rovers last week.

"We know they're one of our rivals and a big competitor of ours, said Liberty captain, Caroline Fitch. "We knew we had swimmers to beat them, but it would take a lot of hard work."

Meredith Guro, Elliott Walters, Ashleigh Bothwell, and Alexa Leon

opened the meet with a victory in the 200 medley relay.

In individual events, Rachel Rider won the 200 free and the 100 butterfly. Madison Sauers won the 500 free, Guro won the 100 backstroke, and Courtney Dersh won the 100 breaststroke.

"After the first half, we pulled ahead," Fitch said.

In addition, Liberty's Maggie Olock won the diving event with 165.45 points.

The Hurricane swim team includes almost 100 swimmers this season.

"We have a lot of beginning swimmers, and a lot of them are working hard to learn new techniques and catch up with everybody," said Fitch.

***

Against Stroudsburg, Liberty won 109-71.

Individual winners were Madison Sauers (50 free, 100 back), Alex Kennedy (diving), Ashleigh Bothwell (100 fly) and Courtney Dersh (100 breast).

The 200 free relay team of Emmaus Williams, Dersh, Maggie Olock and Sauers took first for LHS.

# ...as do the LHS boys

By KATIE MCDONALD  
kmcdonald@tnonline.com

A last minute pep talk from Liberty graduate and former swim team member, Josh Hitchings, helped the Hurricane boys 400 relay team clinch a first place finish, resulting in a 98-81 victory over the Red Rovers last week.

"It was back and forth the whole time," said Liberty swim captain, Cameron Angstadt. "We all just kind of came together, and Josh said, you can win this."

Tyler Dolgos, Angstadt, Zack Moll, and James Sheplock swam the 400 relay in 3:50.36.

"Tyler had a good start.

We were ahead by a body length or so, and I tried to put some more distance between us, and everyone else got even farther," said Angstadt.

In individual events, Sheplock also won the 200 IM, and Galen Schuefler won the 50 free and the 100 free.

"We were definitely concerned [about Easton]. We definitely felt the pressure, but I think everybody who swam that meet took the pressure and did the best they could with it," Angstadt said.

Before Liberty's swim meet against Easton, the Hurricanes also defeated Stroudsburg and Pocono Mountain West.

***

Against Stroudsburg, LHS won 123-53. Cameron Angstadt (200 free, 100 back), James Sheplock (200 IM, 500 free), Jacob Kelhart (diving), Clyde Gross (100 butterfly) and Tyler Dolgos (100 free) were individual winners for the Hurricanes.

The Medley relay team of Sheplock, Will Updegrave, Cye Gross and Dolgos took first place as did the 200 free relay team of Zach Moll, Ryan Spadt, Sean VanNatta and Angstadt. The 400 free relay team was also a winner and was made up of Dolgos, Moll, Angstadt and Sheplock.

# Pates have to take on always-tough Emmaus to open year

By KATIE MCDONALD  
kmcdonald@tnonline.com

As fate would have it, Freedom's first swim meet of the regular season pitted the Patriots against swimming powerhouse Emmaus.

"Our coach [Barb Glaser] really stressed a lot to us the intimidation

factor, but it was a really good meet for all of us," said Freedom captain, Amanda Stammherr.

Although Emmaus won the meet (Boys, 119-64 and Girls, 123-62), Freedom's girls team took first place in four events. Brooke Munion, Stammherr, Aubree Guidon and Molly Mag-

nan won the first event of the day, the 200 medley relay.

"It started the meet off really well. We were only off one second of our time from districts. Everyone was really excited," Stammherr said.

In individual events, Stammherr won the 100 breaststroke.

"I didn't really know it was close till my turn, and I could see the [Emmaus] girl in lane 4. I gave it my all. I wanted to win my first event of my senior year," said Stammherr.

In addition, Carol Byrnes won the diving event, and Munion won the 100 butterfly.

For the Freedom boys, Andrew Spruck took first place in diving.

## STARS LOOKING FOR PLAYERS

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The Press

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PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

## Girls Hoop

Liberty's J.J. Hilliard (12) and Becahi's Rana Plesko (21) try to grasp an up-for-grabs ball during last week's game. The Hurricane's won 54-44. Meanwhile, Freedom's girls team fell to Easton in a recent game, 39-28.

## WRESTLING

# FHS looks for win over Zephs

By PETER CAR  
pcar@tnonline.com

From the outside looking in, Brandon Hall knows that a 1-6 record at this early juncture of the season probably doesn't look good.

But the first-year head coach of Freedom's wrestling program also knows that panic is a button you never want to push.

With the Pates set to square off against Whitehall tonight in their Lehigh Valley Conference home-opener, Hall knows that redemption is on the line for his group following a disappointing loss to Dieruff last week.

The Huskies scored a 40-36 decision to improve to 5-0 on the season, to make Dieruff the most unlikely undefeated team in the LVC at the moment.

## Hawks

Continued from page A11  
The Hawks, who as a team are ranked 16th and 19th in two different national polls, have a low key week with Emmaus

Hall knows that result, like others this season, could have been different if his team would be wrestling with a full lineup.

The Pates have been forfeiting 112, 160 and 171 for the most part of the season. Giving up an automatic 18 points every match isn't easy, but Hall hopes that will change tonight.

"We expect to have a full lineup tonight against Whitehall," said Hall.

"We've had to juggle guys in our lineup and deal with forfeits every match.

"Looking at the record itself, you'd think we're off to a rough start, but we're doing alright under the circumstances."

Hall hopes that message has been reiterated as his team preps for the Zephyrs (0-1), who suffered a 72-3 shellacking

at the hands of Becahi last week.

The Hawks won 11 of 14 bouts by fall and Hall hopes this could be the perfect elixir his team needs as they heat up their dual meet schedule.

"Whitehall is a big match for us," he said. "We need a win to get some confidence back. We then have Emmaus (Jan. 5) and these are two opportunities to get ourselves back in the hunt for team districts."

Josh Young (152) has been the catalyst for the Pates so far, as he's racked up a 6-0 mark, recording falls in three of his bouts.

Tyler Galasso (130) and Evan Kauffman (215) have also kept the fort up.

Galasso has a 5-1 mark currently, while Kauffman is 6-0, earning one forfeit on the season.

on deck tonight.

Liberty, who finished 22nd at the Beast, placed three wrestlers as well with Brett Marino (103), Anthony Cabrera (112) and Devon Lotito (125) all taking home honors.

Marino finished the highest of any Hurricane, grabbing a fourth-place finish, while Cabrera took seventh and Lotito took fifth.

The Hurricanes take on Dieruff tonight.

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# Another opportunity for deer hunters

By NICK HROMIAK  
Special to the Press

If you're like me and didn't get a buck during either the archery or firearms season, we have another opportunity when the archery and muzzleloader season opens Dec. 27 (and runs until Jan. 15).

And if you have an unfilled WMU specific antlerless tag, you may harvest one of those as well with either bow or flintlock. If hunting in WMU 2B, 5C or 5D, you can take an antlerless with any legal sporting arm provided you have a doe tag for one of those WMUs.

Possess an archery or flintlock tag and you may take either a buck or doe on that particular license. To clarify, only one buck may be taken regardless of the primitive weapon used.

Hunters afield during this late season are not required to wear 250 square inches of blaze orange outerwear, but it's recommended you do.

Of increased interest during winter months is coyote hunting. Using your general license (or a furtaker license), the PGC says you make take coyotes 24 hours a day until June 30 including Sundays. The bag limit is unlimited and decoys plus electronic callers are legal to use. Trappers may also take an unlimited number of coyotes, but only until Feb. 20.

If you're an avid upland hunter, the extended small game season gives you another reason (excuse) to be afield during the winter months. Seasons for squirrels run Dec. 27 Feb. 5; ruffed grouse, Dec. 27-Jan. 22; rabbit, Dec. 27-Feb. 26; and snowshoe hare, Dec. 27-

Jan. 1.

Then there's the late pheasant season (males and females) that runs Dec. 27-Feb. 5 in 15 WMUs including our local 5C and 5D. But good luck finding one. If they haven't already been shot, then the foxes, great horned owls and red-tailed hawks probably got them. I did, however, see a straight-tailed cockbird three weeks ago as it ran in front of my car on Walnut Drive in Walnutport. It was either a PGC stocked survivor or escaped from a breeders' pen.

Doves too become legal game from Dec. 27-Jan. 1 with a daily limit of 15. Shooting hours are set at one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Goose hunters get another shot since the season opened Dec. 21 and runs until Jan. 29 in the Atlantic Zone. The Resi-

dent Canada Goose Zone started Dec. 18 and continues to Feb. 19.

Farmers would welcome snow goose hunters, as they've been known to wipe out entire fields of winter wheat. Here in the Lehigh Valley, snow geese traditionally arrive in late December or early January.

During the conservation season that runs until April 16, and in addition to all the required licenses, hunters must obtain a free permit from the PGC's Web site. And because they're so difficult to lure in, hunters may use electronic calls and, of course, loads of white decoys (white diapers or white plastic trash bags), as snows require lots of enticement to land.

Here's wishing all our outdoor sportsmen and sportswomen a safe and Happy Holiday season.



PRESS PHOTO BY NICK HROMIAK

If you didn't get a buck this season, the upcoming late archery and muzzleloader season affords another last chance opportunity.

## Three Hawks on LVC all-star team

By KATIE MCDONALD  
kmcdonald@tntonline.com

Becahi volleyball players, Anna Domyan, Ashley McCauley, and Leslie Tintle were named to the 2010 District 11 Class 2A All-Star teams.

Domyan, an outside hitter, made first team, all-district. The Becahi junior received the second highest number of votes.

Becahi coach, Howard Vernick, said, "It's really an honor for her as a junior."

McCauley, a setter, and Tintle, an outside hitter, made second team, all-district.

"Ashley was the highest-ranked setter of all the 2A teams. If they had put a setter on the first

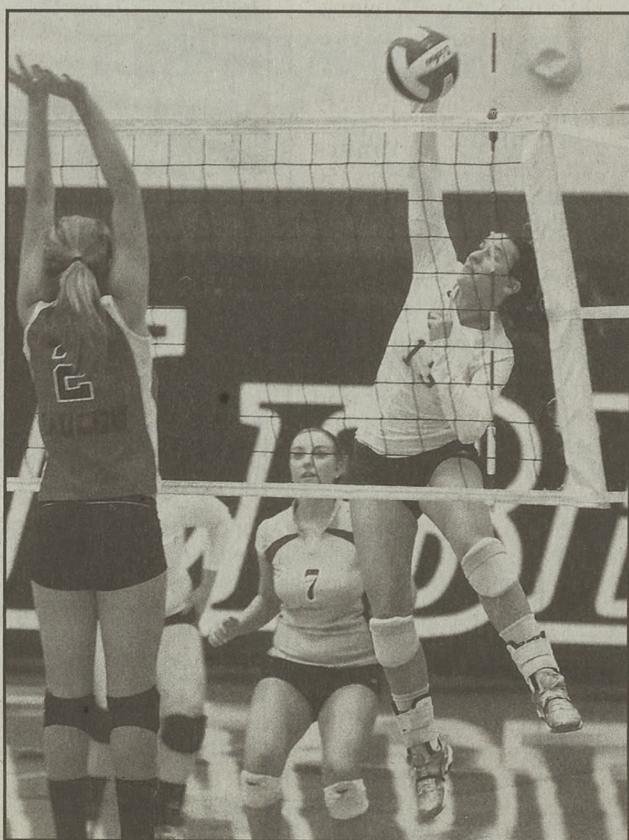
team, she would have made that team," Vernick explained.

Each volleyball coach from District 11 nominated girls from his team to be eligible for votes. Then, each coach ranked his top ten, although no coach was allowed to vote for his own players.

"I'm really happy. I'm very proud of the girls to get such a high ranking," Vernick said.

### LVC All-Stars

Kayla Kohler (Whitehall), Lisa Wallitsch (Emmaus), Amanda Wallitsch (Emmaus), Katie Troyan (Central Catholic), Brienne Giangobbe (Freedom), Erin Bond (Emmaus), MVP - Taylor Wejkszner (Parkland)



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Anna Domyan was one of three Hawks to be named to the LVC volleyball all-star team.

## SUBURBAN DART LEAGUE

### Messiah (2-0) at St. Paul's (11-2, 5-2)

SP — Paul Slimmon 5-11, Rich Kern, Dave Clark, Jennifer Erkinger all 5-13, Kevin Gross 4-12, Deb Hughes 4-14 HR, Jason Gross 4-14.

M — Rick Hassonich 4-12, Todd Jones HR, Ryan Garcia HR.

### Ebenezer (11-10) at Dryland (4-1, 3-2)

D — Bruce Vollman 8-12, Bernie Yurko 8-13, Lou Dervarics 4-9, Al Gilbert HR.

E — Ross Romero 4-12, Jim Voortman HR, Don Matz HR.

### St. Stephens (4-3, 3-0) at Salem Luth. (8-6)

SS — John Hoysan 7-14 HR, Don Smith, Evan Talabar 6-12, Ed Wychock 6-14.

SL — Kyle Taylor 5-10, Bryan Frankenfield 5-11, Steve Mohn 4-9 HR.

### Farmersville (9-4) at Emmanuel (5-2, 3-0)

E — Zack Hill 7-13, Jorge Rivera 5-13, Joe Craig 4-13,

Dick Wessner HR, Bill Carrigan HR.

F — Kyle Campbell 6-12, Gene Grim 5-12, Don Kerbaugh 5-14.

### Trinity Luth (11-2, 4-0) at Bath Luth (6-0)

T — Larry Fehnel 6-13, Judy Hoffert 6-13, Sandy Wombold 5-13 HR.

B — Bob Meixsell 7-12, John Kiefer HR.

### Christ UCC (4-3) at Salem UCC (4-3, 7-6)

S — Jack Troxell 5-12, George Gaugler 4-9, Larry Bush 4-12, Fred Toncik HR.

C — Dan Dalcin 8-12, Garry Hunsicker, Mark Fujita, Ron Wager 5-14, Darius Dalcin 4-12.

### STANDINGS

St. Paul's	30	12	.714
Salem UCC	26	19	.578
Trinity Luth	26	19	.578
Salem Luth	23	22	.511
Bath Luth	23	22	.511
Dryland	23	22	.511
Emmanuel	22	23	.489
Christ UCC	22	23	.489
St. Stephens	22	23	.489
Ebenezer	15	24	.385
Messiah	16	26	.381
Farmersville	16	29	.356

## BC cheerleaders win bid to Florida

By KATIE MCDONALD  
kmcdonald@tntonline.com

Becahi's varsity cheerleaders won a bid to go to nationals at the Kutztown Regional Cheerleading Competition on Dec. 12.

The Hawks competed in the medium varsity division, placing ninth. Whitehall, Easton, and

Wilson also competed at the Kutztown Regional.

"The bid to go to nationals in Florida was based on our scores and scores from previous competitions, but we're not sure if we'll go," said Becahi captain, Courtney Foster.

Although Becahi had

considered making some changes to its routine last week, the Hawks stayed with its original one.

Foster said, "We ended up leaving it the same. We didn't hit all of our stunts cleanly, but besides the stunts, we felt good about it."

The routine began and

ended with music, which included songs by Adam Lambert and Rhianna, in addition to "Get Out of Your Mind" and "All I Do is Win."

The Hawks will host its own competition on Jan. 15 before traveling to another competition at Penn State on Jan. 22.

## Win

Continued from page A11

"It's a long season and I don't put too much pressure on the kids heading into any particular game," Blount said. "We just need to go out and execute."

## FLY TYING COURSE

The public is invited to the 26th Annual Trout Unlimited Fly Tying Course to be held on consecutive Saturdays 9:30 a. m. to 11:30 a. m. Jan. 8 and Feb. 26.

Learn to tie dry flies, wet flies, nymphs, and streamers. Casting instruction and stream techniques will be demonstrated at future Trout Unlimited meetings at various locations.

This is an introductory course where participants will learn techniques of fly tying. Fly tying materials (hooks, feathers, dubbing, etc.) given to participants. Each participant will receive a fly tying manual. Instructional DVDs will be available that contain demonstra-

tions of the 16 flies that are to be tied.

The registration fee for adults is \$30; registration fee for an elementary through high school student fee is \$10 and registration for Purple Heart recipients, veterans with posttraumatic stress syndrome or other disability is free.

The classes will be in the Northampton Area Middle School cafeteria in Northampton.

Transportation is available for Purple Heart Wounded veterans.

To enroll in the 26th Annual Trout Unlimited Fly Tying Course contact Dale Ott at 610-262-7598 or email Dale at [dwott@enter.net](mailto:dwott@enter.net).

The Hokendauqua Chapter of Trout Unlimited sponsors the program.

## Hoffman gets a chance at St. John's

By KATIE MCDONALD  
kmcdonald@tntonline.com

Liberty graduate Rachel Hoffman was one of 17 incoming freshmen to play soccer for St. John's University this past fall.

"It's totally different from high school, the level of play, even compared to club soccer because that's the way you get recruited. The pace, the physicality, and the psychological things you go through, like breathing techniques, and mindset, and concentration," Hoffman said.

Hoffman, a midfielder/forward, noted that one of her favorite moments of the season was when St. John's defeated the

University of Connecticut, 2-1.

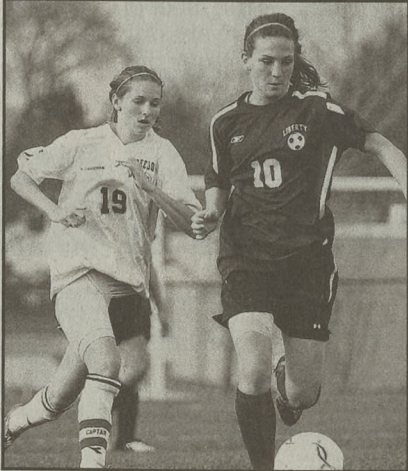
"Our coaches believe that we should go into each game focusing on our team, but U. Conn. is one of the biggest competitors in the Big East," said Hoffman.

St. John's, coached by Ian Stone, completed its season at 6-10-4.

"All our coaches are great. They're very open-minded," Hoffman said.

Hoffman was a four-year starter for the Hurricanes from 2006-2010.

"I chose St. John's, mostly because I love the city and because of the soccer opportunity I have," said Hoffman. "It was my best choice."



Rachel Hoffman, shown here playing for Liberty, got playing time at St. John's this season.

## Bethlehem holiday wrestling tournaments set

By PETER CAR  
pcar@tntonline.com

Bethlehem will be the motherload for high school wrestling next week, as both Bethlehem Catholic and Liberty will be the sites of holiday tournaments. The Golden Hawks will host the 43rd annual Christmas City Tournament on December 29-30. Participating teams include: Bangor, Bethlehem Catholic, Catasauqua, East Stroudsburg North, East Stroudsburg South, First Colo-

nial VA, Upper Merion, Notre Dame, Palisades, Palmerton, Pottsville, Pius X, Pocono Mountain West, Port Jervis, NY, Saint Benedicts Prep, NJ, Pottsgrove, Schuylkill Valley, Southern Lehigh, Wallenpaupack, William Allen, Wilson and Wyoming Valley West.

**SESSION ONE - Dec. 29**  
10 a.m. straight through  
Pre-Prelims, Preliminaries, Quarterfinals  
3 Rounds of Consolations

**SESSION TWO - Dec. 30**  
10 a.m. straight through.  
Semifinals, 4th and 5th Round

Consolations  
Finals, 3rd and 5th Place Consolations  
There will be a 30 minute break before the finals.

The Hurricane Holiday Classic will take place on December 28-29 at Liberty with the following teams listed as participants: Bound Brook, Boyertown, Camden Catholic, Council Rock South, Delaware Valley, Freedom, Hazleton, Lehigh, Liberty, McDowell, Milton, Nazareth, North Penn, Northampton, Northern Lehigh, Northern, North-

western, Pen Argyl, Phillipsburg, Quakertown, Saucon Valley, Selinsgrove, St. Mark's, Stroudsburg and Warwick.

**SESSION ONE - Dec. 28**  
10 a.m. straight through  
Pigtails, Prelims, 1st & 2nd round consolations  
6 p.m.

Quarters, 3rd & 4th round consolations

**SESSION TWO - Dec. 29**  
10:30 a.m.  
Semis, 5th & 6th round consolations  
5 p.m.

Consolations finals & finals (approx. 7PM)

## LVBA

Notre Dame High School will host a six-week Spring Training 2011 baseball program for players in grades 1 through 12 from January 9 to February 20. Notre Dame High School head coach Michael Bedics will direct the program in conjunction with U.S. Baseball Academy. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching and catching at a cost as low as \$99 for six weeks. Space is limited.

William Allen High School will host a six-week Spring Training 2011 baseball program for players in grades 1 through 12 from January 16 to February 20. William Allen High School athletic director Scott Cooperman will direct the program in conjunction with U.S. Baseball Academy. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching and catching at a cost as low as \$99 for six weeks. Space is limited.

For more information, visit [www.USBBaseballAcademy.com](http://www.USBBaseballAcademy.com), or call toll-free 866-622-4487.





PRESS PHOTO BY MARK RECCEK

Members of the Saucon Valley HS cheerleading squad proudly display the check for \$4,900.34 they raised for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation fundraiser. The cheerleaders were recognized at the Nov. 23 Saucon Valley School Board meeting for their fundraising efforts.

MORAVIAN

Vespers air  
Dec. 22 to 26

The Moravian College Vespers, featuring the Moravian Choir and Women's Chorus will be the focus of several Christmas season television broadcasts.

The one-hour program is broadcast on the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN) affiliate stations at 6 p.m. Dec. 24 and 2 a.m. Dec. 25.

The program will air on TV-13 Blue Ridge Communications (Pocono area) at 9 p.m. Dec. 22, 7 p.m. Dec. 24, 1 and 2 p.m. Dec. 25 and at 6 p.m. Dec. 26 at 6 p.m. Service Electric TV-2 (Lehigh Valley and Western N.J.) will broadcast the program at 7 p.m. Dec. 19. The Vespers services, with Paula Ring Zerkle conducting the Moravian Choir and Eduardo Azzati conducting the Women's Chorus, was recorded on Dec. 10 in Central Moravian Church.

The service is composed of two traditional forms of Moravian worship, the Singstunde (Singing Hour) and the Candlelight Service. Blue Ridge Communications (TV-13) produced the program on behalf of the college as a gift to be enjoyed by the Moravian campus community, the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania and beyond.

BOSCOLA

Rebate date  
now Dec. 31

State Sen. Lisa Boscola announced an extension for the state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate program applications for 2009. The deadline is now Dec. 31 instead of June 30.

Eligible participants such as senior citizens, widows and widowers over the age of 50 and permanently disabled individuals over the age of 18 can receive a rebate of up to \$650 based on income, rent or property taxes paid in 2009.

# Board rejects hiring special ed. teacher

By MARK RECCEK  
Special to the Bethlehem Press

## SAUCON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Saucon Valley School Board failed to approve Director of Special Education Shawn Rutt's recommendation for the hiring of an additional special education teacher at its Nov. 23 meeting.

Rutt explained the enrollment of one or two additional special needs students in fifth grade could lead to the district violating government mandated standards. Such standards determine the number of special education teachers individual districts must employ in order to properly meet the needs of each student.

"One student in fifth grade could push us over the top, depending on the student's needs," Rutt said. "The state audits us every year. We could be forced to hire a teacher or provide funding for special education needs."

Supt Sandra Fellin, who endorsed Rutt's recommendation at the board's Nov. 16 meeting, again emphasized the hiring of an additional teacher based on the current needs of the school district.

"We're sharing teachers already," Fellin said. "It's going to take us one student to push us ahead."

Members of the board voting "no" were Ralph Puerta, Susan Baxter, Lanita Lum, Edward Inghrim and Michael Karabin. Board members Sandra Miller, Charles Bartolet, and board president Lachlan Peeke voted to hire an additional teacher.

After the votes were cast, Fellin warned board members that the issue is likely to reappear in the future.

"When students move in to push us over the average, I will be presenting this item again," she cautioned.

Puerta, who voted against hiring the additional teacher, requested that Rutt provide the board with information on how the school district calculates the number of special education students and teachers, and the methodology behind classifying students as "special needs."

Rutt assured Puerta and the board that he would present additional information on special education needs in the future.

In other business, the board defeated a motion that would allow for the school district to maintain its budget increase within the 1.4 percent millage index as approved by Northampton Community College, Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School, and the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20. Fellin said Saucon Valley proposed an increase believing that it is neces-

sary for school districts across the state to remain fiscally viable during the current economic downturn.

School director Charles Bartolet, who voted in opposition to the measure, asked the board, "Shouldn't we be approving our own index? I think we should take a stand to allow administrators to work on our own budget ahead of time."

School director Sandra Miller and Michael Karabin voted for the motion. "I see this as an opportunity to put our foot down," Miller said. "I would like us to support this."

In addition to Bartolet, voting against the motion were Puerta, Baxter, Lum, Inghrim and Peeke.

The school board also voted unanimously to approve resolution 1 of the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance

Act (LERTA). LERTA will provide local economic revitalization tax assistance within deteriorated areas of Bethlehem. LERTA requires a two-year biannual renewal. Saucon Valley has been participating in LERTA since 2006. Other areas participating in LERTA include the Bethlehem Area School District, the city of Bethlehem and Northampton County.

The Saucon Valley High School girls' cross country team was also recognized by the school board for finishing the 2010 season as Colonial League champions. Receiving special recognition for outstanding athletic performance were freshman cross country member Elizabeth Chikotas and senior Emily Polefka.

Additionally, the board recognized the Saucon Valley HS cheerleading squad for raising \$4,900.34 for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

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December 22

December 29

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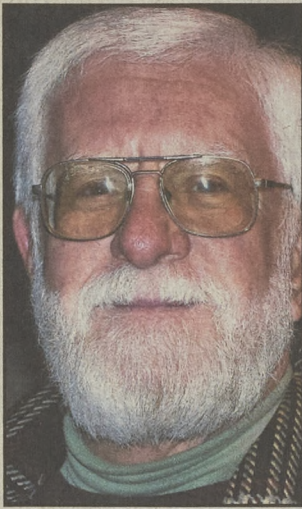
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**PEOPLE SAY .... BY DANA GRUBB**

*If you could have one wish come true this Christmas, what would it be?*



"My wish would be that everyone's wishes would come true."  
**David Renninger**  
Boyertown



"For there to be peace and harmony throughout the entire world."  
**Darlene Yost**  
Walnutport



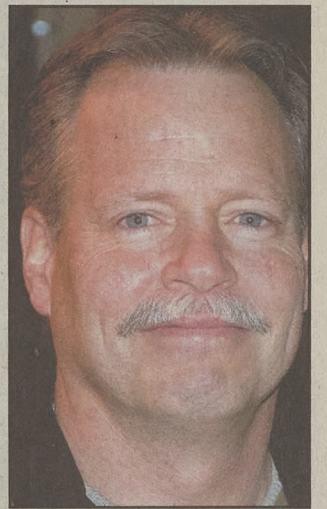
"I'd like to see more people be more generous to others."  
**Briana Yost**  
East Stroudsburg



"That we could start a family."  
**Rachel Stevens**  
Bethlehem



"I wish that all my children and grand children would have a healthy, happy and successful New Year."  
**Janet Sternson**  
Berwyn



"That our daughter and grandson could come home from California. She's serving in the military."  
**Randy Bajan**  
Bushkill Townhsip

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**Weekend Worship Services**  
 Saturdays: 6:30 pm    Sundays: 8 & 11 am

**Christmas Eve: Children's Worship: 4 pm**  
 Family Candlelight Service: 6 pm  
 Candlelight & Choral Service: 10 pm

**Christmas Day Communion Service 9 am**  
 Sunday, December 26 9 am

**Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church**  
 535 W. Emmaus Ave., Allentown

*Join us for the Holidays and Stay Throughout the Year!*  
 Pastor Rev. Carey Miller

**Friday, December 24**  
 Family Service with Lessons & Carols 5:00 PM  
 Family Service with Youth Chimes 7:30 PM

Candlelight Service with Trinity's Adult Vocal & Bell Choirs 11:00 PM  
 Holy Communion at All Services

**Sunday, December 26**  
 9 AM Worship  
 Christmas Carols & Stories

**ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
 Meeting at the Chapel in Calvary Temple  
 3436 Winchester Rd. • Allentown, PA 18104  
 610-799-5252

*Christmas Worship Schedule*

Christmas Eve Service  
 Fri., December 24...7:30 PM

Christmas Day Service  
 Sat., December 25...10 AM

Traditional Parish using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer  
 Father Joseph S. Falzone - Rector

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 Bethlehem, PA 18018

Invites you to Join Us for Christmas Candlelight Services  
 December 24, 2010



4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
 6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. Traditional Worship Services  
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the Reverend William J. Kuntze-Senior Pastor  
 the Reverend Jeffrey V. Bauer-Associate Pastor

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**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

*Please join us*

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE at 7:30 PM

TRADITIONAL SERVICES  
 Family Service at 4 PM  
 Children are invited to bring a gift for the baby Jesus  
 Lessons & Carols at 6:30, 9 & 11 PM



2344 Center St, Bethlehem PA, 18017  
 tel: 610.867.5865 www.fpc-bethlehem.org

**Christmas Eve Worship Services**



Asbury United Methodist Church  
 Springhouse Rd. & Walbert Ave.  
 Allentown, PA 18104  
 610-398-2577  
 www.asburylv.org

Carols & Candlelight Service at 2:00 p.m.  
 Family Candlelight Service at 4:00 p.m.  
 Open Door Service in Wesley Center at 7:00 p.m.  
 Candlelight Service at 9:00 p.m.  
 Candlelight Service with Communion at 11:00 p.m.

**St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church**  
 Christmas Eve  
 Communion & Pageant - 4 PM  
 Communion & Candles - 7 & 10 PM


**Christmas Day**  
 Communion & Ringing of the Christmas Bells 10:30 AM

**December 26th - First Sunday of Christmas**  
 Holy Communion Worship 9:30 AM & 6:30 PM  
 The Rev. Edith B. Roberts, Senior Pastor  
 www.stpetersbethlehem.org  
 Packer Ave. & Vine St., Bethlehem  
 610-867-0519

*Christmas Eve Services*

5:30 pm Candlelight Service  
 7:30 pm Candlelight Service

**Calvary United Methodist Church**  
 4411 Green Pond Rd., Easton 18045  
 www.calvaryumc-easton.com  
 610-253-2731  
 caumc@rcn.com




**It's easy to forget that Christmas is not only about toys & tinsel.**

First Presbyterian Church of Allentown invites you and your family to join us as we celebrate the season of Advent and the many joys of Christmas.  
 Wishing you a most blessed Christmas.

**Christmas Eve Services**  
 12:00 noon, 4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

**Sunday Worship**  
 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. One service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 26

**Church School for All Ages**  
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**Worship with us at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
 Friday, December 24  
 at 5:30 pm & 8 pm  
 Carols of the Season begins at 7:45 pm

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
 Saturday, December 25  
 at 10:00 am

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** †  
 3900 Mechanicsville Road, Whitehall  
 610-435-3901  
 saintste@ptd.net





# 'Tis the season for giving to worthy causes

By CAROL SMITH  
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Celebrate the First Day of Christmas and support two worthy causes.

A first-time ever collaborative concert Dec. 26 will benefit the local chapter of Blue Star Mothers and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation.

The Christmas Concert starts at 6 p.m. in Bethlehem's Ice House at 56 River St. Local musicians include Sing for America featuring The Gilberts; Becca and Jake, an acoustic duo; Andrew Kanas, a saxophone player; and Erin Kelly, a female singer. Sing for America, formerly known as Kids for America, has performed at Musikfest, Stabler Arena and Christkindlmarkt.

There is no doubt that the days before Christmas leave many people with little time to enjoy the holiday fully, so this concert on the first day of the 12 days of Christmas provides the opportunity for fun family entertainment with ticket money being donated to two nonprofits that are important to Sing for America and Becca and Jake. The musicians will be performing a medley of Christmas songs that the entire family can relate to.

There will also be free refreshments and a basket raffle.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or by calling 610-417-2189.

While there is a suggested \$10 donation per person, concert-goers are encouraged to donate whatever amount they feel comfortable contributing, said Taryn Gilbert of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local musicians Jewel Gilbert, Tasia Gilbert, Tera Gilbert, Taryn Gilbert and Jorne Gilbert host a collaborative benefit concert for Blue Star Mothers and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation at 6 p.m. Dec. 26 in Bethlehem's Ice House at 56 River St.

Sing for America. Gilbert, who is the eldest sister in the five-member group consisting of two brothers and three sisters, said Sing for America was born in 2005 in an effort to show support after the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States. The siblings, who range in age between 20 and 13 and have been dancing and singing from

an early age, began performing at a variety of venues and collecting money for the men and women serving in the military.

With the goal of supporting our troops one performance at a time, Sing for America has donated more than \$20,000 to military families in need, according to the group's website.

"We know how much they sacrifice so that we can have our freedom," Gilbert said of the Gilberts' performances and the donations.

Sing for America's donations go to the Lehigh Valley chapter of Blue Star Mothers, a nonprofit group of mothers with a son or daughter in the military. Gilbert said she knows the money has

made a difference. When a family member is actively serving in the military, the family often suffers financially. Through the money collected from the Gilberts' variety show of comedy skits at fairs, festivals, weddings and other party events a military family's rent or mortgage has been paid, groceries and Christmas presents purchased and travel expenses to spend time with an injured son or daughter have been covered.

Anyone interested in making a donation can do so on the group's website at [www.singforamerica.com](http://www.singforamerica.com).

To support the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, Becca and Jake will also take the Ice House stage the day after Christmas. Rebecca Heller, a Lehigh Valley Charter High

School for the Performing Arts senior, will be accompanied by guitarist Jake Bastian, a 2010 graduate of LVPA.

Heller, a former youth ambassador for the foundation, was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease at a young age. Crohn's Disease, also called ileitis or enteritis, is an ongoing inflammation of the digestive tract.

In spite of her chronic illness, Heller manages to focus on her love of singing. She won Musikfest's Stars of Bethlehem contest in the summer of 2006.

Becca and Jake began performing together in the summer of 2008 and have been recognized by the Lehigh Valley Music Awards for the Best Youth Performance School/Organization.

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**Dec. 22, 2010**  
**Samuel Kistler Brobst**

Samuel Kistler Brobst surely believed the old expression, "When God closes a door, He opens a window." Brobst's dream was to become a Lutheran minister, however his voice became faint from years of suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. He was unable to preach sermons in church. He turned to writing to express his religious beliefs.



**Karen M. Samuels**  
Columnist

In 1847, he established the publication of Jugendfreund (Friend of Youth) the first German-language youth and school newspaper in the country. Brobst founded the newspaper at his own expense. His German-language publications were so successful that he was able to purchase a building at 814 Hamilton St. to house his operations. He developed a large following of members of the American Lutheran Church in his work as an editor and publisher of church literature for 30 years.

Brobst was well known to the Bethlehem Lutherans. On April 20, 1851, he was invited to the dedication of the Salem Lutheran Church on High Street, the first non-Moravian church in Bethlehem.

Brobst (name originally Probst) was born Nov. 16, 1822, to Jacob F. and Lydia (Kistler) Brobst in Lynn, Lehigh County. He was the oldest of his seven siblings. His father died when Brobst was 14 years old. The Brobsts and Kistlers owned large farms in Lehigh and Berks counties. The families descended from the oldest German settlers in Pennsylvania, emigrating from Western Germany early in the 18th century.

Brobst attended a one-room schoolhouse in Kistler Valley, established by the Jerusalem Lutheran church. He was instructed only in German. At age 15, he became a tinsmith apprentice of his uncle, in Washington, Pa. During his apprenticeship Brobst became friends with Dr. Matthew Brown, the president of Jefferson College at Cannonsburg, Pa. Brown encouraged Brobst to seek further education.

Brobst left the tinsmith trade and attended the Pennsylvania schools of Allentown Academy (Muhlenberg College), Keystone Normal School (Kutztown University), Mercersburg and Washington College. At Washington College, Brobst became an instructor of the German language. One of his pupils was James A. Garfield, who later became president of the United States.

Although Brobst had offers to continue teaching, his aspiration was to preach. He was licensed by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania in 1847 and ordained in Pottsville in 1850. During these years, his illness forced him to periodically convalesce at his mother's home.

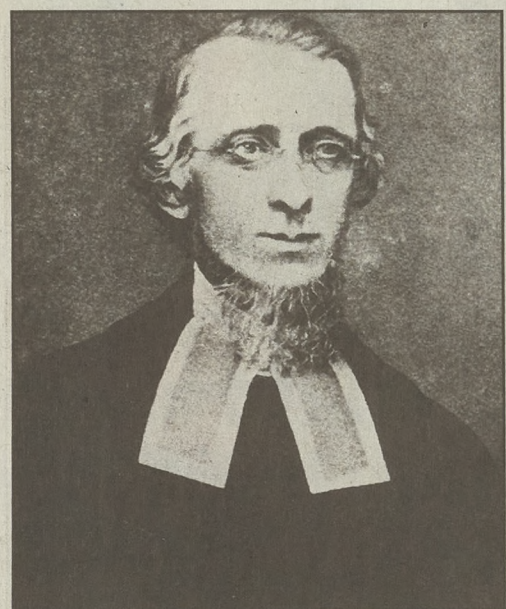
Brobst married May Elisabeth Ritter Nov. 17, 1853, at St. Paul's Church in Allentown. She was the daughter of Jacob Ritter, who was the proprietor of the Eagle Hotel on Centre-Square in Allentown and mother Hannah (Marsteller). The Brobsts had three children, Samuel, Sarah and Jacob.

In Brobst's final years he returned to fulfill his dream to minister to a congregation at St. Peters Church of Allentown. He conducted services in German from his first year of existence, 1868, until his death seven years later.

Brobst was described as a mild man and tireless worker. He was co-founder of the Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary of Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, and founder of Muhlenberg College (1867). Both colleges were established to train pastors and teachers.

At the time of his death his newspaper, the Jugendfreund, was read by 50,000 people. His son, Samuel, carried on the publication for a number of years. Brobst was a strong supporter of German-language publications. He hoped that German would be taught in all public schools. He served as president of the German Newspapers of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Brobst passed away Dec. 23, 1876, of pneumonia, a complication of his tuberculosis. He was survived by his wife, Mary, son, Samuel, daughter, Sarah, and mother Lydia.



The Rev. Samuel K. Brobst (1822-1876), founder of Muhlenberg College.



**ANOTHER VIEW: DAN KLINE**

**Look close, offer a small kindness**

A friend of mine has a two-year-old daughter. She's an adorable little thing, charming and delightful in a way that only little girls can be. Right in the Christmas spirit sweet spot, she knows of Santa and presents, but not of paying the rent, keeping the lights on and dealing with the grim reality of having to place food and shelter over presents.



**Dan Kline**  
Guest columnist

My friend works with many other friends of mine and we all know her child. We also know a mother who has very little, but works hard and does everything she can to give her daughter the best life she possibly can.

I imagine that someday the daughter would grow to appreciate these things, but a two-year-old on Christmas morning knows nothing of sacrifice. A two-year-old on Christmas morning should know nothing of sacrifice.

Instead, even if it's an illusion, that child should know wrapping paper and

unexpected delights - dollhouses and stuffed animals, new clothes and whatever else a two-year-old girl dreams of. Children of that age may not know what they don't have, but they certainly know what they do.

While adults strive for houses, better cars and a well-stocked pantry, a two-year-old only knows the pure joy of a cherished item and the happiness of getting something new. As adults, those of us who have things - be they meager or plentiful - have a deep responsibility to make sure that the children around us know happiness on Christmas and beyond.

I'm not talking about kids in far off lands. While they deserve our support as well, we must first make sure the children of our coworkers, neighbors and friends have some joy this holiday season. Bring some light into the houses of those close to us and we'll all be able to bask in the glow.

In my case, few of us realized how hard our friend was working to get her daughter a handful of presents to put under the tree. She never complained, never asked for help and though we should have known it would be a struggle for her, we never stopped to con-

sider her difficult road.

Perhaps by chance or maybe through something greater, we learned of our friend's burden and quietly the kindness began. In small increments people helped as they could. It was subtle and secret as we were doing it out of affection, not pity.

Our friend and her daughter have not had an easy road and there's nothing I will do this holiday season that makes me feel better than knowing I helped bring them both a smile on Christmas. To take one worry off our friend's shoulders is a privilege I will not soon forget and I'm honored that she allowed us to help.

Whatever you have, there is someone who has less. If we all share what we have with those who matter to us, then we are all wealthier for the experience.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers weekly. He can be reached at dan@notastep.com or you can see his archive at dbkline.com and you can listen to his podcast at Worstcaseever.com.

*As adults, those of us who have things - be they meager or plentiful - have a deep responsibility to make sure that the children around us know happiness on Christmas and beyond.*

**Divided council gives county controller a raise, effective 2012**

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

You get what you pay for. That's the decision a sharply divided Northampton County Council reached Dec. 2, when they increased the Controller's salary from the \$39,000 being paid now to \$65,000 in 2012.

Although Northampton County's budget next year is \$290 million, Controller Steve Barron is only a part-time official. Recent changes in the county's Home Rule Charter will make the job full-time, effective 2012. But the new salary was set at \$50,000, a figure thought too low by five Council members, who raised it to \$65,000 when a full-time controller takes office in two years.

Leading the charge for the pay hike were Democrat Ann McHale and Republican John Cusick. McHale pointed to a study done by Human Resources Director Patricia

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY**

Siemiontkowski, noting a salary range for controllers in other counties at \$60,00 to \$65,000. Cusick noted that paying such a low salary creates a risk of making the position unattractive to qualified candidates.

"My goal behind sponsoring this ordinance is that whoever decides to run for this office next year will be someone with some accounting background who could bring that to this position," Cusick said.

United in opposition to this raise were Democrat Lamont McClure and Republican Ron Angle. McClure pointed to a recent increase in Lehigh Valley unemployment.

"It's tone deaf of us to be raising the salary at all," McClure said. He added that if no qualified candidates run, they can always raise

the salary in the future.

"Frankly, I don't care whether the next controller has bookkeeping experience," argued Ron Angle. "I see the controller as the financial watchdog of the county. That's what that job is. Whether he is a CPA or whatever is irrelevant."

But Angle also noted that whenever he and McClure are on the same side of an issue, "it's usually a loser."

And lose they did. McHale, Cusick, Mike Dowd, Peg Ferraro and Bruce Gilbert voted to raise the salary to \$65,000. Gilbert and Ferraro were swayed by the study showing what other counties pay. And Dowd noted, "We took a part-time position, made it full-time, and then we say that's the only source of income that person is supposed to be operating within."

Joining Angle and McClure were Tom Dietrich and Barb Thiery.

*"I see the controller as the financial watchdog of the county. That's what that job is."*

**RON ANGLE**

**City water authority 2011 includes a rate increase**

By **NATE JASTRZEMSKI**  
njastrzemi@tronline.com

The Board of Directors heard Water and Sewer Resources Director Dave Brong's budget plan mere hours before he made the same presentation to city council Dec. 9.

The plan was not the only item discussed, but it was the lengthiest. Turning off the lights and readying

his projector presentation, Brong responded to commissioner comments about not having such tools in the budget hear with, "You know I have this tremendous need and you're a captive audience."

As commissioners chuckled, Brong began outlining a planned \$18.9 million budget for next year, which will include a rate increase, but is actually \$400,000 less than the

2010 budget.

While he said there are some parts of the budget he cannot change, such as health care and debt service costs, his department has shrunk by nine employees since 2005 and may lose six more. He said the main difference is how the department is run, having transitioned to a more distribution-oriented focus, which has streamlined day-to-day operations.

Brong said identifying threats to the water system and learning better training and practices - especially with new valve operations - has been a big improvement.

Authority Executive Director Steven Repasch later discussed with Brong and others the possibility of vastly extending authority operations through the semi-rural East Allen Township area. He said the

township is seeking to dissolve its own authority and is negotiating to sell its facilities to Bethlehem. Repasch said such a deal would give Bethlehem control over the four or five well-operated facilities; "By that I mean operated by wells," he clarified to some hearty laughter.

Repasch said the debt and operating costs of attaining those facilities could lose the authority

\$25,000 to \$30,000 each year for up to four years, but only at current rates.

Solicitor Jim Broughal agreed it would be a good pick up for the authority since in the Lehigh Valley, "there's really not a whole lot of places to grow."

Said Brong, "The real benefit is exclusive water rights to the whole East Allen area. If it's not going to us it's going to someone else. We have to compete."



## William F. Lamberti Bethlehem Catholic HS

Grade: 12

**Family members:** The members of my family are William (father), Caroline (mother), Josef (brother), Emma (sister) and Vinny (brother).

**Favorite subject:** Two of my favorite subjects are history and statistics. I like history because it is like a never-ending story. It is filled with countless heroes, villains, trials and triumphs. I like statistics because it can be used to help describe people or processes. If used correctly, we can find the real problems so that we may address them.

**Activities:** I am involved in the Boy Scouts of America, German Club and National Honor Society.

**Next steps:** After high school, I would like to go to a college or university.

**Career Goals:** I would like to become active in politics.

**Heroes:** Two of my heroes are my dad and mom. My dad is extremely hard working and he makes a lot of sacrifices for our family. My dad inspires me to put others before myself. My mom has turned our house into a home. Many people can move into a house and live in it without their house ever becoming a true home. My mom has transformed our house into a place where we can laugh and love together.

**Hobbies:** Some of my hobbies are reading, running, hiking, swimming and camping.



**Current job(s):** I am currently self-employed by doing general landscaping and yard work.

**Volunteer/community work:** Some of the volunteer work that I participate in are Scouting for Food, National Youth Leadership Training Staff, and as an assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 50.

**Likes:** Some of my likes include music, friends and the outdoors.

**Dislikes:** I do not like liars or cheaters.

**Greatest accomplishment (so far):** My greatest accomplishment is earning my Eagle Scout rank with my Gold and Bronze Palms.

**Advice for peers:** My advice for my peers is "Never lose sight of your light."

*Julia Swan coordinates student profiles for the Bethlehem Press.*



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Catholic school first graders stream past some of Santa's elves as they enter the Bethlehem Catholic gymnasium upon their arrival.

More than 240 first grade students from area Catholic elementary schools traveled to Bethlehem Catholic HS Dec. 7 for the annual first grade Christmas party hosted by the Key and F.A.C.T. Clubs and Becahi Advancement Office. The elementary kids enjoyed crafts, games, a visit with Santa, the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," refreshments and a birthday celebration for the Baby Jesus. First graders also delivered toys that will be given to needy families through Catholic Charities and the Toys for Tots program.

## Elves welcome first graders

### NOTRE DAME NEWS

## Kraft invited to China

As the Christmas season draws near, Liberty HS has been bustling with excitement.



James Sheplock  
Liberty HS

The rush to finish as much as possible before the break has both teachers and students wishing for more time. Along with the commotion from the last week of school, Liberty also has many more interesting activities.

Two of the main events at Liberty this winter have become annual occasions. On Dec. 17 and 19, Liberty's chorus and orchestra presented the Winter Holiday Concert. The chorus, led by Gayle Justice and Krista Snyder, along with the orchestra, led by Greg MacGill and Kevin Long, performed holiday classics along with new and fun interpretations. The National Honors Society also hosted the eighth annual NHS Blood Drive. The event was both a help to the Miller-Keystone Blood Center and a good community service project.

During the holiday season, Liberty students and staff have also remembered to keep those who are less fortunate in mind. Students helped collect donations for the Toys for Tots charity, helping to provide children in need with some presents this Christmas season. The NHS Students in Action group also sponsored a Flood Relief Drive for the victims in India. Led by two NHS students, they collected clothes, toys, books, and more for children in India.

As a new addition to the science department, the awards for Science Students of the

Month have been presented. The department nominated and recognized students who have performed exceptionally in their science classes. The award was given to Erica Allred and Anthony Colon in November, and will continue to honor hard-working students throughout the year.

One of the most anticipated events of the winter season is the start of the winter sports. Liberty's boys and girls basketball, boys and girls swimming, and wrestling teams have all started their seasons. Each team has started the season well and hopes to continue to do well for the rest of the season, possibly until the district or state tournaments.

Along with the well known teams, the rifle team and the winter track team have also begun their seasons. Another hidden team at Liberty, the Scholastic Scrimmage team has been quietly performing well this season. The team recently competed at the district tournament, finishing in third place behind Parkland and Nazareth. The team's captain, Ben Kraft, was not able to attend the final match because he was in China presenting a self-discovered math theory. He was one of only four people in the nation to receive this honor. Liberty is proud not only of the athletic achievements, but also the academic achievements of its students.

With all the events going on, it is easy to see that the school year can quickly fly by without anyone noticing. The school year is almost halfway over. Students have begun to look forward to the start of the second semester. Finals are taking place the third week of January, and the second semester classes begin Jan. 24.



First grade students gather around Christmas trees, eyeing the donated gifts that will benefit the less fortunate through Catholic Charities and the U.S Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program.



A first grader at St. Anne's, Chaise Albus has Santa's ear momentarily as he places a request for Zhu Pets, a snowboard and Star Wars action figures.



Becahi sophomore Lauren Wells, a member of the school's Key Club, assists Liam Lorio and Matthew Miller with assembling their reindeer ornaments.



Becahi senior Sarah Peppe demonstrates to Renna Russo how reindeer antlers are made using pipe cleaners.

### St. Mike's Christmas



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

St. Michael the Archangel Primary School's Christmas Program was held Dec. 14 in St. Joseph's Church on the Primary School campus in Coopersburg. Children in grades kindergarten through fourth serenaded parents and extended families with songs celebrating the anticipation of Jesus' birth. Saint Michael music teacher Jim D'Annibale choreographed the evening and led the student's performance. ABOVE: Grace Barr, (left), and Isabella Ochotorena serve as masters of ceremony at the school's annual Christmas program.

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

#### What is Christmas?

"Mommy, what is Christmas?" asked the three-year-old girl. Her mother carefully explained that Christmas is Jesus' birthday. "Then why do we not give gifts to Jesus if it's His birthday?" The mother explained the tradition of exchanging Christmas gifts as expressions of our love for each other, and that seemed to end the matter. It did not come up again until Christmas Eve when a sleepy little girl placed a package under the Christmas tree on her way to bed and explained that it was a birthday gift for Jesus which she was sure He would open during the night while she slept. After she was asleep, the mother, not wanting her daughter to be disappointed, opened the clumsily wrapped package and found the box empty. On Christmas morning the little girl was thrilled to find the package had been opened. "What was in it?" asked the confused mother. "It was a box full of love," came the answer. --Beverly I. White

Christmas commemorates the expression of God's love for us as revealed in the gift of His Son, Jesus. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son" (John 3:16). Jesus referred to Himself as "the gift of God" (John 4:10). The Apostle Paul speaks of Him as "the gift of Christ" (Ephesians 4:7). Isaiah foretold, "Unto you a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6). The angel announced the arrival of God's gift, "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes" (Luke 2:12).

Jesus was given as the only acceptable sacrifice for our sins. He expressed His love for us in the giving of His life on Calvary for our salvation. What is our response? Is there any evidence of our acceptance and love toward Him? Oh God, give us a heart like the little girl. "Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein" (Luke 18:17).

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# What you didn't know about Mayor Mowrer

By PAT KESLING

Special to the Bethlehem Press

All people who admire Downtown Historic Bethlehem today have former Mayor Gordon B. Mowrer to thank for the buildings, the ambiance and the preserved history, according to current Mayor John Callahan in the forward of Mowrer's new book, "The Comeback Kid: What You Didn't Know About Mayor Mowrer."

"This book also gives the reader the details of what is perhaps Gordon's most lasting legacy to the city. It was he who stopped the destructive 'urban renewal' movement in downtown Bethlehem before it was too late. He helped save enough buildings to maintain the critical mass of history and sense of place. He knew that what made Bethlehem special was its history, and it was upon that foundation that Bethlehem's future would be built," wrote Callahan.

The book is a fascinating story of a man and the city he loves. The reader will read and say "Ah ha" to much of what is written about Bethlehem's history, the inner workings of the city and how a man born and raised in Bethlehem persevered to do many good things.

Mowrer was mayor from 1974-1978 and again in 1987 as interim mayor. The book details his life and how certain struggles in his early and college years prepared him for running a city, dealing with city council, the public and even President Jimmy Carter when they chatted in a City Hall broom closet.

"My basic philosophy has been to treat people as people, in that I try to be sensitive to their concerns as best I know how and attempt to find ways of helping them."

## GORDON MOWRER

A Morning Call editorial of Dec. 22, 1977, noted, "Had it not been for Gordon Mowrer, Main Street could have looked just like the (then vacant) corner of Broad and New. The historic buildings would have been torn down and replaced with several modern high-rise buildings."

The book tells of his determination to move Bethlehem forward by making it a tourism spot. He was the first mayor to hear plans about Musikfest from Jeff Parks, then a young lawyer now festival president. Mowrer points out that he always made time to listen to citizens and many conversations like the one with Parks lead to great things.

"My basic philosophy has been to treat people as people, in that I try to be sensitive to their concerns as best I know how and attempt to find ways of helping them," he writes. Throughout the book, he gives some neat examples.

He also details the joys and difficulties of raising a young family during his political years.

Mowrer writes of his fascination with the workings of City Hall and tells of the changes he

worked to implement. Readers will surely enjoy his views on the different departments and how they operate.

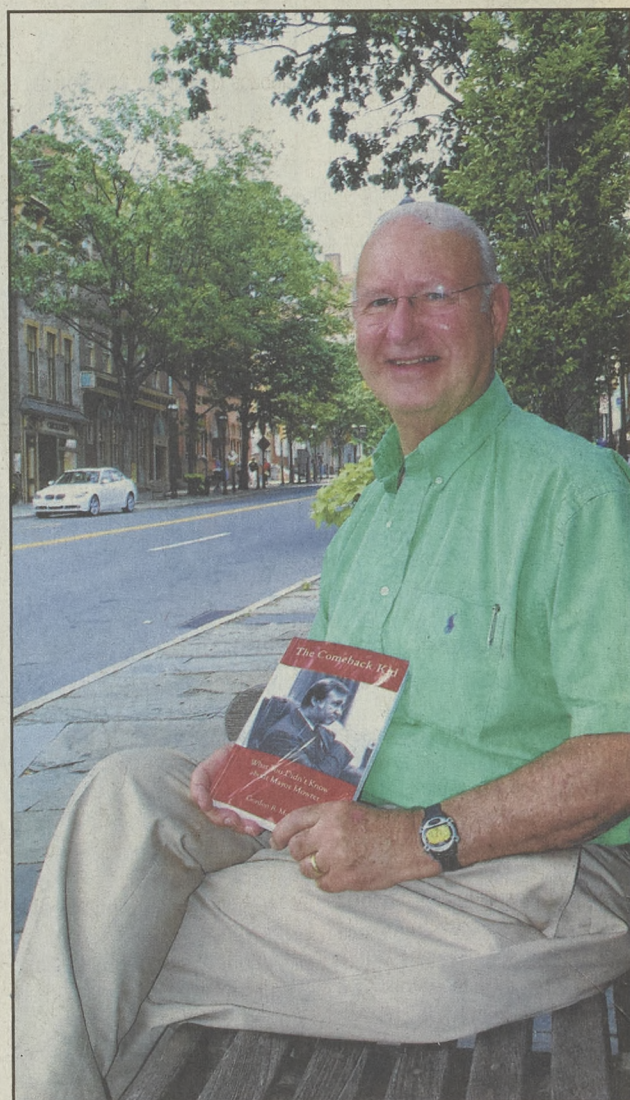
After reading the book, Bethlehem resident Mary Lou Shade wrote her own review and sent it to Mowrer, saying, "He encouraged an open door policy to the mayor's office and held the many departments in City Hall to be more accountable to the public, too. The police and fire departments were reorganized which reduced crime and raised morale. So many accomplishments for the youngest mayor ever elected in Bethlehem."

Of his service as mayor, Mowrer in the book reflected by saying, "It was incredible training for my later life when I became a minister." After City Hall, he graduated from Moravian Theological Seminary, became a minister, served a church, and is now a pastoral care minister at St. Luke's Hospital. He is also an active City Council member.

The "Comeback Kid: What You Didn't Know About Mayor Mowrer" is chock full of history, fun stories, serious events relating to how one man just kept going to achieve his dreams and a great read where lots of local people are highlighted.

The book is available at the Moravian Book Shop, 428 Main St., Bethlehem and may also be ordered online at [www.moravianbookshop.com](http://www.moravianbookshop.com)

Proceeds from book sales will be donated to Historic Bethlehem Partnership.



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

Gordon Mowrer helped save enough Downtown Bethlehem buildings to maintain the critical mass of history and sense of place. He knew that what made Bethlehem special was its history, and it was upon that foundation that Bethlehem's future would be built.

## SCHOOL NOTES

### Gov. Wolf marks Integrated Arts Week

Fifth grade students at Gov. Wolf elementary school had a special week of instruction from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3. The Integrated Arts Week activities featured inventor, scientist, artist, musician, writer and communicator Leonard Da Vinci. Students rotated through the "Ateliers" learning studios. The students progressed from apprentice to master levels in their week's studies by utilizing Da Vinci's seven principles of curiosity, demonstration, refinement of senses, problem solving, balance between the subjects, fitness and systematic thinking.

The program was developed with the assistance of Dr. Patricia Pinciotti, a professions development school liaison from East Stroudsburg University. She and apprentice and student teachers from the university taught some of the Gov. Wolf classes. The highlight and final part of the learning experience was a Dec. 3 excursion to the Da Vinci Science Center, Allentown.

### Moravian has 4 Johns Hopkins winners

Four Moravian Academy ninth graders were honored at a statewide awards ceremony held by the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY).

Asu Bilirgen, Greta Helvie, David Askins-Gast and Kira Ivarsson won based on their exceptional performance on an SAT or ACT test given to second through eighth grade Talent Search participants. The students attended the Middle School at the time that they took the tests.

CTY conducts the nation's oldest and most extensive academic talent search and offers educational programming for students with exceptionally high academic ability. CTY parallels, and complements, a gifted child's regular school experience.

### Notre Dame HS debate team awards

The Notre Dame High School Speech and Debate Team competed at the Villager Tournament Nov. 20 and 21 at St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia. Lauren Albers won a semifinalist award in Oral Interpretation and advanced to the semifinal round. The National Forensic League Degree of Merit was earned by Natalie Prager and Sara Prager and a Degree of Excellence was earned by Anthony Snover.

In the Dec. 4 Monsignor Lyons Tournament, Delone Catholic High School, McSherrytown, the following Notre Dame students won awards: Declamation: Elayna Silfani, third; Dramatic Performance: Natalie Prager, second; Impromptu Speaking: Zaneta Bell, first; Laurel Kandianis, second and Linzie Rosa, third; Novice Oral Interpretation: Sarah Prager, second; Varsity Oral Interpretation: Zaneta Bell, first; Original Oratory: Laurel Kandianis, first; Jonathan Tabuzo, fourth; Student Congress: Irene Kurtz, first; Vicki Baker, second.

Laurel Kandianis won the Janet Blettner Award for the most outstanding competitor in speech events. Notre Dame finished fourth in the team sweepstakes.

In the George Mason University Patriot Games competition on Dec. 4 and 5, Lauren Albers won a quarter-finalist award in Prose Reading.

The following earned degrees from the National Forensic League: Tom Kennebeck, Degree of Excellence; Elayna Silfani, Degree of Merit; Ryan Carrigan, Degree of Honor and Zaneta Bell, Degree of Special Distinction: Zaneta Bell.

### Notre Dame to honor Anthony Saraceno

Anthony Saraceno, Class of 2010, will be awarded a plaque for his accomplishments as a member of the Notre Dame Speech and Debate team. During his four years, three of which he served as captain, Saraceno won numerous awards in several categories. Saraceno was a major contributor to Notre Dame's four team sweepstakes trophies, including three first place awards. He helped Notre Dame win the 2009-2010 Allentown Diocesan Forensic League cumulative sweepstakes championship. He set a new school record by earning 1,141 National Forensic League points.

Saraceno, a Millersville University student, is the son of Tony and Denise Saraceno of Bethlehem Township.

### St. Michael's receives educational grant

Saint Michael the Archangel School has received a \$750 grant from the ExxonMobil Educational Alliance Program to support the school's educational programs. Lehigh Gas Corporation's Joseph Topper worked with Julia Spehalski at Saint Michael's to secure the grant, which was made possible by funding from the ExxonMobil Corporation. Local EMC retailers are considered the best persons to work with local educators to help identify schools and programs most in need of support.

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



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