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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER FOR THE BETHLEHEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 24, 2010

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CITY
Harsh
action
dies

Controller
to review
ordinance
violations

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Bethlehem City Council rejected the notion Feb. 16 that the administration of Mayor John Callahan and particularly his business administrator Dennis Reichard should be reprimanded for using \$315,643 from the city's casino host fee escrow account to pay city bills without council approval.

Because no council member made a motion for a censure or reprimand, one of several options council's solicitor had presented as possible alternatives, the possibility of harsh action died.

Instead, council voted to refer the matter to the City Controller and to the city's auditors, an action that is more routine administrative action than punitive.

Reichard had previously explained the transfer as a mistake because he misunderstood the requirements of the newly passed set of ordinances.

The transfer of money to the city's General Fund violated two new city ordinances which specifically require the administration to get the advice and consent of the City Council before making such a financial transfer, according to Councilwoman Jean Belinski and confirmed by City Council solicitor Christopher Spadoni.

Council referred the issue to Spadoni, who responded in a Jan. 15 letter with alternatives or what the council came to call "options" for action.

While Spadoni agreed that a violation of the ordinances had occurred, he pointed out that that the money had been used to pay legitimate city health-care expenses and that, in his opinion, no criminal intent was involved.

Spadoni's letter listed alternatives available to

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PRESS PHOTOS BY JENNIFER LADER

The blood of Yoshi and other large, healthy dogs can save the lives of other dogs in the Lehigh Valley and beyond.

Lending a helping...paw



Yoshi arrives for his bi-monthly blood donation and is greeted by critical care nurses Jennifer May, Renee Tallman and Kim Rohrbach, who is also his owner.



With caring hands, a needle is inserted as the nurses ensure that Yoshi lies still. The blood donation takes only a few minutes, and owners are welcome to gently pet and talk with the dog throughout.

Kim Rohrbach and her staff of critical care nurses run the Valley Central Animal Blood Bank with about 200 regular donors

By JENNIFER LADER
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

"Get ready, here he comes!" Kim Rohrbach said on a recent evening as she pulled doggie treats from the supply cabinet. She is a critical care nurse at the Valley Central Emergency Veterinary Hospital with a lifelong love of animals.

"Helping animals is my passion," Rohrbach admitted.

Her mixed breed dog, Yoshi, burst into the room. He was still on a leash held by nurse Renee Tallman, but eager for the treats and attention coming his way. Rohrbach and her staff run the Valley Central Animal Blood Bank at 210 Fullerton Ave. in Whitehall. Critical care nurses Jennifer May and Beth Hart check the overall health of donors and shave a small patch of fur from near the donor's collar, so small that even show dogs are able to donate.

Yoshi then jumped

onto the table and lay down to donate a pint of blood.

Dogs have more than a dozen blood types, Tallman explained. As with humans, some are universal and always in high demand; others are not as common. A dog weighing over 60 pounds and in good health can give a pint every two months. Unlike many small blood banks set up for in-house use only, this one makes the blood available to outside organizations and for about what it costs to collect and process it.

Rambo came next, much more shy than his name implies, and a first-time donor. A Belgian shepherd with long dark hair, he was reluctant to stand for the moment or so it took to check and prep him. He turned his nose away from treats, but he'll receive heartworm protection, goodies and maybe even flea and tick

See PAW on Page A2

"One donation can save the lives of four dogs."

KIM ROHRBACH

BASD

Charter school OK'd

Bilingual program will be in former Southside Catholic school

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Lehigh Valley has taken a giant step forward to make its young population more competitive in the future's job market. The increasing frequency of job descriptions that require bilingual applicants defines part of the need for early foreign language training. National defense requirements also indicate the value of the multi-lingual citizen.

Lehigh Valley Dual Language Charter School (LVDLCC) got approval from Bethlehem Area School District school board members at their Feb. 17 meeting. Founding director Carlos Lopez and his supporters broke out in big smiles after the unanimous vote.

BASD officials welcomed the new school, a sharp contrast to the cold shoulder Catasauqua Area School District and Northampton Area School Districts turned toward a charter school application in their districts last year.

The new school will conduct classes in both English and Spanish for grades kindergarten through fourth grade starting in August. It has a three-year charter, meaning that it will expand its

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BETHLEHEM PRESS

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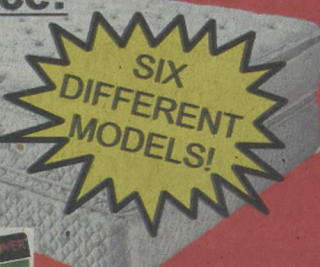


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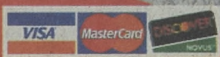
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Mike Alkhal

Director of Public Works and City Engineer
City of Bethlehem

Q & A

BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

Q Please describe your responsibility for snow removal.

A As director of public works, I oversee a number of bureaus, one of which is the Bureau of Streets, which is responsible for the snow plowing and road treatment operations, as well as all street maintenance activities.

Q What complications has this winter's heavy snowfall caused?

A We obviously had high accumulations, but just as challenging has been the consistently low temperatures preceding, during, and pursuant to the last big snowfall. In consideration of budgets and the environment, we repeatedly plow but typically do not treat side streets in residential areas that are fairly flat and less traveled and hence should be safe to navigate with proper caution even if there is some layer of snow for a little time subsequent to a snowstorm. During the past two storms, we were also low on salt supplies despite ordering as soon as we were using it, but it was slow to be delivered. Due to the repeated plowing on these side streets (and traffic/plows running over them) and low temperatures, these streets remained covered with a layer of packed snow/ice a lot longer than normal. Otherwise, we did very well



cleaning up the storms.

Q How is all of this snow affecting the city's snow removal budget and supplies?

A We have not tallied the numbers yet, but we are well over exhausting half our total budgets for the year.

Q Where is the city putting all of the snow?

A Snow removed from our downtown areas is trucked to the west end of Sand Island.

Q There is opportunity for more snow this winter. How well is the city prepared for more snow?

A We are prepared and it will be a matter of whether we end up dipping into other budget items such as paving, if we have a lot more snow.

Q Is there anything else that you would like to share with our readers?

A Just to be assured that we are doing the best for our citizens, for them to be a little patient with us, and never hesitate to call us if they need our service or if we miss anything.

Lending a helping...paw

Continued from page A1

protection to take home with him each time he donates. His owner and his vet have already received a report on Rambo's blood workup. That and the satisfaction of helping other animals bring dog owners to the blood bank.

"I like to help dogs," Rambo's owner Darlene said.

"One donation can save the lives of four dogs," Rohrbach said. "They may need transfusions due to disease or surgery. Some of them find rat poisoning and need blood then, too."

Cats also donate blood at this location. The animals go through a practice run on their first visit. At home, they practice lying still for the big night. Rambo accepted the proceedings, but was ready to head for home afterward. In all, Rohrbach said there are about 200 regular donors.

"It gets easier the more they come in," she said.

Most nights, one of the animal hospital's patients can be found receiving a transfusion. The hospital is owned by a group of local veterinarians and open for emergency care when their offices are closed.

The vets can also send their patients in for specialty surgery in the same location with Valley Central Referral Hospital. A petite canine was sleeping off surgery on a pallet near the nurse's station. Another sported a purple cast on his leg, a pink blanket and a white ribbon despite bearing the name Jake.

New this year, the emergency room expanded hours to Monday through Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. and from 6 p.m. Thursday all the way through 8 a.m. Monday. Vets may refer their patients there during these times, or owners may bring their pets directly to the Whitehall facility. At least one veterinarian is always on duty



Rambo, a Belgian shepherd, communicates all to his owner, Darlene who answers him in hushed tones during his blood donation.



Guiding hands keep Rambo calm as the table for the blood donation is lowered so that Rambo can safely stand. From left, critical care nurses Beth Hart and Jennifer May.

in addition to the nursing staff. The phone number for emergencies and for blood donation is 610-435-5588.

When blood is not available locally, the hospital

has to order it from as far away as California, usually from one of the handful of large blood banks. But demand is increasing with advances in medicine and as attitudes toward pets

change. "We need more donors," Rohrbach said as she gave Rambo a big hug.

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CITY

Continued from page A1

City Council which included, but did not recommend, a letter of reprimand and censure. Belinski had formally read the issue into the City Council's record at a previous council meeting; the council had referred it to Spadoni asking for possible actions that could be taken on the matter.

When the matter came to a vote Feb. 16, Belinski was absent from the chamber. According to a message left with the Press, she had suffered a broken arm before the meeting and couldn't attend.

Without the "sponsors" or a member to make a motion and another to second a motion of cen-



PRESS PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

City of Bethlehem business administrator Dennis Reichard and Mayor John Callahan's action in paying city bills with casino escrow account money was called into question by Councilwoman Jean Belinski.

sure, the City Council resolved the issue by agreeing to notify the City Controller and the city's auditors of the misstep.

Councilwoman Karen Dolan said that the ordinances have "no teeth" and that she felt no criminal intent was evident

as she recommended against punitive action by the City Council. She said that the council, through innocent oversight, had violated an ordinance in the past and that she believed that punitive action was inappropriate in this case.

Callahan and Reichard told the Press that this minimal action of the council — short of doing nothing — was satisfactory to them.

Resident and former Bethlehem City employee Dana Grubb, who had spoken during the courtesy of the floor period in favor of "upholding the rule of law" in the case, told the Press that he was happy with the outcome because the auditor's report would eventually be reviewed by state and federal authorities.

Pastor's Comments
In large print at: www.NAOG.ws/pc
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What's Your Heading?

Do you know the difference between the three navigational terms: course, bearing, and heading? **Course** is the path you take to get to your destination. **Bearing** is the direction you intend to take. **Heading** is the direction the head of the vessel is pointed and moving. Concerning spiritual things, the matter of following Jesus Christ, and the matter of heaven or hell, my question to you is: **What's your heading?** In what direction are you headed spiritually?

In his Financial Freedom Seminar, Jim Sammons had emphasized what the Bible says about not being in debt. Someone said to him that it seemed impossible to ever get out of their debt. His answer applies to every aspect of Christian life: "Where you are is not so important as the direction you are headed." This truth is both a message of encouragement to those who are headed in the right direction toward the Lord and a message of warning to those who are headed away from Him. I encourage those who have experienced salvation but to whom it seems impossible to ever meet God's command, "Be ye holy; for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16), to just keep your heading focused on Jesus and keep headed in the right direction. "Follow ... holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). On the other hand, Christians who are headed away from Christ — whose hearts long for the world — who justify disobedience to Christ's commands, are warned in Hebrews 3:12-14: "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God ... For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end."

What's Your Heading? Are you on course for heaven? Will you be able to say with Paul, "I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness" (2 Timothy 4:7-8)?

Note: Hear this complete message from last Sunday at: www.naog.ws/sermons.htm

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Wednesday, February 24

Bethlehem Parking Authority meeting, 4:30 p.m. at 85 W. North St.
Bethlehem Zoning Hearing Board meeting, 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 10 E. Church St.
Bethlehem Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting, 7 p.m. at Municipal Building, 4225 Easton Ave.

Thursday, February 25

Hanover Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting, 7 p.m., 3630 Jacksonville Road

Friday, February 26

LEPOCO potluck and politics series, 7 p.m. Bring food to share, 6:30 p.m. "Split Estate" movie and discussion with Catherine Frankenberg at LEPOCO, 313 W. 4th St. Call 610-691-8730.

Saturday, February 27

Sun Inn public tours, noon to 4 p.m., 564 Main St. Call 610-866-1758.
Moravian College Conservation Association, 7:30 p.m., Iran-then and Now by Buddy Hatton. Call 610-730-8451

Sunday, February 28

Sun Inn public tours, 1 to 4 p.m., 564 Main St. Call 610-866-1758.

Monday, March 1

First Presbyterian Church Hi Neighbors, 10 a.m. Paris in the Springtime with Madeline and Bob Brown; at the church, 2344 Center St.
BASD Facilities Committee meeting, 6 p.m., at Education Center dining room, 1516 Sycamore St.
BASD Finance Committee, 7 p.m., at Education Center dining room, 1516 Sycamore St.
Bethlehem Township Board of Commissioners meeting, 7 p.m. at Municipal Building, 4225 Easton Ave.
Fountain Hill Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m. at 941 Long St.
Freemansburg Governing Body meeting, 7 p.m. at 600 Monroe St.
Hellertown Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m. at 685 Main St.
Hanover Township Planning Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Municipal Building, 3630 Jacksonville Road

Tuesday, March 2

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

Wednesday, March 3

HARB meeting, 4 p.m. at Town Hall at 10 E. Church St.

To have an event listed, contact George Taylor at 610-625-2121, ext. 3112, gtaylor@tnonline.com or fax 610-625-2126.

Pancake Tuesday at St. Andrews



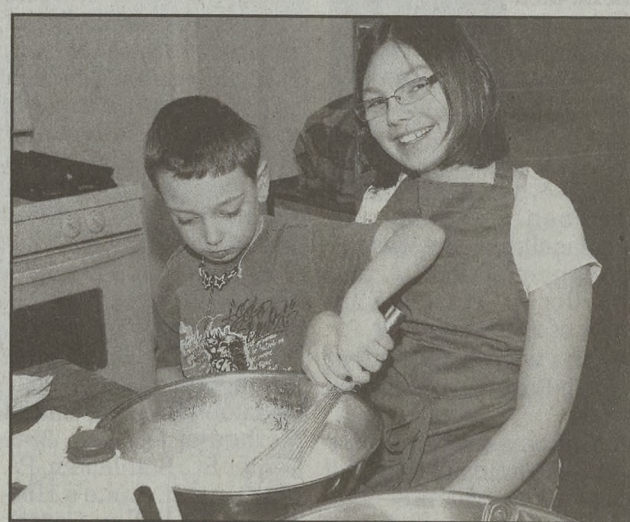
Server Audrey Levan chats with retired broadcaster Alan Raber after delivering his dinner platter.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church held its annual Shrove Tuesday pancakes and sausage dinner Feb. 16. Expecting 75 to 100 diners, organizers looked to raise funds to support both the homeless shelter program and its Interfaith Food Pantry. St. Andrews is among a dozen Bethlehem area churches providing overnight winter shelters for the homeless and runs the Pennsylvania Avenue Interfaith Food Pantry, which is open the first and third Wednesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. Shrove Tuesday, also known as "Fat Tuesday" and "Pancake Tuesday," is the day before the beginning of Lent, on which housewives have traditionally used up their cooking fats prior to Lent by preparing a meal.

PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB



Bethlehem resident Liza Holzinger kept pancake production going in the St. Andrews Episcopal Church kitchen.



Brandon and Alexis Holzinger helped their grandmother with mixing the pancake batter.

COLLEGE NOTES

Northampton Community College Thriller movie "Meinte" airs March 4

The psychological crime thriller movie "Meinte" ("The Lie") will have its regional premier at 6 p.m. March 4 at the Lipkin Theatre, Kopecek Hall, 3835 Green Pond Road. The film is based on the bestselling novel "Different" by Javier Avila. It is a Spanish-language film with English subtitles. There is no fee, but donations of canned food for the Hogar Crea Women's Center would be appreciated.

Craft classes start March 5

Various craft classes start March 5 at either the Main Campus (MC) in Bethlehem Township or at the Fowler Family Southside Center (FFSC) at 511 E. Third St. in Bethlehem. There is a fee. Courses include calligraphy, needlework, stained glass, Japanese temari, sewing fast 'n easy, leather carving, basketry and glass fusing. There is a fee.

Cooking classes begin March 7

Various cooking classes start March 7 at either the Main Campus (MC) in Bethlehem Township or at the Fowler Family Southside Center (FFSC) at 511 E. Third St. in Bethlehem. There is a fee. Courses include appetizers, intermediate cake decorating, Japanese sushi, cheesecakes, knife skills and gluten free bread. Cooking demonstrations and wine tastings will also be available. For more information or for detailed course descriptions, or to register, go to www.northampton.edu and click "search courses," or call 1-877-543-0998.

Northampton Community College's main campus is located at 3835 Green Pond Road. The Fowler Family Southside Center is located at 511 E. Third St. For more information, contact NCC at 610-861-5300 or 1-877-543-0998 or visit www.northampton.edu.

BASD

Continued from page A1

grade level each year to fifth grade for academic year 2011-12 and to sixth grade for the academic year 2012-13.

Lopez told the Press that he plans to have 250 students the first year and that as of now 160 students are signed up for the program. He encouraged parents to contact him now for information. The school can be contacted through www.lvdcls.org or by calling Lopez directly at 484-213-9591.

The campus will be at 551 North Thomas St. in Bethlehem. It formerly housed the Saints Cyril and Methodious Catholic School which closed a few years ago. It is just two blocks from Lehigh University's campus in South Bethlehem.

Though the building has been most recently used by BASD, Lopez said that the building will be leased from its owner, the Allentown Diocese.

It is currently ready for occupancy, said Lopez; no renovations are needed.

Lopez said that, historically, charter schools are

usually staffed by non-union teachers.

He said that hiring bilingual, Pennsylvania-certified teachers will be a challenge. Since the school plans to teach each class in both Spanish and English, there may be some cases where otherwise qualified teachers will teach in teams in order bring the Spanish and English language program into the classroom.

Charter schools are public schools; students from any Pennsylvania school district can attend. Students living in school districts within 10 miles of the boundary of BASD are eligible to attend and can also take advantage of the state law governing charter schools which requires a student's parent school district to provide transportation to charter schools within the 10-mile range.

While all K-4 students are eligible to attend LVDCLS, they still need to apply as such programs are popular. Lopez said that when he retired from Roberto Clemente Charter School, 700 students were on the waiting list.

Lopez said that the optimum time for a child to learn a foreign language is in the primary school years. He said that people who are

fluent in a foreign language find that additional languages are easier to learn. For example a Spanish speaker will transition readily into other Romance languages like French or Italian.

He said that even Asian languages such as Japanese, which has a very regular grammar as does Spanish, will be easier to learn.

Lopez pointed out that fluency in multiple languages greatly increases the market value of the students when they graduate.

Also Lopez said that at least one parent whose child enrolls will be required to volunteer at least 25 hours per school year. The children, who will be required to wear uniforms, will find that the school day is 15 minutes longer than other public schools and that the school year will start five days earlier and end five days later — 10 additional school days per academic year.

The charter school will adopt the BASD curriculum but will not be supervised by the school district. Languages will be taught using the Rosetta Stone model.

Lopez, 57, is a former teacher in the BASD; he also has experience as a



PRESS PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

Carlos Lopez gets the news that his dual language charter school was approved.

principal and as a superintendent. He was briefly on the Allentown School District's school board and most recently was with the Roberto Clemente Charter School in Allentown from which he retired.

He is a former director of the Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of the Lehigh Valley (CSSOLV). The CSSOLV is a sponsoring organization for the charter school.

He gave credit for the success of the smooth application process to Acting Superintendent Thomas E. Persing and to Dr. Dean Donaher, director of student services for BASD, and to the board of directors. He also credited the director of the Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of the Lehigh Valley, Olga Negron and its immediate past director, Sis Obed-Torres for their strong support of his goal of establishing a dual language charter school.

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Arthur "Stoney" Stoneback

Boy Scout leader

Arthur C. Stoneback, 100, formerly of the Lehigh Valley, died Feb. 11, 2010 in his son's home in Georgetown, Texas. Born in Richlandtown, he was the son of late Allen F. Jr. and Eva C. (Rapp) Stoneback. He was the husband of the late Grace E. Stoneback.



He was a graduate of Richlandtown HS, class of 1926.

He was a structural draftsman with Cunningham-Limp until retiring. He contributed many years of service to the Boy Scouts of America since 1916 and continuing into the 1950s.

He was the Richlandtown secretary. He was a

volunteer firefighter. He is survived by two sons, Lewis J. and his wife Elizabeth of Georgetown, Texas and Frederick L. and his wife Ann of Troy, Mich., and Phoenix, Ariz.; two daughters, Elaine J. Sotzen of Clawson, Mich., and Annette L. and her husband Richard Smith of Bethlehem; two brothers, Robert H. and his wife Dorothy Nagle and James W. and his wife Janet Nagle, all of Allentown; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a son, Richard Stoneback; a brother, Daniel and a sister, Dorothy Stahl.

Contributions may be made to the Boy Scouts of America 100th Anniversary, 991 Postal Road, Allentown, PA 18103.

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

Phyllis F. Lentz

St. Luke's secretary

Phyllis F. Lentz, 53, of Bethlehem, died Feb. 18, 2010 in St. Luke's Hospice House, Lower Saucon Township. Born in Philadelphia, she was the daughter of Paul J. and Phyllis M. (Turner) Zimmer of Philadelphia.



She was a graduate of North East HS in Philadelphia.

She was a secretary for St. Luke's Hospital for the past six years.

She was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church, Bethlehem, where she sang in the choir.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by a son, W. Scott and his fiancé Jordan Pluck of Shillington; a daughter, Tracy M. of Bethlehem; a brother, Glenn P. and his wife Janet Zimmer and their daughter Kristen Hettel of North Wales; a sister, Carol J. and her husband Michael Caruso and their son Michael of Elkins Park; and former husband, Rev. J. William Lentz, Jr. of Bethlehem. Contributions may be made to Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem, PA 18017, or St. Luke's Hospice, 1510 Valley Center Parkway, Suite 200, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

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

Donald L. Jacobs

WWII Flying Tiger

Donald L. Jacobs, 87, of Bethlehem, died Feb. 12, 2010 in St. Luke's Hospital. Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Frederick and Flora (Granda) Jacobs. He was the husband of the late Mildred (Wernett) Jacobs. A World War II veteran of the Army Air Corps, he served with the Flying Tigers in China.

He was a printer at the Bethlehem Steel Company for 40 years before retiring.

He was a member of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Bethlehem.

He is survived by a daughter, Mary and her husband Royce Rush of Bethlehem Township; two sons, Roger of Allentown and Bruce and his wife Linda of Bethlehem; a brother, Gordon of Center Valley; a sister, Jeannette Wesner of Bethlehem; four grandchildren and five great-grandsons.

Contributions may be sent to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 69 W. Washington Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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

Grace E. Stoneback

L.V. silk weaver

Grace E. Stoneback, 93, formerly of the Lehigh Valley, died Feb. 7, 2010 in her son's home in Georgetown, Texas. Born in Slatington, she was the daughter of Clarence E. and Anna (Roberts) Nagle. She was the wife of the late Arthur C. Stoneback, who died Feb. 11.



She worked for Bethlehem Steel Corp. during World War II. She was a silk weaver for various mills in the Lehigh Valley.

She is survived by two sons, Lewis J. and his wife Elizabeth of Georgetown, Texas and Frederick L.

and his wife Ann of Troy, Mich., and Phoenix, Ariz.; two daughters, Elaine J. Sotzen of Clawson, Mich., and Annette L. and her husband Richard Smith of Bethlehem; two brothers, Robert H. and his wife Dorothy Nagle and James W. and his wife Janet Nagle, all of Allentown; seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by a son, Richard Stoneback; and two brothers, Clarence and Harold Nagle.

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

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

Michael Fantasia Sr.

St. Anne's member

Michael Fantasia Sr., 50, of Land O' Lakes, Fla., died Feb. 10, 2010. Born in Bethlehem, he was the son of Elizabeth Fantasia of Emmaus. He was the husband of Claudia Fantasia for 27 years.



He was a construction supervisor.

He was a member of St. Anne's Catholic Church, Bethlehem and Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church in Land O' Lakes, Fla.

He was a football coach for the Pop Warner

League in both Pennsylvania and Florida. He served on the board of directors for Land O' Lakes Little League.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Michael Jr.; a daughter, Nikki; three brothers, Louis and his wife Cindy and David and his wife Devra, all of Bethlehem, and Thomas and his wife Maria of Coplay; a sister, Donna and her husband Dean Davidson of Emmaus and eight nieces and nephews.

Contributions may be made to the Fantasia Family Fund, 23110 State Road 54, #216, Lutz, FL 33549.

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

Theresa M. Carchio

Two Guys and Leh's employee

Teresa M. Carchio, 88, of Bethlehem, died Feb. 12, 2010 at Old Orchard ManorCare in Easton. Born in Easton, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Sara (Rizzo) Gianguzzi. She was the wife of John Carchio for 64 years.

She worked for the former Two Guys and Leh's department stores.

She was of the Catholic faith.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, John A. Jr. of Margate, Fla; two daughters,

Patricia Ann Talijan of Bethlehem, and Teresa Bailey of Smyrna, Tenn.; and two grandchildren, David Patrick Talijan and Terri Beth Bailey.

Contributions may be made to any of the following organizations: www.world25.org, hopeforhaitinow.org, American Red Cross of the Greater Lehigh Valley, 2200 Avenue A, Bethlehem, PA 18017, or a Haitian fund of one's choice.

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

Chester W. "Buddy" Bachman Jr.

Steel central tools test man

Chester W. "Buddy" Bachman Jr., 79, of Bethlehem, died Feb. 13, 2010 at St. Luke's Hospital, Fountain Hill. Born in Fountain Hill, he was a son of the late Chester and Bertha (Cavey) Bachman Sr.

He was a test man in the central tools shop for Bethlehem Steel, retiring in 1992.

He was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks (B.P.O.E.) Bethlehem Lodge #191, where he was a past exalted ruler (PER.) He was a lifetime member of the Wanderer's Club, the North End Republican Club and the Jefferson Democratic Club.

He is survived by a daughter, Sharlene Bennett, with whom he resided; two sons, Richard of Allentown and Allen of Northampton; two sisters Shirley Brackett of New Hampshire and Beverly Glenn of Bethlehem; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

He was predeceased by a sister, Doris Henning.

Contributions may be made to BPOE Lodge 191, Special Charities Fund, 431 W. Union Blvd., Bethlehem, PA 18018.

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

Arlene M. Ramsey

Christ U.C.C. member

Arlene M. Ramsey, 89, died Feb. 13, 2010 in Phoebe Home. Born in Brady's Bend, she was a daughter of the late Leroy C. and Agnes (Hicks) Sigworth. She was the wife of the late Gerald W. Ramsey Sr.

She was a sales clerk at Gimbel's Department Store. Prior to that, she and her late husband were house parents at the Warrendale Youth Development Center.

She was a member of Christ Church United Church of Christ, Bethlehem.

She is survived by a daughter, Joyce and her

husband Douglas Donigan of Hanover Township; two brothers, Kenneth Sigworth of Raleigh, N.C., and Larry Sigworth of Bartlesville, Okla.; three grandchildren, Joseph, David and his wife Linda and Wendy Donigan; and two great-grandchildren, Connor and Lucas. She was predeceased by a son, Gerald W. Jr.; a brother, Dale; and a sister, Evelyn Blair.

Contributions may be sent to Phoebe Home, 1925 Turner St., Allentown, PA 18104.

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

BIRTHS

Oct. 20: Robert and Mary Taylor, daughter; Christopher Jr. and Staci Schanbacher, son; Jose and Michelle Lopez, son.
Oct. 21: James Parker and Danielle Mayo, son.
Oct. 22: Jason and Heather Gidusko, daughter.
Oct. 23: Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Gautier, son; Julio Hernandez and Monique Nieves, son.
Oct. 26: Keith Green and Adella Butler, daughter; Tarkan Yukel and Funda Cansiz, daughter; Michael Paul II and Elizabeth Alogna, son.
Oct. 29: Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gorman, daughter; Corey and Marcia Woodell, daughter; Jesus Gonzales and Virginia Waiatae, daughter.
Nov. 1: Angel Feyjoo III and Jeniva Rodriguez, son.
Nov. 2: Anthony Azcudiaz and Gisselle Figueroa, son; Jahira DeJesus, son; Christopher Rivera and Liz Lopez, son; Dr. and Mrs. Kerry W. Go, son; Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Lavelah, son.
Nov. 4: Falon Kramer, daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Danny Frazier, daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hlavinka Jr., son; Scott P. and Sherri L. Blevins, daughter.
Nov. 5: Christopher and Keslin Ahner, daughter.
Nov. 6: Mr. and Mrs. Michael Notary, son.
Nov. 7: Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Loyer, son.
Nov. 8: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth F. Whitehead, son; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald P. Schantz III, daughter.
Nov. 10: Rafael Perez and Marisa Szvetcz, daughter.
Nov. 11: Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Rovi, son; Kyle Naylor and Amanda Roth, daughter.
Nov. 12: Eric H. Steirer and Emily N. Carpo, daughter; Alan and Mary Fiorini, daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Garry Gordon, son; Gordy and Erin Frack, son.
Nov. 13: Mr. and Mrs. Guy Emmanuel Knox, daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Miller, son; Jerel Robinson Sr. and Jasmine Currie, son.
Nov. 14: Willie Green and Tanya DeSantis, son.
Nov. 15: Manuel Torres and Robin Torres, daughter; Brian and Jennifer Erland, daughter; Christopher Sr. and Jamie Tomac, daughter.
Nov. 16: Michael and Jennifer Pieson, daughter.
Nov. 17: James Ferreira and Rachel Lisansky, son; Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Sutton, daughter.
Nov. 19: Otis McNeill III and Rachel Sabella, daughter.
Nov. 20: Dave and Junie Dornblaser, daughter; Mr. and Mrs.

Eric Grube, daughter.

Nov. 24: Mr. and Mrs. Joaquim Sarmiento, son; Alan Oliveros and Tanja-Lee Merced, son.
Nov. 27: Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Daignault, son.
Nov. 28: Chad and Kristen Bruckner, son.
Nov. 29: Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Raab, daughter.
Nov. 30: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Egner Jr., son; Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Colon, son; Nathan Husser and Maureen A. Quinn, daughter; Clayton and Skye DeCastro, daughter.
Dec. 1: Mr. and Mrs. Sean Haas, daughter; Chad and Krystal Palank, daughter; Jason and Iliana Figueroa, daughter; Nate and Jamie Frey, son.
Dec. 3: Renes Cruz and Vanessa Nieves, son.
Dec. 4: Allstair and Kelly Durie, son; Ashley Haas, son; Vanessa Santiago, daughter.
Dec. 5: Heather Diefenderfer, son.
Dec. 6: Melanie Loyola, daughter; James Diehl and Brittany Neidlinger, daughter.
Dec. 8: Mr. and Mrs. Brian Seals, daughter.
Dec. 11: Mr. and Mrs. Chad Harris, son; David and Jennifer Kuder, son.
Dec. 12: Michael Topolosky and Kimberly Clauser, daughter.
Dec. 14: Joseph Luther and Andrea Gecsek, daughter.
Dec. 16: Cord and Julianne Burk, daughter; Stacy Spearman, daughter.
Dec. 17: Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Delgado, daughter; Vicente Rodriguez and Alysa Vega, son; Jonathan Rodriguez and Tina Barry, son.
Dec. 18: Steve and Katie Spengler, daughter.
Dec. 19: Charles Cauty III and Jamie Gastony, daughter.
Dec. 21: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mangione Jr., son.
Dec. 22: Efrain Santiago and Estefina Olivera, son.
Dec. 23: Charles Cachiguango and Rebecca Rice, daughter; Dave and Kristen Davis, daughter.
Dec. 25: Kneisha Garced, daughter.
Dec. 26: Hector and Kristina Coll, daughter.
Dec. 27: Carlos A. Lopez Jr. and Arasellis Ortiz, daughter; Craig Sprague and Stephanie Brewer, son.
Dec. 28: Elizabeth Colon, son; Mr. and Mrs.

Mohammed Asad, daughter.

Dec. 29: Brad Kuchinski and Dr. Kimberly Kuchinski, son.
Dec. 31: Christian Berdecia and Erica Hernandez, daughter; Kyron Holmes and Crystal Davila, son.
Jan. 1: Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Scott, son.
Jan. 2: Angel L. Perez and Sara Rivera, son.
Jan. 4: Michael and Katie (Keefe) Pavolko, daughter.
Jan. 5: Mr. and Mrs. James Sullivan, daughter; Nathan Herster and Shannon Edwards, daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Shope, son; Shannon Stark, son; Mr. and Mrs. Jose Espinal, son.
Jan. 6: Anthony Rossetti and Samantha Wiltrout, daughter.
Jan. 7: Jose Toledo and Kristal Figueroa, daughter.
Jan. 9: Mr. and Mrs. Khorey Smith, son.
Jan. 11: Johanny Rivera, daughter.
Jan. 12: Roy Jeffery and Terri Keiffer, son.
Jan. 14: Jovanna Garcia, daughter; Colin Wilson and April Roach-Kail, daughter; Beibel Dong and Zhaoyang Yang, son.
Jan. 15: Johnny Santiago and Stacy Trinidad, daughter.
Jan. 18: Greg and Gretchen Duff, daughter; Carlos Rivera and Cristal Ruiz, son.
Jan. 19: Chester Farrington III and Karina Farrington, son; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Minco, son; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McCormick, son.
Jan. 20: Rayner Mendez and Tina Maldonado, son.
Jan. 21: Sabriyyah Hutcherson, son; Todd and Monica Malseed, son.
Jan. 22: Chad Lorentz and Alison Luchino, daughter; Jason Kelly and Dawn Spreckels, daughter.
Jan. 25: Ryan Forder and Sarah Mervin, son; Juan Ayala III and Valerie Swanson, daughter; Michele Raisner, daughter.
Jan. 26: Keiana Ramos, daughter.
Jan. 28: Eric and Danielle Frank, daughter.
Jan. 31: Mark Cora and Nicole Grubbs, daughter.
Feb. 1: Mr. and Mrs. Michael Simmers, son.

BRIEFLY

LEPOCO

Annual dinner will be March 6

The Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern (LEPOCO) will hold its annual dinner 5 p.m. March 6 at the Episcopal Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

There will be music and appetizers at 5 p.m. and a vegetarian dinner at 5:30 p.m. Following the meal, Bill Talen, also known as Reverend Billy, will speak on "Lifting the Peace-a-lujah Voice!"

In character as Reverend Billy, Talen acts as the spiritual leader of the Church of Life After Shopping, a radical performance community using theater, humor and grassroots organizing to advance individuals and communities towards a more equitable future.

Tickets are required. There is a fee. Reservation deadline is Feb. 26. Tickets may be purchased at the LEPOCO Peace Center, 313 W. Fourth St. or at the door. Call 610-691-8730, e-mail lepeco@fast.net.

CIVIL WAR

RoundTable meets March 2

John Nagy will be the guest speaker at the Civil War of Eastern PA roundtable. Nagy is author and president of the American Revolution Roundtable of Philadelphia.

The group will meet March 2 at the Four Points Sheraton, 3400 Airport Road, Allentown. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. with the presentation at 7:30 p.m. Dinner reservations must be made by Feb. 25. For information, call 484-225-3150 or e-mail chief96pb@rcn.com.

Fowler Youth Center opens

A place where local youth can go right after school and get the support services they need to be successful

BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL
Special to the Bethlehem Press

There were lots of smiles as those whose dreams were becoming a reality gathered around Marlene "Linny" Fowler while she cut the ribbon on the new Fowler Youth Center at 502 E. 4th St., Bethlehem Feb. 9.

The Fowler Youth Center is a place where local youth can go right after school and get the support services they need to be successful. It's run as an after school program of the Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of the Lehigh Valley (CSSOLV).

Alec Morales, Youth Center Coordinator who supervised the Boxing Club in Bethlehem, was instrumental in launching the Fowler Youth Center. He said of the Boxing Club, "When I opened this program it was about more than boxing. I wanted the kids to have something to do. Today my dreams come true."

Now, not only will the Boxing Club move to a larger space, but also other services will be available. The center will offer recreational activities for local youth, like a chess club, aerobic exercise and weight-lifting as well as homework support. The target age is 8 years old through high school.

Counseling services will be provided by The Valley Youth House.

"Alec had a need and I had the services to help those kids," said Wesley Johnson, Street Outreach coordinator for Valley



PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

Olga Negrón, (second from left) executive director of the Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of the Lehigh Valley (CSSOLV), Marlene "Linny" Fowler, CSSOLV vice-president and Eduardo Eichenwald, CSSOLV president, listen to Alec Morales, Youth Center coordinator, speak during ribbon-cutting ceremonies at the Fowler Youth Center Feb. 9.



Members of the Youth Center's Boxing Club pose in their new and more spacious facility.

Youth House.

With additional services and expanded recreation opportunities, the Fowler Youth Center will attract and become a home for a larger more

diverse set of local youth.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Olga Negrón, executive director CSSOLV, recounted talking with Linny Fowler about plans for the cen-

ter. She said Linny told her, "If you make this a safe place for youth I'm going to love you forever."

BRIEFLY

ACS

Makeover set for March 1

The American Cancer Society, Lehigh Valley unit, will have a Look Good...Feel Better makeover session for cancer patients at 1 p.m. Mar. 1 at the Wellness Community, 83 S. Commerce Way, suite 310, Bethlehem.

Women actively undergoing cancer treatment will be taught beauty techniques to help them combat the appearance-related effects of radiation and chemotherapy. The sessions are led by a trained cosmetologist. Participants will receive a complimentary make-up kit.

There is no charge for materials or the workshop. For information or to register, call 1-888-227-5445 and select option #1.

VETERANS

Monthly meeting set for March 1

The United Veterans of Bethlehem will meet at 7 p.m. March 1 in the DAR Rose Garden log cabin, Eighth Avenue and West Union Boulevard.

All veterans interested in attending are welcome.

The Harry F. W. Johnson Post #379, American Legion, will meet immediately afterward at 7:30 p.m.

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

For more information, call 610-866-3835.

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Bethlehem Gets Healthy 2010!

CITY OF BETHLEHEM HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

If you live in the City of Bethlehem please go to: www.bethlehem-pa.gov and click on the City of Bethlehem Health Needs Assessment link to tell us what your opinions are about the health of our community.

To better serve the Bethlehem community's health needs, the staff will be using this information to guide public health services that will be tailored to improve programs and services.

Please....City of Bethlehem residents...help us out by filling out the quick online survey today!

The survey closes on Friday February 26, 2010.

As always, the staff at the Bethlehem Health Bureau thank you in advance for your support and participation in our programs!

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BRIEFLY

YWCA

Next decision series March 3

The Great Decisions Foreign Affairs Lecture Series continues every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. through March 24 at Kirkland Village, Madison Avenue, Bethlehem.

This program, offered every winter, educates citizens about issues of vital importance to American foreign policy, provides them with the information to make informed decisions about the topics covered and enables them to participate in the foreign policy process, explained Stephanie Hnatiw, executive director, YWCA of Bethlehem.

On March 3, George S. Dunlop, chairman of Cobis Systems Corporation, will discuss the financial crisis from its start in 2007 with the revelation of deficiencies in the world's regulations of institutions and markets. The near-collapse that followed some of these discoveries was prevented because of emergency measures from international governments. Dunlop will highlight some of these responses and challenges.

Other dates and topics: March 10, U.S. China Security Relations, David Fung, Air Products & Chemicals Inc.; March 17, Global Crime, Beverly B. Eighmy, retired, Foreign Affairs officer, U.S. Dept. of State; and March 24, Special Envoys, Peter Tomsen, special envoy for Afghanistan.

Topics, dates and speakers are all subject to change.

SBHS

Fox silk talk set for March 17

The South Bethlehem Historical Society presents "Silk: A Lost Industry" by Martha Capwell Fox. The program is 7 p.m. March 17 in the Victory Firehouse, Second and Webster streets.

Fox is a regional editor and writer of books which include "Cata-sauqua and North Cata-sauqua, Pennsylvania," "Whitehall and Coplay, Pennsylvania" and "The Lehigh Valley Cement Industry." Fox's father was an owner of and worker in Allentown's last silk mill, Catoir Inc.

Seating is limited. For information, call 610-868-3372.

Urgent care center opens in Hellertown



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mayor Richard Fluck cut the ribbon Jan. 29 and Premier Urgent Care officially opened its doors for business at 15 S. Main St. in Hellertown. Premier-Hellertown is the sixth Premier Urgent Care center in the region with four other sites in Pennsylvania, Limerick, Douglassville, Exton and Oaks, and one in Cherry Hill, N.J. Premier is one of the largest and fastest-growing urgent care medical companies in the area, and with 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. availability, 365 days a year. At Premier-Hellertown, an experienced staff of medical professionals is available to treat a full range of illnesses and injuries, from simple ailments like the common cold to more complicated problems, like asthma attacks, broken bones, and major lacerations. Visit Premier on the Web at www.PremierUrgentCare.net. **ABOVE:** Jared Vanore, IT director; Bohdi Anderson; Cindy Hallock, nurse; James Breaux, charge nurse; Dr. Edward Silverman, Premier CEO; Mayor Richard Fluck; Lynne Silverman, construction management; Dr. Dheeraj Taranath, medical director and Eddy Silverman Jr., director of marketing.

'Getting the bang for our buck'

Board asked about improving academic achievement

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

What is the Bethlehem Area School Board going to do about what Patricia Felix and the Concerned Citizens of BASD call "pursuing scholastic achievement?"

Felix, speaking at BASD's Board of Directors' meeting Jan. 22 presented an indictment of American scholastic achievement and challenged school district officials to read a report by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and to respond.

Felix quoted from a study by Michel Hodges based partly on the OECD study.

Hodges' comments can be read in full at <http://mwhodges.home.att.net/education.htm>.

Among the claims that Felix presented to the school board members: "... the primary and secondary education system can broadly be characterized as mediocre at best" and "U. S. high school math and science education produces a third-world result."

Also in the random statistics Felix presented to the board was the claim

BETHLEHEM AREA SD

that "students of other nations have 22 to 35 percent more school days per year than U. S. [students]."

"We are not getting the bang for our buck," Felix told the Press. She said she is tired of higher taxes being justified by the school board by saying, "It's for the children."

"Where is the academic achievement?" she asked rhetorically.

A short review of related literature on student achievement presents an alternative view. Gary W. Phillips, chief scientist at the American Institutes of Research, a nonprofit independent scientific research firm, wasn't quite so dramatic in his assessment of American students.

He said students in low-performing states like Alabama do better on math and science tests

than do students in most foreign countries, including Norway and Italy.

But Phillips does find that students in Singapore and several Asian countries outperform

American students, even in high-achieving states such as Massachusetts.

In other business, the school board approved checks written for invoices paid during December 2009. Some highlights: to J. P. Morgan [bank], \$1,107,240 for "interest/bonds-debt service;" to RIS Paper Co., \$20,059 for paper; to various charter schools, \$529,049 for tuition; Colonial Intermediate Unit # 20, \$779,371 for various expenses to include tuition and technology support; Sodexo Inc., \$265,321 for food service management; Capital Blue Cross, \$1,145,056 for premiums;

Lehigh Pizza, \$216 for supplies; and Center for Humanistic Change, \$23,000 for professional services.

The board approved the National Incident Management System which unifies federal, state and local governments into a coordinated effort in an emergency.

The board also approved revised curriculums for grades 4 and 5 to cover health education for "high-risk behaviors and pregnancy prevention in elementary and middle schools." Proposed courses are "Growth and Development, Hygiene and Decision Making" and "Menstruation."

Also approved at the BASD school board meeting were 28 appointments and stipends for teachers to supervise or advise student clubs. Among those approved: Sonia Strockyj, \$357 to advise the Gay-Straight Alliance; Marilyn Egner, \$357 to advise the Quilting Club; Richard Tocci, \$357 to advise the Republican Patriots Club; Theodore Schaefer, \$357 to advise the Ecology Club; and Natalie Chickey, \$357 to advise the Shakespeare Club.

The board also approved revised curriculums for grades 4 and 5 to cover health education for "high-risk behaviors and pregnancy prevention in elementary and middle schools."

CITY POLICE

Assault

A 19-year-old woman alleged she was attacked by two unidentified males in the 1700 block of Hastings Street around 8:10 p.m. Feb. 16.

According to police, the victim reported the men forced their way into the residence and used a knife to cut her arm, chest and stomach. They also scratched words on her stomach. Police said the scratches were very light and it seemed actually harming the woman was not intended.

The victim stated she could not identify the men, who were wearing a hood and a baseball cap respectively. The incident is under investigation.

State violations

Police arrested a 42-year-old man for hit-and-run on West Broad Street around 5:30 p.m. Feb. 7.

According to police, Leonardo Lopez-Tavarez, of North New Street, struck two vehicles with his own and fled the scene. One of the victim's cars had two occupants.

Lopez-Tavarez is charged with accident involving injury and property damage, accident involving unattended vehicles and driving while under suspension.

Contempt of court

An unidentified woman reported violation of Protection From Abuse order by her ex-boyfriend around 1 a.m. Feb. 6.

According to police, the woman was at the East Third Street McGrady's Pub and saw the man was also there. He left, but she called police anyway.

Police said it was merely a chance encounter and they would not charge the man, and that she would have to take her complaint to a Northampton County Court.

Vehicle break-ins

Two residents reported their cars were entered and stripped of numerous parts around 10 a.m. Feb. 12.

The victims, on Stehr and Hillmond streets, both own Honda models.

The unknown actors at the first incident pulled down the dash assembly and removed three gauges and a stereo faceplate. They also took an over-drive knob and a trailer brake.

The second vehicle lost the turn signal and windshield knobs from the wheel assembly, though the latter was found lying on the ground.

Police said a skilled person can perform such action in minutes, and that the parts taken are worth more individually than in the car as a whole.

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MONEY & TAXES

A Special Weekly Feature for
Tax and Personal Finance Professionals.

Five Important Facts about your Unemployment Benefits

Taxpayers who received unemployment benefits in 2009 are entitled to a special tax break when they file their 2009 federal tax returns. This tax break is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Internal Revenue Service wants you to know:

- Unemployment compensation generally includes any amounts received under the unemployment compensation laws of the United States or of a specific state. It includes state unemployment insurance benefits, railroad unemployment compensation benefits and benefits paid to you by a state or the District of Columbia from the Federal Unemployment Trust Fund. It does not include worker's compensation.
- Normally, unemployment benefits are taxable; however, under the Recovery Act, every person who receives unemployment benefits during 2009 is eligible to exclude the first \$2,400 of these benefits when they file their federal tax return.
- For a married couple, if each spouse received unemployment compensation then each is eligible to exclude the first \$2,400 of benefits.
- You should receive a Form 1099-G, Certain Government Payments, which shows the total unemployment compensation paid to you in 2009 in box 1.
- You must subtract \$2,400 from the amount in box 1 of Form 1099-G to figure how much of your unemployment compensation is taxable and must be reported on your federal tax return. Do not enter less than zero.

For more information, visit IRS.gov/recovery.

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Credit watch

Standard & Poor's backs off plan to downgrade district's rating

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Standard & Poor's (S&P) placed the financially beleaguered Bethlehem Areas School District (BASD) on credit watch, a status that could have negative implications for the district if further downgraded and could trigger calls or "tender events" for the bonds to be paid ahead of schedule.

According to S&P's explanation of rating systems, there is no specific formula for their ratings but they are based on a complex set of judgments that determine credit worthiness.

"In our view," says S&P's Web site, "likelihood of default is the centerpiece of credit worthiness. That means likelihood of default encompassing both capacity and willingness to pay - is the single most important factor in our assessment of the creditworthiness of an issuer or an obligation."

Scott Shearer, the managing director of The Public Financial Management Group (PFM) that advises the school district on finances, told the BASD school directors Feb. 1 that his company had gone to extraordinary effort to get the bond rating company to back off on its plan to downgrade BASD's State Program Underlying Rating (SPUR) from "A" to "BBB."

According to Shearer, PFM appealed the rating and Jan. 29 S&P's notified him that it had decided not to downgrade the district but to keep it on "negative credit watch" until the BASD implements certain safeguards

and guarantees which the board plans to do at its Feb. 17 meeting.

"We appreciate your dedication," board member Judith Dexter told Shearer.

Actions required by the S&P require BASD to agree to several actions, including adoption of a debt policy and to grow its fund balances or savings account. S&P's also wants assurance that the school district will continue to prudently monitor variable rate swap positions.

According to S&P's the rating firm has no clear idea how the district would cover the debt if the outstanding bonds are called for tender. In discussing the district's recently issued \$30 million variable rate bond, "If a tender were to occur," S&P's Primary Credit Analyst Richard J. Marino in a letter provided by Shearer said, "it would have to be covered only by the district's resources; there is no liquidity factor."

The S&P's analyst said that it is not clear if the money would be covered by "the intercept of state aid."

In other words the district doesn't have the money to cover the bond if it is called.

That is why, according to BASD member Judith Dexter, BASD's new assistant to the superintendent for finance and administration Stacy Gober will be working with Shearer to develop an official debt policy.

Dexter said that the district will also commit to building up its fund reserve or savings account to meet S&P's guidelines.



PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB

Snow sentinels

Twenty-two-year-old Patrick Walden finished off what his father Robert started as an exercise effort by stacking large ready-made snowballs to form a 12-foot-tall snowman next to the driveway of the family's Tioga Street residence on Bethlehem's west side. The Feb. 18 creation joined a 10-foot-tall snowman constructed earlier, each of which had dozens of one-foot tall snowmen arranged in front of them. The younger Walden said that the monument sized snowmen were

built by lifting smaller sized snowballs and then sculpting them into one large ball for each stage of the behemoths. Walden is a recent graduate of the University of British Columbia and is currently employed as a stagehand at the Zoellner Arts Center. **ABOVE:** Looking as much like sentinels as snowmen, two huge snowmen stand guard along the front sidewalk at the Walden residence.

Second opinion sought on plan

FREEMANSBURG

By NATE JASTRZEMSKI
Special to the Bethlehem Press

While the Freemansburg Governing Body voted to purchase state building code books and not make Knox boxes (rapid entry devices used by fire departments) mandatory for borough businesses Feb. 1, most of the discussion revolved around a proposal from a previous meeting.

A similar proposal has been made in Hellertown where many merchants do not support the idea.

A representative of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce had previously introduced council and citizens present to a downtown revitalization plan. Michael Schlossberg said by joining the other half-dozen small towns using the pro-

gram Freemansburg would gain networking connections, grants and the GLVCC's business savvy.

Schlossberg's presentation reportedly caused no small amount of discussion in town, and council members researched the possibility on their own.

Councilman Charles Derr said he spoke with the Better Business Bureau and received information that helped him decide the proposal was not worthwhile. Derr said the plan was not a good match for the borough because of the types and number of businesses within, the lateness in the process relative to the existing members and the

depleted grant funds in the new state budget. He asked that current borough consultant Urban Research and Development Corporation look into similar possibilities without the problems.

"I'd like to pursue it further and get a second opinion," Derr said.

Borough Manager Debra Ross said she would also bring the issue before the Planning Commission.

Council also revisited the Act 537 dilemma: Bethlehem city and borough flooding. Rain and sewerage overflow have become worse over the years, and with additional construction in the area, Freemansburg suffered during each deluge. The city has tried several

times to get the borough to agree with its long-term sewerage plan but until the flooding ceases, council plans to hold out.

The Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection had issues with Bethlehem's short-term fix, Ross explained, and so the "permanent" solution is now on the table for consideration. This plan will include the placement of an additional throttle on the Northeast Trunk line so the Freemansburg line will not back up where the two meet. Design, permitting and construction looks to take up to three years, Ross said.

Council member George Wilson, an engineer and master plumber, said he is wary and concerned about the plan no

See PLAN on Page A8



PRESS PHOTO BY DOUGLAS GRAVES

Scott Shearer of Public Financial Management explains how his company has worked to keep Standard & Poor's from downgrading BASD's bonds more than the rating company did.

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PLAN

Continued from page A7

matter what. He feels the numbers — how full the pipes are currently — are not accurate, and between the construction of the new St. Luke's Hospital facility, nearby shopping areas and the likelihood of heavy rains in the canal flood basin, the borough will continue to be an overflow site.

Caught between Bethlehem city and Bethlehem Township, Wilson said, "We're the only ones that are in a situation that if it doesn't work we'll suffer. I'm not trying to be the bad guy, but experience on the table: Sh** happens."

Wilson said he would like Bethlehem to escrow funds for emergency purposes and to have numerous active monitoring sites along the lines in the future, because he doesn't feel the effort is entirely sincere.

"It feels like pacification for the moment," Wilson said. "We need some hard numbers. It has to be a marriage of efforts."

Derr said another development in the township worries him as well. He said a recent decision to allow more water to be diverted from a construction site into the Nancy Run will only bring more trouble.

"It doesn't bother them up there," he said, "but again who's between them and the river?"

Council tables 'Knox box'

By JOSH POPICHAK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

A decision was made by Hellertown Borough Council to table the borough's proposed Knox box ordinance for two months, following further criticism from borough business owners at council's Feb. 16 meeting.

The ordinance would mandate the installation of secure vaults, often referred to as "Knox boxes," on the exterior walls of businesses in Hellertown, as part of an effort to promote public safety.

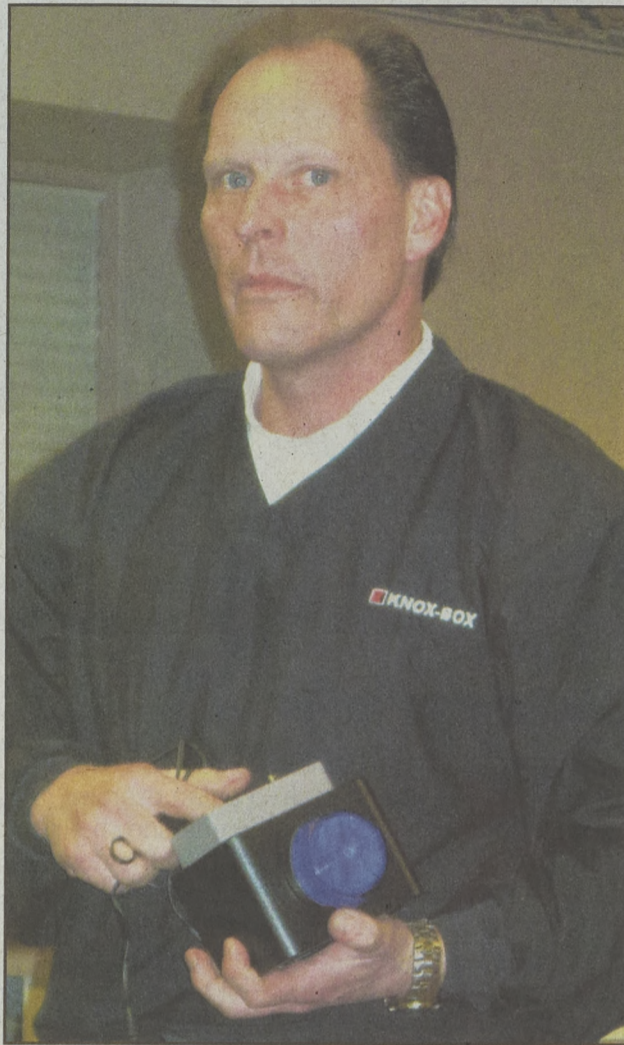
Inside each box would be a key to the business, which would be accessible only to firefighters, police officers and other first responders in the event of an emergency. Many business owners, however, continued to express doubts about whether the keys would be kept secure.

Linda Bettler, owner of The Healing Place, said that she can understand why some businesses should be required to install the lock boxes, but added that many more businesses in the borough should be exempt from the requirement.

"I personally think it's a very small number of communities that live with this system," she said.

Bettler was also skeptical of a presentation made by Larry Lulich, a regional

HELLERTOWN



PRESS PHOTO BY JOSH POPICHAK

Knox employee Larry Lulich demonstrates the use of one of his company's secure vaults at a Hellertown Borough Council meeting Feb. 16. Lulich touted the security of the systems sold by Knox to municipalities throughout the United States.

which council recently held with several business owners from the borough.

Milou MacKenzie, owner of Vm MacKenzie Interior Design at 403 Main St., also told council members that she felt left "completely out of the loop."

"I don't want people I don't know having access to my shop," she said, adding that she will consider relocating her business elsewhere if council decides to adopt a mandatory Knox box ordinance for all businesses.

Council member Gail Nolf encouraged MacKenzie to withhold judgment until council actually makes a decision about the direction it will take.

"We have not forced you to do anything," Nolf told her. "We have not passed an ordinance. I'm simply requesting that you understand that this is not a closed issue."

The cost to install a Knox box, if an ordinance is enacted, will be borne by the individual business owners in Hellertown.

Robert Gilman, co-owner of Lost River Caverns, reported to council members that he received an installation estimate of approximately \$800, but Lulich disputed this figure.

According to Lulich, installing a box and connecting it to a pre-existing alarm system should take about an hour and cost from \$50 to \$60.

Gilman also questioned whether being forced to grant emergency services personnel access to his business would constitute a violation of his constitutionally guaranteed Fourth Amendment right to privacy.

"Your Fourth Amendment rights are not going to be violated because this is under an emergency situation," Borough Council Solicitor Michael Corriere told him. "You give up no rights that you currently have."

After further discussion, Council President Philip Weber proposed tabling additional discussion of the proposed ordinance for a period of two months to allow for revisions to it.

"As it stands right now the ordinance that was out there is getting changed," he said.

The next time the ordinance will be discussed will be at council's Monday, May 3 meeting, which will be held in Hellertown Borough Hall at 7 p.m.

BRIEFLY

YWCA TechGYRLS Expo March 5

The Bethlehem YWCA will host a TechEXPO from 5 to 7 p.m. March 5 at Freemansburg Elementary School, 501 Monroe St., Freemansburg. About 40 girls age 9-13 from Donegan, Freemansburg, Marvine and William Penn elementary schools will participate.

These TechGYRLS will display robots they built and programmed to perform in a "town" they made. Certificates will be awarded and there will be raffle prizes.

The YWCA of Bethlehem serves up to 15 girls in each school at no cost to the school district. "What makes TechGYRLS exciting isn't just the focus on technology, but also the way the program challenges girls to look beyond any stereotype, whether based on gender, socioeconomic status or race, and work toward non-traditional career goals," said Angel Ackerman, program coordinator.

On April 1, the YWCA of Bethlehem will bring the girls, who have completed the entire year with the program and designed their own Pac-Man style video game, to the DaVinci Science Center in Allentown.

Call 610-867-4669 for information.

AAUW Scholarship deadline March 10

The Bethlehem branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is accepting applications for its scholarship program. Mature female applicants in the Bethlehem AAUW area who are returning to undergraduate studies at a four-year college or university after having their education interrupted are eligible.

Applicants must be in the top 10 percent of their class and have a combined SAT critical reading, math and writing segment score of at least 1650.

Applications, which are due March 10 are available in the school guidance offices.

For applications and more information, call 610-866-7462 or e-mail fbenkowski@verizon.net. For AAUW information, visit www.aauwbethlehem.org.

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salesperson for Knox, who spoke at the meeting at the request of Borough Fire Chief Rick Delmore.

Lulich emphasized that Knox has been selling lock-box systems to municipal governments and other entities for 35 years.

"In the history of the Knox company itself there's never been a reported case of somebody breaking into a box," Lulich stated.

However, Bettler appeared unconvinced by this testimonial.

"You are a salesperson," she said to Lulich. "I understand you as a salesman, but I do not believe the numbers ... in any way compensate (for) the need to have this kind of equipment installed. There is absolutely no need for this in this town."

Bettler also criticized borough council for the manner in which business owners were notified of the proposed ordinance.

"All of this seems to be backdoor. There was no, 'Would you like to be part of this meeting?' she said, in reference to a meeting to discuss the ordinance

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Winterfest warms the heart

By PAT KESLING
Special to the Bethlehem Press

A jazzy Roaring 1920s party took over the entire main floor of the Historic Hotel Bethlehem for the Winterfest to benefit Historic Bethlehem on the evening of Jan. 24 with more than 100 guests, many in period costume.

Everything was bountiful, from the seasonal beer tastings matched with great food to the interesting and funny lecture, "What Is This Prohibition Monster and Why Did It Attack Us? What Did America Do Without Booze?" by Warren Perry of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C. Perry was a talented storyteller, regaling appreciative guests with funny details of Prohibition including tales of Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald and the many ways they skirted around Prohibition.

The event featured hot jazz by The Alex Ullman/Dan Paul Jazz Duo, winter beers from Samuel Adams presented by Todd Roseman, representing the largest brewery in the Lehigh Valley, and sensational food creations matched with each beer by Executive Chef Frederica Muggenburg of the Hotel Bethlehem.

Bountiful was truly the word to describe the food which started with hors d'oeuvres including many cheeses beautifully decked out and surrounded by large breads which could be described as pieces of art in their own right, dinner and beer tastings to match included Beef Wellington, Chicken Saltimbocca and several bruschettas, to name just a few offerings.

Among the partygoers dressed in theme outfits were Dr. Steve and Bar-



PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

Historic Bethlehem Partnership hosted Winterfest, a 1920s themed night at Hotel Bethlehem's 1741 on the Terrace room Jan. 24. Charlene Donchez Mowers, executive director Historic Bethlehem Partnership, described the event by saying, "It's a fundraiser." ABOVE: Victor Willems, Barbara Pearson, Karen White and George White are dressed for the occasion.



The evening was to have fun, get to know each other, and promote the "Roll Out the Barrel: Bethlehem Brews History" exhibit at the Goundie House. ABOVE: Tracey Kreps, Shannon Perry, Jennifer Brundage, national outreach manager for Smithsonian Affiliations, and Warren Perry, of the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, are all special guests at the event.

bara Diamond and Victor Williams and Barbara Pearson. Others included Bob and Cid Spillman, Robert and Angelika Cornelius, Linny and Beall Fowler, Anthony and Evelyn Carfagno, Anne and Chris Kuhn, Nancy Light, and Bruce Palmer, of Buckno Lisicky & Company, which was the event sponsor with Samuel Adams. Palmer will be the next

president of Historic Bethlehem Partnership.

Then everyone enjoyed food and beer pairings coordinated by Federica Muggenburg, executive chef, and prepared by



Susan Wolf, of Bethlehem, samples the food and beer pairings.

James Gasper, banquet chef at the Hotel Bethlehem. Seasonal beers were presented by Todd Roseman, Brewmaster from Samuel Adams.

PDA Poster contest deadline March 5

In observance of National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM) in February, the Pennsylvania Dental Association (PDA) is sponsoring its annual poster contest. All Pennsylvania third-grade students are eligible to participate.

The grand prize winner will receive a \$1,000 education bond and see his or her poster reproduced on bookmarks to be distributed to all Pennsylvania public libraries. In addition to the student prize, the first-place winner's school and teacher will each receive a \$250 prize. Lesson plan kits which include contest instructions have been distributed to third-grade teachers in Pennsylvania schools. The entry deadline is March 5. PDA will announce the top three winners in April.

Visit www.padental.org/ncdhm for the complete list of poster contest rules or for more information.

BAPL March 2 event celebrates Seuss

Dr. Seuss hit upon the perfect combination of wacky rhymes and whimsical illustrations to make learning to read fun. Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday at the Bethlehem Area Public Library, 11 W. Church St., Bethlehem, March 2 at 7 p.m.

The library is joining schools and other public libraries in nationwide Read Across America festivities. The Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.) is planning stories, crafts, and music for preschool and elementary age children. The one hour program is free, but registration is required.

Register online at www.bapl.org/wordpress or by phone at 610-867-3761, ext. 499.

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Sewer line extension draws criticism

By JOSH POPICHAK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

A representative from the Lower Saucon Authority appearing before Hellertown, Borough Council Feb. 1 announced that he was unprepared to address questions from an audience member who expressed concern and skepticism about the authority's plan to construct a sewer line extension from the Hellertown-Lower Saucon Township border to Leithsville, where residential septic systems are deteriorating and reportedly in danger of failing.

Gar Davidson, of the Lower Saucon Authority, responded to a series of questions from Hellertown resident Terry Boos by saying, "I don't think tonight I am really prepared to go into that much depth."

Boos, among other things, wanted to know how many septic systems are failing, what percentage of the total number of septic systems they represent, and how the failure of septic systems in the Leithsville area might threaten the nearby Saucon Creek.

Since Davidson was appearing before council to ask permission to proceed with ground borings

related to the project, Boos also had questions about the borings.

"Are you going to be boring in your most challenging locations?" he asked. Boos also wanted to know how the borings might affect subsurface hydrological flows, particularly in the vicinity of the Hellertown swamp, where he said threatened plant species have been documented; how much site disturbance the borings are expected to cause; and where the borings will be made.

"What precautions is the authority taking to ensure that ... cores (tested) are the actual cores that are drilled?" he continued.

"Stuff gets misplaced (and) exchanged — especially if there's large amounts of money involved," he added.

Davidson, who appeared to be caught off guard by the line of questioning, deferred to the approval process for the project, which will be overseen by the state's Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP).

"There are a lot of questions, but they will be covered as we go through the entire

process," he said.

The process whereby the sewer line extension will ultimately be green-lighted for construction will involve a lot of oversight from a whole lot of groups, Davidson added.

"I guess at this point I'd ask you to trust me," he concluded, adding, "I don't think the DEP is going to allow us to come in here and wreck the Saucon Creek."

For the most part, council members voiced their willingness to take Davidson at his word.

"I'm OK with most of this," council member John Bate said, adding that his only major concern is the potential for damage to the ponds near the Wagner Grist Mill, which are adjacent to the proposed route of the sewer line.

According to maps of the proposed line unveiled at the meeting, the sewer extension will run from south to north, roughly parallel to the east bank of the Saucon Creek.

Council member Michael McKenna said he also approves of the authority's handling of the planning for the extension.

"The (Hellertown Bor-

ough Authority) has stated that they're behind this project," he said, adding that the Lower Saucon Authority and the residents of Leithsville need their help.

Council President Philip Weber pointed out that if septic systems in the Leithsville area become compromised, Hellertown's water quality will suffer, too. And he emphasized that the plan for the sewer line extension has already been approved by council almost a year ago.

Board member Stephanie Kovacs said she was disappointed that borough council ever gave the Lower Saucon Authority its approval for the sewer project.

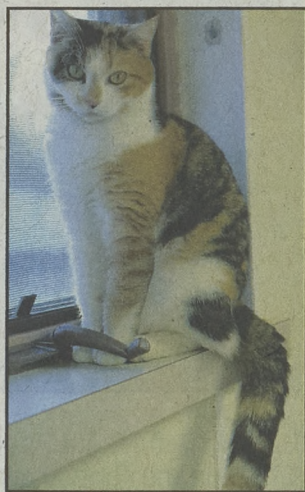
"This never should have gone in in the first place," she said. "I hate this project. I do not like the line of where this is going."

Kovacs was the only member of council to vote against allowing the Lower Saucon Authority to proceed with the ground borings it plans to conduct in the spring.

"I've got this sinking feeling we're all going to be sorry in the end," she said, referring to the project.

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



Pansy is a cute 4-year-old that prefers to be left alone but tolerates people and cats. She is up-to-date on shots, altered and ready to go.



Zoie, a shih tzu special girl, is almost 18 years old. She would really appreciate a lap, a daily back rub and a loving home for her golden years.

PEOPLE

NCC graduates local nursing students

The following graduated from Northampton Community College's registered nursing program in a campus ceremony on Jan. 30.

Individuals receiving their pins were John Ganz, Joseph Leo, Shelley Martinez, Mark Pesavento, Amanda Sehee, Jane Skinner, Linda Suswal, Heather Trapasso and Jennifer VanDerVliet of Bethlehem and Jeannette Boucon, Nickeea Cox, Jennifer Lentz and Margaret Myers of Hellertown.

Local woman earns law degree

Karley J. Biggs, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Biggs of Bethlehem, recently earned her juris doctor from Duquesne University School of Law. Biggs graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in government. She was admitted to both the Pennsylvania Bar and the New Jersey Bar. She is a law clerk for the Honorable Stephen G. Baratta, Northampton County Court of Common Pleas.

On Lafayette's dean's list

Lafayette College announced the 2009 fall semester dean's list. The students achieved a minimum 3.6 semester grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

The following local students were among those named: Christina Mingora, Marie Stavrovsky, Angela Urbano, Laura Bochner, William Barlow, Steven Jones and Zachary Jones.

On Immaculata dean's list

Immaculata College announced the 2009 fall semester dean's list. The students must achieve a minimum 3.7 semester grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

Miranda Baker, 2010 and Chantal Medina, 2012, both of Bethlehem, were among those named.

On College of William and Mary dean's list

Jesse Gumz of Bethlehem was recently named to the dean's list at the College of William and Mary for the fall 2009 semester. To achieve dean's list, a full-time degree-seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 quality point average during the semester.

On Susquehanna University's dean's List

Two local students have been named to the Susquehanna University dean's list for the fall 2009 semester. Liberty HS 2009 graduate Emily Barr, the daughter of Michael and Patricia Barr, is a freshman majoring in music education. Emmaus HS 2008 graduate Erica Mesko, the daughter of Susan and Jeff Flamisch, is a sophomore majoring in accounting.

The dean's list recognizes students who achieve a grade point average of 3.4 or higher out of a possible 4.0 for the semester. To qualify, students must complete a minimum of 12 semester hours.

On Lycoming College dean's list

Lycoming College announced the 2009 fall semester dean's list. The students must be full-time and achieve a minimum 3.5 semester grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

Brady Sandercock, of Bethlehem, a business administration-management major, was among those named.

ND students go to tournament

Notre Dame HS Speech and Debate Club competed in the Allentown Diocesan Forensics League tournament at Phillipsburg HS Jan. 9. Winning awards were Lauren Albers, first in dramatic performance and second in duo interpretation; Zaneeta Bell, fourth in oral interpretation; Sara Bondi, first in duo interpretation; Abby Deely, first in original oratory; Jeff Finegan, first in extemporaneous speaking; Kristin Kramer, first in student congress; Irene Kurtz, second in dramatic performance; Steven Prager, second in duo interpretation and extemporaneous speaking; Joe Salmento, fourth in Lincoln-Douglas debate; Anthony Saraceno, first in duo interpretation and third in oral interpretation; and Anthony Snover, second in student congress. All have qualified for the March national tournament.

Irene Kurtz earned the Degree of Merit from the National Forensic League.

Submit PEOPLE news items to gtaylor@tnonline.com, fax 610-625-2126 or mail it to PEOPLE, c/o Bethlehem Press, 308 E. Third St., Bethlehem, PA 18105.

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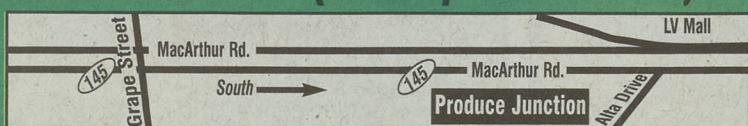
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Playoff Time

LHS looks to get on track

By PETER CAR
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You're never as good as you are after a win, and you're never as bad as you are after a loss.

That's something Liberty head coach Chad Landis is harping on his players as the Hurricanes enter this week's District 11 4A boys basketball tournament.

The fourth-seeded 'Canes take on 13th-seeded Bangor Wednesday at Liberty with the hopes of wiping the slate clean, following last week's ugly dismissal from the Lehigh Valley Conference semifinals, losing to eventual champion Nazareth 57-43.

It pushed a once undefeated Liberty (18-5, 12-2) team into its fifth loss of the season and perhaps a wounded ego heading into district play. But, Landis likes to keep perspective and knows that the Hurricanes must bounce back, starting tonight at home against Bangor.

"We were a mess against Nazareth," said Landis. "It's about fixing what we have to do now and starts with us improving on the defensive end. That's what helps us get into transition for some

easy baskets and we didn't do that against Nazareth."

With Liberty witnessing the bulk of its hardships in the final third of the season, going 4-3 to end the year, the 'Canes are looking to regain their swagger. With Bangor being the only Colonial League combatant in the 4A bracket, the Slaters enter with a 10-11 record overall, going 11-6 in the league this year. They were 0-2 in LVC play, losing to Central Catholic and Nazareth.

Landis doesn't have much info on the tournament's lowest seed, but Liberty did scrimmage the Slaters in the preseason at Hazleton.

"We have some film on them from that day, but we really don't have much to work off," he said. "They're coached by Brad Holland [former Pocono Mountain East coach] and we know they're going to be prepared, but again, we just have to fix what we're doing."

Liberty's drop to the fourth seed, puts them in the toughest bracket of the tournament, having to take on either Allen or Stroudsburg in Saturday's quarterfinals. A victory See LHS on Page A12



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Liberty's Joe Lasko and the Hurricanes are hoping to find their winning ways again when the District 11 tourney starts this week.

Pates not settling for anything less than a title

By PETER CAR
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Joe Stellato isn't making any secrets about what he thinks his Freedom basketball team is capable of when the District 11 4A tournament opens.

The Patriots come in as the seventh seed and take on tenth-seeded Northampton at home in an LVC rematch, which saw Freedom slam Northampton

64-35 in mid-January. But, that result isn't the reason Stellato thinks his team can't come away with a district championship over the next two weeks.

With nine seniors on this year's team, Stellato knows this is do or die with a squad that has the ability to make a magical run through the postseason.

"We're not in a rebuilding year," Stellato said. "We have a team that's capable of win-

ning the whole thing and we're talking championship.

"I haven't felt this way about a team in a while, but it's because I really believe this team can do it."

Freedom (14-8) also has the benefit of being in the bottom bracket of the 4A tournament, which allows them to avoid LVC heavyweights Allen, Nazareth and Liberty, all of which have been heaped together in the

upper bracket.

A win over Northampton (13-9) would pit a road trip to East Stroudsburg Saturday to take on second-seeded Pocono Mountain East. In Wednesday's other bottom battle, sixth-seeded Whitehall takes on 11th-seeded Emmaus, with Pocono Mountain West awaiting the winner.

The only experience Freedom has against either of the See Pates on Page A12



PRESS PHOTO BY ROB MERCHANT

Cat Noack puts up a shot in the 'Canes loss against Central to open up the LVC playoffs.

Liberty girls fall to Central

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldon@tnonline.com

Liberty's chance at an LVC championship was stopped short in the semifinal round, after falling to Allentown Central Catholic 37-34 last week.

"We knew we definitely had a shot against them. We were definitely confident, and we believed in ourselves," said senior, Cat Noack. "We were with them the whole time. I thought we were playing really well."

The Hurricanes ended the first quarter with a three-point lead, but scored only two points in the second.

"We played a lot more zone and tried to attack more. We attacked more, but we didn't get a lot more shots," Noack said.

Although the Hurricanes matched the Vikettes point-for-point in the third quarter, opportunities in the final minutes slipped through Liberty's fingers.

"Every time I looked up at the scoreboard, I was focusing on Marissa [Repasch] and Colleen Nosovitch. They were both going at each other. It was the same at AAU over the summer," said Noack.

Liberty led Central 34-33 with 90 seconds left in the game, when the Vikettes' Kerry Kinek hit a jumper to put Central ahead.

"[At the end of the game] we had 15 seconds to score, but our shots weren't falling," Noack said.

Repasch was the Hurricanes top scorer with 17

points. Noack had 11. April Andrews, Maggie Serratelli, and Katelyn Strohl scored two points each.

For Liberty seniors, Noack, Andrews, Serratelli, Shumock, Repasch, Strohl, Jasmine Robinson, and Julia Drexel, the loss came at a higher price.

"The majority of seniors were pretty upset. It was the last time we'd get to play Central, and we hadn't beaten them since our freshman year. We really wanted to do it and have a shot at a league championship," said Noack.

This week, the Hurricanes will look ahead to a shot of another kind: defending its District 11 title.

SWIMMING

Liberty boys get revenge on the Patriots

By KATIE MCDONALD
kmcaldon@tnonline.com

Liberty's boys swim team avenged two years of losses to Freedom by defeating the Patriots 93-90 last Thursday, the final swim meet of the regular season.

"If we would have won the last race, we would have won the meet," said

Freedom sophomore, Seth Watlington.

The boys 400 free relay, the final event of the night, pitted Liberty's Evan Klokis, Alex Clow, Eric Angstadt and Josh Hitchings against Freedom's Danny Csakai, David Corvino, Scott Del-Franco and Cole Clark.

"They were up by five

or six seconds, but Cole brought it down to one second," Watlington said. "Even though we lost, seeing him do that, and how hard he works..."

It wasn't the first time Clark pushed himself that night.

Watlington explained that an Emmaus swimmer had recently broken

Freedom's pool record in the 100 butterfly, but Clark wouldn't stand for it. So, in the final meet of his high school career, Clark broke the record in his home natatorium, winning the 100 fly in 52.01.

"He really went after that," said Watlington. "It was really exciting, and really motivating for the

other kids. I know it motivated me in the breaststroke."

Watlington, who won the breaststroke event, attempted to strategize before the start.

"I know [Liberty's] Eric Burcin really, really well. In the past year, he got a lot faster, so I was thinking See Swim on Page A13

District 11 Hoop Tourneys

Boys 4A

Wednesday, Feb. 24

(9) Easton at (8) Eastburg N, 7 p.m.; (13) Bangor at (4) Liberty, 7 p.m.; (12) Stroudsburg at (5) Allen, 7 p.m.; (10) Northampton at (7) Freedom, 7 p.m.; (11) Emmaus at (6) Whitehall, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 27

(1) Nazareth vs. winner of Eastburg N-Easton at Parkland, 7:30 p.m.; Winner of Liberty-Bangor vs. winner of Allen Stroudsburg at Parkland, 6 p.m.; (2) Pocono E vs. winner of Freedom-Northampton at Eastburg S, 7:30 p.m.; (3) Pocono W vs. winner of Whitehall-Emmaus at Eastburg S, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3

Semifinals

Saturday, March 6

Finals

Boys 3A

Tuesday, Feb. 23

(9) Panther Vy. at (8) N. Schuylkill, 7 p.m.; (10) Saucon Vy. at (7) So. Lehigh, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 26

(1) Pottsville vs. winner of N. Schuylkill-Panther Vy. at Blue Mt. 7:30 p.m.; (4) Jim Thorpe vs. (5) Blue Mt. at Weatherly, 7:30 p.m.; (2) No. Lehigh vs. winner of So. Lehigh-Saucon Vy. at Catty, 7:30 p.m.; (3) Wilson vs. (6) Central at Catty, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

Semifinals

Friday, March 5

Finals

Boys 2A

Saturday, Feb. 27

(5) Schuylkill Haven at (4) Pine Grove, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3

Semifinals

(1) Notre Dame GP vs. winner of Schuylkill Haven-Pine Grove; (2) Catty vs. (3) Tri-Valley.

Saturday, March 6

Finals

Boys 1A

Friday, Feb. 26

(1) Marian vs. (8) Mahanoy Area at Weatherly, 6 p.m.; (4) Notre Dame ES vs. (5) Weatherly at Pocono E, 6 p.m.; (2) Pius X vs. (7) Moravian at Pocono E, 7:30 p.m.; (3) Williams Vy. vs. (6) Salem Christian at Blue Mt., 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

Semifinals

Friday, March 5

Finals

Girls 4A

Tuesday, Feb. 23

(9) Freedom at (8) Pocono East, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 26

(1) Eastburg S. vs. winner of Freedom-Pocono E at Pleasant Vy., 7:30 p.m.; (4) Nazareth vs. (5) Pocono W at Pleasant Vy., 6 p.m.; (2) Liberty vs. (7) Easton at Whitehall, 7:30 p.m.; (3) Northampton vs. (6) Parkland at Whitehall, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

Semifinals

Friday, March 5

Finals

Girls 3A

Wednesday, Feb. 24

(9) Saucon Vy. at (8) Bangor, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 27

(1) Central vs. winner of Saucon Vy.-Bangor at Dieruff, 7:30 p.m.; (4) So. Lehigh vs. (5) Blue Mt. at Dieruff, 6 p.m.; (2) Wilson vs. (7) Becahi at So. Lehigh, 7:30 p.m.; (3) No. Lehigh vs. (6) N. Schuylkill at So. Lehigh, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3

Semifinals

Saturday, March 6

Finals

Girls 2A

Friday, Feb. 26

(4) Palmerton vs. (5) Notre Dame GP at No. Lehigh, 6 p.m.; (3) Pen Argyl vs. Shenandoah at No. Lehigh, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

(1) Tamaqua vs. winner of Palmerton-Notre Dame GP; (2) Pine Grove vs. winner of Pen Argyl-Shenandoah.

Friday, March 5

Finals

Girls 1A

Saturday, Feb. 27

(4) Marian vs. (5) Minersville at Martz Hall, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3

(1) Nativity vs. winner of Marian-Minersville; (2) Tri-Valley vs. (3) Moravian.

Saturday, March 6

Finals

DISTRICT WRESTLING

Quest for gold starts Friday

Hawks aim for title

By PETER CAR
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Winning the District 11 2A wrestling tournament this weekend is the prime objective for Bethlehem Catholic.

The Hawks had the title in their grasp last year before Northern Lehigh swooped in in the final round to steal first place. So, head coach Jeff Karam doesn't want a repeat performance.

With Becahi's strength being in a tournament format, expect the Hawks to contend for the team title again this weekend when wrestling takes place at Freedom.

"Winning the title is what I've been preaching since team districts ended," said Karam. "It's been no secret that we've been a better tournament team than a dual meet team this year. This is our

chance to make amends for not doing better in team districts."

Karam is aiming to advance seven wrestlers to the Southeast Regional tournament next week, but the status of freshman 103-pounder Darian Cruz won't be known until later this week.

Cruz, the area's top lightweight, broke his leg four weeks ago to severely hamper his chances of competing in the post-season. The addition of Cruz would give the Hawks an even stronger opportunity to win the team title, but Karam wasn't sure if his leg would be ready.

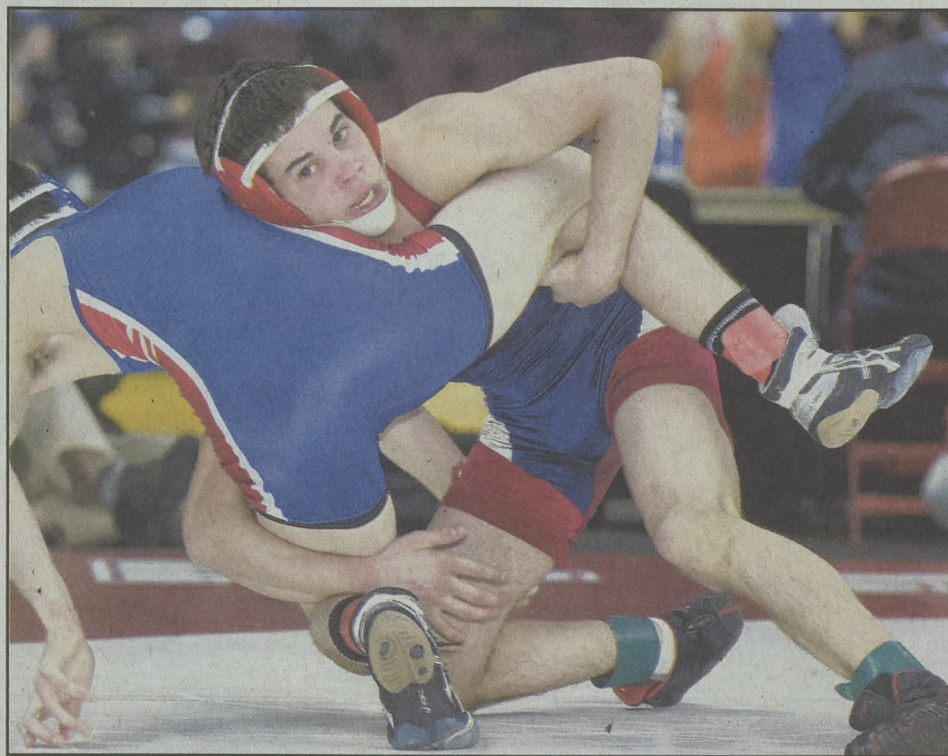
"We got our fingers crossed that he'll be able to wrestle," Karam said. "He obviously makes us a better team, but it's tough to tell what's going to happen with him."

Even without Cruz,

Becahi will have a strong contingent moving on, with Randy Cruz (112), Jaydon Rice (119), Richie Cruz (125), Ryan Todora (130), Cody Gonzalez (135), Corey Gonzalez (140), Elliot Riddick (145), Kyle Dehaut (152) and Martin Laluz (215) leading the way.

With those nine wrestlers mentioned, Karam could have more advancing to regionals than the moderate number seven. But, being cautious this time around is never a bad idea.

"You never know what's going to happen in these tournaments with some guys," he said. "We could send more than last year or we could send less. I think all the guys mentioned have very good chances of moving on. It's just a matter of them wrestling their best."



PRESS PHOTO BY BOB FORD

Anthony Marino dropped from 125 to 119, but is looking to get back to the District 11 finals.

'Canes looking for more finalists, points

By PETER CAR
pcar@tnonline.com

There will be two notable weight changes when Liberty takes the mats this weekend to open the District 11 3A wrestling tournament.

Head coach Jody Karam is aiming for eight wrestlers to advance to next week's Northeast Regional tourney, but also thinks his team has the opportunity to have more finalists and higher points than last year's team, which finished sixth over-

all with two finalists.

Junior Anthony Cabrera (103) and senior Anthony Marino (119) both came in second last season, and are the leading hopefuls to return to the finals this weekend.

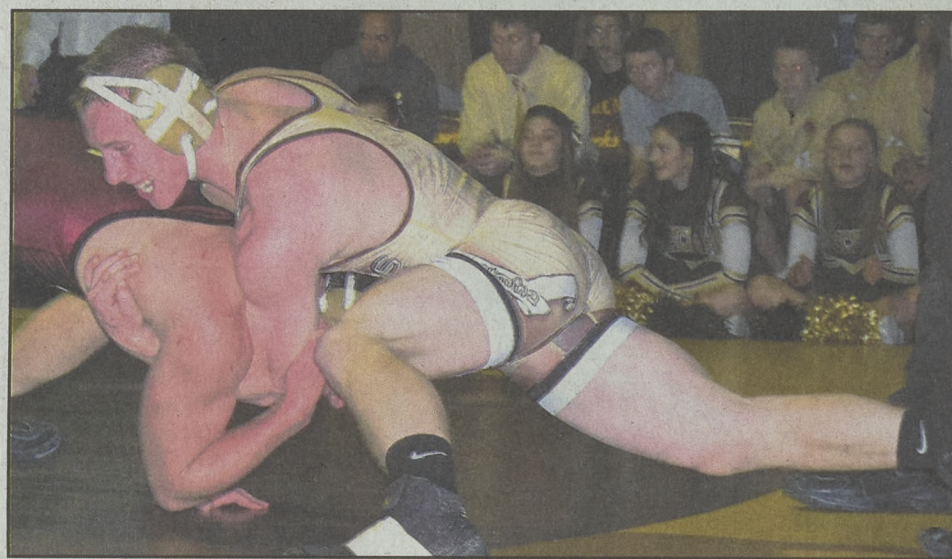
Marino, however, has dropped from his regular season weight of 125 to 119, which should enhance his chances of making more noise this year en route to Hershey.

"Anthony was just too light when he was at 125," said Karam. "It just makes more sense for him to

drop, and I think he's going to benefit from it because he's been wrestling bigger guys all season long. Now, he'll be at a weight where he can be level with his competition."

Cabrera and Marino are two likely locks for advancement to regionals, along with senior Chris Pintado. Pintado, who wrestled at 171 for the most part of the season, has bumped up to 189 for the post-season, to mark the second signifi-

See 3A on Page A13



PRESS PHOTO BY PETER CAR

Kyle Dehaut will wrestle at 160 and hopes to help the Hawks to a title.

ICE HOCKEY

Kostalis happy to be back on the ice this year

By JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

Whether his team makes or doesn't make the playoffs this season, Mike Kostalis can take some solace that he was on the ice for most of the season.

Last season in his junior year, Kostalis suffered some torn ligaments in his shoulder and also some injuries to his collarbone. After surgery, his prognosis to return to hockey was good, but his timetable was ambiguous.

Kostalis began this season as a player-coach, willing to contribute in any

way to the program. In the early part of the season, Kostalis made his way back to the ice, and he and his coaches and teammates have little regrets.

"I really didn't think I would play this season, but I am very glad to be out there," Kostalis said. "This is my senior year, and I wanted to make the most of it. I am able to shoot, and I have some pain once in a while."

"Recently, I had a checkup, and everything is holding up well. I just have to keep working out there."

His coach knew would make every effort to come

back.

"Mike is a very hard worker, and he has been that way since his freshman year," said Freedom head coach Mike Mould.

"He (Kostalis) is a very dedicated student and athlete. When the injury occurred, he began to work on his rehab schedule and he was very diligent."

"(Kostalis) was a player-coach at the beginning of the year, and he then asked me for permission to play. We're glad to have him back out there."

With three games left that began on Monday with Phillipsburg, Free-

dom has found itself in a must-win situation to gain a spot in the league playoffs. It was their first action Monday since they dropped a 4-2 decision to Whitehall Feb. 8.

"We had our chances against Whitehall, but we couldn't find the back of the net," said Mould. "We have three games left and we can control our destiny."

Kostalis is well aware of the state of desperation, but he believes his club can battle the elements.

"There will be a lot happening on our last three games," he said. "But we'll be all right. We have a

number of talented guys on this team. We also have a number of freshmen who have really stepped up their game and that was really cool."

"One of our problems all season has been our lack of depth as we only have 12 guys on the bench. But we know we can all pull together for coach Mould. He (Mould) has been a big inspiration for all of us, and we all enjoy playing for him."

"If we can't make it (to the playoffs), it will be a disappointment for the seniors."

Regardless of the outcome, Kostalis plans to

pursue a degree in either history or philosophy and has investigated programs at Ithaca College and the University of Massachusetts, both places where he can also possibly play hockey. He also plans to weigh the possibilities of coaching as he successfully underwent the certification this past fall.

"I am really thankful that I got a chance to play," Kostalis said. "I'd just like to end my high school career on a high note. But I am hopeful about the things ahead."

Kostalis knows that hope does spring eternal.

Atkins making hits on and off hockey rink

By JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

Unlike most juniors in high school, Royce Atkins has his priorities and his aspirations apparently in the right order, from his love of hockey to his love of music. In fact, he may be delivering some big hits in several ways.

Atkins is a defenseman on the Liberty ice hockey squad of the Lehigh Valley Scholastic Hockey League (LVSHL). As of action through Feb. 18, Atkins was modestly fifth on his team in scoring (5 goals, 5 assists, 10 points) and second in penalty minutes (34).

It has been an interesting year for Atkins and his teammates as Liberty dropped its first 12 games before picking up its first win of the season, and they have added a second one in the process. Liberty ended its season Monday against Emmaus.

Yet, despite the apparent downside, Atkins sees plenty of positives ahead.

"We have grown as a team this year," he said. "People can look at our overall record and not see the whole picture. There are a number of us who will be back, and we will be ready to make an impact next year."

Growth is one particular item that has caught the eye of head coach Pete Darlington about his upstart player.

"Over the past year, Royce (Atkins) has grown up as a player and a person," Darlington said. "He (Atkins) has taken on a new perspective as a player and it has definitely helped the team. He has worked on improving his strength and is a big hitter for us."

While he is a "big hitter" among his coaches and teammates, Atkins and a group of friends may be producing some hits of their own on a ventured music front.

Over the past two months, Atkins and a group of friends have formed a band that has focused on a Christian rock presentation, where the beat of the music is fast paced and the lyrics are Christian-based. He also has made the change to playing bass from rhythm guitar.

"It has worked out well for us," reflected Atkins. "The music is fast-paced, but the lyrics are very spiritual. We have been tinkering around with it where we compose and write our own music."

"We will try to play in a couple of small venues in the future, and (playing

at a) church can be a good idea."

His musical ambitions have led him to look onto the college front for a career in the arts. Atkins has looked at the states of West Virginia, Massachusetts and Michigan as possible extensions to continue his career off and on the ice.

"I have looked into a couple of states to go to college where I can study music and the arts," Atkins said. "I would also like to continue playing hockey in college if that's possible."

Until then, Atkins plans to continue with the Liberty hockey pro-

gram and will likely abandon his travel hockey with the Bethlehem Comets, with whom he has played the past three seasons.

"Playing hockey at Liberty has been fun, and it has made me appreciate the game more," Atkins said. "Travel hockey was very demanding, very grueling and very competitive. There was too much competition (with travel hockey) and too much arguing."

"With Liberty, I am able to put everything in perspective."

His perspective will include hockey and song.

LHS

Continued from page A11.

there, could possibly set them back up with Nazareth during next Wednesday's semifinals.

But, there is no looking ahead for Liberty at

this point.

"It just happens that we didn't capitalize on our opportunities to finish higher in the district seedings," Landis said. "Now we have a tough road to move through, but we just have to take things one game at a time."

Pates

Continued from page A11.

Pocono schools came in a 66-65 loss to West on the road, by a buzzer beater. Even with a potential matchup against the second seed on the horizon Saturday, confidence beams from Freedom's camp.

"We beat Allen and Nazareth and those are

two teams that we're playing for the LVC title," he said. "We've been capable of beating anyone on any given night this year and that mindset doesn't change for us heading into districts."

Getting past a pesky Northampton squad is first on the agenda however. The Kids registered a late-season trademark win over Liberty on Feb. 2, beating the Hurricanes

55-42, but closed out the season by losing their last three games to Parkland, Whitehall and Nazareth.

Stellato still knows Northampton can be a tough bunch to handle with their half court agenda. Playing aggressive defense, pushing the tempo and forcing Northampton into bad shots is all part of the plan for tonight's tilt.

"They're certainly a

different team than from the first time we played," Stellato said about the Kids. "We just need to play with the same game plan we've had all year. That's pressure defense, staying strong on the boards and getting some easy baskets in transition."

Hopefully, that's the recipe needed for a title run.

College Corner

Liberty girls get past Freedom in swimming

By KATIE MCDONALD
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LYCOMING
Freshman swimmer Lindsey Hunsicker was named Lycoming's Warrior of the Week for Feb. 15.



Hunsicker

Hunsicker was honored with the Evanson Award as the Middle Atlantic Conference Female Swimmer of the Year. She broke two school records at the championship meet, helping the Warriors capture the team title for the first time since 1997.

In the 500 yard freestyle, Hunsicker won the race in a school-record time of 5:18.44, beating the previous mark of 5:22.1 set back in 2002. During day two of the championship meet, Hunsicker broke a 27-year-old school record in the 100 yard butterfly, setting the mark at 59.63 in the preliminary round. She eventually won the event in the finals with a time of 1:00.15.

She also took first in the 200 yard butterfly with a time of 2:14.76.

Hunsicker was a key performer in several of the relays, as well. She was a member of the 400 yard medley relay, which took second and bested the school record with a time of 4:05.50. Hunsicker also swam the third leg of the 200 medley relay and reset the Lycoming record at 1:51.21.

The Warriors won the 2010 MAC championships with 616 points. It was the first title in the 10-year head coaching career of Jerry Hammaker.

Randi Bosch, a freshman and former Liberty swimmer, was fifth in 55.92 in the 100 free.

MISERICORDIA
Former Freedom Patriot swimmer Chelsea Mixon won a championship to lead the Misericordia University girls swim team on the final day of the MAC Championships, Sunday at the Wilkes-Barre CYC.



Mixon

The MU women added a win in the 400 relay on their way to a second-place finish in the team standings.

Mixon, a sophomore, had a time of 54.79 in the 100 free and edged teammate Abby Kocon (54.80) by 1/100 of a second to set a new school record. Kocon, a senior, is a Liberty graduate.

Mixon, Kiana Ramirez, Kocon and Alicia Bryk teamed to set a new school record while winning the 400 free relay in a time of 3:40.70.

BLOOMSBURG
As a freshman, Dana Wieller has taken on the role as one of the key players for the Bloomsburg womens basketball team as the leading scorer and leading three-point shooter.



Wieller

As a junior at Liberty, Wieller went over the 1,000-point mark and went on to become the school's all-time leading scorer with 1,334 career points.

Heading into last Saturday's game against Millersville, Wieller led Bloom in scoring with 16.2 points per game, which ranks sixth in the PSAC. She hit double figures in 19-of-22 games and scored over 20 points seven times, including a season-high 29 against Nyack College. Wieller is now Bloomsburg's record holder for threes in a single season with 68, topping Michelle Albanese's 67 set during the 2003-2004 season.

Arguably the friendliest of rivalries, the Freedom Patriots swim team hosted Liberty for its final swim meet of the regular season last Thursday. "We were extra pumped up from the beginning when we did our cheers," said Liberty captain, Katie Cowen. "It was the seniors' last time. It's always fun to swim the last meet."

In addition to the girls competition won by Liberty 112-68, it was Freedom's senior night. As has become tradition, Freedom presented carnations to Liberty's seniors.

"It was the perfect end to a perfect senior year," Cowen said.

Liberty's Andi Breslin, Annie Fodor, Cowen and Patricia Leeson started the girls' events with a victory in the 200 medley relay in 1:58.15.

"It was a good race, and we had good times. We wanted to start off on the right foot and get the crowd pumped up. When there's a big crowd like that, it makes everything ten times better," said Cowen.

Freedom's Brooke Munion won the 200 free in 2:02.21, Liberty's Meredith Guro won the 200 IM in 2:21.11, and Leeson won the 50 free in 24.88.

Freedom's Carol Byrnes won the diving event with 187.05 points. Cowen took first place in the 100 fly in 1:05.85.

"That was the first time I swam the 100 fly since the beginning of the season," said Cowen. "My

time was okay." Leeson won the 100 free in 54.00, and Ashleigh Bothwell placed first in the 500 free in 6:22.65. Breslin, Jordan Baltzersen, Maggie Olock, and Emily Williamson won the 200 free relay in 1:47.07. Freedom took the next two events with Dana Greenawald winning the 100 backstroke in 1:08.46, and Amanda Stammherr winning the 100 breaststroke in 1:12.08.

Before the 400 free relay, the girls final event of the night, Leeson, Courtney

Desh, Williamson, and Cowen told each other to go all out. "We knew that Freedom has decent freestylers, and we didn't want to underestimate them," said Cowen.

The Hurricanes won the event in 3:55.00. For the seniors, "there were happy tears and sad tears," Cowen said. "As soon as the [Liberty] boys won the 400 free relay, we were crying. Everyone was going crazy. We couldn't have asked for a better meet."

3A

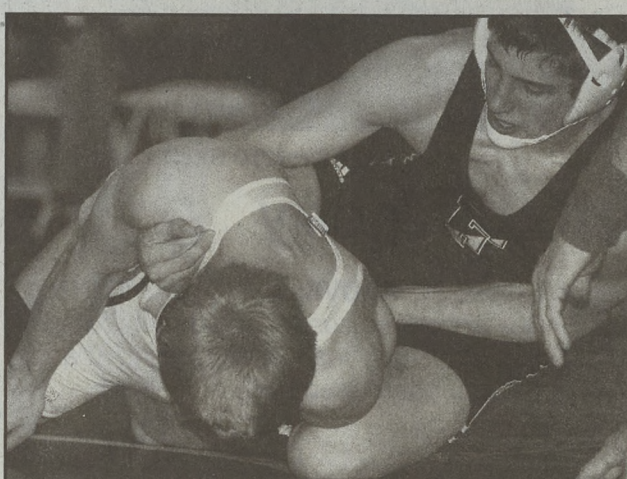
Continued from page A12
cant weight change for Liberty.

"Chris is the one guy on the team, that if things go right for him, he can place at states this year," Karam said. "He's improved by leaps and bounds since his freshman year and when you wrestle him, you know you're going to get six tough minutes. He's one guy that can make some noise for us this weekend."

Sophomore Devon Lotito (112), senior Garrett Henning (140), who also dropped down a weight class from his regular season 145-pound status, along with senior Mike Brown (160), spearhead the 'Canes objective of advancing and improving upon last year's status.

Senior Brett Marino (125), moved up a weight class to accommodate his brother's drop to 119.

"All those guys, we hope, will move on to regionals," said Karam of the aforementioned



PRESS PHOTO BY LINDA ROTHROCK
Matt Klacik hopes to advance past districts.

wrestlers. "There's always going to be surprises and we hope we can sneak another guy in, but I think this team is definitely capable of scoring more points this year and having guys finish higher as well."

FREEDOM
Freedom is finally back to normal heading into districts.

Head coach Rich McIntyre was reinstated over the past two weeks, after he served a suspension during the regular sea-

son for undisclosed matters.

With that out of the way, he and the team can now focus on districts, where McIntyre feels Tyler Galasso (112), Matt Klacik (135) and Mason McIntyre (160) can advance to regionals.

"I think those three guys can move forward," said McIntyre. "That's what we're aiming for right now, but we'll see how things work out over the weekend of the weekend."

SUBURBA DART LEAGUE

Salem Luth (8-2, 6-2) at Nazareth UCC (3-1)
SL — Tim Eichman 7-13, Scott Williams 6-13, Bryan Frankenfield 5-13, Keith Donczek HR.
N — Jeff Hoffer 5-12 3 HR, Joe Smith 3-10 HR.

St. Stephens (2-1, 11-2) at Emmanuel (7-3)
SS — Evan Talabar 6-13 HR, John Hoysan 5-12, Ed Wychock 5-14.
E — Tim Floyer 5-12, Mike Grillo 5-12, Jim Hall HR, Joey Hoffer HR.

St. Pauls (5-2, 12-1) at Ebenezer (5-4)
SP — Kevin Gross 6-14, Paul

Slimmon HR, Vince Ventruato HR.
E — Kevin Voortman 6-14, Eric Miller HR, Todd Siegfried HR.

Bath Luth (3-1) at Salem UCC (7-3, 5-4)
S — Rick Tonck 4-8, Matt Thomas 4-11 HR, George Gaugler 4-12, Bill Rinker 4-12, Bruce Roth 4-12 HR, Phil Roth 4-12 HR, Sherry Bush HR.
BL — Matt Creyer 6-13, Wendy Yacone 5-13, Bob Meixsell 4-13.

Dryland (9-7, 5-3 10in, 13-9) at Messiah
D — Butch Silfies 8-14, Shawn Sigley 7-16, Rich Derm 6-14, Lou Dervarics 5-11, Bruce Vollman 5-13, Paul Hahn HR, Jerry Butch HR.
M — Andy Powell 7-14, Mark Wargo 7-15, Jeff Hasonich 6-14, Todd Jones, 4-14, Harry Schoenberger 4-14, Rich Hasonich 3-4.

Christ UCC (8-4, 4-0) at Farmersville (8-4)
C — Trisha Gasper 6-12 HR, Garry Hunsicker 6-13.
F — Keith Campbell 5-11 HR, Don Kerbaugh 5-13, Sue Grim 4-10, Wade Chilmonik HR.

Standings

St. Pauls	36	24	.600
Salem Luth	35	25	.583
Dryland	35	25	.583
Bath Luth	34	26	.567
St. Stephens	33	27	.550
Ebenezer	31	29	.517
Messiah	30	30	.500
Emmanuel	28	32	.467
Farmersville	26	34	.433
Christ UCC	25	35	.417
Salem UCC	24	36	.400
Nazareth UCC	23	37	.383

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Swim

Continued from page A11
about a strategy to go out fast," said Watlington. "He was ahead in the first 50, but I knew I couldn't lose that race. I think it was a matter of who wanted to work harder."

DelFranco, Watlington, Clark, and Csakai began the boys meet with a victory in the 200 medley relay in 1:42.25.

"All four of us were really pumped up. We had to start off good and finish good. When Rob pushed off the wall, I knew it was going to be a good race. We had the lead going into the last leg, and Danny just pulled away," Watlington said.

DelFranco won the 200

free in 1:54.48, the 500 free in 5:16.06, and the 100 backstroke in 57.72. Watlington took first place in the 200 IM in 2:03.25.

"I was very happy with my time," said Watlington. "It's the best I've gone so far this year."

Clark won the 50 free in 22.30, and teammate, Andrew Spruck won the diving event with 168.85 points.

Liberty's Alex Clow placed first in the 100 free in 51.95. Clow, Nate Vogler, Angstadt, and Klokis also won the 200 free relay in 1:34.67.

"Even though we lost, the meet was good, in a way. Kids that we didn't think would place, did. In the 500 free, we needed Stephen Yale to place fifth, and he got fourth," Watlington said.

HOOP TOURNEY

The Hokendauqua Park and Playground will be sponsoring its annual Bob Warke Basketball Tournament from Feb. 21 through March 7, 2010, at the Whitehall Middle School. The proceeds from this tournament fund our Warke Scholarship program which awards two \$1000 scholarships annually.

Teams are needed for 3rd and 4th grade boys (In-House), 5th and 6th grade boys (non Junior Cadet) and 5th & 6th grade girls teams.

If you know of any organizations that may be interested, please pass this information along. Contact Mike Frana at franman69@aol.com or 610-657-4695.

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Feb. 24 to March 2

St. John's A.M.E. Zion



PRESS PHOTO BY JOSH POPICHAK

League celebrates 90th birthday

Officers and several board members from the League of Women Voters of Northampton County presented Northampton County Executive John Stoffa and his staff with a cake Feb. 18 to commemorate the 90th birthday of the national

league's founding. **ABOVE:** From left, Santa Bannan-Shillea and Joyce Losee, board members; Julia Swan, secretary; Joan Dean, president and Marlou Belyea, board member.

By KAREN M. SAMUELS
Special to the Bethlehem Press

The first African-American settlers in Bethlehem were deeply involved in the Moravian community. Some traveled to the village by choice and others were slaves owned by white congregants. Their numbers in town remained few until after the Civil War.

After the Emancipation Proclamation was signed in 1863, large numbers of blacks immigrated north from southern plantations. The blacks who came to Bethlehem found employment in the service industry.

They worked in various jobs such as cooks, waiters, horse keepers, maids and carriage drivers. Although many blacks worked for and lived with the wealthiest families in town, the other immigrant groups in town looked down upon them.

Their residences were in servant quarters in Fountain Hill mansions or in rear apartments on streets and alleys. Although their labor provided invaluable services for Bethlehem, the prejudice of their white neighbors relegated them to an under-appreciated presence.

The first church to be organized by people of color in the Lehigh Valley was the St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, located at 718 Pawnee St. in South Bethlehem. As early as the 1880s, black citizens met in private homes to worship. The church incorporated in Northampton County in 1894 as Saint John's African Methodist Episcopal and wor-

shipped in Laufer's Hall at Third and New streets. The borough of South Bethlehem permitted the church to also meet at the police station in the old market house, at Third and Adam streets.

The church received a charter from the New Jersey Conference of A.M.E. Zion Church in 1900. The conference provided the group a pastor that year. Their first pastor, Rev. C.H. Brown, directed the purchase of a property on Pawnee Street in 1901. He supervised the building of the small, sturdy stone structure, still in use today, for the sum of \$600. A parsonage was built as an addition in 1922.

The Rev. C.H. Brown's brother, Rev. John Walter Brown, was the next pastor to serve, between 1903 and 1905. In 1936, he was appointed as Bishop of A.M.E. Zion Church. Four other reverends who ministered the Bethlehem church were eventually appointed bishops. Over the years 28 pastors have served the congregation. The Rev. Gracher L. Selby is the current pastor.

St. John's A.M.E. Zion Church is connected to the long history of the A.M.E. Zion Church. At the same time Richard Allen was forming the African Methodist Episcopal Church, founded in 1816 in Philadelphia, a New York group established the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, founded in 1821. A.M.E. Zion soon grew throughout the northern states

See **WEEK** on Page A16



St. John A.M.E. Zion Church on Pawnee Street was built in 1901.

Board approves school calendar

By JOSH POPICHAK
Special to the Bethlehem Press

SAUCON VALLEY SD

With a snowstorm bearing down on Hellertown, members of the Saucon Valley School Board held a decidedly brief meeting Feb. 9. The meeting, which began at 7:30 p.m., was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m., and classes were canceled for the following day.

Among the official business completed at the meeting was final approval of the 2010-11 school calendar, which Supt. Sandra Fellin said had not been changed from earlier versions.

"I still have 184 days built in (to the calendar)," Fellin told board members.

Board member Sandra Miller stated her objection to the planned open-

ing date for school, which will precede the Labor Day holiday by several days.

"As always I disagree that we start before Labor Day," Miller said.

She subsequently voted against approving the 2010-11 calendar; however, a resolution to approve it passed, with all other board members in attendance voting in favor of it.

Board member Edward Inghrim was absent from the meeting.

In other business, the board unanimously approved a three-year district contract with the auditing and accounting firm of France, Anderson, Basile and Compa-

ny, P.C., of Emmaus. According to district Business Manager David Bonenberger, this firm has been the district's auditor for the past three years.

The approved contract will extend until the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. District audits are forecast to cost \$18,200 for the 2010 and 2011 fiscal years, and \$19,300 for the 2012 fiscal year, according to the board's business agenda.

Board member Ralph Puerta asked Bonenberger about the reporting format which France, Anderson, Basile and Company uses.

"The reporting format is different from what we

used to get," Puerta said, adding that he preferred the format employed by a previous auditor.

Bonenberger said that an alternate reporting format could be discussed with the auditing firm.

"I would like to do that, please," Puerta responded.

Puerta also asked about conveying information from the auditor to board members electronically.

Bonenberger responded to his query by asserting that the board has been receiving PDF files, but Puerta commented, "what (we) really want is something we can work with."

"Let me know what you're looking for and either (the auditor) will get it for you or I will create it for you," Bonenberger responded.

GENERAL PRIMARY PROCLAMATION NOTICE - 2010

Notice is hereby given to the electorate of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, that a General Primary will be held in said County on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., prevailing time, at which time registered and enrolled electors of the DEMOCRATIC and REPUBLICAN parties will assemble and vote, according to law, for the nomination of candidates for the following public offices:

- One (1) person for United States Senator (6 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Governor (4 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Lieutenant Governor (4 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in Congress in the 6th Congressional District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in Congress in the 15th Congressional District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Senator in the General Assembly in the 16th Senatorial District (4 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Senator in the General Assembly in the 18th Senatorial District (4 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Senator in the General Assembly in the 24th Senatorial District (4 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 131st Representative District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 132nd Representative District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 133rd Representative District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 134th Representative District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 135th Representative District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 183rd Representative District (2 Year Term)
- One (1) person for Representative in the General Assembly in the 187th Representative District (2 Year Term)
- Seven (7) persons (three males, three females and one person regardless of sex) for Member of the Democratic State Committee from the County of Lehigh (4 Year Term)
- Two (2) persons (regardless of sex) for Member of the Democratic County Committee in each Election District in Lehigh County (4 Year Term)
- Three (3) persons (one male, one female and one person regardless of sex) for Member of the Republican State Committee - At Large, in the entire County (2 Year Term)
- Two (2) persons (one male and one female) for Member of the Republican State Committee in District 1 of Lehigh County (consisting of the City of Allentown, that portion of the City of Bethlehem lying within Lehigh County, the Boroughs of Catasauqua and Coplay and the Townships of Hanover and Whitehall) (2 Year Term)
- Two (2) persons (one male and one female) for Member of the Republican State Committee in District 2 of Lehigh County (consisting of the Boroughs of Alburis, Coopersburg, Emmaus, Fountain Hill, Macungie and Slatington, the Townships of Heidelberg, Lynn, Upper and Lower Macungie, Upper and Lower Milford, Lowhill, North and South Whitehall, Salisbury, Upper Saucon, Washington and Weisenberg) (2 Year Term)
- Two (2) persons (regardless of sex) for Member of the Republican County Committee in each Election District in the County of Lehigh (2 Year Term)

ELECTION BOARD OF LEHIGH COUNTY
By: Timothy A. Benyo, Chief Clerk

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Having fun at the rink



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Colder weather is bringing many families to Bethlehem's municipal ice rink for exercise and fun. For some it's a new experience and for others it's time for family and friends. **ABOVE:** Sisters Hannah and Jillian Greer are joined by friend Allison Phillips as they skate around the rink. All three are from Hanover Township.

Justin Buskirk of Bethlehem is a bit unsteady, yet excited, as he skates for the first time. Family friends Sebastian Lavalle and Cynthia Stalmok accompanied Justin on his winter skating adventure.

The best way home

HCR ManorCare transitions patients between hospital, home

Millions of adults will be discharged from hospitals this year, requiring skilled nursing and rehabilitation before returning home. They face a critical decision as to which team of doctors, therapists, nurses and social workers they will trust to help them recover.

Each day, HCR ManorCare treats patients with hospital-level acuity and medically complex conditions transitioning from hospital to home.

"The patient's best way home is through our doors," says Diane Johnson, regional director of operations for HCR ManorCare. "Our outcomes reflect that. On average, 89 percent of our rehabilitation patients admitted to HCR ManorCare centers return home."

At HCR ManorCare facilities nationwide, 28,000 nurses treat more than 36,000 patients, and 6,000 therapists provide more than 100,000 minutes of therapy. The majority of these patients return home and to the community to lead independent, productive lifestyles.

"Our role in the spectrum of health care contin-

ues to expand and change, and we're thrilled that we can make such a positive difference in the lives of our patients of all ages," Johnson says. "Today's post-acute care facilities are serving an increasing number of patients transitioning between hospital and home."

"We are not just skilled nursing centers," she adds, "we are a post-hospital rehabilitation center."

Whether a patient is recovering from surgery, illness or injury, HCR ManorCare works with the patient, family members and physicians to create individualized care plans that recognize the unique needs of each patient. The transition from hospital to home is further enhanced by a nursing staff that receives training in medical management and rehabilitation.

At HCR ManorCare facilities discharge planning begins on admission and goals are set to help the patient return home as quickly as possible. The combined efforts of the therapy, rehabilitative nursing, dietary and social services departments provide guidance, family support and the

encouragement needed for patients to return to their independent lifestyles.

"Our patients are coming to us younger and sicker and expect to recover quicker and return home," says Michele Ozgar, regional rehabilitation manager. "Our rehabilitation gyms are bustling with activity daily, with patients working on regaining strength, stamina and the skills they need to return home."

HCR ManorCare offers skilled nursing and physical, speech and occupational therapy for patients with hospital level medical acuity as they recover from surgery, illness or injury. Often, patients may meet the criteria for discharge from a hospital, but that doesn't necessarily mean that they are ready to return home. They need rehabilitation to restore their physical abilities and re-learn certain skills, as well as to achieve the confidence they need to return to a productive lifestyle.

The HCR ManorCare health care family comprises centers that are leading providers of short-term post-acute services. With 60,000 caregivers nationwide, HCR ManorCare centers are pre-eminent care providers in their communities. These locations operate primarily under the respected Heartland and ManorCare Health Services names.

Lehigh Valley facilities include Liberty Nursing and Rehabilitation Center,

ManorCare Health Services - Allentown, ManorCare Health Services - Bethlehem Campus, ManorCare Health Services - Easton and Old Orchard Health Care Cen-

ter. Skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers provide post-hospital care for patients transitioning from hospital to home. Clinical teams have the demon-

strated track record and commitment to impact the success of patients needing this level of post-acute care so they can return home to a meaningful lifestyle.

89% of our rehab patients return home

Your best way home is through our doors



Margaret was an avid walker who suffered extensive injuries when she was hit by a car. After several surgeries, she transferred to HCR ManorCare where she received intensive medical and rehabilitation services to help regain her ability to care for herself and learn to walk again. Margaret is now back home.

- ManorCare - Allentown 610.776.7522
- ManorCare - Bethlehem Campus 610.865.6077
- ManorCare - Easton 610.250.0150
- Liberty Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 610.432.4351
- Old Orchard Health Care Center 610.330.9030
- www.hcr-manorcare.com

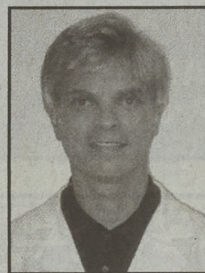


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HCR ManorCare
A PROVEN LEADER

Airport Authority gets clear air space

County sells land for \$1

By CAROL SMITH
csmith@ntronline.com

Deciding the benefits to the public outweigh any costs the county may incur, Northampton County Council agreed to Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority's purchase of 14 acres in Allen Township for the price of \$1.

After discussion and consultation with county council's solicitor, Council by a 6-2 vote passed an easement agreement that allows the Airport Authority to use this land for a new digital airport surveillance radar system. Councilwoman Peg Ferraro was absent from the Feb. 18 meeting.

Before the approval, council members requested county solicitor Philip Lauer to review what limitations the easement put on council's use of the land located off Willowbrook Road. The Allen Township land borders the planned Wayne Grube Park. Grube was a well-respected, longtime councilman who passed away in 2008.

Council concerns revolved around the placement of benches, buildings, statues and trees that might go into the design of the park.

Lauer said that the easement contained a 500-foot height restriction that requests the county to

keep the air space above this height clear and free of any "fences, crops, trees, poles, buildings and other obstructions of any kind or nature that might create electrical interference with radio communication between the tower and the aircraft."

Council President Ron Angle and Councilman Thomas Dietrich did not approve of the language in the easement or the potential cost to the county in the future.

Lauer also said that the concern would be with the county's liability if anyone was injured on the property or if damage was done to the property.

Council President Ron Angle and Councilman Thomas Dietrich did not approve of the language in the easement.

Councilwoman Ann McHale said she thought it would be wise to treat the property as dead land and to get a certificate of insurance from the Airport Authority that would protect the county from any lawsuits.

Considering the public safety of airport users, Councilman Lamont McClure Jr. said the benefits to air travel outweigh the potential inability of the county to develop this park in the best interests of its residents.

Northampton County Council's next meeting is at 6:30 p.m. March 4 in Northampton County Courthouse, 669 Washington St., Easton.



PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL
Abel Veltri (#81), of Bethlehem, can't believe it's Elmo. He first heard of Elmo a month ago when his mom, Maureen Veltri, adopted him from Ethiopia.



Viola, of Bethlehem Township, smiles at her dad, Rob Avitabile, (not seen in photo) as she eats her breakfast.

A breakfast visit from Elmo

The Mom's Club of Bethlehem Township held an "Eggs with Elmo" character breakfast Jan. 22 at the Bethlehem Township Community Center. Breakfast included scrambled eggs, cereal, ham, pancakes and rolls, as well as a visit from Elmo. The children danced and had their pictures taken with Elmo.

The Mom's Club of Bethlehem Township meets on a regular basis and holds an event at the community center each spring and fall. It's a good way for new stay at home moms to learn about the club and meet other members. Jen Wooley, representative from the Mom's Club of Bethlehem Township summed it up by saying, "We do it for fun."



Miles Goodchild of Bethlehem Township sits on Elmo's lap.



Brian Herbert of Bethlehem Township claps with excitement when he sees Elmo.

WEEK

Continued from page A14

and North Carolina. The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, founded in 1870, flourished in the southern states. The A.M.E. Zion church has served as the spiritual home to Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman and Paul Robeson.

Church members have also been leaders of the Bethlehem black community. Rachael Bradley was a charter member of the church. She was a descendent of Hiram Bradley, one of the first black residents of South Bethlehem. Bradley Street is named for the family. Rev. R. Wakefield Roberts served as pastor of St. John's A.M.E. Zion from 1956 to 1966. He also served as president of the Bethlehem NAACP founded in 1945 and was selected as the Bethlehem Jaycees' "Young Man of the Year" in 1964. His wife, Constance Roberts Gates, was the first African-American hired as a teacher in the Beth-

lehem Area School District in 1963. She taught music education while she and R. Wakefield raised their four children.

Today, St. John's A.M.E. Zion Church is 50 congregants strong. They continue their tradition of helping those in need. Recently a family arrived in town and found itself without an apartment and job that was promised. The congregation pitched in to support this destitute family. Their pastor, Rev. Selby, stated, "In these times of economic depression, we must help one another."

Another concern of Rev. Selby is the lack of parking and building space available at their church. Fountain Hill is densely developed around the small church property. Pawnee Street, a narrow street, becomes impossible to navigate when there is snow. The congregation invested in a van used to shuttle church members between the Fountain Hill Police parking lot and the church doors. On Rev. Selby's wish list is a move to another building with adequate parking and more space for meetings and classes. Despite all the recent snow, last Sunday, the

Board experiencing inspection problems

HANOVER TOWNSHIP

By MALLORY VOUGH
Special to the Bethlehem Press

The Hanover Township Board of Supervisors accepted the resignation of Elizabeth Soltys from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board during its Feb. 9 meeting. Her resignation was effective Feb. 1.

In other business, the township is having problems contacting a developer and getting others to request their final inspections.

The Hindu Temple, Hanover Pointe and the Becker/Minor subdivi-

sion are all in their maintenance periods, but none have requested Hanover Engineering to complete final inspections, according to James Birdsall. He added that due to the snow, it would be difficult to inspect anyway, so the supervisors should continue to be patient.

Birdsall again brought up the problems with contacting representatives of the Airport Commons Office Complex, Northgate II Lot 3 to discuss their status.

"The letter of credit expires on Feb. 21, but we have not been able to get in touch with them," Birdsall said at the Board of Supervisors meeting Jan. 26. "This is the problem with these older projects. The new improvements start to deteriorate the longer they stay uncompleted. We want to make sure it's safe and stable and we don't want to lose the improvements that have been made."

Birdsall added that when the snow melts,

Hanover Engineering and the township should check for any erosion that may be affecting other properties.

All supervisors agreed at the Jan. 26 meeting that the developer was to appear before the board at the Feb. 9 meeting, but a letter and phone calls from the township and the developer's lawyer proved unsuccessful.

James Broughal of Broughal & DeVito advised the board not to issue any future building permits until the developer goes before the board.



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Bethlehem
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PRESS PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

The court rallies around Prince Dauntless (Alex Tinsley) (front) as they sing "An Opening for a Princess."

'Mattress' opens at Academy

Prince Dauntless (Alex Tinsley) searches for a bride in spite of his mother's, Queen Aggravaine (Sara Price), attempts to thwart his efforts. Moravian Academy presents "Once Upon a Mattress," an adaptation of the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale, "The Princess and the Pea" at 6 p.m. Feb. 25; 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26, 27; and 2 p.m. Feb. 28 in the school auditorium, 4313 Green Pond Road. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 on Feb. 25, preview).

For reservations, call 610-691-1600.

Zac Campbell, director of theater arts at Moravian Academy, has added a modern twist to "Once Upon a Mattress's" standard medieval setting. The production has a cast of 28 members supported by 13 members in the technical and stage crews. Ryan Harrington conducts the "Once Upon a Mattress" 13-member orchestra.



Ryan Harrington conducts the 13-member "Once Upon a Mattress" orchestra.



The court rallies around Prince Dauntless (Alex Tinsley) (on throne) in his search for a princess.



Prince Dauntless (Alex Tinsley) shows his joy at convincing his mother, Queen Aggravaine (Sara Price), to allow Sir Harry to continue the search for a princess.



Sir Harry (Dan Margolis) and Lady Larkin (Athena Tahos) sing "In a Little While."

Rob Riker, right, works with tech crew members, Sara Roth, Jess Moody, Lindsey Schwartz and Melissa Becker.



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Winter Olympics

Sorry NBC, they no longer matter



Dan Kline
Guest
columnist

With enough pomp and circumstance to make Lady Gaga raise an eyebrow, the Winter Olympics have returned to ruin television for two weeks. Once an eminently watchable sporting event punctuated by the occasionally dramatic real-life stories of its competitors, the Olympics has devolved into a made-for-TV event that plays like a Lifetime movie.

Because actual sports fans only watch the Olympics sparingly and most don't watch the Winter Olympics, only events like luge or bobsledding, NBC must find a way to reach non-sports fans. That means that the competition takes a backseat to the melodrama of the competitors.

Not content to merely let real-life drama happen when it happens, NBC feels the need to shoehorn personality and back-story into every event. For NBC, every athlete offers a storyline whether or not they actually have a compelling history or are just some kid who managed to get incredibly good at something ridiculous.

By building every event around the personalities and histories of the competitors, we dilute the impact of the truly special stories.

Instead of sports laced with drama, we get "The Real World: Vancouver." Nobody ever bothers to explain how the made up scoring works in figure skating (extra points if you're famous seems to be the most peculiar rule) but we do get to hear about every dramatic stop on the major competitor's road to the Olympics.

Admittedly, sometimes an athlete has a story that makes him/her sympathetic.

I might root for the Haitian bobsled team or get excited about a country that has no ice winning a medal in ice dancing, but mostly, I want the drama to come from the actual sport.

By building every event around the personalities and histories of the competitors, we dilute the impact of the truly special stories. If NBC stopped trying to make every competitor a sports movie cliché (underdog, comeback, impossible odds) maybe we would become captivated by someone instead of bored by the whole lot.

Unfortunately (at least for NBC), for every figure skater whose cancer-stricken parents work nine jobs so she can skate, we get a dozen rich kids whose folks shipped them off to private training facilities. Some athletes have incredible tales worthy of being made into movies where Dennis Quaid plays the coach who believes in them when nobody else will. Most don't, and maybe the competition should sometimes speak for itself.

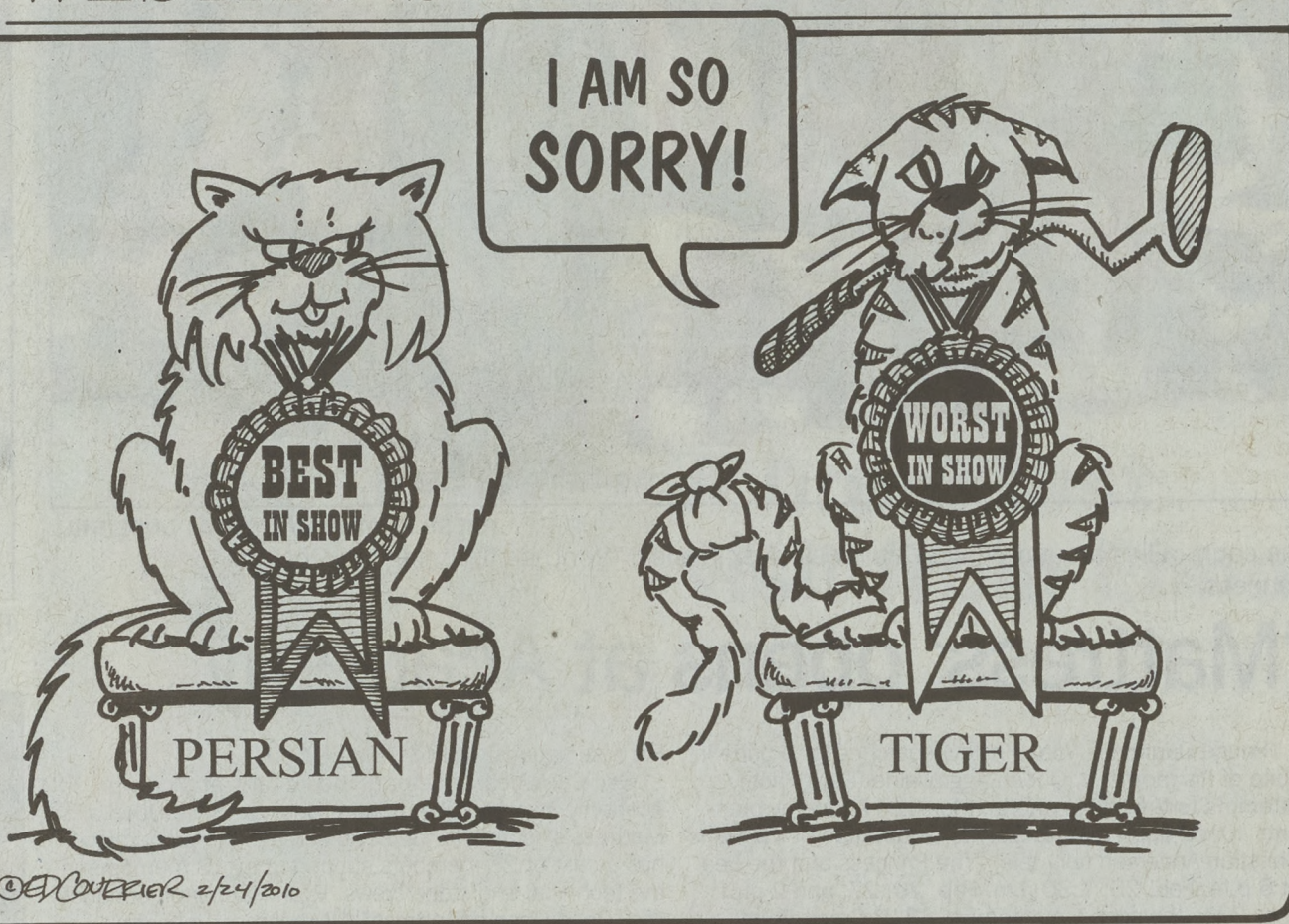
Whereas we once got Dan Jansen and his crushing failure to secure a medal for his five-hours-deceased sister followed by his ultimate redemption six years later, we now get downhill skiers who also manage to be good-looking. While we all remember the incredible triumph of the 1980 "Miracle On Ice" hockey team, nothing can make us deeply care about professionals barely interested in being there playing together after a few days of practice.

And, perhaps the most ridiculous pushed dramatic aspect of the Winter Olympics is the feature story done every four years about how captivating curling is. We get it. Canadians love their ridiculous non-sport because fat guys can play and you can drink beer during the game as a player.

There's a weird giant puck with a handle, lots of bad mustaches and people sweeping away with a broom. If this sport belongs in the Winter Olympics then Skee Ball should be in the Summer Olympics and I'd watch that because, well, Americans would always win.

Daniel B. Kline can be reached at dan@notastep.com or you can see his archive at dbkline.com or befriend him at facebook.com/dankline.

WESTMINSTER CAT OLYMPICS



BOTTOMLEY

Snowfall and strawberry milk

It's time for full disclosure here. All this snow we've had recently? My fault.



John Bottomley
Press
columnist

It actually started when I first moved here a few years ago. The day I was supposed to move the Valley was hit with its worst snowstorm in 25 years. I had to dig for five hours just to make a spot for my car, and piled up snow was still hanging over the top of the car when I was done.

I also wound up paying about \$5,000 in storage fees while everything I owned sat on a moving truck in the Poconos. So I figured that I had paid my debt to society for causing the storm, and that was that. For a few years that seemed to be true.

But when the first big snowstorm hit a few weeks back, where did it hit the hardest? Baltimore. Where was I? Sarasota. Oh wait! That's wrong! I was in Baltimore teaching a bagpipe seminar. The whole school, plus hotel staff and other guests, were snowed in for the duration. Some might still be there.

So after an hour or two of shoveling my car out (see illustration A), I got on the road. Within a half hour of driving, snow levels had dropped from three feet to maybe six inches at most. Six very short inches. Instead of "snowmageddon" or "snowpocalypse" as the wacky weatherpeople were calling it, it was "Is there enough for sledding?"

Clearly, the snow had centered around me. Thank you very much.



PRESS PHOTOS BY JOHN BOTTOMLEY

Illustration A - Buried car.

But I got home safely and all. I was back in Bethlehem, which had seen no more than maybe six inches.

So what happened next? Two days later, a couple of feet of snow paralyzed the Valley and emptied the grocery stores of milk, eggs and bread (see illustration B).

And why do we all rush out to buy that stuff anyway? We're not going to be trapped for days like backwoodsmen in our cabins, desperately waiting for rescue helicopters to carry us to the safety of the big city.

We ARE the big city. Pretty much the worst that can happen is we'll have to watch a full day of the cartoon network or play on the Internet.

Of course we won't be able to do that if the power goes out. Then we can sit around and watch the milk and eggs spoil because the refrigerator is dead.

And I learned something important when shopping the evening before the storm. There was no regular milk left, so I had to buy strawberry milk, which is not only red but is also



Illustration B - Empty shelves in market.

more expensive. At first I was upset about paying extra, but then I figured out that it must be very very hard to get strawberry milk. The amount of work required to milk the strawberries must be tremendous, for example. You have to pick each little seed and squeeze it into specially created strawberry milk containers. It takes hours to get a single glass.

This at least is how they describe it on Wikipedia.

And then of course the berry is ruined. It's not like you can dip a mangled strawberry in chocolate and present it to your girlfriend with a flourish. It's like giving a box of candy with all the caramel ones taken out. Not going to score points that way!

YOU: Look, darling, I brought you some chocolate-dipped strawberries!

HER: Why are they all squishy and covered in thumbprints?

But back to my actual topic.

While we were covered in snow here, I got in my car to drive to Long Island (another bagpipe gig). Within a half hour of driving, snow levels had dropped back to "Is there enough for sledding" again. Clearly, this weather is following me.

However, on my way to Long Island I learned a way that snow benefits us. Something I never would have known if I had not had to drive over Staten Island. The snow there lay about four inches deep everywhere, with the wonderful result that all the famous Staten Island landfills looked just like regular ski hills. And the cold kept the equally famous Staten Island smell down, too. So snow is not all bad.

But I still wish it would leave me alone.

PEOPLE SAY BY DANA GRUBB

What do you think of Gov. Rendell's proposal to reduce the state sales tax from 6 percent to 4 percent, but charge it on additional goods and services?



"I think it's going to be awfully confusing and it will cause some problems."
Jeanne Eroh
Bethlehem



"I'd rather see him raise it or keep it the same."
Joseph Balog
Bethlehem



"Anything that reduces taxes, I'm for it."
Scotte Koll
Hackettstown, N.J.



"Maybe we should just keep it at 6 percent or even raise it to 7 percent instead of taxing more items."
Pamela Schaefer
Bethlehem



"It sounds good at the beginning, but not at the end."
Linda Barrett Roseto



"Well, they'll just get us on other things."
Mary Turtzo
Plainfield Township

Jordan Roman

Liberty HS

Grade: 12
Favorite subject: AP government or chemistry
Activities: Liberty HS Grenadier Band, orchestra, choir, A Cappella Singers, student government recording secretary, Latino Youth Leadership Club, varsity football starting kicker, varsity track and field, Liberty Life photographer and yearbook

Next steps: I will be applying to Brown University, Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., Lehigh University, Lafayette College, University of Rochester, Colgate University, Moravian College, Kutztown University, DeSales University and the University of Scranton.

Career Goals: I would like to be a diplomat for the United States government in a Middle Eastern country or be a great lawyer like Richard Haber.

Family members: My dad is George Roman, my mother is Carolyn Roman; Erik Roman is my brother and my grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Armando Patino.

Heroes: My hero is my grandfather Armando Patino. He is a loving and caring grandfather and he will always love me.

Hobbies: I love both instrumental and vocal music. Also, I have a passion for politics and sports.

Current job(s): I love working at the Bethlehem Dairy Store under Bill Burkhardt and Rick Buckenmyer. The Cup has great homemade ice cream for any time of the year! In the summer, I also work for the City of Bethlehem with the Parks and



Recreation Department.
Volunteer/community work: I participate with Holy Infancy Church as an altar server and assistant at the religious education program. This year I'm a teacher for second- and third-graders. In April 2008, I raised more than \$3,000 to raise awareness for autism. I also volunteer with Special Olympics and Miracle League every year.

Likes: I love Hillary Clinton, politics, the Boston Red Sox and the Philadelphia Eagles.

Dislikes: I really have a strong dislike for any kind of math.

Greatest accomplishment (so far): In October 2009, I placed first in a statewide essay writing contest for the Pennsylvania Statewide Latino Coalition. This year, I made District 10 Choir as a Tenor II.

Advice for peers: Be a leader in and out of the classroom.

Julie Swan coordinates student profiles for the Bethlehem Press.

Catholic Schools Week



PRESS PHOTO BY CYNTHIA UNDERHILL

The kindergarten class warms up in front of a display of hearts containing each participant's name. In the front of the class are Nora Esack of Bethlehem and Hailey Falsone of Whitehall.

St. Anne students jump for the heart

By CYNTHIA UNDERHILL
 Special to the Bethlehem Press

St. Anne School in Bethlehem held several events in celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 31 to Feb. 5. The school kicked off the week with an Opening Mass and an Open House and Science Fair Sunday. The week ended with a Closing Mass, free pretzels from Philly Pretzel Co., and a presentation of the donations raised during the week to the various charities receiving them.

"Depending on the theme of Catholic Schools Week, events may

change," said Sera Duffy, a parent supporting the event. "We always do a jump rope for the heart. And we always do a student teacher lunch."

When asked how long she has supported the event, Duffy says, "I have an eighth grader so eight years."

"Catholic Schools - Dividends for Life" was this year's theme.

Events held at St. Anne's in celebration of Catholic Schools Week included family bingo, a family skating skateaway, dress down day, an African drumming assembly and McDonalds Night.

Charities benefitting are The

American Heart Association, receiving \$5,000; Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley, receiving health and hygiene items; Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown, receiving baby items; The Center for Animal Health and Welfare, receiving dog and cat items; and Cops-N-Kids, receiving new and gently used children's books.

Lisa Hummell, physical education teacher and coordinator of the Hoops for Heroes and Jump for Heart event, sums up the week by saying "It's a beautiful week, it really is."

NOTRE DAME NOTES

Thon total a record

Looks like the groundhog meant it when he called for six more weeks.

With three snow days and one early dismissal under their belts, Notre Dame students are reveling in the beauty of winter and all the fun it brings.

Much like the weather, Catholic Schools Week made a welcome appearance the first week in February. The executive board officers of ND's Student Council opened the week with a special prayer service on the true meaning of love, the power of a smile, the refuge we find in God and the beauty of the "We are ND" school community.

Tuesday followed with Student Appreciation Day, and students were permitted to dress down free of charge. In addition, the National Honor Society served free ice cream

sundaes at all lunch periods. Wednesday marked Teacher, Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day; a delicious luncheon was held in the teachers' lounge, the atmosphere transformed into that of an Italian restaurant. The school truly values all of the fantastic kids and adults who make up the ND family.

Thursday similarly marked a day for celebration. A number of contributors to THON '09, the school's 24-hour dance marathon to raise funds to fight pediatric cancer, were invited to attend a special Mass with the student body. Immediately following the Mass, the Student Council publicly relayed their thanks for each visitor's generosity and presented the guests with small tokens of gratitude. These people included the teachers who gave up their time to be color team leaders, the core parents who planned all of the food and activities, the men from Fly Guy Music Productions who donated their services for the entirety of the 24 hours free of charge, Mr. Barone who donated an

See ND on Page A20



Sarah Rose Aquilina
 Press writer

MORAVIAN ACADEMY NOTES

Funds raised for Haiti

Moravian Academy Upper School students raised \$6,800 for Haitian relief efforts during Free-

Throws for Haiti, an event sponsored by the boys' and girls' basketball teams. The proceeds will go to Church World Service and the Gaskov Clergé Foundation.

Student Council Co-President and senior basketball player Mike Chiadis led the event, which was held in the gym Feb. 1.

The event was "amazing," he said.

Before the event, students, parents and faculty pledged to donate money to different team members for each basket they made.

Each player took 10 free-throws.

Senior Frank Amico led the boys' team with the most baskets, while sophomore Rachael Redles and freshman Emma Brown led the girls' team.

Moravian students held a similar event for Hurricane Katrina relief in 2005. Upper School students raised an additional \$380 through the Red Cross Club's and the Rotary Club's bake sales for the Church World Service and Gaskov organizations.

The Church World Service works with partners in the United States and around the world to eradicate hunger and poverty, according to its Web site. It supports disaster relief and refugee assistance.

The Gaskov Clergé Foundation is a non-profit and

See MORAVIAN on Page A20



Classmates Addison Roemersma and Grace Obiero both of Bethlehem, try jumping a rope together.



Benjamin Reed of Bethlehem cheers after making a basket just before time runs out.

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Taylor Huber, of Bethlehem, jumps a rope spun by classmates.

MORAVIAN

Continued from page A19

philanthropic organization established to promote health, sports, education and sciences in the United States and Haiti, according to its Web site. Upper School alumni and current students have traveled to Haiti with the foundation in past years.

The Upper School ceramics class plans to help with relief efforts by selling mugs. Each mug will cost \$10 and proceeds will go to both organizations.

"I think we're going to ask people to make pledges like the basketball teams did," art teacher Sue Maurer said. "Each student in the class will make 10 mugs. Hopefully in two

more weeks, kids will be on the [pottery] wheel."

The mug project fits into the class's curriculum, Maurer said. Students will learn how to make vessels by slip-casting and pulling handles, which they would have been learning anyway, she said.

"Slip-casting screams multiples and I didn't want pencil holders lying around, so the mug project is meeting our need and Haiti's," Maurer said. "It will be an ongoing project."

She said she expects it to last throughout the rest of the school year and into the next few years since Haiti will continue to need relief.

"It's a creative way to raise money," said senior ceramics student Nikita Sedani.

Catholic Schools Week



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School scheduled a number of activities in recognition of Catholic Schools week Jan. 31 through Feb. 5. An open house, book fair, family bingo, movies and Mardi Gras carnival were featured. A huge favorite each year is the senior citizen communion breakfast, which is served by 33 eighth grade students. More than 100 seniors attended Feb. 4, enjoying coffee, tea, orange juice, Danish, croissants, bagels, mini muffins, bacon, sausage, French toast and scrambled eggs. **ABOVE:** OLPH student Alexis Brenner hands her grandfather Fred a fresh cup of coffee.



Breakfast is served; seniors snaked their way into the kitchen to be served the hot portion of breakfast.



Paolo Turco serves one of the breakfast tables. Turco said, "I like senior citizens. They're easier to talk to. It's a real nice experience."

ND

Continued from page A19

incredible Italian dinner to keep the dancers energized and a number of others without whom THON '09 could not have been possible.

The Gillow family also attended this Mass in memory of freshman Kimberly Lynn Gillow, and it meant so much to have them there. Kimmy had such an impact on the THON experience; there was no way not to acknowledge the phenomenal inspiration she offered not only the THON dancers but also the whole school, not only throughout the 24 hours but also every day.

The Gillows were warmly welcomed and presented with a framed "This one is for you, Kim!" T-Shirt signed by all of the dancers. Finally, Student Council moderator Cheryl Fenton announced the grand total for Thon '09: \$36,000, a significant leap from last year's nearly \$17,000. ND hopes to continue THON, raising more and more money. "For the Kids" for years to come.

Furthermore, Key Club has kept busy, kicking off the annual Pennies for Patients fundraiser running Feb. 8 to 26. Students were asked to bring in any extra dollars or change to donate during homeroom, and all proceeds will go towards a \$1,000 brick to be placed in the walkway outside St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. This brick will be purchased in loving memory of Kimberly Gillow.

Due to the inclement weather, the Diocesan Arts Festival at Holy Name HS in Reading ended early, however, vocalists and instrumentalists put together a CD of all they had learned so far.

On Valentine's Day, love was in the air as a number of students attended a dance at Green Pond Country Club from 7 to 10 p.m.

A special congratulations goes out to senior Anthony Saraceno who reached 1,000 points in Speech and Debate, a feat accomplished only once before in ND history. Moreover, both the boys' and girls' basketball teams deserve a shout out for their impressive seasons and dedication.

This is Sarah Rose Aquilina, and as always, I'm thrilled to be writing ND's column each month. My e-mail is SRA0620@aol.com. Please feel free to send any questions, ideas or comments regarding the school my way. I wish everyone and their families a wonderful week! Stay tuned for March's column and all the happenings at ND.

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- SUNDAY**
SIGN-ON-7:30 - "DENNIS CHRISTMAN"
7:30-8 AM - "MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD"
8-9 AM - "THE JIMMY STURR SHOW"
9-9:30 AM - "THE GERMAN AUSTRIAN SHOW"
9:30-12 NOON - "THE JOLLY JOE TIMMER SHOW"
12:30-1 PM - "PURITY PRODUCTS"
1-05-3 PM - "JEFF DEAN"
3 PM-SIGN-OFF - "MIKE SWEIGART"
- MONDAY**
SIGN-ON-7:30 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
7:30-9 AM - "DAYBREAK USA"
9:05-10 AM - "THE LAURA INGRAHAM SHOW"
10:05-11 AM - "DUKE & THE DOCTOR"
11 AM-1 PM - "THE JOLLY JOE TIMMER SHOW"
1:05-3 PM - "THE FRED THOMPSON SHOW"
3:05-5 PM - "THE DAVE RAMSEY SHOW"
5:05-6 PM - "WGPA SUNNY 1100 POLKA SHOW"
6:05 - SIGN OFF - "STEVE CAPWELL"
- TUESDAY**
SIGN-ON-7:30 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
7:30-9 AM - "DAYBREAK USA"
9:05-10 AM - "THE LAURA INGRAHAM SHOW"
10:05-11 AM - "DUKE & THE DOCTOR"
11 AM-1 PM - "THE JOLLY JOE TIMMER SHOW"
1:05-3 PM - "THE FRED THOMPSON SHOW"
3:05-5 PM - "THE DAVE RAMSEY SHOW"
5:05-6 PM - "WGPA SUNNY 1100 POLKA SHOW"
6:05-SIGN-OFF - "STEVE CAPWELL"
- WEDNESDAY**
SIGN-ON-7:30 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
7:30-9 AM - "DAYBREAK USA"
9:05-10 AM - "THE LAURA INGRAHAM SHOW"
10:05-11 AM - "DUKE & THE DOCTOR"
11 AM-1 PM - "THE JOLLY JOE TIMMER SHOW"
1:05-3 PM - "THE FRED THOMPSON SHOW"
3:05-5 PM - "THE DAVE RAMSEY SHOW"
5:05-6 PM - "WGPA SUNNY 1100 POLKA SHOW"
6:05-SIGN-OFF - "STEVE CAPWELL"
- THURSDAY**
SIGN-ON-8 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
8:05-9 AM - "DEMOCRATIC TALK RADIO"
9:05-10 AM - "THE LAURA INGRAHAM SHOW"
10:05-11 AM - "DUKE & THE DOCTOR"
11 AM-1 PM - "THE JOLLY JOE TIMMER SHOW"
1:05-3 PM - "THE FRED THOMPSON SHOW"
3:05-4 PM - "THE DAVE RAMSEY SHOW"
4:05-4:30 PM - "THE VOICE OF COMFORT"
4:30-5 PM - "STEVE CAPWELL"
5:05-6 PM - "WGPA SUNNY 1100 POLKA SHOW"
6:05-7 PM - "RCN SPORTS"
- FRIDAY**
SIGN-ON-8 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
8:05-8:30 AM - "L.V. MEANS BUSINESS"
8:30-9 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
9:05-10 AM - "THE LAURA INGRAHAM SHOW"
10:05-11 AM - "DUKE & THE DOCTOR"
11 AM-1 PM - "THE JOLLY JOE TIMMER SHOW"
1:05-3 PM - "THE FRED THOMPSON SHOW"
3:05-5 PM - "THE DAVE RAMSEY SHOW"
5:05-6 PM - "WGPA SUNNY 1100 POLKA SHOW"
6:05-SIGN-OFF - "STEVE CAPWELL"
- SATURDAY**
SIGN-ON-8:30 AM - "MARK THOMAS"
8:30-9 AM - "SIXTY-TWO & OVER"
9-11 AM - "JACK, JOE & CO. SPORTS SHOW"
11:30-12 NOON - "PURITY PRODUCTS"
12:05-SIGN-OFF - "NED RICHARDS"

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1. **TO ENTER:** Each entry must be a fully completed original OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK (see right) with all 3 questions answered correctly. One entry per child- no copies or reproductions accepted. Entry blanks are available at our offices 9am-5pm Monday through Friday. No purchase is necessary. Entries must be received at our Bethlehem office by noon Friday, March 5.
2. Entries from children up to age 12 will be accepted. THE PRESS/Pencor Services Inc. employees and family members residing in their household are not eligible to enter. No group entries permitted.
3. **PRIZES:** Winners will be randomly drawn, from the correct entries. One Grand prize winner will receive 3 tickets & Eight winners will each receive 2 tickets for a show of "Curious George Live". Winners will be notified by mail. All prizes are final. Neither exchanges nor refunds will be made.
4. All winners will be announced the week of March 17 in THE PRESS group newspapers.
5. Entries can be mailed to THE PRESS-Curious George Live Contest, 308 East Third St, Bethlehem, PA 18015 or dropped off at our Bethlehem office Monday- Friday 9am- 5pm.



OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK
To be eligible, complete entire form and please PRINT NEATLY!

Name: _____ Zip: _____
Address: _____ Age: _____
Phone Number: _____
Township: _____
A _____ B _____
C _____

Mail or Drop off to:
THE PRESS - "Curious George Live" CONTEST
308 East Third St., Bethlehem, PA 18015