



SPORTS

Hawks knock off Liberty

See page A11.



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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER FOR THE BETHLEHEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

DECEMBER 21, 2011

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33RD LIVE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Good weather, large crowds



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Mary and the baby Jesus are smiling at the 33rd annual Live Bethlehem Christmas Pageant at the Rose Garden Dec. 10. Portraying Mary, Melissa Pokala, a Whitehall native who lives in New York City, holds her 6-month-old son Henry who portrayed the Christ Child. According to pageant officials, a large crowd of more than 700 spectators was attracted by the mostly clear skies and moderate temperatures on both days.



The Chancel Choir of Bethany United Church of Christ tells the Christmas story in song. Choir members Meghann Wright Laughman, left, and Joyce Hammer sing from the first row of the new guest choir for the 33rd annual pageant. More photos on page A2.



Stretched out on a blanket, cousins Michael, Brittany and Mikayla Rowe from Center Valley get a ground level view of the pageant.



Kira Caffin and her mother Kelly from Bethlehem touch a zebu, an ox with a hump on its back,



Young soldier in training Isaiah Kohnlein stands guard with older pageant actors at the court of King Herod. Standing to the boy's right is Gabe Adams of Bethlehem, portraying one of several Roman soldiers. Isaiah's father John, who portrays King Herod, said that his son was the baby Jesus five years ago.

BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Student musicians support All-City Band



PHOTO BY D. GRAVES

Liberty HS senior Shalome Sine asks the school board to continue the annual band concert by fifth graders districtwide.

By DOUGLAS GRAVES
Special to the Bethlehem Press

Upperclassmen have sounded their battle trumpets and are coming to the rescue of the fifth grade All-City Band, which Bethlehem Area School District administrators had axed as unaffordable under the austere budget climate.

The musicians sent one of their Grenadiers to lead the attack. Liberty HS senior Shalome Sine spoke to the school board Dec. 12 in an impassioned plea for a return of the program.

"I remember that when I went to All-City [Band], it was one of the greatest factors in my deciding to continue learning music through middle school," Sine said. "From there, I ended up in the best high school band in the country. All of the students from

the band that I am representing recognize the importance of music in our education system and believe that success in music can begin at an early age," she added.

Grenadier Sine's attack seemed to catch the board and the administration by surprise.

"This is the first I have heard of this," said school board member William Burkhardt, a long serving, retired educator and administrator. He directed the comment to Assistant Superintendent for Education and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jack Silva.

Silva said that the program was cut because it cost too much and added to the transportation burden. Burkhardt said he couldn't believe the one-day event cost more than a thousand dollars; he asked Silva for figures.

Silva told Burkhardt he would get back to the board with the exact numbers for the next meeting of the Curriculum Committee. He said about 180 students participate in the annual concert.

The board took no action on the issue, but it was clear that Grenadier Sine had lobbed a grenade that got everyone's attention.

Another citizen encouraged the administration to name the gymnasium at Freedom HS the "Joseph P. McIntyre Gymnasium" in honor of the first principal of Freedom HS, which opened in 1967.

Mark S. Sigmon said further delay on this long-pending request would be "Absurd. Absolutely absurd." Sigmon said he is a tennis coach for the women's team at FHS.

The administration's See **BASD** on Page A3

"All of the students from the band that I am representing recognize the importance of music in our education system and believe that success in music can begin at an early age."

SHALOME SINE

CITY

Zoners nix West North St. apartment

By BERNIE O'HARE
Special to the Bethlehem Press

He sat there stunned. But in a split decision, Bethlehem zoners denied George Andreadis' request to convert a single family residence at 14 West North St. into two apartments. Zoners Ken Kraft and Bill Fitzpatrick voted to deny a special exception in what is a commercial business district. Chairman Gus Loupos dissented.

Andreadis' problems started at the beginning of the hearing, when he said the property had been posted for seven days as required by law.

"I didn't see a notice until today," observed Kraft, who said he drives that way every day. Andreadis told Kraft the notice had fallen, so he taped it to a window.

Then Bill Fitzpatrick, who has historically opposed converting homes into apartments, wanted to know why Andreadis couldn't rent the property as a single family unit.

"I could," answered Andreadis, but added he had paid too much for the property.

Iris Linares, a neighbor, complained about the parking issues that See **CITY** on Page A3

BETHLEHEM PRESS

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 11

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PEOPLE SAY ...

BY DANA GRUBB

What would you most like to find under your Christmas tree on Christmas morning?



"A dog."
Cate Cyr
Bethlehem



"An iPad!"
Conor Nolan
Rockaway, N.J.



"Presents for me and my brother Billy."
Anna Andrews
Yonkers, N.Y.



"A new mountain bike. That would be nice."
Victoria Perity
Bethlehem



"Tools, Craftsman tools. I'm a tool hound!"
Mike Seminerio
Lincoln Park, N.J.



"Maybe some delicious baked something, like cookies or banana nut bread, that I could share with everyone. And a case of Troggs Beer to go with it!"
Margy McCarty
Whitehall

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33RD LIVE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Costumed re-enactors performing the Nativity pageant fill the band shell at the Rose Garden Park in Bethlehem Dec. 10 and 11. Narrator Bill Schellhaas, left, re-tells the Christmas Story from the city park stage which houses the pageant's stable and its lighted star.



Photographers gather together at a good vantage point to record the pageant presentation. From left to right: Tom Wright, Rod Witmer, a painter from Quakertown, and videographer Mark Hargrove from Laury's Station. In the background the standing-room-only crowd of spectators and the log cabin First House of Bethlehem can be seen.



Roseann DeSilver of Bethlehem watches the pageant with her grandchildren Bryson and Brook Baker.



Portraying townspeople who came to see the Christ Child, Mary Smith of Bethlehem Township and her grandson Jacob Hauze joined the pageant's cast for the first time this year.



The zebu is not only an attraction to the crowd, but to shepherds David Mondillo of Saylorburg and his son Mario, who are taking a break between scenes. Mondillo said his son, holding a shepherd's staff, started in the pageant as the Christ child six years ago, "We've been hooked ever since," he added.

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Wednesday, December 21

Fountain Hill Council, 7 p.m. 941 Long St.
Bethlehem Council, 7 p.m. Town Hall, 10 E. Church St. (rescheduled date)
Lehigh Co. Commissioners, 7:30 p.m., public hearing room, Lehigh County Government Center, 17 S. Seventh St., Allentown (change of date for this month only)

Thursday, December 22

Hanover Twp. Zoning Board, as needed. 7 p.m. 3630 Jacksonville Road.

Monday, December 26

Freemansburg Parks and Recreation Commission, 6 p.m. 600 Monroe St.

Wednesday, December 28

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

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

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Daily

Christmas Trees From Around the World, round the clock. Comfort Suites, 120 W. Third St. Call 610-882-9700.
Historic Bethlehem Visitors Center and Goundie House exhibit, Kill or Cure, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Live Advent Calendar, 5 p.m. Goundie House, 501 Main St. through Dec. 23
Bethlehem: The Christmas City film. Various times. Frank Banko Alehouse Cinemas, ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks, 101 Founders Way. Call 610-332-1300.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday-daily

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

Thursday and Friday- daily

Edgeboro Moravian Church Putz, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 645 Hamilton Ave. Call 610-866-8793.
Central Moravian Church Christmas Community Putz, 73 W. Church St., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 610-866-5661.
Historic Bethlehem's Smithy (historic blacksmith), 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 425 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Moravian Museum of Bethlehem exhibit and period decorations, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 66 W. Church St. Call 610-691-6055.
Kemmerer Museum of Bethlehem exhibit, Elizabeth Johnston Prime dollhouse collection and Victorian Christmas decorations, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 427 N. New St. Call 610-691-6055.
Christmas City Village, Historic Bethlehem area, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Christmas City Stroll walking tour with costumed guide, 3, 4 and (lantern led) 6 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Historic Bethlehem 15-minute horse-drawn carriage rides, 4 to 10 p.m. Call 610-691-6055.
Bethlehem bus tour with costumed guide; 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.

Wednesday, December 21

Edgeboro Moravian Church Putz, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 645 Hamilton Ave. Call 610-866-8793.
Christmas City Stroll walking tour with costumed guide, 4 p.m. Visitors Center, 505 Main St. Call 610-691-6055.
Public menorah lighting, 5 p.m. Payrow Plaza, city hall, 10 E. Church St.

Friday, December 23

Central Moravian Church Star and Candle Shoppe, 73 W. Church St., 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 610-866-5661.
Children's Lovefeast, 1 p.m. Vigils, 5:30 and 8 p.m. Central Moravian Church, 73 W. Church St. Free but ticket required. Call 610-866-5661.
East Hills Moravian Church Putz, 6 to 8 p.m. 1830 Butztown Road. Call 610-868-6481.

Saturday, December 24

Christmas City Village, Historic Bethlehem area, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Lehigh & Keystone Valley Model Railroad Museum Inc. featuring Thomas the Tank Engine, 1 to 5 p.m. 705 Linden St. Call 623-810-5730 or visit www.lkvmrr.com.

Thursday, December 29

Peeps Fest, noon to 5 p.m. Christkindlmarkt; Lehigh, Spring and Conestoga streets. Call 610-332-1300.
Historic Bethlehem 15-minute horse-drawn carriage rides, 4 to 10 p.m. Call 610-691-6055.

BASD

Continued from page A1
 ongoing review of the general issue of naming rights for buildings and facilities owned by the school district has stalled the request.

In other business, District Business Manager Stacy Gober reported what Superintendent Dr. Joseph Roy described as good news.

According to Gober, the administration has refinanced the 2001 \$5 million bond, an action that will save the school district \$402,657 over the life of the bond. She said the district is negotiating other bonds and may produce other savings over the lives of the bonds.

Steven Antalics, a frequent commentator on local government, continued his quest to get the administration to study what effect electromagnetic fields (EMF) from power lines have on the health of children near Freemansburg ES. For several months Antalics has called on the board and the administration to study the issue and to take Gaussmeter measurements to determine the strength of the electromagnetic field.

"We should know. Why don't we know?" said



Applicants for an appointment to the school board are Bethlehem resident David Sanders, and Dave Weikert and Shannon Patrick, both of Hanover Township. Patrick was appointed during a special board meeting Dec. 19. Full details in next week's Bethlehem Press.

Antalics. He said inaction by the school board amounts to gross negligence.

In an interview, Antalics, a retired scientist, said he is doing some independent research on the subject.

The website for Health Canada reports, "Exposures in Canadian homes, schools and offices present no known health risks" from EMF. See <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hlvs/iyh-vsv/viron/magnet-eng.php> for more on this report.

Liberty HS student representative Darah Donaher reported that LHS has wrapped up its stage production of "It's a Wonderful Life" and selected the cast and started rehearsals for "Les Miserables."

According to Donaher, the LHS National Honors Society and Miller-Keystone Blood Center had a blood drive in December.

She also said a student safety committee met and will present its concerns to LHS Principal JoAnn Durante.

After the school board

meeting, the board reconvened to interview the three applicants for the school board position vacated when Michele Cann resigned her Region 2 seat. She won that seat and an at-large seat and decided to keep the latter position.

The applicants are Dave Weikert and Shannon Patrick, both of Hanover Township, and David Sanders, owner of Lump's Deli and currently a commissioner on the Bethlehem Housing Authority.

CITY

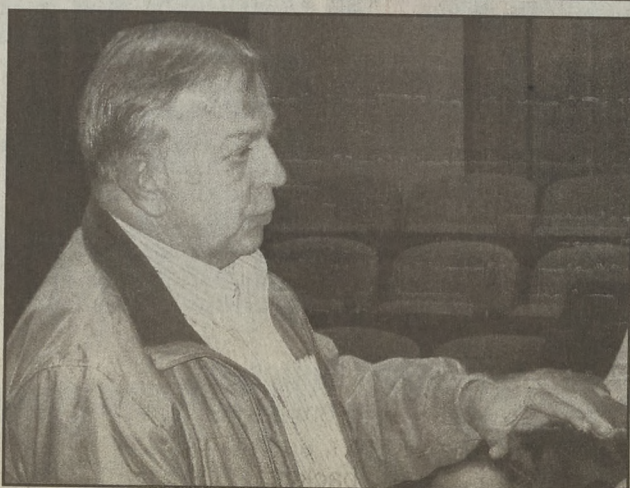
Continued from page A1

Businessman Dennis Connell, who owns apartment buildings on nearby New Street, said he fears tenants would park in his own 10-space parking lot, which is reserved for his own tenants. Andreadis suggested Connell chain the lot to prevent unwanted guests, but Connell was unmoved.

"You're asking me to solve a problem that you have," he answered. While Andreadis sat in disbelief, zoners next considered Spenser Smith's application for a possible medical office at 808 Eaton Ave. in a commercial mixed use district.

Bethlehem architect John Lee explained the property is in a commercial mixed use district and is part of a triangular lot bounded by Eaton Avenue, Eighth Avenue and Schoenersville Road. He told zoners that Smith has tried to find a tenant for the past one and one-half years, but "hasn't even had a nibble."

In response to questions from Attorney Kevin Kelleher, Lee testified that a hardship has been created by enactment of a commercial mixed use district, and that medical offices would be more in character with the existing neighborhood.



PRESS PHOTO BY BERNIE O'HARE
 New Street landlord Dennis Connell said he fears North Street tenants will use his parking lot.

All roads are now clear to St. Luke's.
 Thank you for your patience.

(L-R): Justine Maziuk, PHRN; Jonathan Shingles, DO, MBA; and Don Norder RN, PHRN, Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company

We can repair a lot of things... unfortunately roads aren't one of them. We understand that there have been challenges getting to and from our Bethlehem Campus but we are happy to announce that all Route 378 road repair is complete.

Our thanks also to J.D. Eckman, the City of Bethlehem, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Trumbull Corporation and the hard-working road crews who finished ahead of schedule and did their very best to keep delays to a minimum.

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CITY POLICE

Robbery

Police apprehended a man shortly after he allegedly robbed the 2415 Easton Avenue Delta gas station Dec. 9.

According to police, a young black male entered the business around 11:35 p.m. and threatened the clerk with a knife. He fled with about \$500 in cash.

The suspect was recognized by an officer reviewing surveillance footage as Dwayne Williams, 21, of 1549 Fleming Street.

Officers served a warrant on Fleming's residence and he was arrested, charged with theft, receiving stolen property, robbery and simple assault. He was taken to Northampton County Prison on \$100,000 bail.

Road rage

Police are searching for two men following a traffic accident and assault on Stefko Boulevard around 5:20 p.m. Dec. 8.

Police said the incident began as an unspecified confrontation at a Texaco station.

Shortly thereafter a man and woman, both 20, were in a vehicle and cut off by a large dark blue Dodge Dakota with a single flat black, miscolored, fender, causing them to crash.

The Dodge driver, a large black male and his passenger, a white male, then allegedly approached the victims threateningly and assaulted them.

The attackers then quickly got back into the Dodge and drove off.

Fighting

Police arrested three men after responding to a reported fight at Roosevelt's on East Elizabeth Avenue Dec. 11.

According to police, the men were causing a scene in the bar and were asked to leave. Once out in the parking lot they began to fight and were observed by an officer in the area.

Jonathan Nunez, of Jacksonville Road, and Josel Rodriguez, of Liberty Street in Allentown, both 21, are charged with disorderly conduct and public drunkenness.

Michael Fetherman, 25, of Camelot Drive in Easton, is charged with disorderly conduct, public drunkenness, possession of a small amount of marijuana and possession of a controlled substance - suspected cocaine.

BRIEFLY

NARFE Meeting set for Dec. 22

Lehigh Valley Chapter 1371 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees will meet Dec. 22 in the community room of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1933 Hanover Ave., Allentown.

Lunch will be served at noon. Following the meal, the annual Christmas party and entertainment will take place.

A brief business session will conclude the meeting.

First-timers and those wanting lunch need to call Ken Zeiner at 610-837-7246 before Dec. 17.

There is a fee for the luncheon.

Those attending the party and meeting only should arrive at 12:45 pm.

Both actively employed and newly retired federal workers are encouraged to attend.

For information, call Marie Nader, membership chair, at 610-231-0237.



Christmas City Peace Pilgrimage participants sing "O Little Town of Bethlehem" on the steps of Central Moravian Church as their final rest stop before completing the 10-mile walk at the Christ UCC Church on Center Street in Bethlehem for the evening meal and program. Singing Christmas carols by candlelight are Amy Creitz of Tamaqua, left, and Cathy Burgi of Bethlehem.

52nd Peace Pilgrimage



Warm "LEPOCO Soup" was popular with pilgrimage walkers at the end of the 10-mile trek from Nazareth. Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern members Lee and Ellen Buck received a Peace Pilgrim of the Year award for preparing and serving their soup for many years as part of the evening supper, hosted by Christ UCC Church for nearly all the 52 Christmas Peace Pilgrimages to date.



LEPOCO Peace Choir member Nancy Tate takes a turn leading fellow singers in a song during the pilgrimage program at Christ UCC Church. From left to right: Marcie Lightwood, Ursula Wuerth, Martha Christine and Barbara Wuerth.



LEFT: Peace Pilgrimage guest speaker the Rev. Kelly Denton-Borhaug, chair of Religious Studies at Moravian College, talks about the continued growth of the U.S. military at home and abroad. She asked, "Where is the public awareness" of the continued growth of the U.S. military in the past 10 years - an 81 percent increase in total American military expenses, according to her slide show information.



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

The 52nd annual Christmas Peace Pilgrimage procession arrives in downtown Bethlehem as it heads along Main Street toward the Christ UCC Church, where the 10-mile trek ends each year. Star sign bearer Benton Schwartz of Bath heads up the procession of some 130 walkers which began in Nazareth at noon Dec. 10.

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BRIEFLY FRIENDLY POETS Amateur poetry contest opens

A \$1,000 grand prize is being offered in a new free poetry contest sponsored by Friendly Poets, free to everyone. There are 50 prizes in all for amateur poets who write and win.

"Even if you have never entered a competition before, this is your opportunity to win big," says editor Michael Thomas. "Even if you have written only one poem you are proud of, it deserves to be read and appreciated by others."

To enter, send one poem, 21 lines or less, to: Friendly Poets, PO Box 21, Talent, OR 97540. Or enter online at www.friendlypoets.com.

Be sure your name and address is on the page with your poem. The deadline for entering is Dec. 31. Include a stamped addressed envelope for a winners list or view online where winners will be posted at contest end.

RED CROSS Catalog of symbolic gifts offered

The American Red Cross is offering its 2011 Holiday Giving Catalog to provide ideas for a variety of symbolic gifts that support humanitarian programs.

"With so many people out of work, Americans want to both give and receive things that mean something," said Red Cross Regional Executive John R. Hughes. "The Red Cross Holiday Giving Catalog provides consumers with opportunities to make a difference and give with a purpose this holiday season."

Shoppers can choose from a variety of symbolic gift items including vaccinations for an entire village, food and shelter to a disaster victim, comfort items for platelet donors and phone cards and personal supplies for members of the U.S. Armed Forces

Greeting cards are included with each tax-deductible catalog purchase to notify loved ones of the gifts you have made in their honor. You may also opt to send an e-card version. Each gift item provides support to the mission of the Red Cross and items are available to fit any budget.

More information is available online at https://americanredcross.org/site/SPageServer?pagename=gcl1_index (redcross.org/gifts).

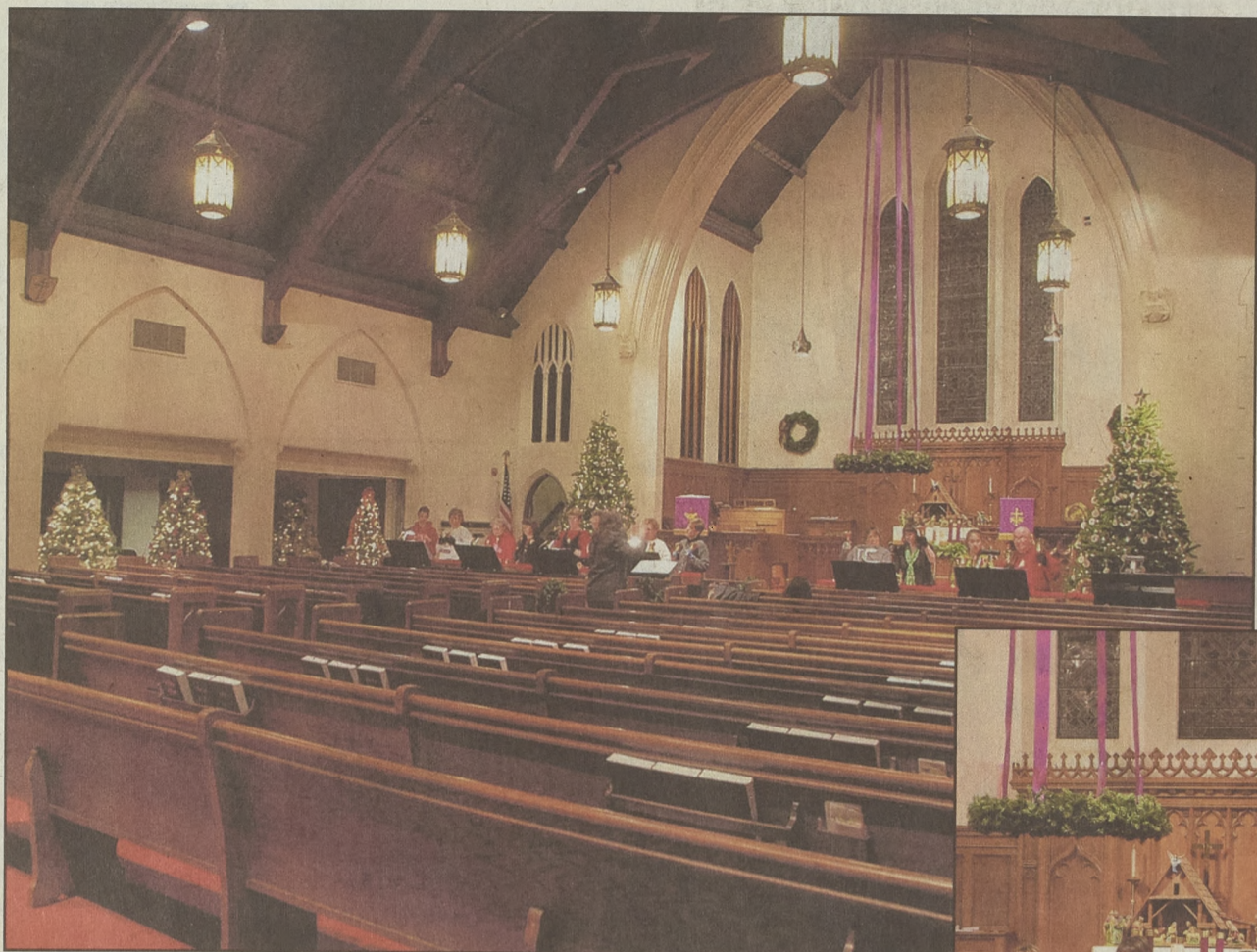
VEGAN TREATS Store vying for PETA award

Vegan Treats, 1444 Linden St., has been named one of four finalists for the Libby (for liberation) Award for Best Local Vegan Bakery, PETA animal rights-youth division.

The shop was nominated for making cakes and pastries that don't contain unhealthy and/or cruelly produced milk, eggs or other animal-derived products. Products include triple-berry cheesecake, brownie-chunk cheesecake, caramel petit fours, chocolate-encased strawberry shortcake as well as wedding and Death by Chocolate cakes. There is a full line of egg- and dairy-free cookies.

For information and to vote, visit peta2.com/Libbys.

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Bethany ready for Christmas

PRESS PHOTO BY DANA GRUBB
Amid the Christmas decorations in the church's sanctuary, the Bethany U.C.C. Church bell-ringers rehearse for the upcoming Christmas Eve service. They are led by director of music Susan Wright.



The handbell choir, brass choir, organ, flute, piano, bagpipes, vocal solos, percussion and vocal choir will participate in the 8 p.m. service. This year, there will be six new trees for a total of eight in the sanctuary, symbolizing the star, bell, candle, nature, angel and Nativity, respectively.

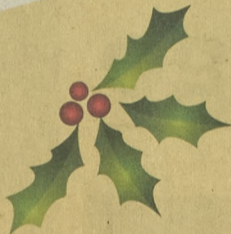
CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Advent & Christmas Services at Messiah Lutheran Church



2020 Worthington Ave.
Bethlehem 18017
(corner of Easton Ave. & Worthington)
610-691-2321

Advent Mid-week Vesper Services
Wednesdays: Noon & 7 pm
Weekend Worship Services
Saturdays: 6:30 pm Sundays: 8 & 11 am
Christmas Eve: Children's Worship: 4 pm
Family Candlelight Service: 6 pm
Candlelight & Choral Service: 10 pm
Christmas Day Communion Service 9 am



Fritz Memorial United Methodist Church
303 W. Packer Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18015
610-866-1515
Rev. Robert Hachtman, Pastor

Christmas Eve 7:00 Candlelight Service
"And So This is Christmas"
Christmas Day 10:30am Worship
New Year's Day 10:30am Worship

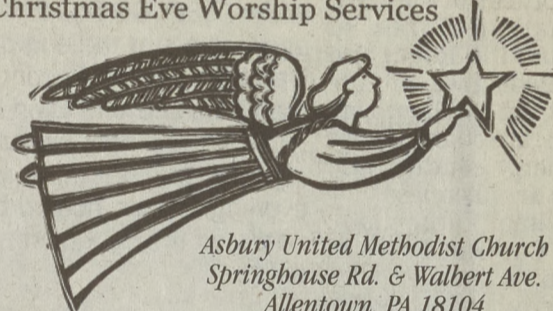


Church of the Manger United Church of Christ
1401 Greenview Dr.
Bethlehem, PA 18018
610-866-8223

Christmas Eve Services
8:15 pm Service of Lessons & Carols
11:00 pm Service of Holy Communion
mangerucc@peoplepc.com
<http://www.churchofthemanger.org>

Inviting you to celebrate the season with us

Christmas Eve Worship Services



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

Carols & Candlelight at 1:00 p.m.
Family Candlelight Service at 3:00 p.m.
Open Door Service in Wesley Center at 5:00 p.m.
Candlelight Service at 7:00 p.m.
Candlelight Service at 9:00 p.m.
Candlelight Service with Communion at 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE at 7:30 PM
TRADITIONAL SERVICES:
Family Service at 4 PM
Children are invited to bring a gift for the baby Jesus.
Lessons & Carols at 6:30, 9 & 11 PM
Communion served at 11 PM.

First Presbyterian Church
BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA

2344 Center Street, Bethlehem PA, 18017
610.867.5865 - www.fpc-bethlehem.org



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Invite you to celebrate Christmas and to experience Christ's light and love!

Advent Moravian Church
www.adventmoravianchurch.com
3730 Jacksonville Road 610-866-1402

Christmas Eve - 5:00 pm
Lovefeast and Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve - 8:00 pm
Cantata and Candlelight Service
Christmas Day - 10:00 am

Edgeboro Moravian Church*
www.edgeboromoravian.org
645 Hamilton Avenue 610-866-8793

Christmas Eve - 3:00 pm + 5:30 pm
Lovefeast and Candlelight
Christmas Eve - 8:00 pm
Candlelight Service
Christmas Day - 10:00 am

Central Moravian Church*
www.centralmoravianchurch.org
West Church & Main Streets 610-866-5661

Christmas Eve - 1:00 pm
Children's Lovefeast
Christmas Eve - 5:30 pm & 8:00 pm
Candlelight Vigil
Christmas Day - 11:00 am

West Side Moravian Church
www.westsidemoravian.org
402 Third Ave. 610-865-0256

Christmas Eve - 7:00 pm
Candlelight Service
Christmas Day - 10:00 am

College Hill Moravian Church
www.collegehillmoravian.org
72 West Laurel Street 610-867-8291

Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm
Children's Lovefeast and Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve - 8:00 pm
Candlelight Service
Christmas Day - 10:00 am

East Hills Moravian Church
www.easthillsmc.org
1830 Butztown Road 610-868-6481

Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm
Family Lovefeast and Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve - 7:30 pm + 9:30 pm
Lovefeast and Candlelight Service
Christmas Day - 11:00 am

All services are FREE * where indicated tickets are required to insure seating



PRESS PHOTO BY TIM GILMAN

Historic Bethlehem Partnership volunteers Joanne Feigl, left, and Ann Novajovsky re-stock the craft table at Burnside Plantation during their Wreaths, Crafts and Treats sale on the first weekend of December. The annual fundraiser supports the programs at the 18th century restored farm operated by HBP. The crafters said their sales of handmade fresh greens for holiday season decorating exceeded their expectations and they

made another batch for the second day on Sunday. Farmed by James Burnside of Bethlehem, the 1748 plantation, which has been reduced from its original size of 500 to 6.5 acres, is part of the Lehigh County Parks System and is the only farm in the Lehigh Valley within city limits. Burnside was a Moravian who was the first elected representative to the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly in Philadelphia.

Wreaths, crafts and treats



Holiday bowmaker Linda Galitis of Bethlehem hangs one of the fresh wreaths made by the Burnside crafters and displayed in the restored bank barn. Galitis, an HBP volunteer, specializes in making the bows for the various fresh greens such as swags, wreaths and garland available at the annual Burnside Plantation holiday season sale.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
8:00 pm
Centering around six Christmas symbols:
Star, Bell, Candle, Nature, Angel, Nativity
~ Brass choir ~ Handbells ~ Bagpipes
~ Chancel choir ~ Liturgical dance

"All are welcome to come experience the Spirit of Christmas"
Bethany UCC
600 W. Market St., Bethlehem
610-868-4441

Christmas Eve Services
5:30 pm Candlelight Service
7:30 pm Candlelight Service
Christmas Day Service
10:30 am

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

Inviting you to celebrate the season with us



St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve
Communion & Pageant - 4 PM
Communion & Candles - 7 & 10 PM

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

The Rev. Edith B. Roberts, Senior Pastor
www.stpetersbethlehem.org
Packer Ave. & Vine St., Bethlehem
610-867-0519

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
13th & Hamilton Streets, Allentown • 610-433-4271
Rev. William Maxon, Senior Pastor
Rev. Maritza Torres Dolich
CHRISTMAS EVE
5 p.m. Family Service with Holy Communion
7 p.m. Candlelight Service of Holy Communion
10 p.m. Candlelight Service of Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
10:30 a.m. Lessons & Carols with Communion

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Visitors Welcome



Worship with us at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
CHRISTMAS EVE
Saturday, December 24
at 5:30 pm & 8 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY
Sunday, December 25
at 10:30 am

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



ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
2510 Livingston St. • Allentown, PA 18104
610-435-0712

Christmas Worship Schedule
Christmas Eve Service
Sat., December 24...7:30 PM

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

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

Christ Church United Church of Christ
75 East Market Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Invites you to Join Us for
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
December 24, 2011

4:00 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service
6:00 p.m. Traditional Worship Service
featuring Hill to Hill Brass & Guest Soloists
Eric Fennell (tenor) & Phoebe Fennell (soprano)
8:00 p.m. Traditional Worship Service
featuring Hill to Hill Brass

the Reverend William J. Kuntze-Senior Pastor
the Reverend Jeffrey V. Bauer-Associate Pastor

BRIEFLY

SYLVAN

New website for children

Sylvan Learning, Allentown, recently launched "Fit 4 Algebra: Take the Algebra Fitness Challenge," a free interactive online "screener" parents can use to assess their children's algebra readiness.

The challenge consists of a 21-question algebra readiness check-up, which tests the key skills identified by the National Mathematics Advisory Panel as providing the basic foundation for algebra.

After the child completes the screener, parents will receive diagnostic results that highlight areas of strength as well as areas that are in need of further skill development.

Additionally, parents will have immediate access to valuable free resources, including video-based math tutorials aligned to the skill areas where students need additional development.

Parents who are concerned or curious about how well their child may measure up in algebra can take matters into their own hands by screening the child's readiness through Sylvan's Fit 4 Algebra website.

In addition to seeing where their child stands on the Algbrometer, an engaging visual created by Sylvan that gauges a student's readiness level for algebra, parents can take advantage of a host of free resources, including online math challenges, entertaining games, interactive concept tutorials and links to thousands of already-asked math questions with answers.

The "Parent Resources" section also includes tips on helping children succeed in math, links to algebra smart phone apps, and information on finding personalized help, if needed.

Sylvan's screener is available at Fit4Algebra.org.

For more information about Sylvan Learning, contact Dr. Joseph Kaufman at 610-791-5320 or sadmin@fast.net.

TRINITY CHURCH

Soup kitchen benefit set for Jan. 15

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

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

For information, call 484-274-6841.



PRESS PHOTOS BY BRENDA LANGE

Bev Fry with a special Santa she made using fur from her mother's mink stole.

For the love of Christmas

By BRENDA LANGE

Special to the Bethlehem Press

Standing proudly on tabletops, balanced on a ladder, even perched on the kitchen counter – Bev Fry's Santas nearly overtake the Nazareth home she shares with her husband Walter.

For 19 years, Fry has been sewing up a storm, patching together bits of all kinds of materials to create one-of-a-kind Santa Claus characters she gives to family and friends for Christmas.

The labor of love began when she found a Santa pattern while shopping with her sister and thought it would make a fun birthday gift for her daughter, Amy, whose birthday is in late November. From that initial offering, her gift-giving grew and she now makes eight Santa figures every year, each taking about 20 hours to complete.

With all eight spread out on a table at the end of November, Amy gets first pick of the Santas. Even though Fry utilizes the same pattern for all eight, she clothes them in different colored shirts, with various patterned suspenders and so on, so that each one is unique.

After Amy, her daughter-in-law gets to choose next, then her sister. Fry keeps one for herself and keeps a spare. She also likes to give one away

to someone at random each year.

"I give a Santa to someone who wouldn't expect it," she says. "Someone it seems it would be good for, and who will appreciate and cherish it."

Some of the materials she's sewn together contain special memories for Fry, like her mother's mink stole (the kind with the animal's head and feet still attached, popular in the middle of the last century) that she cut up to trim the rich red velvet robe of that year's Santa.

From the Santa on the dining room sideboard who supervises his elves and checks his naughty-nice list to the Mr. and Mrs. Claus duo in their pajamas – Santa holds a glass of milk, while the Mrs. carries the cookie – some of the figures and scenarios are complex and quite detailed.

More than merely wooden dowels, fiberfill, craft-store accessories and found materials held together with hot glue and duct tape, Fry's creations project a jolly demeanor that she somehow manages to sew into each one.

Each Santa has his own personality and creating them is fun for Fry, who declines offers to sell them, in order to preserve the pleasure she gets from making them as gifts, just for the fun of it and love of Christmas.



Bev Fry has brought all kinds of Santas to life over 19 years of sewing the jolly old elf for family and friends.

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1583 Lehigh Street
Allentown | 610-437-1612

15% off Bring 2 bags of clothing to donate & receive 15% off of your purchase of \$20 or more on the same day.

Offer good thru December 31, 2012. Bags must be kitchen garbage bag size. Cannot be combined with other sales or coupons. BP1221

ViaThrift.org

When you shop or donate to the Via Thrift Stores, you support Via, a non profit agency helping children and adults with disabilities in the Lehigh Valley.

SANTA'S HELPERS



PRESS PHOTO BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI

After its month-long drive, Kiwanis Club members invited partners from local U.S. Marines and Bethlehem Catholic HS Key Club for breakfast Dec. 15 at the Best Western to celebrate a successful Toys for Tots season. **ABOVE:** Santa Claus gathers his

helpers, Staff Sgt. John Anderson, Kayla Lash, Madeline Lopez, Mara Blanchard, Danielle Trotter, teacher Karen Redding and local Kiwanis President Tony Iasiello with boxes of toys donated or purchased with donated money.



PRESS PHOTO BY NATE JASTRZEMSKI

Trees for sale

Ben Stoudt, a three-year member of the Fountain Hill Fire Department, hefts one of 250 trees available during the department's eighth annual sale. The sale is open weekdays from 3 to 9 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Stoudt said the sale, located behind the Broadway Wawa, and the department are always looking for volunteers, especially to help out during the holidays.

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This special feature is sponsored by these businesses and The Press.

Not your ordinary nutcracker



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Traditional nutcrackers come in all sizes and colors, but the Star and Candle Shoppe of Central Moravian Church has a unique line of the wooden handcrafted figures by artist Shelly Watson. A member of Central Moravian Church and daughter of Bette Watson, manager of the holiday gift shop across the hall from the Moravian Christmas Putz, Watson has been fashioning her nutcrackers for three years.



Nutcrackers by artist Shelly Watson show the variety of the distinctive hand-painted and decorated figures created from basic unpainted wooden nutcracker bodies available in hobby shops. Her signature components are spindly dowels inserted to extend the arms and legs of the German-type figures. She also adds her own wooden bases, shoes, hats and colorful feathers.



The Star and Candle Shoppe, located in the Christian Education Building of Central Moravian Church at Church and Main streets, is popular with holiday shoppers seeking Moravian gift items. During December the hours for the holiday shop and the adjoining Central Moravian Christmas Putz are 10-8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. After Christmas both attractions will be open daily through New Year's Eve.

Zoners decline to pray

But take mercy on Atiyeh

By BERNIE O'HARE
Special to the Bethlehem Press

He's b-a-a-a-ck. Love him or hate him, there's no dispute that real estate developer Abe Atiyeh has had one devil of time developing a 5-acre parcel at Dewberry Avenue and Center Street.

He had approval for a 126-unit assisted living center at the site, only to discover that the market was saturated. His next proposal was a 102-unit luxury apartment complex, but zoners refused to go along. He next proposed a 125-bed inpatient drug and alcohol detox center, along with a psychiatric hospital. Planners nixed that idea.

Now, he's seeking a zoning stamp of approval on a slightly scaled down version of his original luxury apartment submission. He still wants to erect three 44-foot high apartment buildings, but has reduced the number of proposed apartments from 102 to 96.

Despite buckets of rain cascading throughout Bethlehem Nov. 22, 20 hardy souls still managed to find their way to the Bethlehem Public Library, where the Zoning Hearing Board was to conduct a special meeting on Atiyeh's latest request. But Atiyeh himself failed to appear, and his attorney explained why.

But before any of that could happen, audience member Jane Lynn, of Beth-See ZONERS on Page A16

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Vista winners



PRESS PHOTOS BY DANA GRUBB

Award winners from the Southside Vistas Paint Out Exhibition were announced at an opening reception Oct. 7, at Northampton Community College's Fowler Center sixth floor gallery. Thirty-six entries were accepted and remained on exhibit till the end of October. The winning artists were Brion Devlin, first place; Rod Cameron, second place; and Jason Travers third place. The competition was sponsored by the Bethlehem Fine Arts Commission and South Bethlehem Historical Society. **ABOVE:** First place recipient Brion Devlin with his winning painting, 'Stone Church Red Door.'



PRESS PHOTOS BY TIM GILMAN

Seiple Farms in East Allen Township offers a cornucopia of fall activities for families during the Northampton County Open Gate Farm Tour and an extravaganza of harvest in October. Bethlehem farm visitor Krista Urban takes a picture of her two sons Carter, left, and Dominic on a hay

wagon display. Located between Bethlehem and Bath, Seiple Farms features pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn, farm animals, a haunted house, concession stands, hayrides and a corn maze. One father called it "the Disneyland of the farm tour."

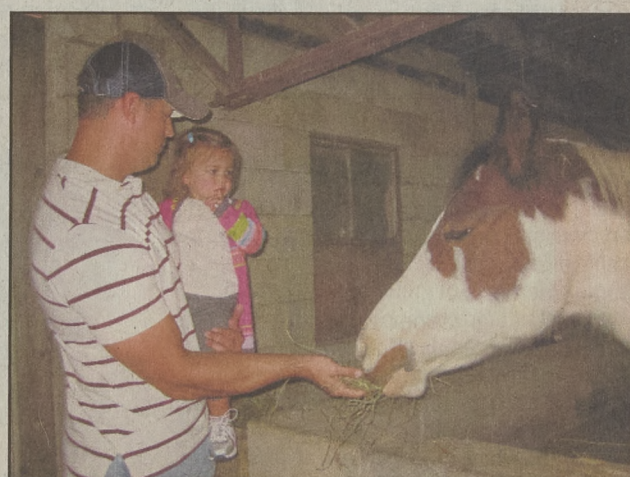


Second place winner Rod Cameron created 'Along Broadway.'

Takin' them down on the farm



A popular fall activity at Amore Farm and Nursery on Route 512 north of Bethlehem is the unique rope swing pit. Megan Kershner carefully swings her daughter Keeley while they visit Amore during their Northampton County Open Gate Farm Tour. Kershner, raised in Bethlehem and graduated from Liberty HS, now lives in Nazareth with her family.



Olivia Avery, held by her father Daniel from Bethlehem, meets her first horse at Seiple Farms.



The hay bale climbing pile is popular with families visiting the Amore Farms Nursery on Route 512, north of Bethlehem. Anna Chery of Bethlehem photographs her son Benjamin in an autumn farm-like setting. Amore was one of almost 20 stops along the tour.

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Third place winner Jason Travers was unable to attend the reception. Travers drew a pen and ink 'View from St. Michael's Cemetery.'

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Hard work pays off



BY DANA GRUBB

Good weather and the unique offerings of merchants on Main Street appear to be overcoming the first year of Christkindlmarkt's shift to SteelStacks. The hard work of downtown merchants, particularly on the addition of the Christmas City Village, or Weihnachtsmarkt, have been key says Samantha Schwartz, Downtown Bethlehem Association manager. "All of the merchants have been working twice as hard this year," she

says and points out that "business owners are pleased to find that all of this hard work has paid off, literally." Schwartz also said the Main Street merchants have much to offer on their own. "People really enjoy the historic shopping district because of its rich history and quaintness," she explained. "The addition of the Christmas City Village has only added to the charm factor," according to Schwartz.

A number of customers are in line to make purchases, while others browse the selection of olive oil and vinegar at Seasons on Main Street. Soraya Balshi, who owns the business with her husband Tim, said business has been very good. "We're happy and have been very busy," she added.

The sidewalks have been jammed with shoppers each weekend of the holiday shopping season and good weather "has helped a lot" says Schwartz, who points out that merchants have been very happy with the turnout and are considering expanding the Weihnachtsmarkt. "There has been a lot foot traffic in both the northside and southside shopping districts, according to the feedback she has received.

