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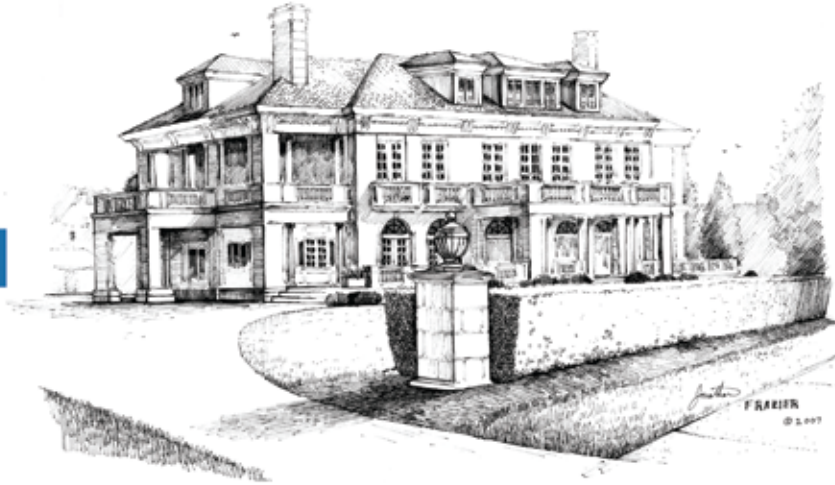
Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper
December 2011



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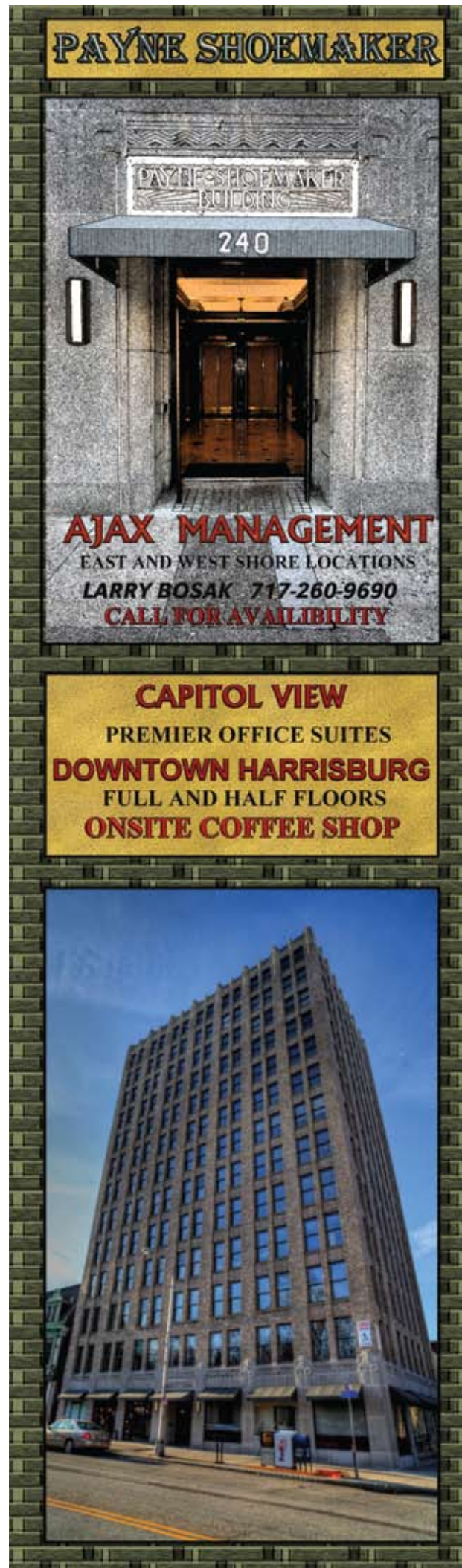
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State Takeover for Harrisburg

Harrisburg's future is no longer in its own hands, as Gov. Tom Corbett last month appointed a receiver to force a financial recovery solution on the insolvent city.

The Commonwealth Court now must approve the appointment of bond attorney David Unkovic, who will be assisted by the D.C.-based law firm of McKenna Long & Aldridge.

The state takeover was put in motion after Mayor Linda Thompson and City Council failed to hammer out a consent agreement with their own recovery strategy. The two sides disagreed over many issues, especially those involving the city's creditors.

A council majority was intent on seeing through a municipal bankruptcy petition it filed in October, which later was thrown out of court.

Once approved, Unkovic will assume responsibility for many municipal functions and can force the city to accept his recovery plan.

Unkovic said he plans to engage all stakeholders, not necessarily relying on the state-sponsored Act 47 plan. That, however, could prove difficult, as a plan must be drafted within just 30 days of his confirmation.

Unkovic has ties to several of Harrisburg's creditors, including Assured Guaranty, which insures most of the bonds tied to the city's troubled incinerator. He most recently served as chief counsel of the state Department of Community and Economic Development.

Bankruptcy Filing Rejected by Court

A federal judge last month turned down a municipal bankruptcy petition filed by the Harrisburg City Council, clearing the way for state control of the city.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Mary France delivered a rebuke to the council majority, rejecting the filing on two grounds. She said that the bankruptcy could not proceed because the state passed a law earlier this year prohibiting third class cities from filing bankruptcy and because the filing was made improperly.

"The City Council was not authorized to file the petition on Oct. 11," France said.

On Oct. 11, by a 4-3 vote, the council, knowing a state takeover of the city was imminent, hurriedly passed a bankruptcy filing. However, that filing was never reviewed nor authorized by the mayor's office, which opposed it in court. Dauphin County and the state also opposed it.

Chuck Ardo, acting as spokesman for the council majority, said the council may appeal the ruling.

Mayor Linda Thompson lauded France's decision, saying that it permitted Harrisburg to proceed with a financial recovery plan under state receivership.

"We won a court case today," she said. "Now, we can focus on the financial recovery of the city."

She added, "My energy will be on working with the receiver."

Proposed Budget Includes Tax Hike

Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson last month introduced a 2012 budget that includes an increase in city property taxes.

The .8 mill hike would raise taxes on most city homes \$40 to \$100 next year. It's the same increase proposed in the Act 47 plan.

Thompson said that her \$55.5 million budget is balanced. It's slightly less than the 2011 budget.

Thompson's budget also included wage freezes for city employees and "use it or lose it" sick time, days that now would expire annually.

The city's workforce would remain nearly the same size. The budget envisions just two new hires in the law bureau, as well as eight new firefighters, funded by a federal grant.

Thompson also proposed raising a variety of city fees, saying the budget requires "an increase in revenue from all available sources."

The council will hold hearings on the budget this month and could make significant changes. A final vote is due by Dec. 31.

In addition, the city's new receiver, once confirmed, could make major budget changes of his own—or even scrap the plan entirely.

Judge Rules for City in FOP Pay Dispute

A Commonwealth Court judge last month ruled against a police officers' union in a pay dispute with Harrisburg.

Judge Bonnie Brigrance Leadbetter upheld a previous decision by the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board that the city does not have to honor an agreement the Fraternal Order of Police reached with former Mayor Stephen Reed in 2008.

That agreement would have cost the city about \$500,000 in additional salaries and pensions by extending an existing contract until 2015.

Though Reed negotiated the deal, the City Council never approved it, leading the FOP to file an unfair labor practice claim.

The ruling has significant implications for Harrisburg, as re-opening and re-negotiating union contracts is a key element of any comprehensive financial recovery solution.

—Lawrance Binda

TheBurg

Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

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City Muddled

Harrisburg history enters a new phase.

Lawrance Binda

Last month, I attended a forum at Midtown Scholar Bookstore honoring the work of Paul Beers, the popular Patriot-News columnist who died recently.

The forum was held along with the release of a book compiling Beers' columns called "City Contented, City Discontented: A History of Modern Harrisburg."

Sitting there, listening to the panelists, I thought (and I'm sure I wasn't alone) that, if Beers had continued to write, he would need to find another adjective to describe Harrisburg today.

City Frustrated? Angry? Exhausted? All would apply.

November was a particularly troubling month in a particularly troubling year for Harrisburg.

The state effectively denuded the city of its autonomy and now will force it to sell its most valuable assets to pay creditors complicit in the incinerator upgrade debacle and the resulting, crippling debt load.

The takeover came after more than a year of contentious meetings, as Harrisburg's elected officials groped futilely for a solution, only to show a city so deeply at odds with the county, the state, itself.

A city discontented indeed.

The Beers' book divides Harrisburg history into two large chunks: its glory days beginning with the City Beautiful movement

at the turn of the 20th century and its post-war decline, the result of de-industrialization, white flight, race riots, the 1972 flood and inept attempts to deal with all the above.

Each time Harrisburg seemed to make a little progress, another blow would beat it back down.

Which leads us to today.

Harrisburg is about to enter a new period, a time it's never before experienced. The state takeover is unlike the city's previous downs. In this down, Harrisburg is almost completely at the mercy of outsiders who, most certainly, will not have the interests of the people who live here as a first priority.

The state receiver's highest priority will be to see that the bills get paid, more than \$310 million worth just from the incinerator disaster. The legislation that led to the state takeover is clear that creditors stand first in line.

So, anything that can be turned into cash probably will—starting with the parking garages but possibly extending to everything from City Island to municipally owned buildings. Protecting the interests of suburbanites, as made clear by both state Sen. Jeff Piccola and Rep. Glen Grell, is another priority.

For what it's worth, I believe that bankruptcy is the best of bad choices for Harrisburg, offering it the greatest potential to protect its assets while

allowing the pain to be shared with the state, the county, Wall Street and anyone else who deserves it.

That option, however, was taken off the table last month by U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Mary France, who ruled that the filing was made improperly, hurried through one night by City Council, contrary to state law and without the review and consent of the administration.

France's decision was expected and, from a procedural standpoint, correct. Given existing rules, the rushed petition never stood a chance.

So, what will Harrisburg look like when it emerges from receivership?

Some bankruptcy advocates have painted a dire picture of the city once stripped of its parking garages, one with empty storefronts, empty houses and empty streets.

I doubt something so drastic will come to pass.

Over time, Harrisburg will heal. Apart from its dysfunctional political culture, the city has many strengths to build upon, from a relatively stable workforce to a dynamic small business community to emerging, vibrant districts for nightlife and the arts.

The issue then becomes how long it will take to heal.

The receiver must draft a recovery plan within 30 days of his confirmation, which would seem to put Harrisburg on a very rapid path to recovery. However, the receiver's inevitable solution—a fire sale of city assets—is likely to have unintended consequences that will linger for years.

Well after the receiver has packed his bags, Harrisburg probably still will be socked with high debt levels, but will have few options for generating income, leaving it to struggle to deliver services, balance its budget and keep taxes reasonable. Like most Act 47 cities, it may remain stuck in the program for years, if not decades.

Moreover, the city's nearly 50,000 residents will endure all the pain of the exhausting return to fiscal health. Tragically, those most dedicated to the city—people who live, work and own property here—will bear the greatest burden.

Progress will come, but it will come very slowly.

So perhaps we can call the next phase of Harrisburg's history, "City Muddled, City Unmuddled." It's mostly a matter of how long it takes for us to muddle through.

Lawrance Binda is co-publisher/co-editor of *TheBurg*.

Meet the New Boss



Bond attorney and former DCED Chief Counsel David Unkovic was introduced last month as Harrisburg receiver, tasked with quickly drafting and implementing a recovery plan for the financially distressed city. He's flanked by former mayors Anthony Williams of Washington, D.C., and Stephen Goldsmith of Indianapolis, both with the law firm of McKenna Long & Aldridge, which will assist Unkovic.

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Protest of Wills

Occupy Harrisburg builds cause, community.

Lawrance Binda



Protest, snow-test: For the cause, Occupy Harrisburgers plan to tough it out through the winter.

Harrisburg, meet your new neighbors.

Many of them are young, but not all. Many are left-of-center—some way left—but again not all. They're of all races, backgrounds and religions, or

no religion at all.

They're the not-so-temporary residents of Occupy Harrisburg. And, despite having their Riverfront Park encampment torn down last month by the city, they plan to stick around town awhile, maybe a long while.

"We'll be here until our leaders listen to us, until they stop cutting backroom deals," said Nelson Lugo, a 23-year-old Lancaster native. "We're here for as long as it takes."

They have passion and principle and a belief that their government has been hijacked by big money and big business. To them, an appropriate

motto might be, "out of sight, out of mind," so they plan to stay visible as long as they can.

Already, the Occupiers have shown some mettle, braving rough fall weather that included a bizarre October snowstorm.

They've also braved some hecklers screaming out car windows and a few people who've wanted to argue with them. But, all in all, they say that most passersby have been supportive, with a steady stream of passing cars honking approval in front of the protest on the Capitol steps.

Woody Wiest, 29, is another resident of the Occupy Harrisburg neighborhood, and he also spends his days beneath a canopy at the base of the Capitol.

Originally from Elizabethtown, Wiest was working in France when the Occupy protests began. Needing to return to the United States to renew his visa, he migrated back to his old midstate stomping grounds, picked up a sign and became an activist.

Here, he's found a community within a community—a group of like-minded people, as well as many city residents who have been supportive of the cause he's dedicated to.

"There's been such a positive response from the people who walk and drive by here," he said.

Until late November, that warm welcome seemed to extend to official Harrisburg. The city let the Occupiers camp in Riverfront Park without a permit for almost two weeks before changing course and removing about a dozen tents.

"The city is sensitive to First Amendment rights," city spokesman Robert Philbin said. "However the encampment (was) in violation of four city ordinances"

A few days later, the Harrisburg Friends Meeting allowed the group to move to its site on N. 6th St., a few blocks from the Capitol, providing room for camping, as well as bathrooms and cooking facilities. The city later approved the site.

Elsewhere in Harrisburg, the Occupiers also have found comfort.



Faced with eviction from Riverfront Park, protesters huddled together last month to defend their tent site.

Up N. 3rd Street, Café di Luna has become a gathering place where owner Ambreen Esmail has offered a warm place to escape the chill, encouragement and even some freebies to the new neighbors.

Further up 3rd, some of the first organizational meetings were held at Midtown Scholar Bookstore. This month, the movement plans a series of teach-in events there, including an appearance by controversial activist Bill Ayers on Dec. 14.

"It's good to see young people so engaged in the community and caring passionately about important issues," said Eric Papenfuse, co-owner of Midtown Scholar. "I would encourage the public to come to an event here and engage them in conversation."

Back on the street in front of the Capitol, the city's crackdown hasn't deterred the Occupiers. Nor do they seem concerned that they will wear out their welcome from a city that, so far, has been relatively tolerant.

They're remaining positive and are bracing for winter's fury.

"No matter what happens, we've been successful because we got our message out," said Lugo.

Book Sale Continues

Did you enjoy shopping for cheap books at last month's Harrisburg Book Festival? The book sale continues this month at 1100 N. 3rd St., the former home of Garden Fresh Market. Midtown Scholar Bookstore will use the recently emptied building as an annex each Saturday through Dec. 17.

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Progress Looks Both Ways

In Harrisburg, urban renewal isn't a one-way street.

Peter Durantine



Going my way? One-way traffic approaches on N. 2nd Street near Harris Street.

By the early 1950s, the consequences of the nation's prosperity were evident even in the Harrisburg area—traffic congestion. At the same time, auto-friendly shopping centers were springing up outside cities to meet the expanding suburbs.

Cities across the country and in Pennsylvania reacted to heavy traffic by changing many of their streets from two-way to one-way, to move shoppers and the growing number of commuters into and out of their downtowns quickly.

In York, according to the York Daily Record, a 90-day trial in 1950 for one-way traffic on Philadelphia, Market and King streets became a permanent pattern. George Street, the city's main north-south route, became one way a few months later.

The same occurred in Harrisburg. Front and 2nd streets, two of the city's main arteries, adopted one-way traffic patterns in the mid-'50s.

"Front Street became a one-way thoroughfare in 1956, because the River Relief Route [Interstate 81] north of the city, planned in 1941, wasn't opened until the mid-1970s," according to Paul Beers' history, "City Contented, City Discontented."

Some city residents were not happy with the new traffic patterns, then or now.

"I remember my father grumbling about the change," said Ken Frew, city historian and librarian for the Dauphin County Historical Society. "It made it a colder town. It wasn't a street-friendly town."

Other streets followed. Market Street became one way between 2nd and 5th streets going east. To this day, Frew said, people still drive up the bus lane between 5th and Aberdeen streets, mistaking Market for a two-way street.

One-way traffic patterns, on 2nd Street in particular, have long been an issue. In 1979, then-Mayor Paul Doutrich had

campaigns for reverting 2nd back to two-way traffic, in part because cars were drag racing down the street.

"Second Street is intra-city. Through traffic should use state highways when possible," Doutrich wrote in a memo to traffic engineers. "Front, Seventh, Cameron and the River Relief Route are available for through traffic, north and south."

City records say that Doutrich fought for the change. In a May 9, 1979 memo, he wrote that he wanted "to return Second Street from Division south to at least Forster Street and possibly the Square to two-way traffic."

Traffic engineers seemed resistant. In a survey of returning 2nd Street to two-way traffic by the Bureau of Traffic Engineering, they reported to the mayor that its effect on congestion would be minimal and that businesses and residents opposed the idea.

But the bureau's report did note this: "The social aspects will far outweigh the inconvenience of the two-way street."

Social and the economic aspects are exactly why cities across the country have been returning streets to their two-way nature.

"When all your streets are running out of town, what's that message for people coming into town?" said John Brenner, the former mayor of York and now director of development for the Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities. "It's certainly not encouraging people to stay."

When Brenner first took office in 2001, York had already returned

George Street to two-way traffic a few years earlier. Brenner said businesses and residents supported the change because it altered the perception of the city.

"There was no thought for coming and going; it was just for getting out," he said of York's one-way, north-south axis. "You have a different view of the streetscape when you have two-way streets. You see what's going on."

Parts of George Street, once lined with old, empty buildings, have experienced a commercial and residential renaissance since the traffic pattern changed. York officials are now considering reverting East Market Street back to two-way traffic.

Brenner said what York officials learned in reverting George and other streets back to two-way routes is this: "Don't look at a street as one piece, but look at how it impacts a neighborhood."

At the moment, Mayor Linda Thompson's administration is busy with more pressing issues related to the city's finances and takeover by the state. It's not something under consideration, said Ernest Hoch, the city's Public Works director.

"Right now, 2nd Street can barely handle the traffic coming off Interstate 83," Hoch said. "It would have to be an overwhelming benefit to do this."

However, when former Mayor Stephen Reed's administration began planning for the 7th Street expansion project, which is now underway, one



This circa-1940 shot of the East Shore YMCA shows two-way traffic on Front Street near North Street.

of the purposes was to relieve traffic on 2nd Street to revert it to two-way from Forster Street north.

Hoch said the costs of changing just 2nd Street to two-way could amount to \$200,000, if not more. PennDOT would have to approve the changes to electronic signals on 2nd and any changes to Front Street, a state route that it controls.

If Southern Gateway, the massive urban renewal plan proposed for the city's south end, gets off the table, reverting 2nd Street to two-way might be considered, Hoch said. But its costs—at least \$75 million—may keep it on the table for awhile.

The loss of 2nd Street as a two-way route remains a point of consternation for some who remember the days before many of the city's roads were re-directed. As Frew recalled, "The pace of life speeded up to the point that I think it partially led to the gradual decline of the downtown."

City More Beautiful



The three-year, \$8.5 million renovation of South Capitol Park, from Walnut and 4th streets to 3rd and State streets, was completed last month. The project addressed bank erosion and replaced the stormwater system but included stone walls, terraced landscaping and wide sidewalks. Chris Ellis, project manager for the Capitol Preservation Committee, said there are "no plans at this date" for similar work north of State Street.

Up from the Ashes

Chisuk Emuna rises, rebuilds.

Jack E. Eilber



Chisuk Emuna children lead a gathering in song as Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson and Council President Gloria Martin Roberts look on.

If you drive by the corner of Green and Vaughn Streets in Harrisburg, you will see a shell of a building once known as Riverside Elementary School. Soon there will be new life on that property where children, faculty, and staff used to roam.

Chisuk Emuna, a Jewish congregation in the city that dates back to 1883, will call that area home. In October, members broke ground and cut a ribbon on the property of the former school.

On April 3, 2009, right before Passover, an accidental fire destroyed the former synagogue at N. 5th and Division streets, and the building

was deemed unfit for use. Since then, the congregation has held events at the Jewish Community Center on Front Street.

"We've gone through a series of planning to consider our next steps," said Rabbi Ron Muroff. "We considered everything from disbanding because we are a small Jewish community and there are four other synagogues in the area, to restoring our previous building at 5th and Division, to building a new home."

A consensus came in December 2009 to restore Chisuk Emuna's home, but the younger members of the congregation thought differently and persuaded the board of directors to raise money and seek a new location.

Chisuk Emuna's board of directors chose the location of the former Riverside Elementary School with much support from the people living in the neighborhood and from Harrisburg City Council. City officials voted unanimously on every part of the project to build a new synagogue

and were pleased with Chisuk Emuna's choice to remain in the city. Its intentional decision was to stay because it was founded in the city.

"Although Harrisburg is currently facing challenges, I am fundamentally optimistic about its future and am glad that we can demonstrate our faith in the city by remaining within its borders," said Carl Shuman, president of Chisuk Emuna's board of directors.

Chisuk Emuna also chose the location because it allows the synagogue to remain in the Uptown section of Harrisburg and in close proximity to the Jewish Community Center.

"It's exciting to soon have a home again. Many of our members walked to service at the old location, but now the new location will be a much shorter distance to walk," said Mandy Cheskis, education director for the congregation.

The 15,000 square-foot new facility is small compared to the 200,000 square feet of Chisuk Emuna's former home at 5th and Division. But it will provide the same services and more. It will be one level instead of three levels. This will be more beneficial for older members of the congregation and for visitors with special needs. There is hope for a garden to grow vegetables to share with neighbors and those in need within the community.

Such an act of sharing occurred in September shortly after the flooding that devastated many areas, including parts of Harrisburg. Students from the Hebrew school prepared small packages for the flood victims living in part of the effected neighborhood in a show of care and support.

"We are a small congregation that has overcome many challenges and looking to a bright future for the congregation members and the community," Rabbi Muroff said.

Chisuk Emuna looks to open its new home either in late 2012 or early 2013. It has raised \$2.6 million of the \$3.5 million needed, thanks to the generosity of its members along with the community. To make a contribution, please mail to: Chisuk Emuna Congregation, P.O. Box 5507, Harrisburg, Pa. 17110. To find out more, visit www.chisukemuna.org.

Visit Historic Homes on Candlelight Tour

Get an inside look at some of the area's most admired properties during the 2011 Candlelight House Tour hosted by the Historic Harrisburg Association and presented by Mid Penn Bank.

The tour is 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Dec. 11 and includes 13 historic residences and public properties, all decorated for the season.

This year's tour is entitled "Tour of the Towns," offering an exclusive look into properties in downtown, Midtown, Old Uptown and Uptown. Tour-goers will view the city's stunning historic architecture along N. Front Street, including the King Mansion and the Governor's Residence, while residences along Green Street will be dressed for the holidays.

Rediscover downtown on the tour of the Harris Tower and the newly renovated and restored Harrisburg Transportation Center.

Tickets for the self-guided walking tour are \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the event at the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center, 1230 N. 3rd St. Tickets can be purchased at www.historicharrisburg.com or at various locations in the region.

Piccola Set to Retire from State Senate

State Sen. Jeffrey Piccola (R-Dauphin) last month announced that he would not seek re-election next year, ending a 34-year career in the state legislature.

The surprise announcement came just days after his 15th Senate district was drastically re-designed to exclude Harrisburg. Piccola recently was a sponsor of legislation that, last month, led to a state takeover of the financially distressed city.

Piccola entered the state House in 1977 and served in the Senate since 1995. He also was a principal supporter of legislation that, for a decade, gave the Harrisburg mayor effective control of city schools.

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Around Town

Incumbents Rule Local Elections

Incumbents dominated Election Day last month, as Harrisburg-area voters overwhelmingly returned existing office-holders to their seats.

Harrisburg City Council members Susan Brown-Wilson and Brad Koplinski, both Democrats, coasted to victory over their Republican rivals, Allen Bair, Michael Bretz and Ruth Cruz. Democrat Sandra Reid took the only open seat. In Dauphin County, Republicans Jeff Haste and Mike Pries and Democrat George Hartwick were re-elected to four-year terms as commissioners. Challenger Wendy Jackson-Dowe trailed the field.

In other county-wide races, Republican incumbents all prevailed, including District Attorney Ed Marsico, Sheriff Jack Lotwick, Clerk of Courts Dale Klein, Recorder of Deeds Jim Zugay, County Treasurer Janis Creason and County Controller Marie Rebuck.

Republican Jean Marfizo King defeated Democrat Rogette Harris in the open seat for Register of Wills.

A number of Harrisburg seats were uncontested. In these races, John Campbell was elected city treasurer; Arlene Burno, Wayne Henry, Destini Hodges, Rhonda Mays, Jennifer Smallwood and Brendan Murray were elected for the school board; and George Zozos, Marsha Stewart and Barbara Pianka each were re-elected as magisterial district judges.

Civil War Museum Searches for CEO

Harrisburg's National Civil War Museum has started searching for a CEO to oversee the museum, according to the museum board.

Chairman Gene Barr said the current CEO, Dave Patterson, who has had the post since 2008, is retiring.

The museum protects some of the nation's historic treasures, including General Robert E. Lee's personal Bible and more than 24,000 artifacts, documents and photos.

For more, contact Trini Nye, tnye@nationalcivilwarmuseum.org or call 717-260-1861.

Olewine Honored

Harrisburg entrepreneur and philanthropist Benjamin Olewine will be honored with the Historical Society of Dauphin County's 2011 John Harris Award for outstanding community service at the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion, 219 S. Front St.

Following service in World War II, Olewine returned to Harrisburg, and, under his leadership, the family grocery business became one of the top institutional food companies in the nation, Sysco Food Services.

Olewine and his family have provided funding for a multitude of projects in the Harrisburg area, from the arts to libraries to playgrounds.



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Doing Good

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Holiday concert, feast—it's all on Allen.

Lawrance Binda



Allen Quirk Jr. pauses a moment on the familiar streets of Harrisburg before rushing off to another meeting.

Unlike a certain gloomy resident of Bedford Falls, Allen Quirk Jr. knows that he's had a wonderful life.

The Harrisburg native considers himself particularly fortunate, with a long, satisfying career working for the state and few financial concerns.

So, in retirement, Quirk has dedicated himself to giving back to a city and region that have provided him with so many opportunities.

"I've lived in Harrisburg all my life," said Quirk, 75. "I feel that I owe something to the community."

For more than two decades, he's been active in organizations like The Salvation Army, the Capital Region Partnership for Career Education and the Harrisburg Regional Chamber of Commerce.

But Quirk may best be known for his role with Habitat for Humanity's Home for the Holidays Concert, a benefit for the organization that helps build homes for low-income people.

Each year, come early autumn, Quirk leaves his apartment at River Plaza on N. Front Street armed with a stack of invitations to the concert, which features the Eakin Piano Trio and takes place at St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral downtown.

He personally delivers them to anyone he thinks may be interested in attending. But here's the catch: it's all on him.

For his guests, Quirk foots the bill for the whole shebang, which includes the concert, plus the feast that follows prepared by the Harrisburg Gourmet Society.

And everyone's welcome, not just the folks he personally has invited.

Just show up and walk on in and say you're with Allen.

"Come on in and be my guest—and bring your family," he said.

Quirk began this tradition about 15 years ago. He already had attended the concert, now in its 22nd year, and had an idea.

"I wanted to do something to get more people to attend this wonderful event—and I wanted to do something for the people of Harrisburg," he said. "So I thought, 'What if I just take care of everything for them?'"

Quirk estimates that his efforts typically bring in about 50 attendees each year for a venue that holds as many as 350 people.

Eve Wahhaus, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area, said that Quirk takes on a range of responsibilities for the event—from recruitment to publicity to signing up sponsors.

"He really is why the event is so successful," she said. "For a long time, Allen has been the primary catalyst behind the concert."

In recognition of Quirk's contributions, Harrisburg Habitat honored him with a Humanitarian Award in 2008. It was one of many honors that Quirk has received for his volunteer work since he retired from the state two decades ago. In 2004, the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC recognized Quirk's contributions with its Distinguished Volunteer Service Award.

As for the future, well, Quirk has no desire to slow down. Most days, he's out walking the familiar streets of Harrisburg, heading to another event or meeting. He'll meet up with just about anyone, anywhere, at any time, if it'll help one of his charities.

The Home for the Holidays Concert, however, may be nearest to his heart, as he finds it so inspiring.

"When you leave the church, you have love in your heart for humanity," he said. "It's about the gift of love that we all receive."

The 22nd Annual Home for the Holidays Concert takes place Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral, 221 N. Front St., Harrisburg.

December Schedule

Dec. 2: Aortic Valve Presents: ArtHouse Cinema

Dec. 3: Loretta Bilieux

Dec. 4: Max Racey Comedy Show

Dec. 7: Green Toy Drive Holiday Bash – Hosted by Greendrinks and HMAc, Featuring River Rat Jenkins

Dec. 9: Kenny White

Dec. 10: Up Pops the Devil

Dec. 11: Soul Comedy Café

Dec. 17: Susan Giblin Foundation Benefit

Dec. 22: Wizards of Winter

Dec. 23: Eli Charleston's Santa's Panties Party with DJ Rudolph's Sock Hop

Dec. 31: Aortic Valve "New Years Eve Bash"

Monday Nights: Karaoke hosted by Giovanni Traino

Tuesday Nights: Board Game Night!!!

Wednesday Nights: Open Mic Night with Mike Banks – Sign up online.

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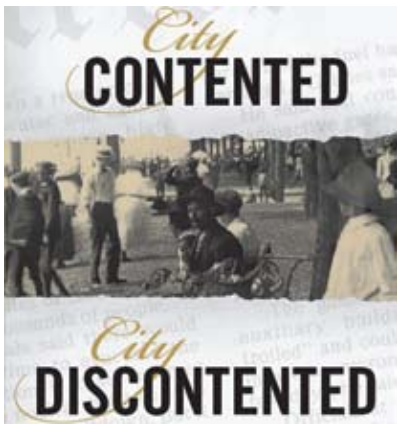
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ShutterBurg ... a Month in Pictures



Oct. 30: At Camp Curtin Elementary School, Harrisburg schools Superintendent Sybil Knight-Burney kicked off planning for the Central Pennsylvania Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.



Nov. 8: Election Day in Harrisburg brought out plenty of voters, candidates and signs, including these outside of the polling station at Second City Church on Verbeke Street.



Nov. 12: Tom Bodine of Reston, Va., leafs through one of thousands of books for sale at the 2nd Annual Harrisburg Book Festival, held at Midtown Scholar Bookstore and the Historic Harrisburg Association Resource Center.



Nov. 13: Runners descend onto the river walk and enter the home stretch during the Harrisburg Marathon and Relay, organized by the Harrisburg Area YMCA.



Nov. 7: Dave Butcher and J. Alex Hartzler of WCI Partners enjoy the spectacular view from the top floor of the office building under construction at State and N. 2nd streets following a "topping off" ceremony in which the last girder was put in place.



Nov. 12: With the Capitol as a backdrop, Harrisburg Councilwoman Patty Kim announced her candidacy for Pennsylvania's 103rd legislative district, a House seat held by state Rep. Ron Buxton for the past two decades.



Nov. 13: Patriot-News Executive Editor Cate Barron, Philadelphia Daily News columnist John Baer and Harrisburg historian Calobe Jackson were among the panelists discussing the work of former Patriot-News columnist Paul Beers at the Harrisburg Book Festival.




Nov. 18: The Rotary Club of Harrisburg fulfilled its mission to plant 100 trees in the city, planting its 100th tree in Shipoke as city officials, including Parks and Recreation Director Brenda Alton, congratulated them.

... at the Parade


Harrisburg's holiday parade was nearly wiped out after the city said sponsors had not stepped up to contribute, and it couldn't afford to foot the bill.

That news set off a shock wave throughout the metro area and, within days, several companies and organizations had reached deep and raised about \$40,000. The 25th annual parade was back on!

Sponsors Direct Energy and PinnacleHealth donated the lion's share of the funds. Auto Trader.com, PepsiCo, Harristown Enterprises, PSECU and Fast Signs also made significant contributions. The St. Patrick's Day Parade Association quickly put together the event, which featured more than 90 participants. Below are a handful of photos we snapped on a beautiful autumn day.



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Events in Our Area

Food & Toy Drive at Auto Museum

Dec. 1-17: The Antique Automobile Club of America Museum, 161 Museum Dr., Hershey, is teaming with Carry the Light Ministries to help sponsor the annual Food & Toy Drive. An antique pick-up truck is parked in the museum's lobby waiting to be filled with non-perishable goods. Donations can be dropped off at the museum or Carry the Light Ministries, 16 Dewalt Dr., Mechanicsburg.

Christmas at Fort Hunter

Dec. 1-23: Fort Hunter Mansion is decorated in holiday trimmings until Dec. 23. Also, Fort Hunter hosts its annual Toy Train Exhibit and Festival of Trees each weekend through Dec. 18. www.forthunter.org.

Harrisburg Hope Forum

Dec. 1: Harrisburg Hope hosts its next forum, "State Takeover, Bankruptcy & You," at 6 p.m. at Midtown Scholar Bookstore, 1302 N. 3rd St. Panelists include Sen. Jeff Piccola, County Commissioner Mike Pries and attorney Mark Schwartz. www.harrisburghope.com.

HACC Hosts Kwanzaa Celebration

Dec. 3: Celebrate Kwanzaa with music, dance and food, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at HACC's Cooper Student Center on the Harrisburg campus at One HACC Dr. Admission is free. The Karamu (feast) is at noon. Health screenings and children's activities.

22nd Annual Bistro

Dec. 4: Homemade soups, breads and cookies, plus music, will support Christian Churches United's HELP Ministries emergency services to the area's needy, noon-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. at Market Square Presbyterian Church, 20 S. 2nd St., Harrisburg. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children between ages 5 and 10, Younger children free. For more, 717-257-1270 or www.marketsquarechurch.org.

"Home for the Holidays"

Dec. 6: Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area's popular "Home for the Holidays" concert, presented by the Eaken Piano Trio, takes place at 7 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral, 221 N. Front Street, Harrisburg. Dinner provided by the Harrisburg Gourmet Society follows.

Pearl Harbor Day

Dec. 7: Veterans and the public are invited to attend a remembrance program to mark the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, sponsored by Naval Support Activity Mechanicsburg. Event starts at 12:55 p.m. in the East Wing Rotunda of the state Capitol.

Historical Society Decks the Halls

Dec. 7: The John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion, 219 S. Front St., Harrisburg, hosts "Deck the Halls," presented by the Historical Society of Dauphin County, 5:30 p.m. The event includes hors d'oeuvres, desserts, an open bar and seasonal music on the mansion's historic Steinway piano. Tickets are available in advance: \$95 per person, \$125 patron and \$250 sponsor. 717-233-3462.

Networking Mixer

Dec. 8: The Central Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Networking Mixer will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Historic Harrisburg Association Resource Center, 1230 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. www.cpglcc.org.

Employee Learning Week at HU

Dec. 8: The future of corporate training will be in focus at Harrisburg University, 326 Market St., 3:30-7:30 p.m. This free event includes speakers on corporate training and learning as well as Learning Technologies Master of Science students showcasing research and techniques. Ideal for educators, corporate trainers and HR representatives. www.harrisburgu.net.

Christmas Cabaret

Dec. 9-10: Oyster Mill Playhouse, 1001 Oyster Mill Rd., Camp Hill, offers Christmas Cabaret at 8 p.m., an evening of festive performances, light refreshments and improvisation. Tickets are \$10 at www.oystermill.com.

"Holidays at the Home"

Dec. 10: The Keystone Capital Chorus and the Greater Harrisburg Chorus, Sweet Adelines International will present "Holidays at the Home" at 3 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Auditorium, 2701 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for students by calling 717-695-7527 or 717-545-5212. Tickets are also available at the door.

Mistletoe Magic

Dec. 10-11: Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra presents Mistletoe Magic, 8 p.m., Dec. 10, and 3 p.m., Dec. 11, at the Forum in Harrisburg. Jazz vocalist Hilary Kole joins the HSO with the Messiah College Concert Choir for holiday favorites. Tickets at www.HarrisburgSymphony.org or 717-545-5227.

Candlelight House Tour

Dec. 11: See historic homes, all dressed up for the holiday, during Historic Harrisburg Association's 38th Annual Candlelight House Tour. Tickets, \$15 in advance, can be purchased at www.historicharrisburg.com or at various locations in the region.

Y Holiday Party

Dec. 15: East Shore YMCA holds its annual holiday party, with food, music and prizes, at 6:30 p.m. at Ceolta's Raftery Room, 310 N. 2nd St. Tickets available at the Y's front desk and are \$18 before Dec. 8 and \$22 after (\$15 for new members). www.ymcaharrisburg.org.

A Susquehanna Christmas

Dec. 16-18: The Susquehanna Chorale performs its "A Candlelight Christmas," 8 p.m., Dec. 16, at Leffler Chapel and Performance Center in Elizabethtown; 8 p.m., Dec. 17, at Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg; and 4 p.m., Dec. 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Camp Hill. To reserve tickets, call 717-691-6036.

Children's New Year's

Dec. 31: Gamut Theatre's Popcorn Hat Players hold their annual New Year's Eve party for children with a special showing of "Three Billy Goats Gruff." Doors open at 10:30 a.m. at the theater at Strawberry Square, Harrisburg. www.gamutplays.org.

Harrisburg New Year's

Dec. 31: Harrisburg again will host its annual New Year's Eve celebration. Festivities begin at 9 p.m. in front of the Hilton Harrisburg downtown with entertainment, including the musical experience of the Urban Guerilla Orchestra. Fireworks follow at midnight. www.harrisburgpa.gov.

MLK Day of Service

Last January, more than 1,100 residents turned out for the Central Pennsylvania Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, working on projects to improve the Harrisburg region.

On Jan. 16, organizers hope at least 2,200 volunteers will help on a variety of projects, from cleaning homes of people with disabilities to painting walls at local nonprofits.

One of the more interesting projects will be "Stories of Service: Digital Media Mentoring Program." Students in teams of five—a producer, reporter, editor, camera operator, and audio technician—will interview volunteers at various projects for a video documentary.

The project's aim is to teach youth to tell stories of local community service on MLK Jr. Day of Service from their perspective. Messiah College's Agape Center for Service and Learning will coordinate with local news agencies, organizers and Harrisburg and Steelton-Highspire school districts.

Agape Center Director Chad Frey said the project will include students and teachers visiting from Northern Ireland, making it the first international Central PA Day of Service.

For more information on the Jan. 16, 2012, MLK Day of Service, visit www.centralpamlkday.org.

3rd in The Burg: December 16



Works by artist Jonathan Frazier, including this landscape, as well as paintings by Roger Shipley, will be featured at Gallery@Second during this month's 3rd in The Burg, Dec. 16. You can visit many galleries, restaurants and other venues at the monthly celebration of art, music and more at locations throughout Harrisburg. See our back cover or visit www.3rdinTheBurg.com.

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Worship in Harrisburg

A city where church meets State Street.

Jason Wilson

Soon after its founding, Harrisburg became home to numerous churches from various denominations. The Harris family was Scots-Irish, and one of the oldest places of worship in Dauphin County is Paxton (originally Paxtang) Presbyterian Church, at 3500 Sharon St., Paxtang.

Founded as early as 1716 and officially recognized in 1732 under Pastor William Bertram, parishioners first worshipped in a rough log building until a stone church was erected in 1740. Paxton Church was the first to serve residents of Harris Ferry, and both John Harris Jr. and Sen. William Maclay are buried there.

The distinction of the first church within the boundaries of the current city of Harrisburg belongs to Salem United Church of Christ, 231 Chestnut St. A building lot for the church was provided by Harris and Maclay, and a log church was erected in 1787. The structure was used by both Lutherans and German Reformed worshippers until 1814. At this point, the Lutherans built a church on 4th Street between Chestnut and Market. In 1839, the Whig party held its national convention there, making Harrisburg perhaps the smallest city to ever hold a national party convention.

The construction of the Pennsylvania Canal in the 1820s increased the Irish Catholic population of Harrisburg, and, by 1827, a Catholic Church was built north of State Street between 2nd and 3rd streets.

Beginning in 1904, the structure was enlarged into St. Patrick's Cathedral and today is the home to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg.

Harrisburg's Temple Ohev Sholom began as an orthodox

congregation in 1853, first meeting on the second floor of the Duncan Building at 3rd and Walnut streets. At the Civil War's end in 1865, Ohev Sholom dedicated a new synagogue at 2nd and South streets, and the congregation was re-established as reform in 1867. Its home now is further uptown at 2345 N. Front St.

The Episcopal Church long met in log meeting houses before building St. Stephen's Episcopal Church on Front Street in 1826. Throughout the mid-1800s, numerous churches of all denominations were built in the growing city.

Grace (later United) Methodist Church's congregation was organized in 1820, but the current church was not built until the 1870s. Standing on West State Street, the church served as the Capitol in 1897 after the Hills Capitol fire. Market Square and Pine Street Presbyterian churches were



Spires rise above State Street near the Capitol in 1930, showing the key role of churches in early Harrisburg.

both built in the later 1800s as the city's Presbyterian numbers swelled.

Throughout the middle and latter part of the 19th century, many denominations built houses of worship in Harrisburg, showing a city very much in keeping with William Penn's initial spirit of religious freedom in founding the colony of Pennsylvania.

Then & Now



Photo: Historic Harrisburg Association



Streetcars once were common on the streets of Harrisburg, including one (left) traveling north at N. 4th and Reily streets on Dec. 4, 1937. The cars and tracks are long gone today (right), as are the street's clapboard, mid-19th century houses.

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Peddling against the Stream

Devastated by flooding, a family bike shop reopens.

Peter Durantine

For anyone driving west on Route 322 from Hershey, it's a familiar sight: Hoss's Steak and Sea House set in an asphalt bowl; a bicycle shop, a brick house and a frame house, all near the Swatara Creek bridge that leads into Hummelstown.

Since at least 1895, the creek has left its banks on five occasions, its waters swirling near or around the frame and brick house. Built in 1859, the brick house has managed through south-central Pennsylvania's great floods of 1895, 1936 and 1972.

During the September tropical deluge, the waters took a toll not only on the red brick structure, but on the lives that inhabited it. Scott Kocevar and his wife, Sharon, and their 10-year-old son, Parker, watched the Swatara quickly engulf their home.

"It was like watching the high tide come in at the ocean," Kocevar said.

The lazy creek's tides, though, kept coming in until the creek, which actually became a roaring river at one point, swept up around most of the bike shop. In Gear, the Kocevar's family business.

Before receding, the waters reached within 1 foot of the second floor of their brick home, which has 10-foot ceilings, swamped their shop's showroom and filled its basement, where six new treadmills, delivered the morning of the flood, sat.

The devastating loss of property and inventory left the Kocevares emotionally drained—wreckage to the home's first floor was so total that Scott could not get himself to tell Sharon, who as a child lost her home

to fire.

Worst was having not known to prepare, but then no one in the region knew to prepare. News reports had not anticipated severe flooding—and certainly nothing like what Hurricane Agnes wrought in 1972. But Tropical Storm Lee churned out water.

The Kocevares were having lunch when their son called and wanted to know when they planned to pick him up because his school was closing. When they returned home around 1:30 p.m., news reports still assured listeners of minimal flooding.

By 2 p.m., the muddy waters were near their driveway. Within an hour, as they tried to move things upstairs, the creek rushed into the first floor of the house and headed toward the shop.

For two days, Kocevar watched, helplessly, as the creek took his home and his shop. The waters nearly submerged his neighbor's frame house and inundated Hoss's. The restaurant has abandoned the building to find a new place nearby.

Kocevar's father started the family's business in 1970. He initially sold riding lawn mowers before buying a bike shop in Hummelstown. The family now has two shops. The other is in Cleona, Lebanon County.

"Dad still goes down to the other store," Kocevar said. "My mom is still fully involved here, but Sharon and I have taken over most of the day-to-day stuff."

The Kocevar's home and their neighbor's home will be demolished because of repetitive damage from previous floods, said Paul Cornell, Swatara Township's administrator. The properties will be returned to their natural state.

"That gives the water a place to go so it doesn't go into other houses," Cornell said. "That's the hope."

The homes are among 18 in the vicinity that will likely be demolished, Cornell said, noting Lee has been



Saddle up: Scott and Sharon Kocevar in the newly re-opened bike shop with their dog, Zuri.

estimated at between a 450- and 500-year flood. What will become of the Hoss's property remains uncertain.

The bike shop, which Kocevar's grandfather erected in 1994, will remain. "We're going to stay here," Kocevar said, almost defiantly. "My grandfather built this store, and it's hard enough dealing with two flood areas let alone see two buildings demolished."

In early November, the Kocevar's re-opened the shop with a flood sale. They also began the process of building their new home in South Hanover Township.

Despite the losses, the fights with insurance adjusters and the relocation miles from his hometown of Hummelstown, Kocevar said he and his family have been deeply touched by friends, relatives and customers who have helped them rebuild.

"If we wouldn't have had that, it would have been so hard," he said. "You don't even know how to thank everyone for what they did."



Wall of water: The In Gear bike shop (background), as well as Hoss's (left), was destroyed by September's floods, but now is mounting a comeback.

MEN

in the Divorce Process

As marriages and relationships end, new circumstances arise for everyone involved. In particular, many husbands find themselves facing unique challenges during the divorce process.

Often, men feel that their needs are being disregarded. From the onset, they feel as though they are being cast in an unflattering light. Fairness concerns often emerge as a result. Husbands and fathers require and deserve an attorney who is focused on fairness throughout the process, and who will be aggressive on their behalf.

John F. King has a comprehensive knowledge of PA Family Law, with more than 20 years of experience involving divorce, child custody and child/spousal support. He understands how to effectively work within the legal system to get the best results for his clients.

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Design Team

Neighbors become partners as downtown firm expands.

Peter Durantine



Perfect match: Neil and Allyson Choquette, with new partner Ashly Tagle.

When you listen to the story of how Harrisburg upholsterer Neil Choquette, designer Allyson Choquette and interior designer Ashly Tagle came to collaborate, it would seem fate played a hand.

As a student designer, Tagle was so impressed by a magazine piece she read about Neil Choquette that she approached him for an upholsterer's apprenticeship. He urged her to stay in design because that was her field and sent her off with his blessing.

"It was definitely something I needed to hear," Tagle said. "It was really scary to graduate from design school and not know where to start."

A couple of years later, Tagle, armed with experience and a degree, started, with two other women, an interior design firm, Sprama. It opened next to the Choquette's downtown

shop and Tagle used their services for her clients' furniture needs.

Tagle eventually left Sprama to set out on her own, designing homes from Carlisle to Williamsport. The Choquettes offered her space in their shop. After a

few months working side-by-side, they realized the synergy in collaborating on projects.

"Ashly was our customer, and now she's our partner," Neil said. "It just dawned on us that we were a match."

The firms of Neil Choquette Fine Upholstery and A. Tagle Interior Design operate from the Choquette's large, one-room shop on N. 2nd Street, where Neil upholsters at a table nearly the room's length. Work stations for Tagle and Allyson Choquette are set on platforms behind the window display cases.

The trio believes the shop's location and windows are essential not only to their business, but the cityscape's aesthetics. At least once a season, the Choquettes arrange new displays featuring art from local galleries that attract passersby.

"We like having a street presence," said Allyson, a Harrisburg native.

"Windows are important, and it makes us different than other designers because we make things."

Whether upholstering furniture or designing a room, people's choices are personal. When the Choquettes married a few years ago, their guest list was their client list. "Our clients become friends because it is a very personal thing," Neil said.

A large portion of the Choquettes' business is commercial. They have served some of the more fashionable addresses in Harrisburg, including the newly restored Riverview Manor, where Allyson designed the lobby and Neil the furniture.

They also do homes, such as that of David Hoffman and Charles Peguese who live on Green Street. Neil re-upholstered eight dining room chairs and did the draperies and bedspread for a bedroom.

"I was just taken with the quality of the work," said Peguese.

The Choquettes came to the field of design after other careers. Allyson, a self-taught interior designer, was a visual merchandiser for Dillard's department store, designing window displays.

When she met Neil, he taught her to upholster furniture.

"After the first couple of pieces, I was caught up," she said.

Neil, who was raised in Chicago, worked as a flight attendant for many years before design grabbed his attention 22 years ago, and he became an upholsterer.

"I decided to re-design myself, and I bought a staple gun, a pair of scissors and that sewing machine," he said, pointing to a 50-year-old steel Consew, which he named Toni, after his grandmother, "who was a great seamstress."

The Choquettes love their work and, like Tagle, embrace the creative aspects of designing furniture and rooms, choosing the right fabrics and colors, seeking brilliant contrasts between drapery and bedding and, above all, working with people.

"It's not work," Allyson said. "This is our life."

Neil Choquette Fine Upholstery, 717-319-0232, and A. Tagle Interior Design, 717-350-4397 are at 304 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg, and on Facebook.

Changing Hands: October Property Sales

Adrian St., 2458: J. Woodruff to MBC Investments LLC, \$43,500
Benton St., 549: Wells Fargo Bank NA Trustee to J. Alvarez and S. Orellana, \$35,199

Green St., 1406: D. Leaman to S. Antola & L. Olenowski, \$115,000
Green St., 1809: D. Brotherton to M. & R. Monticchio, \$124,500

Hale Ave., 449: J. Bradley Sr. to T. Vu, \$40,000

Harris St., 631, 633 & 635: W.G. Rothman to U.S. General Services Administration, \$40,000 each

Holly St., 1915: PA Deals LLC to H. & K. Bey, \$54,900

Kensington St., 2318: R. Zellers to V. & M.J. Cecka, \$44,400

Market St., 1641: C. & J. Glover to M. & G. Stiffler, \$37,000

N. 2nd St., 1424: R. Kimel to A. Kinley, \$135,000

N. 3rd St., 1604: Deutsche Bank Trust to C. & T. Overbaugh, \$50,000

N. 6th St., 2700: C. Forney to M. Miller, \$68,000

N. 7th St., 2601: Shadow Canyon Family Partners to Robin Ellen Realty LP, \$750,000

Penn St., 1422: K. Baker & S. Lauver to A. Drotor, \$89,000

Penn St., 1500: M. Devane to E. Malorza, \$129,500

S. 18th St., 1014: PA Deals LLC to G. Stevenson, \$98,000

S. 23rd St., 628: M. Sheaffer to S. Smith, \$36,000

Source: Dauphin County, City of Harrisburg, property sales greater than \$30,000. Data is deemed to be accurate.

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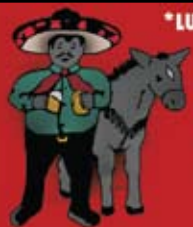
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From the Ground Up

Downtown Living

Kunkel Building: another office to residential conversion.

Peter Durantine

The Harrisburg Planning Commission gave unanimous approval last month to a proposal to convert downtown's historic, nine-story Kunkel Building at 301 Market St. into 40 to 50 apartments.



Historic Kunkel Building

Developer Daniel Deitchman, who restored Front Street's Riverview Manor and is now restoring the Furlow Building in Midtown, wants to build one- and two-bedroom apartments to sell at market rate in the 38,676-square-foot office building.

Deitchman's project next goes before the Zoning Hearing Board on Dec. 19.

The developer is seeking a special exception to waive the off-street parking requirement. He said he is in the process of securing a lease for as many as 50 parking spaces in a nearby parking garage.

The planning commission attached some conditions to its approval. Deitchman agreed to leave the first floor as retail space, but wants to include some residential units, possibly townhouses, on that level, too. He said the Zoning Board's decision to grant him this will determine if he pursues the project.

The Kunkel Building, constructed in 1913 and expanded to double its size in 1925, spent many years as a bank and a clothing store. Most recently, it housed the Susquehanna Art Museum, which is preparing to

break ground on a new home in Midtown. It's currently owned by Select Capital Corp. and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Deitchman recently renovated the old Governor's Hotel up the block at 4th and Market streets into student housing for Harrisburg University. He said the Kunkel Building also could have some student housing.

South Allison Hill Project Enters A New Phase

Five new homes are on tap for the heart of South Allison Hill, as the Mount Pleasant Homes development is set to resume construction.

Developer Tri-County HDC held a groundbreaking last month for the second phase of the project, centered around S. 16th and Swatara streets in Harrisburg.

The developer plans to build 25 houses in total through multiple phases of construction. The first phase

also included five houses and has been completed.

The energy-efficient buildings are designed for low- to moderate-income people and are priced at around \$125,000.

The cost of building the houses actually exceeds their selling prices. However, a variety of government grants helps to defray the cost.

The project is a focus for re-development in South Allison Hill.

Harrisburg has selected Mount Pleasant Homes as a recipient of grants funded through the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

New Location, New Cut



Owner Rhon Friend gives a new look to Yvette Whitfield of York at the new Friends the Salon, which opened last month at 215 Reily St., Harrisburg. Friend is joined at the Midtown salon by artistic director Josh Ari Selvey and barber Stephanie Hankins. Friend also has locations in York and Lancaster. The new salon is open Wednesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 717-635-8073 or visit www.friendsthesalon.com.

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Restaurants Possible

New eateries, changes abound around Harrisburg.

Lawrance Binda

November was an especially active month in the never-dull restaurant scene in Harrisburg.

The heart-of-downtown corner of N. 2nd and Locust has seen numerous bars and eateries come and go over the years. The latest "go" was Spice, an American-style bistro. In its stead, Arooga's will open its fourth location and first within Harrisburg proper.

The new Arooga's Draft House and Sports Bar will be designed specifically for an urban location, with more drafts and a sleeker look, according to Arooga's. It's expected to debut early next year.

On the other side of Forster Street, the long-rumored sale of Garrason's Tavern finally went beyond rumor, as owner Rob Fogleman said he will relinquish his decade-long reign behind the bar this month. Garrason's is under contract to be bought by an experienced Harrisburg tavern manager. The new owner, who asked

not to be named until the sale is final, said he plans significant changes for the re-named Sturges Speakeasy.

Roxy's Café owner Richard Hanna has been on something of a tear lately, announcing last month that he will take ground-floor space for a new restaurant in The 1500 Project, a condominium complex at N. 6th and Reily streets.

Café at 1500 will feature American-style diner and deli food and is expected to open in early spring with the completion of the 43-unit building. This is the second restaurant Hanna has announced recently. Last month, he took over the former Confit Bistro space in Camp Hill, turning it into a Mediterranean-style eatery called Layel Bistro.

In addition to Layel Bistro, several new restaurants opened their kitchens last month, including Jayyid Harvest and Pho Cali. We have details for each on this page.

Layel Bistro: Roxy's Café owner Richard Hanna has taken over the former Confit Bistro, 2138 Market St., Camp Hill, and re-named it Layel Bistro. It opened in November and features a Mediterranean cuisine, as well as American dishes at prices lower than Confit. Hours: Tuesday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; dinner, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 717-731-1114.



Jayyid Harvest: Before opening their Midtown artisan vegetarian restaurant on Nov. 8, Abdullah and Tanya Shariyf researched vegetarian restaurants in New York and Philadelphia and a renowned vegan bakery in Bethlehem. "We want everyone to feel welcome here," Tanya said of Jayyid Harvest, which means good harvest, at 1530 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday; 717-425-3853 or www.jayyidharvest.com or on Facebook.

Broad Street Market Names New Manager

Elissa Feinstein has been named the new market manager for the Broad Street Market and Nicole Sheaffer the facilities manager.

Feinstein was founder and editor of Harrisburg's CityBeat Magazine, which published between 1990 and 2002. She replaces Jennifer Sim.

"I have been involved in the advertising, journalism, public relations industry since 1989," Feinstein said.

She said she also owned a six-location produce- and street-vending business in Boston. She moved to Harrisburg from Boston in 1980.

Annual Perohi Sale for Christmastime

Perohi, a popular eastern European-style dumpling with various fillings from cheese to meat to prune, are being sold through Dec. 21 by St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church, 5408 Locust Lane, Harrisburg, as part of a pre-Christmas fast.

Sales of perohi (also known as pierogi) are Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon, in the parish hall.

Proceeds benefit parish educational activities. Call 717-652-1415 or visit www.stannbyz.org for more information.

Pho Cali: Friends Buu Duong and Hai Nguyen last month opened Pho Cali, a restaurant serving Vietnamese cuisine, inside the Asia Mall in Harrisburg. The pair serves authentic dishes from their homeland, with plans to add a separate French dinner menu in the near future. Nguyen came to Harrisburg from California, where he also owns a restaurant. Pho Cali is open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



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A Holiday Party Favorite

Guests gobble up crab dip at Christmas—or any time.

Rosemary Ruggieri Baer

More than 30 years ago, my husband John came home from work on an evening near Christmas and asked if I would be willing to “have a few people over on Christmas Eve afternoon.”

His co-workers were all working a half-day and perhaps we could have “a few nibbles” and some drinks. I agreed, and that is how the “Baer Open House” began. We have gone from a half-dozen co-workers to, in many years, more than 100 people in our home.

The event certainly changed over the years, as so many things do with time. It has been shaped by the ages of our sons and where we happened to be in the great adventure of life.

There were the high school years, when the house was filled with classmates and their parents, as well as our sons’ many coaches. There have always been neighbors, co-workers and old friends. And, at some of these parties, my husband claimed he didn’t know lots of people there. He’d ask if I’d rented highway billboard space with our address and party time. There were years it sure seemed that way.

As I write this before another Christmas season, I can’t stop thinking

of those who no longer share our event: my Mom and Dad, he always wearing his red plaid holiday vest; my aunts; the young men who were teammates on my sons’ sports teams who have grown up and now have families of their own; and friends who have moved away.

There are constants, however. My son John’s good friends, Daver, AJ and Eddie, are still often the last to leave well into the night. The party wouldn’t be the same without our friend, Arnie, who, many years ago, lived up to his reputation as the person most likely to knock over a burning candle—and did. And then there’s the Mad Elf ale (the less said about that the better).

Our food too evolved over the years. I used to make every bit of food for the Open House. Now, I rely on that wonderful “caterer,” Wegman’s, for help. Their party trays are very good, including sushi and wraps, which are new additions for us. But I always try to include favorites, such as baked ham and turkey, little cocktail franks in barbeque sauce, cold shrimp and smoked salmon with sour cream, red onion and capers. My homemade

bourbon holiday cake sits proud and tall on the sideboard, but hardly anyone ever eats it.

Two holiday drinks have remained the same over many years: Rosemary’s hot bourbon apple punch and Williamsburg eggnog, a concoction so thick we need a ladle to spoon it out. My husband (aka “Mr. Wit”) always suggests using any leftover nog for caulking.

But the item that is always missed the most, if I dare to not make it, is a warm crab dip. The recipe was given to me a long time ago by a work friend, and I make it throughout the year. It is easy and elegant, a perfect hors d’oeuvre for a dress-up party, as well as a Super Bowl gathering. The recipe below is easily doubled, which I always do.

Baked Crabmeat

1. Pre-heat the oven to 375 degrees.
2. Combine the following ingredients, mixing until well-blended:
 - 2 8-ounce packages cream cheese (not reduced fat)

- 8 ounces fresh crabmeat (either lump or back fin)
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon horseradish
- ½ teaspoon salt and a dash of pepper

3. Spoon mixture into an oven-proof dish and top with ½ cup toasted sliced almonds. Bake for 15 minutes until hot and bubbly. Serve with crackers.

Every year, as I survey the “damage” left at the party’s end, I think that surely, this year will be the last. But then I remember that for a brief time on Christmas Eve afternoon, friends become family and a tradition continues.

Buon Natale!



Rosemary Ruggieri Baer, a first generation Italian-American, grew up in Harrisburg and has spent her life perfecting her mother’s country cooking.

House Beautiful



When they purchased the house at 806 N. 2nd St. in 1952, the Pennsylvania Republican Federation of Women had approximately 60,000 members and the resources to pay for and maintain the late -9th century building. Now, the organization is down to about 2,000 members, and there was some debate this year as to whether to keep the gray-stone building, but the majority ruled in favor. A tour of the building provided by PRFW’s regional director, Toni Gilhooley (seated in the living room), revealed a well-cared-for home that, except for some modifications, looks as it did when Dwight Eisenhower was president.

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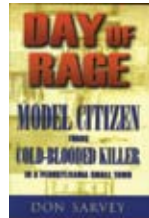
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Day of Rage: Model Citizen Turns Cold-Blooded Killer in a Pennsylvania Small Town
By Don Sarvey
Stackpole Books 121 pp. \$22.95 (hardcover)



On Oct. 23, 1967, something happened that turned Leo Held into a heartless killer on a rampage through his Lock Haven community. He left six dead and six wounded, and he would die, taking with him answers to why he did what he did.

Sarvey, a former journalist for many newspapers, including the Patriot-News, tells a compelling story of what happened that day at the town's paper mill, where most of the community was employed. The book reads like a good true crime book should.

But why a book about a mass murder that occurred 44 years ago? Held's friends and neighbors, as well as the police, to this day still don't know what caused him to kill fellow workers and neighbors. For many of them, speculation isn't enough to console.

Sarvey weaves well the details about Held—a family man with four children who was considered a “model citizen”—and his victims, who they were and their relationships with the man who took their lives.

It's a small book, but packs a couple of punches, particularly in Sarvey's diligent

reporting to uncover answers to 44-year-old questions. He raises possible reasons, one of them startling, for the model citizen to turn into a murderer.

The Story Never Ends: A Memoir of a Newspaper Reporter

By Joe Bianco
Bianco Book Publishing 224 pp.
(softcover and electronic version)



Joe Bianco first walked into a newspaper office in Newark, N.J. It was 1948, and he had no training of any kind for a journalism career. Late the next year, the former World War II

Navy corpsman was offered a job at the Patriot-News.

Before he ever typed a word on a story, Joe was working undercover, investigating the gambling and prostitution rackets by the mob in central Pennsylvania. He was picked for the job because he was of Italian descent. His heart was in his throat the whole time. He was a nice Italian kid, didn't know how to gamble and was not a frequenter of bordellos. Things could easily go wrong.

“Just because you look like a Wise Guy doesn't make you one,” he writes. Bianco only worked in Harrisburg for half-a-dozen years before he was lured away to The Oregonian in Portland. But check out two highlights from his time in the midstate.

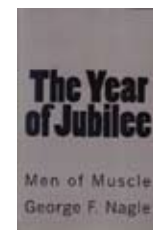
The information he discovered about gambling establishments—one of them a few steps away from the police HQ—and prostitution was for nothing, when the paper backed away from the story.

In 1953, Joe got a national scoop on an illness suffered by former President Harry Truman, only to be criticized by his editor for making a long-distance call to get it. That same year, he uncovered the identity of a serial killer who had been killing truckers along the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The story won him and the paper a nomination for the Pulitzer Prize.

As a newspaper reporter myself, I wish I'd had Joe as a boss somewhere along the road as I was learning the trade. I like to think I was pretty good. Joe would have made me better.

—T.W. Burger

The Year of Jubilee: Men of Muscle
By George F. Nagle
CreateSpace 608 pp. \$29.95 (softcover)



In his second volume of work on Harrisburg's role during the nation's most crucial epoch (volume one, “Men of God,” was reviewed in the May issue), Nagle wonderfully illustrates the period and the

tension between the city's blacks and whites, between the city's free African-Americans and the slave catchers who came up from the South searching for runaway slaves, and between African-Americans and their local and national government.

In the opening pages of the first chapter of “Men of Muscle,” Nagle captures the mood of the times. It's a warm July day in 1850, and “Joseph Hummel watched a large group of African-American men walk out of the eastern end of the Harrisburg Bridge and onto Front Street There was something about these men that caught Hummel's interest Six of the men carried bundles, in the manner of persons embarking on a long journey by foot ... ”

Three of those men were fugitive slaves, and the odyssey that Nagle details in this history of their flight, capture, trial, imprisonment and release captures the futility African-Americans felt in their struggle for justice for free men, as well as slaves.

Nagle is writing history here, but the stories he presents and the characters he describes make for fascinating reading, particularly for those unfamiliar with the era. For those who are, Nagle provides a depth that leaves the reader with a profound understanding.

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Burg Books

To the Far Side of Planet Earth: A Peace Corps Memoir

By Jim McConkey
Infinity Publishing 342 pp. \$17.95
(softcover)



When President John F. Kennedy launched the Peace Corps in 1961, the idea was to send out to the undeveloped world America's ambassadorial volunteers and show the nations that a

powerful country doesn't need to wage war to show its might, but to plant seeds of peace for the progress of the globe.

But among its unintended consequences, the Peace Corps showed many young people the world as they did not know it, and for the willing, like McConkey, they allowed themselves to be enlightened in a way that re-shaped their views about other cultures, as well as their own.

"To an extent, all Peace Corps Volunteers unlearn their cultural sanity," McConkey writes. "Some of us unlearn it a bit too well, and find ourselves helped home by a Peace Corps doctor."

With an affinity for Robert Pirsig, author of "Zen and the Art of

Motorcycle Maintenance" who said, "To go outside the mythos is to become insane," McConkey, whose Peace Corps work in 1967 was on irrigation projects in India, is among those willing to be enlightened.

"It took India 19 months to unravel my sanity," he writes. "It took me 35 years to figure out why."

His story is worthy reading to find out the why.

Website Launched

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts unveiled expeditionchesapeake.org on Nov. 22 for the Center's \$10 million initiative to entertain, educate and engage the 17 million residents of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Visitors can click on the "Get Involved" button to learn how to participate in the initiative as a donor or an Expedition Chesapeake ambassador.

Midtown Cinema's 10th

Harrisburg's arts theater, Midtown Cinema, celebrates its 10th anniversary on Dec. 3 with free refreshments, trivia games, prizes and discount tickets.

Events go on all day, with trivia contest winners announced in the evening. Midtown Cinema is at 250 Reily St., 717-909-6566.

Read a Book, Drink a Cup

Olde Towne Books and Brew, 36 E. Main St., Mechanicsburg, opened in May in an old pharmacy dating back to the early 20th century. Its interior hasn't changed much since those days, except that jars of coffee have replaced drug bottles on the shelves. Ice cream is served and enjoyed in the wooden booths, as well as coffee, tea and sodas. And the owners, who declined to have their names mentioned here because they said they want to keep the focus on their shop, offer a wide selection of books. There's also a pharmacy museum, free to visit, in the back with items dating to the late 1800s. For more information, find Olde Towne on Facebook or call 717-697-8404.





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3rd Street Studio

1725 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-385-3315; www.3rdstreetstudio.org

"Transgressions" mixed media by Loryn Spangler-Jones, through December; also sculpture by Stanley Osmolenski.

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

161 Museum Dr., Hershey
717-566-7100; www.aacamuseum.org

Holiday program features the taxi from "It's a Wonderful Life," model trains, antique dolls, pedal cars, period-themed Christmas trees and more, through Dec. 31.

Art Association of Harrisburg

21 N. Front St., Harrisburg
717-236-1432; www.artassocofhbg.com

"Invitational Exhibit," featuring works by Jeffrey Bye, Linda Benton McCloskey, D. B. Stovall and Harold D. Zabady, Dec. 2-Jan. 5; reception, Dec. 2, 5 p.m.

Café di Luna

1004 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-585-6174; cafediluna.com

Works by local artists are featured.

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market St., Camp Hill
www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

The artwork of Dale Woolridge, through December.

Gallery@Second

608 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
galleryatsecond.com

Works by artists Ted Walke and Kim Stone, through Dec. 3.

Art of Roger Shipley and Jonathan Frazier, Dec. 8-Jan. 21; reception, Dec. 16, 6-9 p.m.

Gallery at Walnut Place

413 Walnut St., Harrisburg; 717-233-0487

Gallery open, but no featured artist.

HMAC/Stage on Herr

1110 N. 3rd St./268 Herr St., Harrisburg
717-441-7506; www.harrisburgarts.com

Works by various local and regional artists.

Mangia Qui

272 North St., Harrisburg
717-233-7358; www.mangiaqui.com

Paintings by Elide Hower & Walter Diehl, through December.

The Mantis Collective

1306 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
themantiscollective@yahoo.com

Paintings by Tara Chickey, through Dec. 11.

The art of Angela Cibos Reisinger, Lara Colestock and Kristin Livelsberger, Dec. 16-Jan. 15; reception, Dec. 16, 8-10 p.m.

Midtown Scholar/Yellow Wall Gallery

1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-1680; www.midtownscholar.com

Oil etchings of figures and architecture by Sandra Marino, through Dec. 11.

"Wonders of the Invisible World," a print-making installation by Henry Gepfer, Dec. 13-Jan. 15; reception, Dec. 16, 6-10 p.m.

National Civil War Museum

One Lincoln Circle at Reservoir, Harrisburg
717-260-1861; nationalcivilwarmuseum.org

"1861," an exhibit highlighting the first year of the Civil War, through December.

"To Further Their Cause: Inventions and Innovations of the Civil War," through March 4.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg
717-692-3699; www.nedsmithcenter.org

"Jerome P. Connolly: Master Muralist," through March 17.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

One HACC Drive, Harrisburg
www.hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter

The Annual Student Honors Photography Show, through Dec. 14; reception, Dec. 8, 5:30-7 p.m.

The Soup Spot

1014 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-232-7867

Photography and paintings by Harrisburg-area artists.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

300 North St., Harrisburg
717-787-4980; www.statemuseumpa.org

"Making it Better: Folk Arts in Pennsylvania Today," through April 29.

"The Fine Art of Giving: Gifts of Art to the State Museum of Pennsylvania," 1998-2008.

The Susquehanna Art Museum

717-233-8668; www.sqart.org

"Latent Images," an exhibit held at The State Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 North St., through December.

Whitaker Center/The Curved Wall

222 Market St., Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; www.whitakercenter.org

"Into the Night," two-dimensional works featuring nocturnal themes by Art Association of Harrisburg members, through Jan. 2.

The Stage Door

Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse

1559 Boiling Springs Rd., Boiling Springs
717-258-3211; allenberry.com

"Mistletoe Magic," through Dec. 23

Broadway Classics Productions

Harrisburg Mall, 3501 Paxton St., Harrisburg
877-717-7969; broadwayclassicspa.com

"Broadway Classics Christmas," through Dec. 23

Harrisburg Comedy Zone

110 Limekiln Rd., New Cumberland
717-920-3627; harrisburgcomedyzone.com

Ashley Austin Morris, Dec. 1; LA Hardy, Dec. 2-3; Raymond the Amish Comic, Dec. 9-10; Dan Swartwout, Dec. 16-17; New Years Eve w/Paul Hooper & Eric Counts, Dec. 30-31

Harrisburg Shakespeare Company

3rd Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg
717-238-4111; www.gamutplays.org

No shows scheduled in December.

Hershey Area Playhouse

Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive, Hershey
717-838-8164; hersheyareaplayhouse.com

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," Dec. 1-11

Hershey Theatre

15 E. Caracas Ave., Hershey
717-534-3405; www.hersheytheatre.com

"The Nutcracker," Dec. 17-18

"Shrek The Musical," Dec. 27-Jan. 1

HMAC/Stage on Herr

1110 N. 3rd St./268 Herr St., Harrisburg
717-441-7506; www.harrisburgarts.com

Soul Comedy Café, Dec. 11

Open Stage of Harrisburg

223 Walnut St., Harrisburg
717-232-OPEN; www.openstagehbg.com

"The SantaLand Diaries," through Dec. 17

Oyster Mill Playhouse

1001 Oyster Mill Road, Camp Hill
717-737-6768; www.oystermill.com

"Christmas Cabaret," Dec. 9-10

Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut

3rd Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg
717-238-4111; www.gamutplays.org

"Twas the Night Before Christmas," Dec. 1-22

Theatre Harrisburg

513 Hurlock St., Harrisburg
717-232-5501; www.theatreharrisburg.com

No shows scheduled for December.

Whitaker Center

222 Market St., Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; www.whitakercenter.org

"The Nutcracker," (Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet), Dec. 10-11

Live Music around Harrisburg

Appalachian Brewing Co./Abbey Bar

50 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg
717-221-1083; www.abcbrew.com

Dec. 2: Yarn w/TBA
Dec. 3: The War on Drugs w/TBA
Dec. 4: Sister Sparrow and the Dirty Birds
Dec. 8: Biodiesel w/One.Man.And
Dec. 9: MISSTALLICA w/The 91's and Weapons for Peace
Dec. 10: A Very Herbie Xmas
Dec. 14: The Wheeler Brothers
Dec. 16: Start Making Sense w/Great White Caps
Dec. 17: FDR and The New Deal
Dec. 23: Quagmire Swim Team w/Husky Pants and The Rail
Dec. 28: The All Mighty Senators w/TBA
Dec. 31: New Year's Eve party w/The Greatest Funeral Ever
Every Wednesday, Open Mic

Broad Street Market/Stone Building

N. 3rd and Verbeke streets, Harrisburg
www.broadstreetmarket.org

Dec. 3: Jonathan Frazier
Dec. 10: Hemlock Hollow
Dec. 17: Voxology
Dec. 24: Rhyne McCormick
Dec. 31: Chris Gassaway

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

204 Locust St., Harrisburg
717-909-9191; www.carleysristorante.com

Dec. 1: Wade Preston
Dec. 2, 9, 16, 31: Ted Ansel
Dec. 3, 17: Noel Gevers
Dec. 7: Chelsea Caroline
Dec. 8, 22: Giovanni Traino
Dec. 10, 30: Brandon Parsons
Dec. 14: Michael Troy
Dec. 15, 29: Anthony Haubert
Dec. 21, 28: Jett Prescott
Dec. 23: Roy Lefever

Clover Lane Coffeehouse

1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg
717-564-4761; www.harrisburguu.org

Dec. 16: The Stray Birds

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market Street, Camp Hill
www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Dec. 2: Jeanine & Friends
Dec. 3: Steven Gellman
Dec. 4: Mitch and Lee
Dec. 9: Ed Horan
Dec. 10: Dominick Cicco
Dec. 11: Andrew Bellanca & Friends
Dec. 16: Maria Wilson
Dec. 17: J.C. Fisher
Dec. 30: Kevin Kline

Dragonfly Club/Spy Club

234 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
www.dragonflyclub.com

Dec. 3: Far from Finished w/others

Giant Center

550 W. Hersheypark Dr., Hershey
717-534-3911; www.giantcenter.com

Dec. 12: Jingle Ball 2011

Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra

The Forum (5th and Walnut Sts.), Harrisburg
717-545-5527; harrisburgsymphony.org

Dec. 10-11: Mistletoe Magic

HMAC/Stage on Herr

1110 N. 3rd St./268 Herr St., Harrisburg
717-441-7506; www.harrisburgarts.com
Dec. 2: Aortic Valve Presents: ArtHouse Cinema
Dec. 3: Loretta Bilieux
Dec. 4: Max Racey Comedy Show
Dec. 7: Green Toy Drive Holiday Bash - Hosted by Greendrinks and HMAC, Featuring River Rat Jenkins
Dec. 9: Kenny White
Dec. 10: Up Pops the Devil
Dec. 17: Susan Giblin Foundation Benefit
Dec. 22: Wizards of Winter
Dec. 23: Eli Charleston's Santa's Panties Party with DJ Rudolph's Sock Hop
Dec. 31: Aortic Valve "New Years Eve Bash"
Every Wednesday, Open Mic

Hershey Theatre

15 E. Caracas Ave., Hershey
717-534-3405; www.hersheytheatre.com

Dec. 1: Jim Brickman
Dec. 4: Hershey Community Chorus, "A Pennsylvania Christmas 2011"

Hollywood Casino at Penn National

777 Hollywood Blvd., Grantville
877-565-2112; www.hcpn.com

Dec. 2: Luv Gods
Dec. 3: Red Letter Morning
Dec. 9: Smooth Like Clyde
Dec. 10: Pentagon
Dec. 16: Category 5
Dec. 17: Groove Train
Dec. 23: Uptown Band
Dec. 25: Luv Gods
Dec. 30: Burning House
Dec. 31: She Said Sunday & Disco Inferno

Mangia Qui/Suba

272 North St., Harrisburg
717-233-7358; www.mangiaqui.com

Dec. 2: Emily Yanek
Dec. 3: Jeff Calvin & the Converse All-Stars
Dec. 9: Ryan Tennis
Dec. 10: Ingrid Gerdes
Dec. 16: Up Pops the Devil
Dec. 17: Black Coffee
Dec. 30: Nate Myers & the Aces

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-1680; www.midtownscholar.com

Dec. 2: Jayme Salvati & Billy Arboleda
Dec. 3: Good News Café
Dec. 9: Lost Companion & Kyle Morgan
Dec. 10: Still Simple Gifts & Chelsea Lee
Dec. 12: Maria Wilson
Dec. 16: The Gordy Christmas Band
Dec. 17: Pocket Vinyl
Dec. 21: Seasons
Dec. 21: Koji in Concert, the Koji Annual Holiday Spectacular
Dec. 23: Nina Scarcia & Colebrook Road's Wade Yankey

MoMo's BBQ & Grille

307 Market St., Harrisburg
717-230-1030; www.momosbbqandgrill.com

Dec. 2: Nate Myers
Dec. 9: Midnight Shift
Dec. 16: Mark Focazio
Dec. 23: Skyla Burrell
Dec. 30: Jeff Calvin
Dec. 31: The Humblers

Morgan's Place

4425 N. Front St., Harrisburg
717-234-8103; www.morgans-place.com

Dec. 2: Kings & Queens
Dec. 3: Mountain Road
Dec. 9: A-Factor
Dec. 10: Don Johnson Project
Dec. 16: Shea Quinn & Swish Dog
Dec. 17: A-Factor
Dec. 23: Strange Eden
Dec. 31: New Years Eve Party featuring the White Bread Band

Moviate Film Co-Op

1106 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
moviate.org

Dec. 28: Starlight Girls w/Eauno

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

One HACC Drive, Harrisburg
www.hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter

Dec. 1: Danü, "A Christmas in Ireland"

Savannah's on Hanna

1000 Hanna St., Harrisburg
717-233-1100; http://sohclub.com

Dec. 16: The Dirty Sweet

St. Thomas Roasters

5951 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg
717-526-4171; www.stthomasroaster.com

Dec. 23: Joe Trojcek

Stock's on 2nd

211 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
717-233-6699; www.stocksonsecond.com

Dec. 3: Funktion
Dec. 10: Penny Brown
Dec. 17: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher
Dec. 24: TBA
Dec. 31: Funktion

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (check website for location)

Dec. 4: Elaine & Susan Hoffman Watts and the Fabulous Shpielkes w/Old World Folk Band

Whitaker Center

222 Market St., Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; www.whitakercenter.org

Dec. 16: Mandy Barnett presents "Winter Wonderful"
Dec. 18: The Harrisburg Choral Society presents "Ceremony and Celebrations"
Dec. 28: Get the Led Out

Read, Make, Learn

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-1680; midtownscholar.com

Dec. 1: Harrisburg Hope forum with Sen. Jeff Piccola, County Commissioner Mike Pries and attorney Mark Schwartz, 6 p.m.

Dec. 3: Book-signing for local author Bob Hodgson, 2 p.m.

Dec. 5: Panel discussion, "Who Is Occupy Harrisburg?" 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 8: Harrisburg Hope community forum with Mayor Linda Thompson, 6 p.m.

Dec. 10, Dec. 12, Dec. 17: Occupy Harrisburg teach-in series

Dec. 10: Book-signing for Paranormal Research Group, 2 p.m.

Dec. 13: Gas Truth community meeting, 7 p.m.

Dec. 14: Activist and retired professor Bill Ayers leads a discussion on grassroots organization, 6 p.m.

Dec. 17: Book-signing for Neal Cormier, 2 p.m.

Dec. 27: Art Kaleidoscope, 6 p.m.

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (see website for location)

Dec. 3: Introduction to traditional art of Chinese painting, with Diana Meng, 2 p.m.

At the Cinema

Moviate Film Co-Op

1106 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg; moviate.org

Dec. 1: "Yojimbo" by Akira Kurosawa, in Japanese with English subtitles, 8 p.m.

Dec. 8: The films and videos of artist Bryan Lewis Saunders, 8 p.m.

Dec. 10: Holly Jolly Film Shorts, Program One, 8 p.m.

Dec. 15: "Into Eternity" a documentary from 2009, 8 p.m.

Dec. 22: Holly Jolly Film Shorts, Program Two, 8 p.m.

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Musical Notes

The Future of Jazz

Youth band adds a fresh vibe.

Jess Hayden



New sound: The Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz Youth Band plays a number during a recent performance.

As a 23-year-old jazz singer and song writer with a promising career, Erica Lyn Everest of Carlisle first developed her interest in early jazz and blues during a two-year stint as lead singer with the Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz Youth Band.

"Being mentored by Ron Waters was really important to me," Everest said of the band's director. "He provided me with a good introduction to jazz."

After some 30 years, the Jazz Youth Band continues to thrive and perform, introducing school-aged musicians to jazz orchestration and improvisation. The group, usually comprised of 15 to 20 players, is open to all musicians from grade school through high school.

Students don't have to audition for the band and don't even have to play a standard jazz instrument. "They just have to want to come out and be interested in playing jazz," said Ronnie Waters, who has directed the band for the last 22 years. Players come from all over central Pennsylvania, including Lebanon, Lancaster, Harrisburg and Carlisle.

Waters is a 77-year-old jazz trumpet and piano player who has performed in the area for more than 50 years. He studied at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and played in the 427th Army Band back in the 1950s. For 32 years, he worked for the federal government, but never stopped playing jazz.

Waters is a composer and arranger and uses these skills to prepare repertoire for the group. He said he can't purchase standard arrangements because he never knows from year to year who the players are going to be.

"One year, I had a violin and even once had a viola," he said. "Sometimes, I'm missing a trombone. I just have to work with what I have." The

group performs standard jazz pieces, songs from musicals such as "Over the Rainbow" and "Someone to Watch Over Me," as well as more modern works.

The Youth Band attracts some of the area's finest young musicians. Another gifted young musician, ninth-grader Ajay Shughart, is an advanced blues guitar player who joined the Youth Band because he wanted to learn more about a different genre of music. "I'm used to singing and playing and being more of a front man," he said. "Being in the band is a good experience for me because I can just concentrate on backing the soloist and keeping in time with the drummer and other instrumentalists."

The group rehearses just about every week during the spring and early summer, generally starting up in March and finishing in early summer. The big focus is on the annual Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz Festival, held in June in venues throughout Harrisburg—but they play other gigs as well. "Last summer we played for the first lady at the Governor's Mansion, and sometimes we play vespers during a church service," Waters said. "All in all, we play six or seven gigs a season."

Every year CPFJ selects a Youth Band participant to receive a scholarship to study music on a collegiate level. More than 25 scholarships have been awarded.

For readers wishing to book the Youth Band or musicians interested in playing, call CPFJ at 717-540-1010 or e-mail friends@cpfj.org.

Government IT Goes Local

New HU Program targets public sector tech workers.

Peter Durantine

Public sector information technology workers now have a local institution where they can seek certification in their ever-evolving field: Harrisburg University of Science and Technology's Government Technology Institute, a first of its kind in the state.

The purpose of the institute, founded this year, is to provide professional training and certification to government IT workers, a sort of continuing education program, said Ryan Riley, HU's associate vice president of development and alumni relations.

"For far too long, the commonwealth has been without a program to train their technology workers," he said.

Until now, Pennsylvania's public IT workers went out of state for training and certification. Schools in states such as North Carolina and New Jersey had longstanding programs.

For 10-year-old Harrisburg University, which continues to evolve to keep up with changes in technology and business, the institute is an opportunity to respond to a pressing need in state and local governments.

"This is the expansion of Harrisburg University, to serve a constituent group we sit next to and to do it in a unique way," said Eric Darr, the university's provost and executive vice president.

According to university officials, state and local governments in Pennsylvania spend more than \$2 billion annually on information technology. The state's share alone is more than \$1 billion.

Darr said the rapid evolution of technology demands public IT workers understand communications, finance, human resources, policy-making, management practices and how to effectively

connect technology to business needs.

"If you're the chief technology officer of a large agency, you have to put together a platform, but you also have to do it in a cost-effective way," Darr said.

The institute's first program, a 12-month certification in IT leadership for government chief information officers, began in October with 25 CIOs from the state, county and local government.

Among future certification programs are geo-spatial technology and IT management, Darr said. Most of the instructors are private and public IT executives.

Cisco, Unisys, Microsoft and CA Technologies are founding members of the institute's Innovation Center, where students can meet vendors and learn about their technologies through demonstrations, educational sessions, user group meetings and technology pilots.

These companies, which made contributions to the institute, were invited to become members. The university has sent invitations to four other firms to establish no more than eight founding members, said Bili Mattes, associate provost for HU. "These are premier companies that serve the government sector," Mattes said.

As founding members, the companies will have access to select executive-style meeting spaces within the university's academic center to educate government clients or other guests; demonstrate emerging

technologies; present best practices that can help current or prospective clients transform state and local government; and the opportunity to engage university faculty and students to assist with prototypes or pilot projects.

Mattes said the institute encourages other tech companies in the sector to get involved because of the benefits it offers them and the students.

The institute is co-directed by former public IT workers Charles Gerhard, secretary of administration and CIO under governors Tom Ridge and Mark Schweiker, and Barbara Shelton, Ridge's deputy secretary for procurement who later headed the



Up the block: Government IT students can easily shuffle between Harrisburg University (left) and the Capitol complex (right).

U.S. General Service Administration's Philadelphia office. Both now have consulting practices.

For more information about the Government Technology Institute at Harrisburg University, visit www.HarrisburgU.edu/GTI.

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Find us on

Warm Up to Winter Fashion

Great ideas are just a short trip downtown.

Jessica Wolfe

The blustery months of winter have arrived, and just because the weather outside is frightful, it doesn't mean your wardrobe has to be. Lucky for us, this season's trends will have you looking stylish and cool while keeping you warm and toasty. Chic coats, faux fur, lots of layers and abounding accessories are all on tap. Should you need to spruce up your wardrobe with a few of these items, wouldn't you know the holidays are right around the corner.

And right in the heart of downtown Harrisburg lies a prime resource for women's fashions: The Plum. Isaac Mishkin, store owner, has been styling women since opening in 1969. Mishkin describes his store as "mid-way between what you'd find

in a department store and high-end couture."

Beginning with accessories, the Plum boasts an impressive collection of eccentric embellishments like shimmering bib-necklaces and bold-colored bracelets.

"It's good to have a variety of jewelry," said Mishkin. "You want to be sure that you have a few pieces that are classic. Some that will last."

Remember that old saying, "take one thing off before you leave the house?" Forget it and do the opposite!

When it comes to Mishkin's choice for the must-have accessory, he states, "Belt's are number one. They are one of our most popular items."

With such dazzlers as jewel-encrusted buckles and animal print

leather bands, Mishkin said, "Many of our pieces are from designers in New York City. They are very unique."

Mishkin's most popular belt is a stretchy, chain-link style that can be worn in multiple ways, of which I was more than happy to test out.

Moving on to another VIP (very important piece) to snag this snowy season is a great coat. Frumpy, ill-fitted outerwear is one fashion *faux pas* you can't hide. When choosing a coat, remember it is definitely an investment piece and not an item you want to skimp on.

This season offers fun and feminine options, like empire waists, cropped military-style jackets and dramatic cowl neck collars. When out searching, keep an open mind and be sure try on a few different styles. See which ones compliment your figure and will get the most wear. More importantly, forget about the size on the tag and be sure it fits comfortably. Leave room for layers and thick sweaters, and, most importantly, the ability to move your arms. Let's not forget, the whole point of a coat is to not be frozen stiff.

"This season's coats have some really beautiful details," said Mishkin, whose store offers a stunning selection of winter wear. And for those who crave individuality, he points out, "A lot of our coats come from



Be comfy, look good: You don't have to venture to the mall in the 'burbs to find a fashionable look for winter, as shown by these items available at The Plum in downtown Harrisburg.

Europe, and you really can't find them anywhere else around here."

Don't just stop at coats to combat the cold. Have a little fun and add some charm to your ensemble this season with faux fur. A vest layered over a turtleneck adds a touch of texture, while a wrap over your holiday dress screams old-Hollywood glamour. And regarding the question of quality, the Plum holds true on its high standards. Mishkin was eager to show me some of his newest additions, and claimed, "I had to double-check because I couldn't believe they weren't real fur."

Now that you're geared up to tackle some of this season's current trends, fight the urge to live in your old worn-in sweats and check out some of the chilly season's hottest fashions. As always, don't be afraid to take a chance and try something new. If you follow these expert tips, you may be surprised by which of them gives you the warm and fuzzies.

The Plum is at 210 Walnut St., Harrisburg, 717-232-9251.

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Layer It On

In winter, outdoors lovers must make smart garment choices.

Kermit G. Henning

No matter what your outdoor activity this winter, staying warm is an essential component of any day outside.

One of the most fundamental concepts in outdoor recreation is layering—dressing using multiple garments worn on top of one another. By trapping air between layers which acts as thermal insulation, layering regulates your body temperature so you don't overheat or get cold.

Obviously, layering is only relevant in cold climates, where clothing must, at the same time, transfer moisture away from the skin, provide warmth and protect from wind and rain. By following the three W's—wicking, warmth and weather—you will be comfortable no matter what the circumstances of your outdoor adventure.

The first W, *wicking*, is also called the base or inner layer. This is the layer that lies against the skin, keeping you dry by wicking sweat away from the skin and transferring it to the outer layers. This layer should fit snug to ensure the capillary action required.

Choice of garments is dictated by the activity and the weather. Most popular are the newer synthetic fabrics. Polyester and microfiber-based garments are good choices as they do not absorb any moisture, rather transfer it. Silk is another alternative. It's comfortable but expensive and hard to care for. Under Armour has now come out with several different weight pieces to fit the activity.

According to Doris Shyda of Shyda's Shoe & Clothing Barn in Lebanon, one of the best choices for this inner layer is a Merino wool blend. Also marketed as Smartwool, Merino wool from Spain, Australia and New Zealand is soft and excellent at maintaining body temperature, especially when worn against the skin. It has an excellent warmth-to-weight ratio because it has much smaller fibers than other wools.

The one thing you want to stay away from is cotton. Cotton traps moisture as opposed to wicking it. When

it gets wet, it stays wet and actually draws heat from your body.

Warmth. The second, or middle, layer provides the actual warmth and insulation to your body in winter conditions. One thick layer works best for maximum warmth but multiple, thinner layers facilitate adjustment to warmth. If you intend to walk long distances and work up a sweat, wear one thin layer and pack another along in your backpack to put on when you reach your destination. This layer should be loose-fitting, leaving insulating air between clothes. Two middle layers are also a good idea in extreme cold.

Wool is the traditional material for cold because of its good insulation, even when wet. Fleece and other synthetics have many of the properties of wool but are lighter. Thinsulate, a popular brand, absorbs little moisture and dries rapidly. Zip-up collars and vents allow you to trap heat when stationary or release it when on the move.

Down has very good warmth-to-weight ratio and can be compressed to save room (in your backpack), but it is expensive, makes a thicker, bulkier garment and loses almost all insulating quality when wet. Down garments also lose much of their lofting property after repeated washings.

Synthetic fiberfill garments do not have the warmth-to-weight ratio as down, but are less expensive, provide good insulation, dry quickly and absorb little moisture. Again, stay away from cotton.

Weather. This outer shell layer is what will protect you from the wind and rain. Ideally, this layer is breathable, letting moisture escape to the outside while, at the same time, not allowing wind and water to pass through it to the inside. This is enabled by modern materials such as Gore-Tex and other synthetics.

Plastic garments protect you completely from the elements but provide no insulation and allow no moisture to escape. They are also loud, something to consider when hunting and stealth is required.

Waterproof, yet breathable, clothing has a thin, porous membrane between fabrics that blocks water, but lets water vapor escape. These clothes come in all styles, colors and sizes to match the needs of anyone spending time outdoors. Water resistant clothing is just that. It blocks water only partially; it's not waterproof.

Once you have established your needs and preferences, keep in mind that conditions often change rapidly in the outdoors. Add or remove layers as needed and never let yourself become overheated. Too many layers are better than too few. Bring along extra layers anticipating changing conditions. Finally, keep your clothing clean, and it will work for you for a long time. Outdoor gear is a major investment. Take care of it and it will return the favor.



Kermit G. Henning, host of abc27 Outdoors TV, is a member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America.

Battle of the Bells Jingles the Holiday

The Salvation Army Harrisburg Capital City Region has added the spirit of competition to this holiday season's bell-ringing campaign—Battle of the Bells, which runs through Dec. 24.

Teams representing Harrisburg-area businesses and organizations will compete to raise the highest total through the Red Kettle Campaign.

Teams will ring bells at kettles across the region to compete for the title of Battle of the Bells winner—raising the most money at their kettle over the five-week period. Other fundraising options include Online Red Kettles, desktop kettles and the opportunity for businesses to match funds raised in the kettle. Progress can be tracked through the online leaderboard (www.battleofthebells.com) and Facebook and Twitter.

Visit salvationarmyharrisburg.org or contact Community Outreach and Event Coordinator Rebecca Kleha, at 717-233-6755 x137.



Rick Jordan III of LB Smith Ford and Smith Land & Improvement (left) and Scott Karns of Karns Foods (right) join Estelle Selvey, 99, of Harrisburg, a bell ringer for more than 25 years, in kicking off the Red Kettle Campaign.



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Into the Wild

Up for the Count

Local birders prep for the Christmas census.

Stephanie Kalina-Metzger

Up through the 19th century, men and boys took part in "side hunts," during the Christmas season. Choosing sides, they competed to slaughter as much game as possible.

Frank Chapman, an officer of the National Audubon Society and bird lover, was appalled by the practice and sought to eradicate it. He advocated counting birds instead of killing them and proposed a "Christmas Bird Count (CBC)" to take the place of the hunts.

Approximately 27 "birders" in the United States and Canada established themselves as "citizen scientists" and took part in the first count, which began in the year 1900. Pennsylvania touted five areas at the time and was the most active state participating during that first year.

The "side hunts" eventually fell out of fashion, but the longstanding CBC continues and thrives with the aid of the Internet and volunteers all over North America.

This year, your local CBC will take place on a single day between Dec. 15 and Jan. 5. When you sign up to become an observer, you'll be assigned to a "count circle," which will encompass a 15-mile radius based on your geographic area.

Concerned about your lack of bird knowledge? Fear not—each circle is guided by an experienced birdwatcher called a "count compiler." You can take part in a "field party" for a \$5 fee and those under age 19 can count for free. Proceeds collected help sustain the program.

Camp Hill resident Ramsey Kourey describes the field party as a group of people who usually travel to the same area to participate.

"Sometimes, we all take one car," he said, "And we travel to the designated area to observe. Participants can choose how long they want to count. Some count for several hours and some for just a few during the 24-hour period."

Kourey is an active observer in the field parties, something he's done since the early 1970s. "Each year, thousands of people take part in the watch. Pennsylvania is home to about 65 or 70 field parties," he said. "The



Larry Smith



Jerry Acton

Eye spy: Local birds to spot include the burrowing owl and the northern cardinal.

whole idea is to have fun, but you're gathering scientific data, as well."

"Audubon was a social network before the world ever heard the term," said David Yarnold, Audubon president and CEO. "Each December, the buzz from our social network goes up a few decibels, as people with the knowledge and the passion for birds provide what no organization alone can."

According to the society, the CBC provides important data for conservationists to determine how the continent's bird populations have changed during the past hundred years.

Geoffrey LeBaron, Ivyland, Pa., resident and CBC director, reiterates the importance of the annual bird count. "Everyone who takes part in the CBC plays a critical role in helping us focus attention and conservation where it is most needed," he said.

Don't relish the idea of standing out in the cold to observe our fine-feathered friends? You can still participate in this longest-running wildlife census for free by signing up to count birds at your backyard feeders from the comfort of your couch.

Find out your area's bird count and sign up to participate at the CBC area of the Audubon Society's website at <http://birds.audubon.org/get-involved-christmas-bird-count>.

Get a Flu Shot!

It's a way to stay healthy this winter.

Dr. John Goldman

Many people believe the flu is a minor illness that is, at worst, an inconvenience and, because they have "never gotten the flu before," they will not get the flu this year.

However, influenza is not only very common but it is often a cause of serious illness. Each year, influenza affects 5 to 20 percent of the population, sickens 15 to 60 million Americans and results in about 250,000 hospitalizations and 30,000 to 50,000 deaths.

Deaths from influenza are typically concentrated in older patients over the age of 65. However, younger patients, particularly pregnant women, can also become severely ill. Furthermore, many elderly patients who are at high risk of complications catch the flu from their children or grandchildren.

Consequently, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended universal flu shot vaccinations. Influenza vaccination is recommended for all Americans who are more than 6 months of age unless they have a clear contraindication, such as an egg allergy, to the vaccination.

The flu shot is very effective. It typically prevents the flu from developing in 70 to 90 percent of the people who are actually exposed to the virus. Furthermore, if someone actually gets influenza despite the vaccine, it is likely to be a much less severe form of the disease.

Despite its effectiveness, many people will tell you that they got the flu shot and "got the flu anyway."

This occasionally happens because the flu shot is not 100 percent effective. However, more commonly, they actually caught one of the many other cold viruses that circulate during flu season. The flu shot only protects against the influenza virus. It does not protect against the common cold or the other viruses that circulate during the flu season. People who get "the flu" despite their flu shot typically are infected with another virus.

The flu shot has very few side effects. Many people believe that they got sick from the flu shot and attribute a myriad of side effects to it. However, when people are given a flu shot or an injection of a placebo shot, the only symptom that is most common afterward is a sore arm.

The flu shot will clearly prevent young people from getting sick. It will also protect high-risk patients from being hospitalized or dying. In one community-dwelling study of elderly patients, getting a flu shot was associated with a 27 percent reduction in the risk of hospitalization and a 50 percent reduction in the risk of death during the following flu season.

Furthermore, vaccination of young people not only protects them from getting sick, but has the added advantage of preventing them from spreading the flu to older or more ill people. One could argue that it is most important for young people to get the flu shot to prevent them from getting influenza and infecting someone who is at higher risk of death or hospitalization.

Essentially, everyone who is older than 6 months of age should get a flu shot. For young patients, it will prevent them from getting sick and prevent them from missing work or school. For elderly or high-risk patients, it will not only prevent them from getting sick, but may prevent them from being hospitalized or even dying.



Dr. John Goldman is the Program Director of Internal Medicine at PinnacleHealth.

Psychiatric Institute Moves Uptown

The Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute has permanently re-located its Front Street clinic outpatient, intensive outpatient and partial hospitalization programs for children and adolescents to the Polyclinic Campus, 2501 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg.

September's flood caused the institute to move from its long-time home at 307 S. Front St. That move, which was scheduled to occur next year anyway, now has been made permanent.

Also located on the Polyclinic Campus are the Child, Adolescent and Adult Inpatient, Hispanic and Electroconvulsive Therapy departments.

PPI offers another location for adult and children's outpatient services at its Northeast Drive Clinic, 22 Northeast Dr., Hershey.

Volunteers Needed for Hospital Help

PinnacleHealth Volunteer Department seeks volunteers throughout central Pennsylvania.

Areas include clerical assistance with typing, filing, data entry, answering phones and organizing patient information; nursing unit rounders to assist clinical staff with patient care; patient concierge cart representatives to visit patients and offer friendly conversation along with complimentary comfort and/or reading items; and gift gallery sales associates to assist with waiting on customers, managing sales transactions and stocking merchandise. Training provided.

For more information, call Angie Bly, manager of Volunteer Services at 717-657-7397 or submit an online application at www.pinnaclehealth.org/volunteer-online-app.

Trains & Trees

Through Jan. 1, it's holiday trains and trees at the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts' Gloria M. Olewine Gallery, featuring a variety of beautifully decorated trees surrounded by themed toy train sets from the Strasburg Railroad, with hands-on activities. The exhibit is free with paid Science Center admission.



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One More Thing ...

Get on Board, Harrisburg!

Join us in making the city a better place to live, work, play.

Meron Yemane and Ryan Riley

There are two types of people in Harrisburg—those who believe in the city, and those who need to get on board.

Our community has undeniably reached a pivotal point, and with unprecedented commitment, Harrisburg Young Professionals (HYP) is dedicated to making it a better place to live, work and play.

We are 1,500 members strong. We love this city. And more than anything, we believe in it.

Recently, several hundred of our members gathered for our inaugural leadership summit downtown. Why? Well, to quote an article in the Patriot-News: “[T]he city’s economic vitality and revitalization is paramount.”

Through hard work and dedication, we have seen great improvements within the Capital City.

Just a few years ago, the intersection of 4th and Market streets was a parking lot. Today, Harrisburg University stands there as the tower of opportunity for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education.

Just a few years ago, the neighborhood behind the Governor’s Mansion was disinvested and overlooked. Today, energetic singles

and couples, many young and living in the city for the first time, occupy Olde Uptown’s more than 100 new and renovated homes. The newest addition to the neighborhood is Little Amps Coffee Roasters, home to the only coffee roaster in Harrisburg.

Just a few years ago, three of the four corners at the intersection of 3rd and Reily streets stood abandoned. Today, thousands of students attend the Midtown Campus of Harrisburg Area Community College, Fulton Bank operates a local branch, the Campus Square building houses more cutting-edge, “green” technologies than any other building in Central PA, and the Susquehanna Art Museum is designing a new, world-class facility.

Just a few years ago, the intersection of 6th and Reily streets consisted of vacant land. Today, 80 new units provide housing in the Marketplace Townhomes community, 43 high-rise condominiums are under construction in the 1500 Project, and a \$125 million federal courthouse will begin construction soon.

Just a few months ago, the corner of 2nd and State streets sat vacant and unused. Today, a LEED certified building is under construction to house the new Harrisburg

headquarters for the law firm of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney.

Every one of these amazing projects has something in common—an active member of HYP is involved.

Just a few years ago, five friends had the crazy idea of founding a civic organization to change Harrisburg. Today, Harrisburg Young Professionals is the city’s premier volunteer organization, the catalyst behind the transformation of Restaurant Row and the Forster Street beautification, numerous community service programs, corporate outreach initiatives, and the city’s goodwill ambassadors.

We are proud of the work accomplished up to this point, and enthusiastic about the work yet to be done. We will continue to reach higher and go further in pursuit of making Harrisburg a better place to live, work, and play.

Every aspect of our city is either beautiful already or has the potential to be beautiful. Join HYP and learn how you too can help make another vacant lot a part of the phrase “just a few years ago.”

Meron Yemane is HYP’s incoming president and Ryan Riley is the current president.



Urban gem: A beautifully renovated street in Harrisburg’s Olde Uptown neighborhood.

MLK Essay Contest

Giant Food Stores and Martin’s Food Markets are conducting a Black History Month essay contest for students in grades 6 through 8 to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the national observance of the Civil Rights leader.

The contest’s goals are to increase awareness about volunteerism and King’s legacy. Two winners will be selected from every grade level and each winner will be awarded a check valued up to \$750.

For rules, visit giantfoodstores.com/BlackHistoryMonth or martinsfoods.com/BlackHistoryMonth. Students must submit entry form and essay via U.S. mail by Dec. 31.

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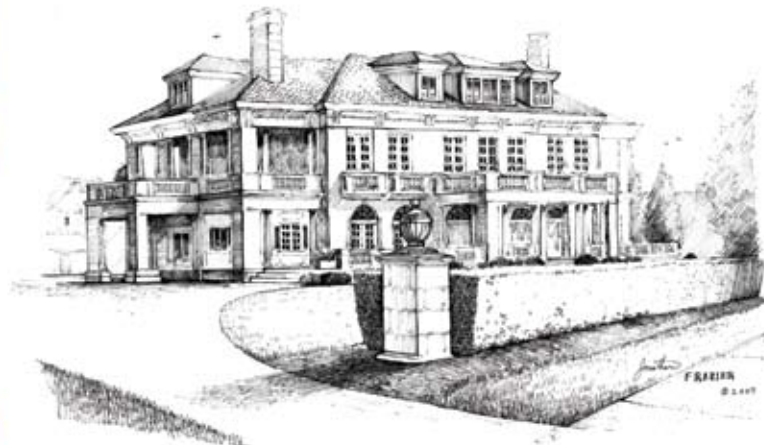
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Midtown Scholar Bookstore • 1302 N 3rd St • 236-1680 • midtownscholar.com • Guided coffee cupping with Counter Culture regional educator, Phil Proteau, noon. Rishi Tea guided tasting at Famous Reading Cafe counter, 2p. T.M.I. Improv Troupe performs on Midtown Scholar's stage, 6p. Yellow Wall Gallery opening reception for Henry Gepfer, 6p. The Gordy Christmas Band performs a free concert, 7:30p.



Gallery@Second • 608 N 2nd St • 233-2498 • galleryatsecond.com • Opening reception for featured artists Roger Shipley and Jonathan Frazier. Music by Mark Wesling. Plus visit "The Upstairs Gallery" featuring more than 250 pieces of artwork by local artists. 3rd in The Burg Special—10% discount on all purchases made during the event. Refreshments served, 6-9p. Visit us on Facebook: GalleryAtSecond.



The State Museum of Pennsylvania • N. 3rd St between North and Forster • 787-4980 • statemuseumpa.org • On your way to a holiday party and need a host/hostess gift? Stop in to the new State Museum Store for special offers on the area's most creative gifts and fabulous stocking stuffers, 12 noon-6p.



Open Stage of Harrisburg • 223 Walnut St (street level of Walnut St. Garage) • 232-OPEN (6736) • openstagehbg.com • The hit comedy THE SANTALAND DIARIES runs Nov. 25-Dec. 17. The outlandish, and true, chronicles of David Sedaris' experience as Crumpet the Elf in Macy's Santaland display will have you howling in your seat. Mature audiences. \$5 OFF tickets to Dec. 16 performance at door with code "BURG". 8p.



Little Amps Coffee Roasters • 1836 Green St • littleampscoffee.com • Halls will be massively decked by Thomas Dean, rock and roll artist from VA with the opening of "Infinite Repeats" (Printmaking), the artist's homage to analog delay and all that it entails. Featuring holiday garage and pop rock on the turntable, an amazing live musical happening, warm drinks and reverberating good vibes. Free, 5-9p.



City House B&B • 915 N Front St • 903-2489 • cityhousebb.com • City House Bed & Breakfast will feature works from local artists such as Karen Cummings, Don Lenker, Steve Wetzel, Paul Gallo, Joseph LaFrance and Kelly Charlesworth. Refreshments will be served, 5-9p.



Mangia Qui/Suba • 272 North St • 233-7358 • Mangia Qui and Suba Tapas Bar will feature the original art of local artists, Walter Diehl and Elide Hower. We will have live music by Up Pops the Devil, 9-11p, and a \$6 Winter Mojito.



Gallery at Walnut Place • 413 Walnut St • 233-0487 • Special artist exhibits are taking a break for the holidays, but the gallery will be open, with reception, 5-8p.



Midtown Cinema • 250 Reily St • 909-6566 • Movie trivia, prizes & free popcorn, 7:30p.



3rd Street Studio • 1725 N 3rd St • 385-3315 • 3rdstreetstudio.org • "Transgressions," mixed media by Loryn Spangler-Jones; also sculpture by Shippensburg student Stanley Osmolenski, 6-9p.

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- **Absolute Wellness**, 1519 N 3rd St
- **Whitaker Center**, 222 Market St



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