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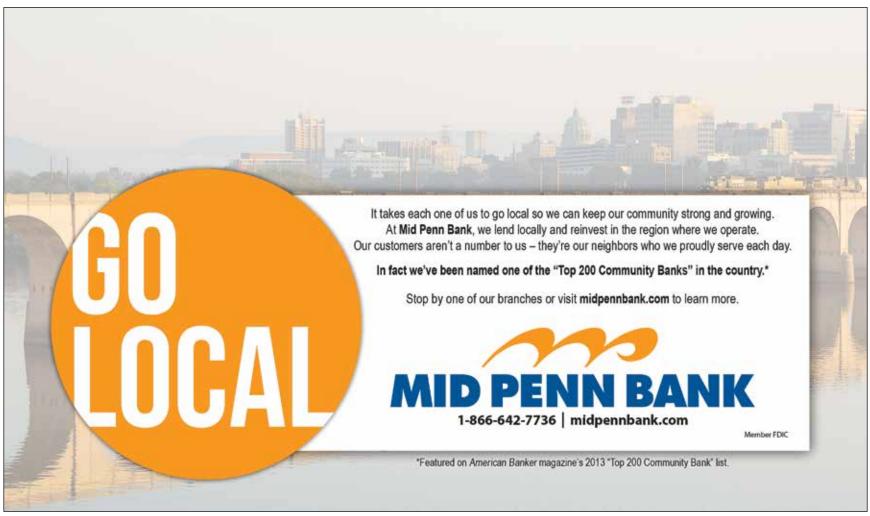














CITY OF HARRISBURG

PRESENTS

A CELEBRATION OF "SPARKLING WATERS" AND THE OFFICIAL END OF THE SUMMER



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AUGUST 30TH-SEPT. 1ST

AT CITY ISLAND

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THE HONORABLE MAYOR ERIC PAPENFUSE



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COVER ART BY: KRISTIN KEST WWW.KESTILLUSTRATION.COM

"The Old Farmer's Almanac 2015 Garden Calendar, Yankee Publishing Co.'

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

"Nobody on the road/Nobody on the beach"

More than once, I've thought of those lyrics from Don Henley's 30-year-old song, "Boys of Summer." after a stroll down 2nd Street or along the riverfront on a hot August day. It seems that everyone has left for the summer-to the shore, the mountains, abroad. The only ones left: a couple of sweating state workers, a few squirrels and one magazine editor.

That may be an exaggeration, and I hope it is because someone needs to be here to read our August issue. How else will you find out about the triumphs and struggles of our little city; of old and new businesses; of the people who are bringing us art,

At the very least, you need to know that our food writer Rosemary has taken memories from the long-missed Caruso's restaurant and transformed them into another delicious, Italian-inspired recipe. That way, you'll be able to make small talk when you inevitably spot her dining al fresco this month at Caruso's nownumerous successors, such as Mangia Qui, Carlev's and Alvaro.

In this issue, we also have more wonderful contributions from the talented students at CASA as part of our special section focused on education. And please don't miss Diane McCormick's update on the proposed federal courthouse, which, for better or worse (worse), finally lays out where that project stands.

Of course, you could stay away, download our digital issue and read us anyway. TheBurg while relaxing on the beach or sitting by a cool mountain stream? That seems to me like the best of all worlds.

LAWRANCE BINDA Editor-in-Chief



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GENERAL AND LETTERS

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SAVE THE DATE

September 8 - 12 September 15 - 19

3 courses for \$30

Some of this year's restaurants include:

Bricco * Cafe Fresco * Carley's Ristorante
Char's Tracy Mansion * Home 231
Mangia Qui * McGrath's Pub
Sammy's Italian Restaurant * Stock's on 2nd

For a complete list and more details visit

www.HarrisburgRestaurantWeek.com

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2014

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TOUR IS LIMITED TO 54 GUESTS. RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!

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AN OPTIMIST STRIKES BACK

Good things are happening right before our eyes. So, what's with all the cynicism?

BY J. ALEX HARTZLER

I meet people every day who love living and working in Harrisburg.

Often, just having a coffee at Little Amps or grabbing lunch at Café Fresco, I enjoy the fun and excitement of urban spontaneity. One meeting leads to two or three other conversations as people have unplanned interactions throughout the course of the day.

The essence of urban living and working is being out and about, walking around, meeting new people and reconnecting with friends and colleagues. Some of the best ideas spring from these chance encounters and enriching conversations, occasionally leading to actions and projects, both large and small.

This past month, a major new business joined Harrisburg when the Philadelphia Macaroni Co. took over operations at the former Unilever plant on S. 17th Street. This is but one of numerous new businesses and residents in Harrisburg recently. While this news was surprising to some (who generally have a cynical outlook of the city), it should not be a surprise to anyone who has been following all of the positive activity going on over the last year. Here is a list of just some other projects (and folks to talk to) if you want to hear the story of what is really happening this summer

WebpageFX recently moved 65 employees into a renovated, 9,000-square-foot building at 1705 N. Front St. Bill Craig and Karie Shearer have led the company since its inception. They said that moving to Harrisburg from a business incubator in Carlisle was a natural next step in the growth of their company and was essential for their recruitment efforts. WebpageFX has generally young and tech-savvy employees who prefer city amenities—like the beautiful view of the Susquehanna River right out their front window. (My company, WCI Partners, is the developer and landlord of WebpageFX's building.)

Speaking of views, Char's Tracy Mansion, just up Front Street from WebpageFX, is having a record-breaking year. I spoke to Char Magaro this week, and her business is outperforming all the expectations that she had when she expanded from her prior location in Shipoke. At the time, many were skeptical that any restaurant on Front Street would be successful. However, her food and setting are as good as any in the region and state.

While I'm talking about restaurants, Harrisburg boasts not one but several national-class dining experiences. Qui Qui and her partner Staci, the long-time owners of Mangia Qui and Suba, are set to more than double their restaurant space when they open Rubicon this summer. Sitting in the shadow of the Capitol dome at N. 3rd and North streets, Qui and Staci have re-invested substantial new capital into their business and are excited to expand their offerings in

Derek Dilks recently gave me a tour of the LUX condominium building that he and Dan Deitchman redeveloped at N. 3rd and State streets in Harrisburg. Consisting of 44 units, about half of which are already reserved prior to their opening, the building is a terrific redesign and conversion of vacant, rundown office space. Formerly a non-profit association headquarters, the building sat empty for years. Dan and Derek are working on a restaurant for the first floor and offer amazing views of the Capitol building and downtown for their residents from the building's rooftop. When fully occupied, the building will add vibrancy and foot traffic in the downtown.

Josh Kesler recently gave me a tour of his ambitious new project across from the Board Street Market. Over the winter, Josh and his team sandblasted and refinished the old wood timber in the historic Millworks building, which had sat empty for years. Now, they are putting finishing touches on 23 workspaces that have been 100-percent preleased to artists who will both make and market their wares in the new space. Josh and his wife are also adding a farmto-table restaurant and beer garden inside the space. By removing part of the roof, they have created a very unique indoor/outdoor space unlike any other in the region. It is sure to be a new hot spot when it opens this fall.

Nick Laus is opening a new wine bar and upscale brick-oven pizzeria called Cork & Fork at the corner of N. 2nd and State streets this fall. Expanding on his already very successful city businesses at Café Fresco and Home 231, Nick's additional investment shows his continued faith in Harrisburg. (WCI will be the landlord for Cork & Fork.) And the reasons for optimism keep on coming:

- · Emma's on Third recently opened an organic spa and yoga studio on 3rd Street in Midtown near the new Susquehanna Art Museum.
- Yellowbird Café was packed this weekend when I swung by for take-out for some friends visiting from out of town.
- · Aaron Carlson at Little Amps tells me that his business has had its best three months running since it opened.
- The team at The MakeSpace continues to impress with all their artistic and community endeavors.
- · Dan Webster (with an assist from Liz Laribee and Dani Fresh) recently produced a Harrisburg version of their magazine, Local. If you haven't picked up a copy, please do—it is worth the read.
- · Out-of-town investors recently purchased the long-vacant properties previously owned by Mary Knackstedt and have started work, vowing to be the latest residents to make their home on N. Front Street.

I could go on and on, but you get the picture. This is truly an exciting time for Harrisburg. There is much more to be done, but our worst days are behind us and many terrific things are happening, if you just look and walk around. Unlike the cynics, don't be surprised. Just read TheBurg every month (and daily on the Web) to hear about the stories you won't find elsewhere.

J. Alex Hartzler is publisher of TheBurg.



ZONING CODE GETS OK

Harrisburg has a new zoning code, as City Council last month approved a complete overhaul to how the city guides residential and commercial development.

Council members gave their unanimous consent to the code, the first complete update in 64 years. The new code substantially streamlines the city's zoning map, reducing the number of base zoning districts from 27 to nine and overlay districts from six to four.

At the last minute, council made a number of changes to the code to respond to concerns voiced by several developers during a series of hearings in June. Therefore, with a special exception, a wider variety of uses now will be permitted in certain zones, including the Institutional, Commercial and Downtown Center zones.

Notably, council narrowly defeated an amendment that would have allowed the owner of the former U.S. postal facility at 815 Market St. to continue a full range of industrial uses by right. Under the new code, his property falls into the Downtown Center zone, where most industrial uses are banned.

Under a grandfather clause, businesses will be able to continue their properties' current uses, regardless of the

The effort to revamp the zoning code began years ago. In 2010, the council introduced a new code, but it died in committee. With several changes, the Papenfuse administration re-introduced that code earlier this year, stating that a new code was needed to move the city forward economically.

SINKHOLE PROBE LAUNCHED

Harrisburg City Council last month approved hiring an engineering firm to conduct an emergency sinkhole investigation.

Camp Hill-based Gannett Fleming will perform the work, focused around the 1400-block of S. 14th St., where several sinkholes have formed in recent months. The probe, which will employ seismic surface waves and verification drilling to develop a site map, should be completed by year-end.

The cost of the investigation will be shared with Capital Region Water. It is estimated to cost \$166,000.

HUD FUNDS ALLOTTED

Harrisburg last month voted to disperse about \$3 million in federal funds for housing, community and public service groups.

As it usually does, City Council made a number of changes to the administration's recommendations on how to allot the annual funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In the end, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds went to:

- Administration and Indirect Costs: \$376,279
- Debt Service: \$335,358
- Housing Rehabilitation Program: \$300,000
- Emergency Demolition: \$295,000
- Homeowner Demolition Program: \$150,000
- Harrisburg Fair Housing Council: \$131,000
- Camp Curtin YMCA: \$125,000
- Heinz-Menaker Senior Center: \$101,209
- Park Playground Equipment: \$100,000
- Fire Station Roof Repairs: \$98,050
- · Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area: \$90,000
- Code Enforcement: \$69,500
- Public Safety: \$50,000
- Christian Recovery Aftercare Ministry: \$35,000
- Tri-County Community Action: \$25,000

Home Investment Partnerships Program funds went to:

- Targeted Area Rehab/New Construction: \$330,326
- Homeowner Improvement Program: \$200,000
- Operating Expenses: \$66,065
- Grant Administration: \$44,043

Emergency Solutions Grant Program Funds went to:

- Christian Churches United/H.E.L.P.: \$39,765
- Shalom House: \$39,765
- YWCA Greater Harrisburg: \$39,765
- Grant Administration: \$9,678

The Papenfuse administration had sought \$150,000 for a rental rehabilitation program. Council, though, decided to redirect that money to several groups that had been denied funding in the administration's initial proposal.

LAND BANK ESTABLISHED

City Council last month passed legislation creating the Harrisburg Land Bank, an effort to strengthen the city's fight against blight.

The land bank aims to take vacant, abandoned and tax delinquent properties and return them to productive use, according to the city.

A seven-member board of directors will direct the land bank, giving it the right to acquire properties before they go to judicial tax sale. The board will make such decisions as which properties to acquire, how the properties will be managed, how funds will be acquired to make purchases, and how property will be

It also allows the city to purchase and assemble clusters of property to make them more appealing for redevelopment.

"This is a major tool in our efforts to tackle the problem of abandoned and blighted properties in our city," said Mayor Eric Papenfuse.

MANSION NAMED FOR **EUGENIA SMITH**

The Reservoir Park mansion has been renamed in honor of Eugenia Smith, a Harrisburg city councilwoman who died suddenly in April.

The mansion now will be called The Honorable Eugenia Smith Family Life Center.

The administration originally proposed renaming the smaller Brownstone Building for Smith. However, City Council changed the resolution after Councilwoman Susan Brown-Wilson insisted that the mansion would be a more fitting tribute to Smith.

TRASH FEES ADJUSTED

Harrisburg's small business owners received some relief last month, after City Council temporarily lowered fees for trash collection.

For years, small businesses have complained that they were subject to high commercial collection rates, even though they generated little trash.

Under the new provision, small businesses will be charged the same rate as residential customers: \$156 a year or \$13 a month. To qualify for the lower rate, they must produce no more trash each week than can fit into two trashcans with lids.

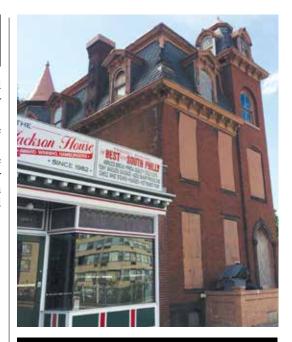
The lower rate applies only until the end of the year. In November, the Department of Public Works will assess the impact of the reduction and report to council if it should be made permanent.

CITY REQUESTS **NOISE EXEMPTION**

Harrisburg plans to ask the state Liquor Control Board for an exemption to its noise regulations for establishments selling alcohol downtown.

City Council last month approved a resolution authorizing the city to apply for an exemption, so that it could enforce its own noise control ordinance. Currently, downtown Harrisburg restaurants, bars and nightclubs are under both sets of regulations.

The city has asked for—and been granted—exemptions to the state's noise ordinance several times before.



JACKSON HOTEL **GETS GO-AHEAD**

The historic Jackson Hotel may be saved after all, as the Harrisburg City Council last month approved a plan that should lead to its renovation.

Council gave the OK to a land use plan that will subdivide the property at 1006 N. 6th St. from the Jackson House restaurant next door. Decades ago, the two parcels were combined into a single lot.

With council approval, Harrisburg residents Kerry and Lessa Helm can complete the purchase of the four-story, 6,000-square-foot Victorian townhouse from Dave Kegris, the owner of Jackson House.

Kegris has owned both properties since inheriting them from German Jackson, an African-American entrepreneur whose hotel once served prominent black celebrities and other visitors to Harrisburg who were not allowed to stay in whites-only establishments.

Kegris long has run the eatery, but couldn't afford the extensive renovations to the hotel next door, which has deteriorated badly over the years.

The Helms learned about the house by reading a story in the May 2013 issue of TheBurg. They now plan to stabilize the rundown building and begin a long-term renovation with the goal of making it their home.



CHANGING HANDS: SPONSORED BY WENDELL HOOVER

- · Adrian St., 2449: R. & H. Dougherty to A. McKune,
- Bigelow Dr., 40: Fannie Mae to G. Neff & M. Murphy, \$32,000
- Boas St., 209: M. Roda to V. Padilla, \$112,900
- Brookwood St., 2624: J. Thompson et al to K. Patel,
- Capital St., 1214: E. Hoynes to J. Forbes, \$99,500
- · Chestnut St., 2113: G. Yarnall to J. Dos Santos,
- Edgewood Rd., 2312: Fannie Mae to J. Whiteman, \$85,000
- Hale St., 427: J. Fox to D. & C. Taylor, \$55,582
- Manada St., 1905: U.S. Bank NA Trustee to PA Deals LLC, \$30,000
- Market St., 1317, 1321: W. & N. Schubauer to S. Betz, \$440,000
- N. 2nd St., 902: J. Salvemini & D. Vitale to L. & S. Freeman, \$147,000

- N. 2nd St., 1303: PA Deals LLC to D. Reinhart, \$95,000
- N. 2nd St., 2644: M. Ventresca to D. Castle, \$250,000
- N. 4th St., 2250: R. & T. Ruiz to Equity Trust Co. Custodian Linda Dean IRA, \$39,000
- N. 4th St., 3108: P. Purdy to E. & C. Thomas, \$122,000
- N. 7th St., 2712: PA Deals LLC to Merrick Solo 401K Trust, \$57,000
- N. 15th St., 1309: R. Floyd et al to M. Gabrielle, \$47,000
- N. 17th St., 88; 1150 Mulberry St.; 2332 N. 6th St.; 2519 N. 6th St.; 2308 Jefferson St.; 448 Hamilton St.; & 612, 613, 614, 616, 617, 619 Oxford St.: Redevelopment Authority of Harrisburg to SMKP Properties, \$327,273
- N. 7th St., 3205 & 3133: K. & J. Rust to Bass Pallets Realty LLC, \$240,112
- \bullet N. 17th St., 1007: Wells Fargo Bank NA to J. Mosley, \$60,000

- N. Front St., 1525, Unit 610: M. & C. Heppenstall to M. Hadginske, \$80,000
- N. Front St., 2901: M. Knackstedt to R. Edwards, \$395,000
- N. Front St., 2909 & 2917: M. Knackstedt to M. & S. Wilson, \$361,000
- Penn St., 1105: Fannie Mae to G. Knight, \$40,000
- Penn St., 2334: E. Stawitz to A. Yates, \$83,000
- Pennwood Rd., 3214: 360 Home Services LLC et al to CNC Realty LLC, \$100,000
- S. 17th St., 1701: J. & H. Garcia to Niel Real Estate Investments LLC, \$225,000
- S. 27th St., 634: A. & S. Velez to S. Moore, \$55,000
- Susquehanna St., 1709: G. & D. West to A. Fortune,
- Susquehanna St., 1910: R. McLean to WCI Partners LP, \$87,500

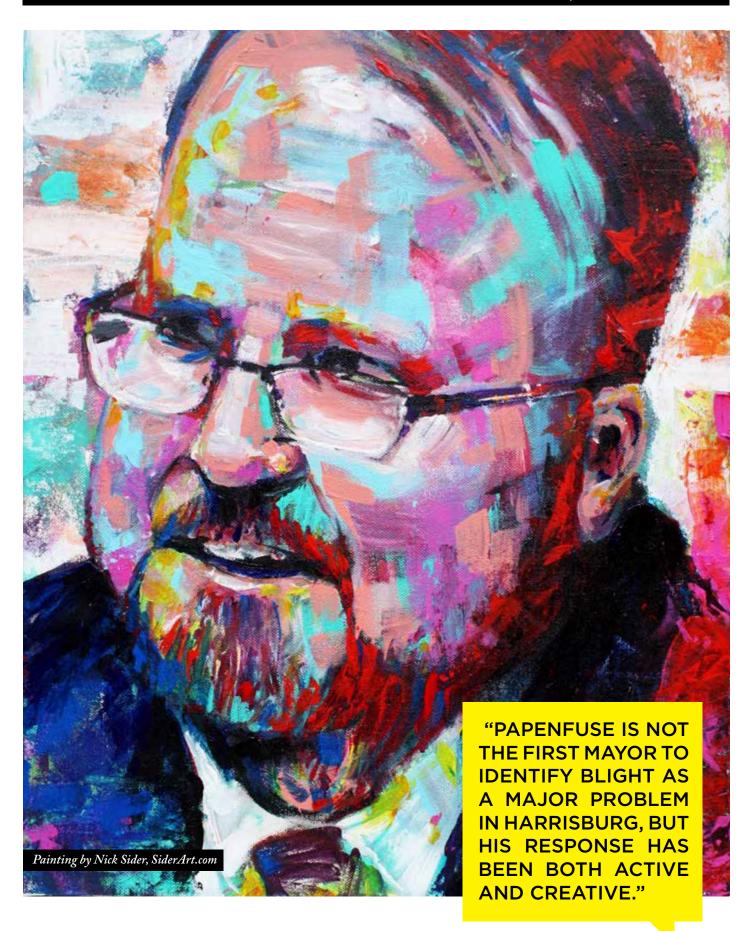
Harrisburg property sales for June 2014, greater than \$30,000. Source: Dauphin County. Data is assumed to be accurate.



Dateline: Kunkel Plaza. Summer news slump hits the Harrisburg media.

6-MONTH CHECK-UP

ERIC PAPENFUSE HAS BEEN MAYOR FOR HALF-A-YEAR. HOW'S HE DOING? | BY LAWRANCE BINDA



ack in January, I wrote that we couldn't reasonably expect to judge the performance of Harrisburg's new mayor until at least six months had passed. Last month, the Papenfuse administration reached that milestone—so let the judging begin!

Seriously, I still think it's too early to say whether Eric Papenfuse should be regarded as a good mayor, a meh mayor or something else.

Heck, during his 28 years in office, former Mayor Stephen Reed had numerous ups and downseven regarded by some as one of the best mayors in the country before he crashed and burned. And, of course, casting judgment is always subjective, depending almost as much on the person judging as the one being judged.

With those caveats, I think we can begin to form an opinion based on Papenfuse's priorities, governing style and successes so far. If you believe these point Harrisburg in the right direction, then you probably approve of what he's doing. If not, then you likely don't.

So, six months in, here's what I see from the administration.

« ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Right out of the box, Papenfuse indicated that he would make economic development a top priority of his administration. He's followed through on that pledge, reviving the moribund economic development office, getting CREDC to fund a director for the office, moving swiftly to pass the stalled zoning code update and indicating that he wants fast action on 10-year tax abatement for property improvements. One could argue the merits of any of these measures, and, in fact, various factions (from residents to gadflies to developers) have criticized all of them. Also, as I've stated repeatedly, I believe that shoring up the city's iffy infrastructure, improving its appearance and firming up its management would do more to attract businesses and residents than more overt marketing efforts. Papenfuse, though, has maintained his administration can—and should do it all.

« BLIGHT:

For four decades, Harrisburg has been overrun with slumlords, uncaring property owners and abandoned buildings. Papenfuse is not the first mayor to identify blight as a major problem in Harrisburg, but his response has been both active and creative. He moved codes enforcement into public safety, began a Housing Court and created a land bank aimed at putting blighted properties back into productive use. He also took the heat, but refused to retreat, after one of the first people arrested for codes violations turned out to be a prominent minister.

«INFRASTRUCTURE:

Harrisburg's infrastructure, neglected for so long, is an embarrassment. The administration has made some progress on that front. A few streets have been striped, some potholes filled, some lights turned back on. Admirably, the city has kept the giant knotweed, which chokes the riverfront each summer, in check. Papenfuse says infrastructure is a priority of his administration. Unfortunately, he's forced to live within the limitations of a tight municipal budget until the city can tap into the \$6 million infrastructure fund set up as part of the financial recovery plan. That access, however, looks to be months away, as a nonprofit still must be set up to administer the fund.

« SCHOOLS:

Papenfuse believes that Harrisburg's poorperforming schools are an impediment to repopulating and re-energizing the city. Few would disagree. The mayor, however, has little control over the system, which is run independently by the school board and administration. Papenfuse tried to sidestep that reality by appealing directly to the state Department of Education, then going public, in an effort to remove state-appointed Chief Recovery Officer Gene Veno. At this writing, Veno remains in his job. Papenfuse also failed in his public effort to have the school board approve the proposed Key Charter School. It now will be interesting to see whether Papenfuse continues to try to fight this uphill—and, so far, unproductive—battle.

"IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT HE'S MADE PUBLIC SAFETY A **CENTRAL PART OF** HIS ADMINISTRATION. SO FAR, HIS **EFFORTS SEEM TO** BE WORKING. AS OF THIS WRITING, CRIME IS DOWN YEAR-OVER-YEAR IN HARRISBURG."

« PUBLIC SAFETY:

A few years ago, as a private citizen, Papenfuse attempted to create an improvement district devoted to boosting security in Midtown. Therefore, it's no surprise that he's made public safety a central part of his administration. So far, his efforts seem to be working. As of this writing, crime is down year-over-year in Harrisburg, with homicides considerably lower. Meanwhile, both Police Chief Thomas Carter and Fire Chief Brian Enterline have been quietly and competently rebuilding their demoralized forces.

« GOVERNING STYLE:

In prior administrations, Harrisburg bounced from a mayor who seemed to be everywhere to one who was hardly seen at all. Papenfuse is somewhere in the middle, which is probably best. Behind the scenes, though, his government has operated at a frenetic pace. He's tried to make many changes, large and small, in a short period of time. For the most part, that energy is needed, as the city lost years of progress through poor governance and financial despair. However, the breakneck pace has led some to feel that he tries to steamroll change, such as his insistence that the city pass a new zoning code quickly. His impatience also has affected relations with some City Council members and parts of the community, who have reacted suspiciously to it.

> "HE'S AN INTELLIGENT, CAPABLE, WELL-INTENTIONED MAN, **BUT HE ALSO CAN BE STUBBORN AND** IMPATIENT TO MAKE **BIG CHANGES.**"

« MANAGEMENT:

Papenfuse had to rebuild a government almost from scratch, which he's done with some success. Unlike the past two administrations, he seems to have adequately devolved power from the mayor's office, while holding his managers accountable. That said: his top staff varies significantly in ability and temperament. Also, the administration has benefitted from just how low expectations have sunk. In Harrisburg, it's practically a reason to celebrate when Public Works fills a pothole or cuts the weeds; when codes enforcement cracks down on habitual violators; when a cop is seen on the street. He needs to ensure that his managers, first and foremost, are focused on these basic service delivery and quality-of-life issues.

Papenfuse has tried to do a lot, quickly. Most of his efforts have been successful. That's a commendable result, as the new mayor faced an incredibly steep learning curve and the daunting mission of reconstructing a shattered government. As a resident, I hope that Papenfuse will build on his successes, while learning from his mistakes. He's an intelligent, capable, well-intentioned man, but he also can be stubborn and impatient to make big changes. A successful tenure will depend upon his ability to exploit his many strengths while holding in check those tendencies that might impede progress. B

Lawrance Binda is editor-in-chief of TheBurg.

KNOWN UNKNOWNS

With a little digging and networking, you can find answers to your many questions.

BY TARA LEO AUCHEY

get asked a lot of questions about Harrisburg.

Sometimes, they are basic questions with easy answers. "What's the rule about trashcans in the city?" Per the ordinance, all garbage must be placed in plastic or metal receptacles with tight-fitting lids, securely fastened and watertight. There. Answered.

Sometimes, though, the questions are more complex. "How did the city get into such a financial mess?" My response to this one inevitably starts with a deep breath and includes sundry chapters and digressions.

I get questions about city rules, ways of life and states of being.

I get questions asked in sincerity, curiosity, confusion, frustration, facetiousness and indignity.

The fact is many people have many questions about the city of Harrisburg. They want answers and the scoop.

It isn't a problem that there's a plethora of questions. The problem is that people just aren't quite sure how to find answers when they need them.

That's because there really isn't a centralized source for information about Harrisburg. The exact who, what, when, where and how can be elusive. As a consequence, a significant number of people feel excluded and frustrated with the entire system, which hardens divisions.

Sure, there is some information in some places, but people complain those places aren't necessarily familiar or accessible or up-to-date or accurate. The city's website would seem the logical place to go, but, as of now, it's still a work in progress. And a call or visit to City Hall doesn't guarantee clarity.

Overall, people have to work hard to access information. Questions end up coming my way because I have made it a mission of sorts to acquire information and share it.

I try to discover it and impart it massively, which can be a daunting task indeed. Often, I get the comment, "I was told to ask you because you would know."

That's not true. I don't always know. And, in matters that reach beyond factual answers, I'm not constantly poised to engage. Although, there are times when I do share my theories and perspective. In those instances, I'm sure to support my positions with evidence and reasoning. The rest is open to a spirit of fair debate.

That being said, the thing I think I do well is find out what's going on. I seek the answers. I go places and talk to people. I ask questions and verify responses. I read. I listen. I engage.

Over the years, it's gotten easier. I know more people and am aware of more points of view. I know where to find reliable sources and documents. I've learned processes and protocols. If I don't know the direct route to answers or explanations, I've figured out which direction to look.

Harrisburg is a small place. When it comes down to it, it's a manageable place with manageable information.

I came to that realization with time and effort, though. I had to make an effort to know where to go, who to ask or how to find out things. I had to gather information and try to make sense of it all.

Much of my knowledge comes from spending hours and hours in a

variety of places around the city. While I may spend much more time in locating information than the average person, I'd argue even a bit of effort by anyone could make for a better informed citizen.

City Council meetings, zoning hearings, and press conferences—even going once in awhile—puts you in touch with several resources. Public projects, initiatives and gatherings are other good places to meet people and exchange information. Even sitting on the front porch and walking around the neighborhood help make connections and expose you to multiple types of knowledge. Participating in community endeavors unavoidably gives you an earful, much of it valuable and useful

By doing all of the above, I discovered an incredible network of people and resources. I met people who care, people who are accomplished and who want to make Harrisburg better. They, too, want to know more.

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NEED THEM."

Plus, they are willing to share what they do know.

It's a network of rich diversity of perspective, experience and information.

Of course, serious trust issues exist, but that can't be surprising for a city in reconstruction.

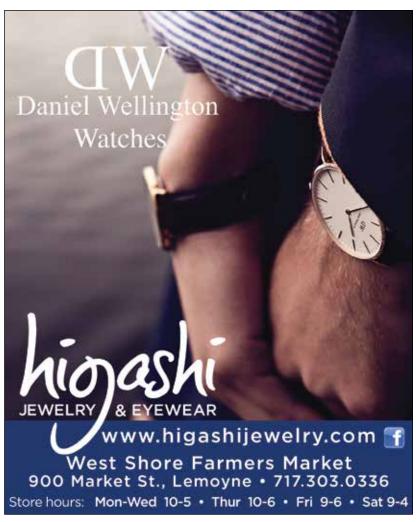
It takes some determination to tap into the network. When I first moved here eight years ago, I didn't know how to do that. When I researched, I found that most of the information came from the top down. There lacked a mass community exchange, especially one that stretched across the city. Accurate information was some sort of privilege granted a few. The network seemed small, tight and exclusive.

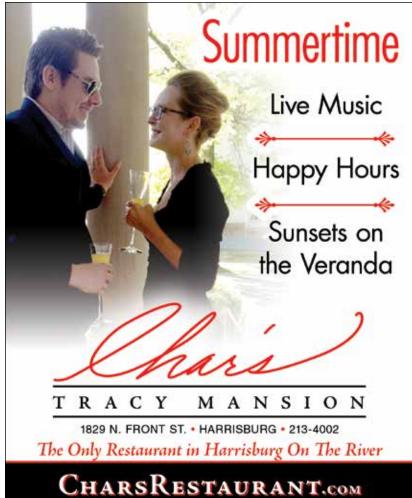
Fortunately, it's not like that anymore. That system crashed and can't easily be rebuilt because now there are too many people paying attention. More of us share knowledge and willingly pass it along. There's more engagement and consensus on what the facts are. More people are participating and expanding the system of communication in Harrisburg.

• Output

Description:

Tara Leo Auchey is creator and editor of today's the day Harrisburg. www.todaysthedayhbg.com







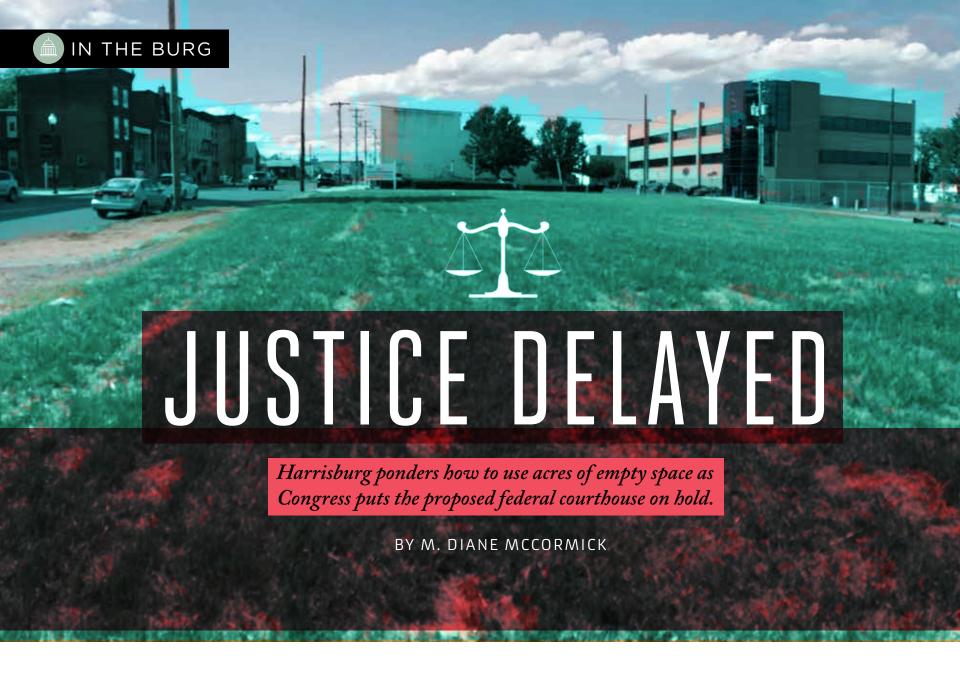
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vacant lot stands at N. 6th and Reily streets in Harrisburg. But where, many ask, is our shiny new federal courthouse that's supposed to be rising there?

The answer comes down to two obstacles, one better known than the other. It's no secret that the first obstacle to construction is congressional appropriation of the funds, but the project's fate also rests on the outcome of a lesser-known review underway of all federal courthouse construction projects.

Chastised by the U.S. General Accountability Office for a clouded decision-making process and bloated construction projects, the federal judiciary is re-examining its five-year (2014 to 2018) plan that prioritized new courthouses for Harrisburg and 11 other cities. The reworked plan will then be handed to Congress, which could use it to guide funding decisions.

First, a recap.

Harrisburg's current federal courthouse stands downtown at N. 3rd and Walnut streets, occupying several floors of the Ronald Reagan Federal Building. In 2004, the federal judiciary put Harrisburg on a list of cities where new construction was a top priority, prompted by the need to beef up security

or add more space, or both.

The General Services Administration (GSA) seemed hellbent on tearing down a viable block of 2nd Street downtown to make way for the new, 265,000-square-foot facility. Residents, organizations, city officials and the state's congressional members put up a fight.

In 2010, the city prevailed, winning a commitment that the building would rise from the vast, L-shaped parcel bounded by N. 6th, N. 7th, Reily, Harris and Boyd streets, affirming hopes for a courthouse as a jewel of a Midtown renaissance.

More than four years later, the five-acre site remains vacant. About half of the \$26.7 million appropriated by Congress for site and design work has been spent, according to the GSA, but Congress has yet to approve the remaining \$110 million needed to move forward.

It "remains to be seen" if Harrisburg stays on the list of priority construction projects, said U.S. Rep. Lou Barletta, a Republican who represents a chunk of Harrisburg and chairs the House Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

"The Harrisburg Courthouse remains on the

Judiciary's five-year Courthouse Project Plan," said Barletta. "However, there are six federal courthouse projects scheduled ahead of it, at a combined cost of \$700 million—which is currently not funded."

While many players point to the lack of a congressional allocation as the holdup, Harrisburg also must wait while the judiciary reconsiders its construction projects.

The rethink was prompted by GAO's April 2013 report that the judiciary's five-year plan lacked transparency or documented justification for many priority projects. For instance, GAO claimed, the plan cites the need for two or more new courtrooms as a key criterion for a new building—and Harrisburg needs only one.

The judiciary balked at GAO's recommendation for a moratorium on construction but agreed to review all projects. Harrisburg is part of that review, according to U.S. Courts spokesperson Karen Redmond. She had no timeline for completion of the review, although the GAO report said it could be done by October 2015, plus another 18 to 24 months for a long-range facility plan.



WAITING, WAITING

Harrisburg's current federal courthouse has "a sufficient number of courtrooms," but security is a major concern, said Middle District Chief Judge Christopher Conner. The building, finished in 1966, has exceeded its 40-year lifespan and, sitting squarely on the street, doesn't comply with post-Oklahoma City setback guidelines, he said.

The primary concern is that the current building can't be retrofitted with "secure corridors for the ingress and egress of prisoners, judges, witnesses, jurors and the like," said Conner.

"I ride in the same elevators as the prisoners, the witnesses, the attorneys," he said. "There is no segregation of judicial officers from the other participants. I've been in elevators with the family of somebody I've just sentenced, and it's awkward and unsettling, probably for everyone."

U.S. Rep. Scott Perry, a Republican who represents most of Harrisburg, said that he and his staff have "sought feedback from a wide array of sources," including city officials, local business leaders, concerned citizens and the GSA. Congress will review the judiciary's new plan when it's released, he said.

"I believe that ensuring the proper administration of justice for our citizens is a core function of government," Perry said. "Yet, with our nation facing a \$17 trillion debt, Congress has a duty to ensure that taxpayer money is used efficiently.'

In January, Barletta told Pennlive/Patriot-News that the project could be done under a publicprivate partnership, in which businesses make a deal with government to shoulder a big share of the load in exchange for a profit. Still, it all goes back to a congressional appropriation, he told TheBurg.

"I do believe that public-private partnerships should more frequently be used for this type of project, but funding is still a big issue," he said.

NOTHING FIRM

While federal officials ponder their next moves, the GSA is leading residents and the Papenfuse administration in considering how to make temporary use of the vacant space at 6th and Reily. Ideas that emerged from a meeting in May included dog park, community gardens, park and playing field, fitness area, bandshell/theater and open space. Working with the GSA and the city, Friends of Midtown and today's the day Harrisburg solicited

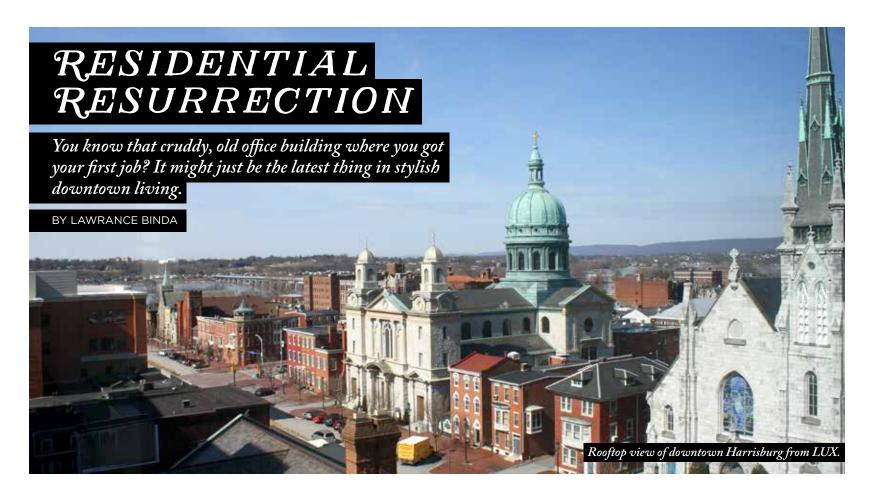
opinions on the site's interim use. Findings were to be shared with the GSA.

Under GSA guidelines, any use would have to be temporary and add little infrastructure, said Friends of Midtown Vice President and Treasurer Don Barnett.

"We're trying to gauge what the community would like and what the community would use," said Barnett.

Before his election, Mayor Eric Papenfuse was among the residents who fought for the 6th and Reily site. He remains interested in the talks about its temporary use, said spokesperson Joyce Davis.

"There have been some conversations at recent public meetings in which the mayor indicated he favored being able to let the land be used for community purposes, including some of it possibly being used for a dog park, but there is nothing firm or confirmed about these ideas," Davis said. B



n June, Jennifer Lazarski moved into a onebedroom apartment in downtown Harrisburg. Normally, this would hardly be a remarkable event, as downtown has a number of apartment buildings, large and small, and people come and go all the time.

Lazarski, though, was a pioneer of sorts. She became one of the first tenants at 130 Locust St., a high-end, office-to-residential conversion that suddenly has become the next big thing in downtown living.

"I wanted to be downtown," said the 28-year-old Lazarski, a nurse at Harrisburg Hospital. "Now, I can walk to work and to restaurants or to have a drink with friends."

Lazarski was living in Hershey, but found the commute "frustrating," she said. So, she began searching Harrisburg for a new home, only to be disappointed by housing that was not up to her standards.

Finally, she learned about 130 Locust, a time-worn office building that was being re-developed into 14 one- and two-bedroom apartments with new floors, exposed brick, skylights, stainless steel appliances and other designer finishes.

"It's urban and has character and was all brand-new," she said. "I felt it was perfect for a young professional who wanted something modern to live in."

As the downtown office market has cooled, developers have found salvation for Harrisburg's vintage properties in an unlikely place: upscale residential. Turns out that professionals like Lazarski don't mind paying a bit more in rent for a nice apartment in a boutique building near restaurants, nightlife and, often, work.

"They want aspirational space," said David Butcher, president of WCI Partners, which re-developed the building. "This type of city living is resonating with their aspirations, with their artistic, financial, political aspirations."

NEW ERA

You can break down the history of downtown housing in Harrisburg into three rough phases. The first spanned the initial settlement of the city, from the colonial to the Victorian periods. Much of that stock has been lost to the wrecking ball, though a few charming pockets remain.

The second phase came with the advent of highrise living in the 1960s and '70s. That era gave us such modernist buildings as Executive House, Pennsylvania Place and Presbyterian Apartments.

The current phase is apart from both those periods in design and living. It involves renovating and repurposing Harrisburg's old, often-rundown (sometimes empty) office stock into small, boutique apartment buildings, with rents usually around \$1,000 a month for a medium-sized, onebedroom unit.

WCI stuck its toe into this market last year with a high-end renovation of two units above Little Amps Coffee Roasters at N. 2nd and State streets. After those apartments leased quickly, the company began scouring downtown for more opportunities,

That search led to the purchase of 130 Locust St., which, within weeks of completion, was almost completely leased. The company next acquired 210 Walnut St., the long-time home of the Keefer, Wood, Allen & Rahal law firm. WCI now is converting that four-story structure at the corner of Walnut and Court streets into a 21-unit apartment building, expected to deliver next April.

And it isn't just WCI.

Across the street from the state Capitol, Brickbox Enterprises just finished its conversion of the former Barto office building to the LUX, a 42-unit planned community whose first occupants moved in last month. In recent years, Brickbox also re-developed several old, dilapidated office buildings into housing for Harrisburg University students.

Nearby, Vartan Group is finishing up work on a sixunit conversion of the long-vacant Carson Coover House at 223 Pine St. Down on Front Street, Vartan just bought the historic, circa-1863 John Hanna Briggs Mansion, the long-time headquarters of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. That 5,500-square-foot building is slated to become seven luxury riverfront apartments.

Even the 1960s-era Executive House has jumped on the trend, last year converting three entire floors from offices to upscale apartments.

"There's so much vacant office space in the city of Harrisburg," said Derek Dilks, vice president of property development for Brickbox. "If people are willing to live in these cool spaces, why not adapt them?"

This type of living has strong appeal to younger people, said Dilks. But it also attracts single professionals of all ages; married couples, mostly without children; and empty-nesters who want to live in a walkable community, he said.

"People want the amenities," he said. "They want to

be close to the restaurants, close to the river."

To illustrate that point, Nicole Conway shared a story from her own experience. A dozen years ago, fresh out of law school, she wanted to live downtown to be near the restaurants, bars and clubs that were popping up along 2nd Street. She decided against it after she couldn't find the well-appointed apartment she wanted.

"There are people who want to live in the city who are looking for nice rental," said Conway, executive vice president and general counsel for Vartan Group. "Until recently, you had trouble finding it."

LONG-TERM TREND

Of course, you can't mention downtown Harrisburg without bringing up the issue of parking, as the cost of on-street spaces has doubled since January. Monthly garage rates also have increased, though not nearly as much.

Generally speaking, the developers said they thought the issue had been overblown. Indeed, some people will not live downtown because of the parking situation. Others, however, find they don't need to own a car or they reverse commute or they take advantage of Standard Parking's special rates for downtown dwellers, they said. In some cases, units come with parking.

"It's not quite as big of a deal as people are making of it," said Vartan's Conway. "You go to any other city in Pennsylvania or the United States, and you will face the same challenge. You have to pay to park. It's just part of being in a city."

If parking were a deal-breaker, these developers wouldn't be buying and renovating buildings, and people wouldn't be moving into them, the developers said.

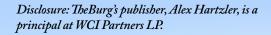
"People have to weigh the barriers versus the benefits," said Dilks. "People who decide to live [downtown] are yearning to be closer to restaurants and work and to have greater interactions with others."



Several other trends are favoring downtown residential development. Banks are beginning to lend again, and developers, seeing pent-up demand, are looking to renovate and build, said Dilks.

Harrisburg might just follow other cities in creating a "living downtown," a place where people reside, not just work and party. That would further affirm the city's status as a center for dining and nightlife, but it also might offer a better market for something the city clearly lacks—quality retail.

"It's a trend, and it's a long-time trend," Dilks said.
"The trend to move out of the city lasted 30 years.
Hopefully, this trend will last for that long of a time."









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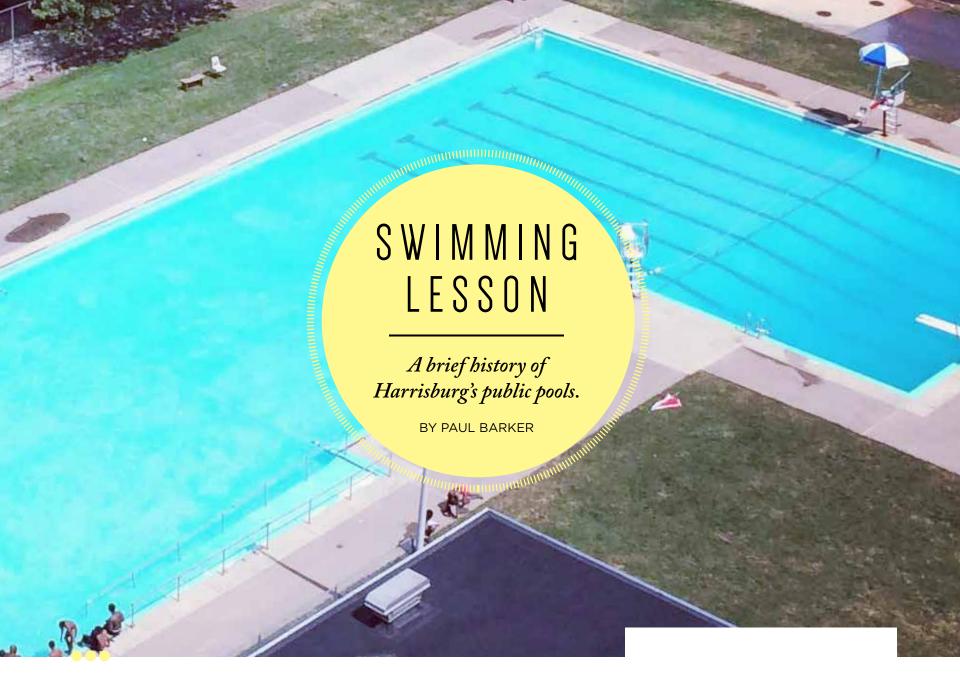
8/22 - "A Bit of E'rything": Amaryllis Santiago, Ju-Taun, T-Shaw, and R.J. Conrad

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"My hungry body's burning for a swim,"

the Jamaican-born Harlem Renaissance poet Claude McKay wrote in his poem "Thirst," from his 1922 collection "Harlem Shadows." For city dwellers in the midst of a hot summer, there's no relief quite as sweet as jumping into a pool. And yet, for the past few summers, Harrisburg residents have had only one city pool in which to swim.

That's expected to change this month, as the city plans to reopen the pool at Hall Manor after making some short-term repairs. The Hall Manor pool, at the end of S. 18th Street in south Harrisburg, was closed in 2012 due to leaks, and, according to city engineer Wayne Martin, it will also require extensive concrete work and a new paint job before it can be used. The necessary repairs, which began in July, represent part of an estimated \$210,000 in renovations to both pools planned over the next year, to be paid for out of federal community development funds.

The administration of Mayor Eric Papenfuse announced the renovations in late June, shortly after the launch of its "Summer in the City" promotional campaign. "We chose the pools because we consider them critical to our public safety strategy as well as our summer enrichment strategy," Papenfuse said, when asked about the project at a press conference in July. "We need two pools just to handle the demand. But also, we want to give kids and families something productive and happy to do." The other city pool is on N. 6th Street in Midtown, located behind the Jackson

Lick public housing apartment towers and the Ben Franklin School. Both pools were substantially renovated in the late '90s. The initial investment will yield scant returns this year, as the Hall Manor opening, expected to be around Aug. 15, will only provide for two weeks of swimming before the summer ends. But, according to Martin, the repairs planned over the next year should extend the pools' useful life by between 10 and 15 years.

"The Hall Manor pool has been closed for years, just neglected and forgotten about, and we said, 'No, we're gonna make fixing it a real priority.' And it looks like we're going to be able to get it up and running," Papenfuse said. "We think that's a wise investment of city dollars."

Harrisburg undertook the construction of its two pools in the spring of 1968, under Republican Mayor Albert Straub.

"Big Al" Straub, whom the journalist Paul Beers, in a column in the Patriot-News, once described as "a senior-citizen sex symbol with a square jaw and a silver mane," had taken office that January. Not unlike the current mayor's initiative, the Straub administration's efforts formed part of a citywide investment in recreation. Over the next year, the city would pledge more than \$1 million—including \$150,000 from a private donor—towards constructing the pools and developing playgrounds at seven city locations.

The recreation project came at a time of change and unrest. The city itself was shrinking: the U.S. census reported a loss of nearly 10,000 residents in the 1950s, and another 11,000 in the 1960s. On April 4, three months into Straub's term, Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated. That summer, the school district, having been cited for "racial imbalance" by the state Human Relations Commission, drafted a plan to bus black students into three predominantly white schools. Less than a year later, pupils at John Harris High would boycott an afternoon assembly on the basis of, as Beers later wrote, "inadequate recognition of the recent Black History Week." Harrisburg's race riot flared only a few months afterwards.

The Hall Manor pool's construction was delayed one year, but the Jackson Lick pool opened on Aug. 9, 1968, a Friday morning. At the time, the Jackson Lick apartment towers housed families with children, and in the days leading up to the

opening, a residents' association had raised safety questions in connection with the pool's chain link fences, which some parents worried could be hopped by children. The association was also irked over a "complete lack of communication between the city and the tenants," according to its president, Helen Moore. Finally, the city assuaged Moore by promising to post a night watchman at the pool and by inviting association leaders to sit with other city officials on opening day.

According to a report the next day in the Patriot, Straub led a 20-minute ceremony under a "hot noonday sun." Perhaps in apology for construction delays, he announced that the public could use the pool free of charge for the remainder of the season. (Full admission prices would take effect the following summer—25 cents per visitor, or \$8 for a family season pass.) While the mayor spoke, "kids and some parents stood impatiently by in swimming togs waiting for the program to end." When it did, the report adds, "approximately 300 children entered the pool in 10 minutes." Moore, of the residents' association, remarked that she'd "never seen a happier bunch of children."

On a recent weekday, during a few days' break from summer temperatures, the men's locker room at the Jackson Lick pool was empty. An inch-deep pool of standing water sat at the feet of a row of stalls. Outside, on the walk to the pool, a man named Andre sold sno-cones and candy out of a small garage. Andre owns a furniture store on S. Cameron Street, one of several businesses displaced by the massive fire at a nearby vehicle salvage business in May. At the snack stand, he said, he was merely standing in for the head of the operation—his 10-year-old daughter.

The Jackson Lick pool sits on a sloping rectangle of scrabbly grass in the shadow of the tinted-glass PHEEA building. On the other side is the Ben Franklin School, whose windows face directly onto the pool. In May, you would think this would prove a form of torture for the middle-school students, except that the pool isn't filled until the school year ends. (Maybe it's a form of torture anyway.) A pair of managers watched from under a sun umbrella, while perhaps 20 or 30 children, many from a nearby daycare, splashed around, tossed Nerf footballs, or dove from the boards. Behind them, a smaller, circular wading pool, filled, but with a broken pump, sat unused, its floor growing a brown-green fuzz.

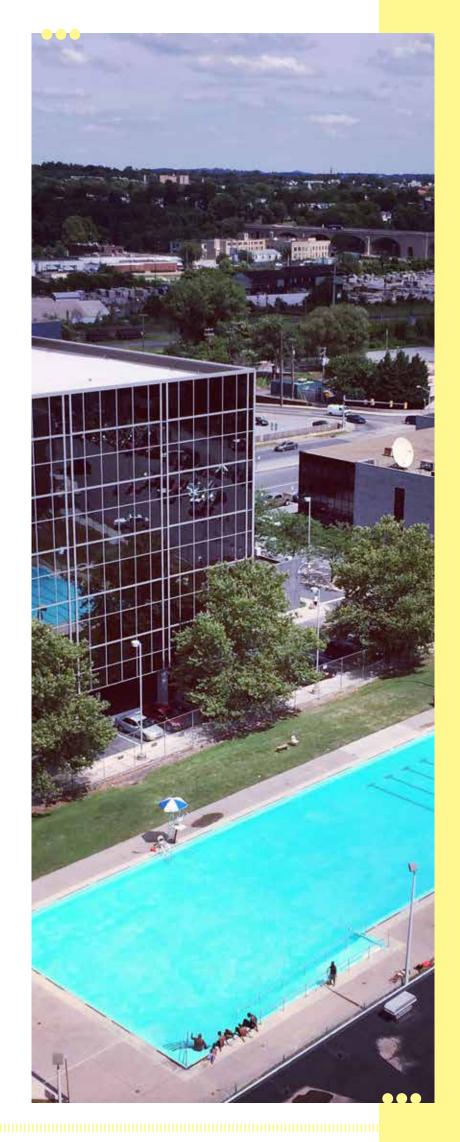
It was a peaceful day, with lifeguards lazing at their posts and objects on the periphery—a crumpled stretch of fence, a dusty picnic table—looking quaintly timeworn. Nonetheless, the pool has seen its share of excitement over the years. Across the street, Keith Myers, a maintenance supervisor for the Harrisburg Housing Authority, reminisced about some of the wilder times. "Kids would sneak in at midnight, throw their towels over the fence," he said. He recalled the discovery, several years back, of large bags of marijuana in the attic of the bathhouse, a gun battle that left bullets in the side of one of the apartment towers, and, most peculiarly, a deer bolting out from what used to be a woodsy patch adjacent to the parking lot.

Myers started with the housing authority in 1982. A year or two before, the organization had removed families from the southern tower, named for Alton W. Lick, and converted the building into apartments for people over 55. Before then, the tower had attracted gang activity. "Mayor Reed was calling us 'Hall Manor in the sky," Myers said. The northern tower, named for C. Sylvester Jackson, was vacated in 2004 and is currently under renovation. Both of the buildings have 13 floors, which, in defiance of the superstition, are labeled 1 through 13 in the elevators. For the convenience of residents, many of whom are disabled, a wheelchair ramp was added to the Jackson Lick pool during a renovation in the 1990s.

In 1998, the city introduced a pool program that had nothing to do with swimming. Called the "Get Hooked on Fishing Derby," it involved filling the pool with striped bass after it had closed for the season in September. In 2006, according to a press release from the office of former Mayor Stephen Reed, the city dumped in 1,100 12-inch stripers, 30 of which had been tagged with the names of various city celebrities. Anglers who hooked them would receive a special prize.

Bob Herman, the president of Capital City Bassmasters, the local BassPro Shop's house fishing club, recalled that his members would team up with the city to help young fishermen manage their rods. "It was a mess," he said. "You can imagine, kids around a swimming pool...we'd have, like, 20 kids at a time all tangled up." The event was abandoned in later years, as the city's deepening fiscal crisis led to a budgetary clampdown.

The present-day pool prices—\$5 per visitor, \$150 for a family of six—can make the city pools' early years seem like ancient history. And, as far as I know, Harrisburg has no imminent plans to fill the Jackson Lick pool with stripers. But, for the first summer in a while, if only for a few weeks, it should once again have a second pool. **3**



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

100 years old, the Harrisburg Chamber eyes its next century.

BY STEPHANIE KALINA-METZGER

hundred years ago, the Harrisburg area was a completely different place.
Streetcars ran the length and breadth of the city; shoppers crowded the streets downtown. The suburbs, as we understand them today, did not exist.

It was in that environment that prominent businessman E.J. Stackpole set the wheels in motion to establish the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC, which this year celebrates its centennial.

Declaring that the Board of Trade, the city's previous group for merchants, had outlived its usefulness, he recommended that the entity give way to a new organization possessing "wider powers" and a "broader scope of activity."

Stackpole seems to have gotten what he wanted.

At its birth in 1914, the Chamber enlisted nearly 200 members, including newspapers, banks, printers, retailers and theaters, which agreed to pay dues set at \$25 and up.

Today, the Chamber has about 1,400 members and has greatly expanded its portfolio of services.

"Helping both large and small businesses succeed are always a key part of [what we do]," said David Black, president and CEO.

But the group also provides aid in the form of research, lobbying, education, networking, and advice on reducing business expenditures, to name a few. Collaboration is key to the success of the organization, according to Black.

"We build bridges and coalitions to move things forward," he said. "That's both a challenge and a blessing. We have a pretty good reputation when it comes to business issues and getting things done. We help businesses connect with each other and to government at all levels."

THE EARLY YEARS

After its founding, the Harrisburg Chamber leased office space in the Kunkel building downtown and named George B. Tripp, head of Harrisburg Light and Power Co., as its first president.

The Chamber faced its share of problems early on. In 1923, a fire destroyed nearly all files and records. Shortly thereafter, it faced the difficult challenge of helping midstate businesses cope with the Great Depression, which brought about economic devastation as well as many new programs, rules and regulations mandated by the Roosevelt administration.

By the 1940s, things were looking up, and the Chamber moved into a new home at 114 Walnut St. in Harrisburg. During this era, it played a major







part in persuading the federal government to build a Navy base in Hampden Township, which brought a plethora of jobs to the area.

More projects followed during the next decades. Some of the most notable included 1,200 new parking spaces on City Island, a four-lane highway from Baltimore to Harrisburg through York (I-83), construction of a \$12-million, 10,000-foot runway at Olmsted Air Force Base in Middletown, and AMP's purchase of a 42-acre site near Dauphin County Prison.

In 1968, Gov. Raymond Shafer cut the ribbon to open commercial air service at Olmsted. A Chamberled plan to locate the Penn State-Harrisburg campus on the grounds of the Air Force base and relocate Fruehauf Trailer Co. nearby was hailed as a successful conversion of a military base to civilian use.

By 1972, the Chamber faced another natural disaster, losing its files once again, this time to Tropical Storm Agnes. While coping with the loss, it mounted citywide clean-up and revival efforts.

The Chamber expanded its scope even further as the years passed and, in 1984, founded the Capital Region Economic Development Corp. (CREDC), which was among the early investors in the Hilton Harrisburg and Towers, erected in 1990.

In the new millennium, major projects included the purchase, remediation and transfer of ownership of the vacant Bethlehem Steel Pipe Mill in Steelton; the founding of Harrisburg University of Science and Technology; the formation of several Keystone Opportunity Zones, Keystone Innovation Zones and Enterprise Zones; the construction of Perry County's Business Campus One; and the organization's Business Diversity Initiative, which began in 2004.

LOOKING AHEAD

Black said the future looks bright for the organization and for the area in general.

"Economically, we are a fairly strong region, so there is a fair amount of money that supports our organization," he said.

Adding to the optimism is the belief that the enormous financial problems facing Harrisburg may

be waning. That's the opinion of Linda Goldstein, vice president and chief operating officer of CREDC, who foresees a better business environment in the city following the Harrisburg Strong Plan.

"Mayor [Linda] Thompson was forced to focus on the city's financial dilemma. Now that we're more stable, Mayor [Eric] Papenfuse and City Council can focus on other initiatives that are key to the vitality of the city," she said.

The Chamber, in fact, played a key role in Harrisburg's recovery process. Black sat on the state receiver's Financial Recovery Advisory Committee and now sits on the Harrisburg Strong Task Force, which is drafting rules for the formation of a non-profit group that will administer the city's infrastructure and economic development funds. In addition, CREDC has provided funds to hire Harrisburg's new director of economic development.

"We are committed to the long-term health and growth of the city of Harrisburg through involvement in the Strong Plan and the financial support for Harrisburg's community and economic development director," said Black.

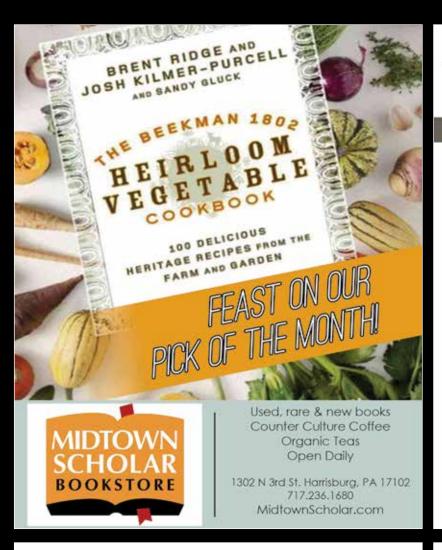
Jack Sproch, CEO of Appalachian Brewing Company and a long-time Chamber member, said he is very satisfied with the benefits provided by the organization.

"They promote legislation that is favorable to the business and economic development of the area and provide demographics and numbers for those interested in starting a business here," he said.

CREDC has been instrumental in ABC's expansion, said Sproch.

"I spent money on accountants and a lot of my time meeting with various economic development people seeking favorable business development loans," he said. "People assured me that if I located in the Cameron Corridor and the Enterprise Zone, it would be simple. Yet, I was unable to get any kind of state or tax benefits until I contacted CREDC."

To learn more about the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC, visit www.HarrisburgRegionalChamber.org or call 717-232-4099.



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3 years ago, Harrisburg's main post office closed its doors. Now, a new owner is seeking clarity about what he can and can't do there.

BY LAWRANCE BINDA

dam Meinstein sweeps his arm forward as he speaks of his vision.

A restaurant here. Small-scale manufacturing there. Maybe a rental car office or workshops or a showroom.

We're standing at 815 Market St., a cavernous building that once was the Keystone branch, Harrisburg's main postal facility. For decades, millions of letters and parcels passed through, heading into town and out to who-knows-where. It was a noisy place, with the buzz and hum of sorting machines, conveyors and hundreds of employees.

Today, the building is mostly quiet, the silence broken up by an occasional voice or some tools banging. But Meinstein says he's working hard to fill the building once again with the sound of commerce—people working, people creating, customers being served.

"This is an interesting property," he said. "We're sitting in the middle of an industrial zone, but we know there is long-term potential for many uses for the property."

Meinstein is president of Equilibrium Equities, a suburban Philadelphia investment and development company that bought the facility in 2011 for \$600,000, after the U.S. Postal Service wound

down 50 years at the site. In addition to the 240,000-square-foot building, 700 parking

spaces sit amid an 11-acre property that's the equivalent of eight city blocks.

After the purchase, Meinstein invested about \$1.5 million in improvements that included everything from paving, lights and security cameras outside to removing heavy postal equipment, sealing floors and knocking down walls inside.

The easiest sell was, as one might expect in Harrisburg, the parking. Under the name TransitPark, Meinstein's company lets spaces on both a short-term and long-term basis at a deep discount to rates charged by Standard Parking, which took over city garages and street parking late last year as part of Harrisburg's financial recovery plan.

Meinstein now does a lot of business with state and downtown workers who don't mind walking a few extra blocks, including beneath the Market Street underpass, to save a fair chunk of change. Amtrak riders, downtown residents and short-term visitors represent other groups of customers.

But it's inside the building where both the opportunities and challenges lie. After the post office closed in 2011, the doors were locked, and the only indication of activity was some new landscaping and

a sign that said, "815 Market Street."

But, says Meinstein, that outward perception was deceptive. Following some improvements and marketing, the building began to find occupants.

Adam Meinstein

"THIS PROPERTY HAS LONG-TERM POTENTIAL. WE HAVE A LOT OF ROOM TO DO WHAT WE NEED TO DO, WHAT THE CITY NEEDS TO HAVE HAPPEN."

Harrisburg-based Exhibit Studios had run out of space at its main facility on Cameron Street, so took some space—and then some more. Restaurant Auction Co. needed a place to stash some equipment, as did Appalachian Brewing Co. Meinstein donated room to store 80 murals that used to line the Mulberry Street Bridge, which is undergoing a complete rehabilitation.

As of this writing, about 80,000 square feet of space was leased, with another 40,000 or so under negotiation, Meinstein said.

Who knew?





"Usually, I like to keep a low profile," he said.

That, however, began to change in June, when the Papenfuse administration reintroduced a new zoning code that had been moldering on the shelves for four years.

The code rezoned the old post office site from industrial to a new zone called "Downtown Center," as the city tried to push the boundaries of downtown up Market Street towards Cameron. With the change, industrial uses would not be permitted in the area by right.

"This building went from a single tenant, the U.S. Postal Service, to a living, breathing, mixed-use building, including industrial," said Meinstein. "The new code takes away industrial use."

He objected. His building, "grandfathered" in, would be exempt from the restrictions of the new zone as long as the existing uses were unchanged. But he feared negative consequences if a future tenant wanted to propose other industrial uses. The fact that the building was constructed for industrial purposes—with 40 dock doors, 22-foothigh ceilings, a large truck court and massive freight elevators—made that scenario likely, he said.

In fact, he said his building already housed a wide variety of uses, as tenant Exhibit Studios was using it for assembly and fabrication, in addition to storage. Therefore, all these uses should be grandfathered, he insisted.

"We were just trying to make sure that on Wednesday morning, we were allowed to do the same things we were doing on Tuesday night," he said.

The city disagreed, insisting that the site served primarily as a warehouse.

"We'd have to have a more thorough understanding exactly of what economic activity is going on there, but it's my understanding that it's primarily storage or warehousing at this point," said city Planner/ Zoning Officer Geoffrey Knight at a City Council meeting last month.

To try to make changes to the code, Meinstein took a public stance, speaking his piece at several public hearings. He also saw it as an opportune time to let the people of Harrisburg know what had become of their old post office, that he was putting back into productive use an enormous, strategically located building that the federal government no longer wanted.

He received only slight satisfaction. Several City Council members tried, but failed, to pass a narrowly targeted amendment that would have continued to allow a full array of industrial uses at 815 Market by right, including manufacturing, assembly and distribution.

In the end, council agreed only that assembly would be allowed in the new Downtown Center zoneand not by right. The Zoning Hearing Board would have to agree to a special exception for the use.

Still, Meinstein plans to continue trying to change minds by suggesting amendments to the new zoning code during the six-month review period. Otherwise, he'll operate on the belief that the building's historic industrial uses-including warehouse, distribution and assembly/fabrication—are grandfathered uses for his building.

"We're going to continue doing what we're doing,"

In his view, the city's stance represents wishful thinking. The administration and council may want to extend downtown to Cameron Street, but there's currently no demand for new offices or housing there—and may not be for many years, he said. What is there demand for? The industrial uses that his building was designed for.

"It was not a great message for the business community at large that these uses did not just get clearly approved in a highly functional, wellmaintained industrial building," he said.

In fact, 815 Market is one of the few decent structures left in a corridor that once housed thriving industrial concerns as diverse as a brewery, a print shop and the Patriot-News press and distribution facilities. Abandoned buildings and large surface lots now dominate the area between the railroad tracks and Cameron Street.

"Look around here," he said, gesturing into the distance towards Market Street. "What do you see? There are vacant buildings, distressed properties. That one building has trees growing out of the roof." Then he pointed back to his building.

"This property has long-term potential," he said. "We have a lot of room to do what we need to do, what the city needs to have happen." B

Israeli Sandwich







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HEALTHY APPETITE

Crave & Co. brings good food, good-for-you to Harrisburg's café culture.

BY STEPHANIE KALINA-METZGER

ristin Messner-Baker is a woman of action.

After graduating from the University

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in creative writing, she went on to study at the Pennsylvania State/Dickinson School of Law. She then embarked on a variety of endeavors, including running for office in South Middleton Township.

Along the way, she purchased property in downtown Harrisburg, where she wore the hat of landlord for about a decade while practicing law with her mother Dorothy Mott and raising five children—Ethan, 19, David, 16, Sensi, 10, Bowie, 6 and Bijou,4.

When Messner-Baker took on the role of busy mom, she became acutely aware of the dearth of fast, accessible, on-the-go healthy food and dreamed of filling that niche "someday."

Well, "someday" arrived this year when tenants moved out of her property at 614 N. 2nd St., ushering in a new beginning. Messner-Baker was finally ready to fulfill her dream of running an organic coffee shop featuring vegetarian food.

She and her husband, John Baker, decided to call their business "Crave & Co." and began gutting the building, which once housed a barbershop. They used their collective creativity to give the café a contemporary, yet homey, feel. Attractive exposed brick lines the wall where customers place their orders, and a large window adds a bright, airy feel to the space.

"We uncovered that when we renovated," said Messner-Baker, seemingly incredulous that someone would block off such a find.

Framed posters of rock stars like Joan Jett, John Lennon, Kurt Cobain and Bob Dylan contribute to the hip vibe, while red-and-white striped tables and chalkboards displaying the couple's artistic talents add a hint of whimsy to the establishment. John, who works as a teacher, is spending his summer side-by-side with Kristin. At times, you can find him drawing decorative designs with chalk on the front sidewalk, having a friendly chat with customers, or strumming a guitar outside the café.

The menu has been in the works for some time. "I found some of the recipes on the Internet, then adapted and streamlined them," said Kristin.

"Yes, and I was the benefactor of all this creativity and tried all the versions of her food," added John. Their tagline: "We aim to satiate."

Breakfast customers on the go can grab a healthy blueberry muffin or a sprouted wheat bagel topped with organic cream cheese, preserves or peanut butter. An egg, tomato and cheddar breakfast sandwich served on pita is another option for a hearty meal and can be accompanied by a cup of Jim's organic coffee or a variety of teas like burdock, chai or dandelion root—or just plain black, for the more conventional.

Lunch options include a popular curried egg salad sandwich, an equally well-liked Israeli sandwich featuring roasted eggplant, egg, hummus cucumber and tomato, or a black bean and quinoa burger, to name just a few.

Mikee Bentz, who heads the Harrisburg chapter of March Against Monsanto, an organization that advocates for non-genetically modified foods, lives up the block from Crave & Co. and is thrilled to have a healthy food option in his neighborhood.

"I love going there because, as a person who supports an organic lifestyle and local consumerism, I can vote with my dollar and put my money where my mouth is," he said.

His favorite sandwich is the curried egg salad, and the coffee is an added plus.

"I am a huge coffee lover, so it's great to know that I can walk half a block and grab a cup of organic coffee," he said.

Monica Kline of Myerstown is also a fan and thanks her brother for putting Crave & Co. on her radar.

"My office is on State Street, and we always try to patronize local restaurants," said Kline, whose choices are somewhat limited due to dietary sensitivities.

When she visits, she usually orders the kale and quinoa salad, which is tossed with pecans, currants and feta cheese.

"I just love the blending of good food, and that's what they're doing at Crave," she said, adding that the drinks, like the ginger tea with blueberry, are very good also.

The Bakers are hoping to expand their hours as the business ramps up, and an open mic night might not be too far in the future.

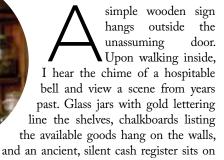
"Kristin has the best of both worlds, where she can now mix her creative side with her technical side," said John. "She has the poet, coffee-shop persona. It was part of her, so now she has come full circle."

Crave & Co. is at 614 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. More information is at www.craveandco.com.



For four decades, Kauffman's has blended fine beverages, friendships.

BY SUSAN RYDER



the counter.

Kauffman's Coffee, Tea and Spice has resided in downtown Lemoyne for 36 years. Owner Betty Dorsey recounts that she and friend Barb Shultz bought the business, originally located in Harrisburg's Shipoke neighborhood, 41 years ago.

"Why don't we just shut up and buy it," was Dorsey's response to their indecision about purchasing the closing business.

They moved it to Lemoyne because they couldn't afford to purchase the Shipoke building and because Lemoyne had greater customer traffic. Dorsey's partner sold her part of the business to return to school five years into their venture. Dorsey's husband, deceased for three years, served as the president of the Local Council of Churches, so she ran the business mostly by herself with the help of their children.

While Kauffman's is an old-fashioned shop, there's nothing old about Betty Dorsey. This forward-thinking pastor's wife started a small business at a time when only about 15 percent of women entered the workforce.

She said that Kauffman's is different than most teashops because it doesn't just serve tea. It also sells a variety of products, including pastries prepared by Dorsey's friend.

Kauffman's dusty blackboards reveal the treasures within. Its loose teas, 35 types, include the exotic Russian gold, peony white and jasmine teas, as well as the more traditional Ceylon, Earl Grey and English breakfast. Tea lovers can also enjoy teas flavored with black currant, apple, apricot or Kauffman's blend

When speaking of tea, she explains that there is "tea the plant and tea the drink."

"Tea the drink is not always tea the plant," she said, referring to the fact that tea, in the broad sense, is a beverage created when leaves, berries or roots are steeped in hot water. Tea, in the strict sense, is a beverage made with the tea plant, Camellia sinensis.

Coffee rounds out the beverage menu with 25 varieties, including Sumatran, French roast, Guatemalan and Kona. All coffee is whole bean and ground on the premises for customers to take home or French-pressed to enjoy in the shop. Dorsey's extensive travels in Europe have influenced her ideas about coffee, and she wrinkles her nose at any mention of a coffeebrewing method other than French press-it just doesn't taste

good, she believes.

Kauffman's doesn't restrict itself to selling beverages; it also deals in spices. Spices make up about a quarter of its business. Common kitchen spices—basil, oregano and thyme—line the shelves, which also include the less common saffron, whole nutmeg seeds and the mysterious tellicherry, a type of black pepper.

The place is full of breakables, but, in the corner on a simple wooden chair, are two handmade cloth dolls for children to play with when they come in. Dorsey wants people to feel comfortable bringing their children into the shop.

"It's a special little coffeehouse," said Fred, a regular at Kauffman's.

He likes that it's quiet with no cell phones or blenders making what he unapologetically calls "non-coffee" drinks. According to Fred, drinking tea or coffee at Kauffman's, with the classical music in the background, feels like sitting in a living room.

"It's like a bed and breakfast of coffee and tea," he said.

What's also special about Kauffman's is that it sells a unique blend of Sumatran, house blend, Italian and Tanzanian coffee, which is sold under an acronym that most people would find vulgar. At Kauffman's, though, Folgers is the only swear word.

When asked if she ever thought about updating the place, Dorsey replied "no way." The early-1900s cash register only rings up to \$6.95, but Dorsey has never considered changing a thing. She weighs her goods on a vintage scale, writes up sales on slips of paper and uses a calculator to tally up the cost. With a confident smile, she said that Kauffman's style has gotten her where she wants to be.

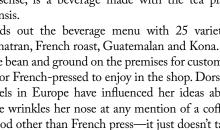
About the only modern items at Kauffman's are the various brewing devices available for purchase. The shop sells French presses and specialized tea brewers that go beyond the typical loose tea infuser.

Justin Walters, owner of JW Music just over the bridge and down the street from Kauffman's, said that his parents went to Kauffman's regularly and that his dad refused to buy coffee anywhere else. So, when his parents could no longer travel, Walters would make a special trip to Kauffman's to purchase coffee for his dad—Colombian supreme.

Like most people who know the store, Walters' face lights up when he talks about it, and a broad smile comes across his face. "It brings back memories," he said.

Leaving Kauffman's Coffee, Tea and Spices feels like leaving an old friend, even if you've just met. The aged wooden floor creaks as I walk to the door, the bell peals a goodbye, and Dorsey and friend wave a friendly farewell. Stepping out into the noisy street with a small brown bag full of delicious possibilities, I look forward to my next visit. B

Kauffman's Coffee, Tea and Spice is located at 222 S. 3rd St., Lemoyne. Call 717-763-0829 or visit the Facebook page.









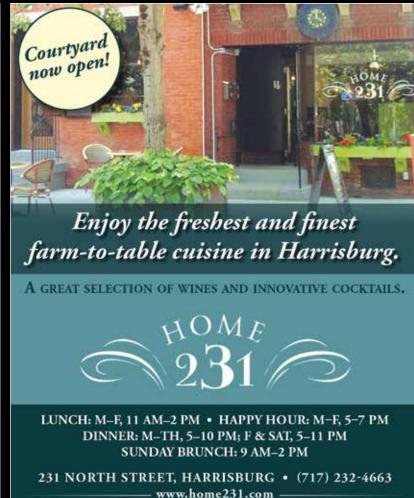






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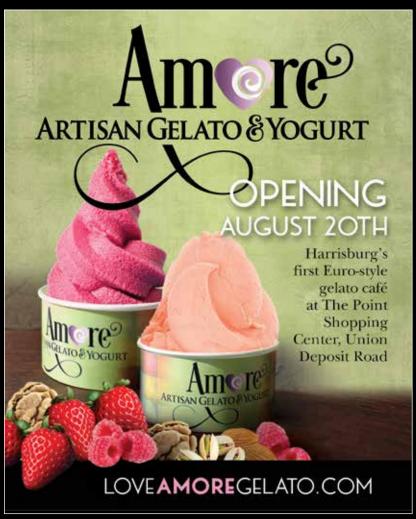
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Periodically, TheBurg highlights the work of student writers at Capital Area School for the Arts (CASA). Here, we feature excerpts of four essays. You can find the complete works at our website, www.theburgnews.com.

Pictured above from left to right are Quadriya Cogman, Annabelle van Hemert, Grace Beatty & Kelsee Baker.

WHAT TEAM?

A day in the life of marching band.

By Annabelle van Hemert

The band waited in the tunnel, the atmosphere bristling with excitement and jangled nerves.

Someone tapped twice on the brim of a friend's shako, the marching band hat, for good luck. That started a chain reaction; band members wanted all the luck they could get. The crowd cheered from inside the stadium. A beat started to lead the other band off the field, in time. Slowly, the new band moved out into the lighted stadium. The prop team raced to set up the smoke stacks in the back of the field and gears in the front. The band marched onto the field, clumped together for a quick pep talk from their director, and hurried to their dots, their placements on the field.

The Mechanicsburg Area Senior High Marching Band would place third in the USBands Nationals Competition. Preparation for the show, "The Factory," started at the beginning of the summer. Since the beginning of the year, the director and leaders worked on the drill, the formations of the band during the show, and the music. During band camp, an extensive two-week camp, the band worked hard to learn as much drill, flag work and music as possible.

The color guard congregated out on the field, spinning their flags, racing to get to their dots, the girls, tired and sweaty, still managing to yell out an "and we're loving it!" toward Kristy Templin, the color guard instructor. The pit squeezed together for warm ups, playing their scales faster and faster, building up callouses on their hands. The drum line practiced not far from the pit, their rhythms echoing throughout the small town of Mechanicsburg.

Jim Weaver, the percussion director, jumped between the two sections to keep them on track. The winds stood together in two arcs, playing their own set of warm-ups, trying to tune the flutes, piccolo and saxophones. William Stowman, a Messiah College music professor, led the band. Ben Goldsborough, the band director, hung out with the winds and could be seen enthusiastically jumping up and down to get the band to play louder at the crescendos.

The band got used to winning that season. Its hard work paid off in the end, winning every competition up until Nationals. The week before Nationals, the band won first place at the Atlantic Coast Championships with a score of 97.70 and earned awards for high music, auxiliary, visual, percussion and brass.

When asking Greg Hutchison, a Lower Dauphin band director, about performing as a high schooler in his marching band, he said, "I had an incredible marching band in high school. I went to Red Land and was a part of their band when they won three Atlantic Coast Championships in four years. Performances

were great because we were taught to take so much pride in what we did."

Mechanicsburg students feel the same way. Leaving the field after the Nationals performance, the band gathered together to rate their individual performances and talk about what would happen next. As soon as everyone gathered together, Goldsborough shouted, "MECHANICSBURG, HOW DO YOU FEEL?" The band yelled a collective "HOOHAH, FEEL GOOD," in response.

Read the complete essay at www.theburgnews.com.

WITH CHILD

A young mother faces stark choices.

By Quadriya Cogman

In my school, I knew at least one student pregnant with her first child.

Society would lump her into the category of "teen mom" and be more likely to judge and dismiss her without digging deeper into her story. The notion that a teenager, pregnant or not, could be that easily dismissed bothered me enough to gather a panel of fellow teens to discuss teen pregnancy. One of the members of the panel appeared visibly nervous. When she noticed my notebook, she took a few deep breaths to prepare for the interview.

Basketball all-star MW enjoyed life as a normal teenager, but a doctor's appointment changed all that. During a routine physical, the doctor pronounced her to be eight-and-a-half-months pregnant. Denying that she had only a few weeks to prepare for a newborn, the 14-year-old didn't know what to do. She said she had no symptoms whatsoever. Knowing only how to be a teenager—showing up for practice, studying, socializing—she didn't know if she wanted to take on the role of motherhood.

"When I found out that I was expecting a child in a few weeks, I started to think about my consequences. I started to wonder what people would think of me. I didn't know if I could handle being judged," she said.

Teen pregnancy is defined by the University of Maryland as pregnancy of a girl under the age of 20. Teen pregnancy remains the highest in industrialized countries. Almost 85 percent of these teen pregnancies are unplanned, meaning that 820,000 teens under the age of 20 become teen mothers each year. They have to drop some of the things they never thought they would have to let go of, so soon in their young lives.

As I wrote down the young mother's answers to her shocking story, she lowered her head. I knew something bothered her because feelings of another participant during the interview became tense.

"I had to sacrifice a lot in life to care for my child. Even if it meant basketball, friends, or being a party girl."

She sounded like a sad tune ready to burst when it hit the high note. "I chose to keep and care for my daughter," she said. When a teenage girl becomes pregnant, she only has three options: abortion, adoption or keeping the baby.

"Discovering and going through a pregnancy forever changes a woman, both mentally and physically," said Dr. Stephanie Diamond, my pediatrician. "Many teen girls who believe they are not capable to care for a child will choose abortion or adoption. Looking from the outside in, teens who are so wrapped up in their teen lives don't want to throw it all away only because they have a child."

Read the complete essay at www.theburgnews.com.

QUIET IS OK

Introverts struggle to be understood.

By Grace Beatty

Children's voices pierce the air. The sun burns bright in a crisp blue sky as they play on the blacktop. A boy kicks a ball through the air before sprinting around a painted kickball diamond. Four square games host lines of students, chatting away as they wait their turn. The swings creak, their seats full. Girls braid each other's hair on the climbing rock, soaking in the warmth it absorbs.

Away from this chaos, one girl sits alone. Underneath a black lamppost, she shrinks into her bumblebee-colored coat, book in hand. Her little eyes dart back and forth, immersed in the story. Two kids walk past, ignored by the girl. This behavior could raise some questions. Is she socially developed? Is she mentally ill? Does she need medication?

Or perhaps it's normal, a part of her introverted personality.

Introverts have often been categorized as shy, unconfident people, which couldn't be further from the truth. It is not self-esteem that defines the introvert, but how they obtain and expend energy.

Kate Bartolotta explains this well in her Huffington Post article, "What Is it Really Like to be an Introvert?" She compares an introvert's energy storage to a cup. Each moment an introvert spends with other people, a little more energy is taken from the cup. Once it's empty, they need to go spend some alone time to fill it back up.

The opposite is true for those on the other end of the spectrum. Extroverts need to spend time socializing to fill their cups and become drained when solitary. People can usually identify themselves with one type or the other, but some are an equal mix of both, called ambiverts. However, someone cannot be all introvert or extrovert. Carl Jung, the psychologist who popularized "introvert" and "extrovert," describes such a person as "a man who would be in the lunatic asylum."

Introverts' tendency toward being alone depends on the amount of energy they can hold in their cup. Some introverts are able to spend more time socializing, to the point where they may be mistaken for extroverts. But there are others who aren't as easily motivated by social stimulation, their cups holding a small fraction of energy. These people might want to take solitary trips to restaurants or libraries, or stay at home, in contrast to going out each night and meeting new people.

Read the complete essay at www.theburgnews.com.

I, THE RUNT

A taste of gritty short fiction.

By Kelsee Baker

They say the runt of the litter is the first one to die. They say it's the weakest, that it won't grow up and become strong like the other pups.

At least that's what my father told me.

Me, the runt out of four older, tougher brothers who'd already learned to hold their liquor by the time they were 12. I shouldn't have to tell you how hard it was growing up in a house dominated by this drunken, masochistic excuse of a family. It didn't take long for me, the skinny little runt, to learn my place in the liquor-soaked patriarchy led by my father.

I kept to myself most of the time, finding solace in taking long walks down the boulevard during the day and bumming cigarettes outside of Dega's Play and Trade at night. Tuesday nights were the best at Dega's. Five bucks and you could get in to see all of the city's greatest underground folk acts. Not to mention that Dega's was the only place that had a liquor license, booze always flowing and the tunes always rolling into the night.

It was after a few of those intoxicated escapades when I started to realize how consumed I was by the environment around me. I constantly offered to buy more rounds, refused to stop downing drinks when it was time to close; but there was something else, something a little smaller and nearly unnoticeable had I not begun to tap my foot along to one of the musician's common-time beat.

Stumbling closer to the stage, I drowned everything out and focused on his fingers picking away on his acoustic. Delving further into this musical bubble slowly encasing me, he began to sing:

"Life used to be good. Now look what I've done.

I've ruined my temple with drugs. My mind is gone."

A whirlwind of memories started to play in my head—all the nights I've wasted here, drunk and falling into debt. His words sent shivers down my spine.

"How did I get this way? It's so unreal.

I'm no longer a person. I can't even feel."

His stage presence was haunting. I closed my eyes to delve further into the music, shaping my fingers to each chord. I was in tears by the end of his set.

A roar of applause erupted from the crowd, and it was at that moment when I realized what I wanted to do with my life. I, the runt, was no longer going to wallow around in the filth created by my booze-laden household. I, the runt, realized what it was going to take to get me out of the shit hole life I was living.



Merced Ramirez

A LEGACY OF LEARNING

Artist Oliver LaGrone devoted his life to teaching others. A scholarship in his name ensures that his work continues.

BY ANN MYERS

liver LaGrone, noted poet, sculptor, educator and humanitarian, believed in educating through generosity. He wanted to make education possible and dreams come true.

In 1974, LaGrone inspired members of the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg (UCH) to establish a scholarship in his name. He wanted to help graduates of the Harrisburg School District attend college so they could lead more productive, successful lives.

This past June, that dream came true for one Harrisburg grad, Merced Ramirez, now a sophomore at Messiah College. He was awarded \$5,500 as the 2014 recipient of the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship.

"The LaGrone Scholarship helped me stay at Messiah," he said. "I thought of transferring to another college that offered a full scholarship. But my professors at Messiah helped me work through my financial challenges, and, with the LaGrone Scholarship, I found a way to continue at Messiah."

LaGrone, a committed Unitarian Universalist, was not a Pennsylvania native. He found his way here in 1970 after accepting a position teaching art education and African-American history at Penn State. He also was artist-in-

residence at Penn State Harrisburg and held a similar position with the Hershey Foundation and Boas Center of Learning for the Harrisburg School District.

Several of his sculptures are prominently displayed in the UCH. In fact, proceeds from the sale of his sculpture, "The Dancer," helped provide initial funding for the scholarship. His sculptures also can be seen in the LaGrone Cultural Arts Center at Penn State Harrisburg.

DEDICATED, DRIVEN

Meeting Ramirez at Cornerstone Coffeehouse in Camp Hill, I was introduced to a bright, articulate and witty young man. Graduating in the top 5 percent of his class from Harrisburg SciTech High, mathematics and languages were his favorite subjects.

While in high school, he was a member of the National Honor Society, Youth and Government Club, varsity soccer team and track and field team. He also participated with the Joshua Group, an at-risk youth mentoring organization in Harrisburg. That experience inspired his strong commitment to helping others and serving his community. Dedicated and driven, Ramirez now is majoring in international business with a minor in Chinese.

He does his best to make ends meet. He has a job at UPS this summer and hopes to be a residential advisor during his junior year. After graduation, he plans to work abroad collaborating with professionals from many backgrounds and careers.

When asked how he will give back to his alma mater, Ramirez said he wants to help students who struggle financially, providing secure pathways, allowing them to stay at Messiah and finish their education.

"My message is don't let hard times destroy the possibility of a great future," he said. "Don't let disadvantages set you back. Make the hardest times the best times. Use them to grow and overcome adversity."

STRONG FOUNDATION

In May of 1992, at the age of 84, LaGrone journeyed back to Harrisburg to celebrate the revitalized scholarship. Redefined to suit more

"DON'T LET
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diverse needs, the scholarship now may be used for any legitimate cost connected with schooling, such as tuition, books, room and board, transportation and childcare.

Margaret Carrow, chairwoman of the selection panel for the Oliver LaGrone Scholarship program, believes that a strong educational foundation can help people make a difference in the world.

"I grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was fortunate to attend Clark University in Worcester, Mass.," she said. "By chairing this committee, I am assuring that students have their chance to go to college and make a difference in the communities in which they live."

The scholarship is given based on motivation to complete one's education despite obstacles, as well as financial need and knowledge and skills gained from life.

A unique feature of the scholarship is its mentoring component. A member of the UCH is matched with the scholarship recipient to provide personal support and encouragement throughout his or her education.

"My mentor understands me and the adversity that I have overcome," said Ramirez, pausing before summarizing what the scholarship is really all about. "This is a great opportunity." **3**

CENTRAL PA AS CLASSROOM

International students & their hosts find that learning goes both ways.

BY DEANNE SHIREY

any international students visit central Pennsylvania to learn about America, whether they are a high school exchange student, a college student taking classes, or a college student working an internship with a local business. And we learn from them, too.

One of the most valuable experiences I have had was serving as housing host to Polish graduate students. Over the past 10 years, I have opened my home to five young ladies who were between the ages of 21 and 23. These particular throughout Europe and could speak three different languages. It was my duty to make sure they had a ride to and from their jobs and to provide them with a nice home environment during their stay in central Pennsylvania. As the students practiced their English language skills, I shared my way of life with them while being exposed to their traditions.

Although the students have been screened to participate in such international programs, you never know what an individual will be like until they are actually living in your home. But that's life...meeting new people and learning to appreciate different lifestyles. People often get stuck in their own circles of family and friends. In Europe, it's very common to let a stranger stay in one's home. This was a wonderful opportunity for me to expand my horizons, and I am glad that I embraced it.

The young women I hosted valued faith and family. They attended church every Sunday. The students were kind and especially well-mannered. I was amused that, after I asked my first student to take off her shoes when coming into my home, she and her friends would leave all of their shoes at the bottom of the stairs every time they entered the home—I never had

to ask again. And every new student who stayed with me followed suit. They were happy to do so without any rumblings. I do not have any children of my own, but these students were a real treat to be a part of our temporary family.

Foreign students are fascinated by American history. Since my boyfriend is a history buff, we always had fun taking the students exploring noteworthy sights in Harrisburg and the surrounding areas. Places like the National Civil War Museum and Gettysburg broadened the students' knowledge of the area. The students also went on weekend trips to Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh, Baltimore and New York, often making the excursions on their own.

On the flip side, they shared stories of their lives and travels. My most recent student and her family vacationed in Trou-aux-Biches, Mauritius, an island located in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Africa. It was exciting to hear about a beach—a place on the other side of the world that I never imagined visiting myself.

Christmas is a major holiday in Poland. While in Harrisburg, the students contributed their culinary talents to celebrate the holiday by making pierogies from scratch, and bigos (hunters stew), made of sauerkraut and meat, that is a Polish national dish. The meal was a delicious variation from American traditions. In addition, we exchanged gifts and attended Mass on Christmas Eve.

Although they were thin, the students were concerned about gaining weight while living in the United States. They were not accustomed to eating processed foods. Even the local bread was too sweet for their taste buds. Other observations from the kitchen: The students preferred to drink water without ice, they liked dark beer, and frowned upon using plastic sandwich











bags when packing their lunches, which were considered to be harmful to the environment.

Ten years ago, a European student could only make an occasional phone call to hear the voices of family abroad. Now, Skype allows face-time with loved ones. It's instant communication from anywhere. And, thanks to Skype, the Polish students would talk for hours, especially with their boyfriends. With every new student I hosted, I learned something new. I take pride

With every new student I hosted, I learned something new. I take pride knowing that I enhanced the lives of these young ladies. I consider myself to be very fortunate to have made these friendships. When you open your heart and your home to someone different, you will be surprised by the rewards. B

BECOME A HOST

If you have an interest in sharing your life with an international exchange student, here are several organizations to check out.

- ▶ Nacel Open Door, Inc. www.nacelopendoor.org
- ► Pennsylvania Partnerships Abroad, Ltd. www.ppa-ltd.org
- ► AFS-USA www.afsusa.org



THAT'S AMORE!

It's the dog days and guess what? A new gelato shop is set to open.

BY EMMA BARR

ot, right? Maybe you could use a refreshing treat?
Well, we've got some good news for you.
A new take on the original ice cream shop will debut this month in the Point Shopping Center just outside Harrisburg. Amore Artisan Gelato & Yogurt is the perfect remedy for those who want to sit and enjoy a frozen treat in an intimate, European-inspired café.

Amore is born from owner Robin Dobson's early passion for frozen treats. As a girl, she watched her grandmother hand-make ice cream, using ice from a nearby creek.

"My husband and I have this business together, and we are both retired," she said. "I took this opportunity to pursue my lifelong passion, which is ice cream."

Amore's patrons will find that they are in for more than just basic ice cream. Certainly, gelato is delicious, but it's healthier, too. It clocks in at 8 to 12 percent fat as opposed to 35 for ice cream. It's "low in air, but high in flavor," says Robin.

This is because gelato is aged for 24 hours and then brought up to temperature, decreasing the amount of air to 15 to 20 percent. It's also served at a slightly warmer temperature, and "that means less brain freeze!" she says.

The process of making gelato is more intense than one might think. Robin received her education in gelato making at PreGel, a leading Italian maker of gelato products, where she was able to test several different machines.

In the end, she found what she calls the "Lamborghini of gelato makers," an import straight from Italy and the ideal machine for crafting perfect gelato. She also made sure to have the proper case for storing it, allowing her to bring the exact type of frozen confection enjoyed in Italy to central Pennsylvania.

In keeping with the Eurocentric theme, the Dobsons worked with local interior designer Carol Gmuender of Gmuender Designs to create the café, which includes blond wood, an intimate "niche" layout, a cozy fireplace and soft, comfortable seats.

"I wanted to break down the loud, bright ice cream shop and make it the perfect place for couples to come after the movies or a nice dinner," says Robin. "That's really the crowd we hope to attract."

The inclusion of free wifi and artistic decor also will appeal to those wanting to work peacefully on their laptops while enjoying a cup of coffee.

In all, the Dobsons will manufacture 100 rotating flavors, with 12 available on any given day. Options

will include traditional gelato flavors, as well as such inventions as apple pie biscotti, peanut butter and jelly, lemon basil, Shirley Temple and caramel bacon.

But Amore will serve more than just gelato. The menu also will include frozen yogurt, gelato tacos, cannoli, donato and an assortment of beverages. There also will be specialty options such as gelato cakes and pies, all of which can be requested for takeout and catering services.

After a lifetime of travel, the Dobsons can't wait to bring the rich and creamy desserts that they've enjoyed in Italy to the Harrisburg area. In fact, for their café, they purposely chose a location convenient to both the east and west shores.

"Everywhere I've traveled across the country and the world, I've sought out gelato," said Robin. "This is our dream come true."

Amore Artisan Gelato & Yogurt will open Aug. 20 at 4235 Union Deposit Rd., Harrisburg, in the Point Shopping Center. Hours are daily, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, call 717-919-0738 or visit www.loveamoregelato.com. Amore also can be reached through Twitter, Facebook and Google+.



A MEAL, A MEMORY

Caruso's may be gone, but the melody lingers.

BY ROSEMARY RUGGIERI BAER

arrisburg's restaurant scene has changed so much in recent years. The places we considered "landmarks" in the city are gone: the Maverick (great steaks and a lobster fest in June), Italian classics at Lombardo's (seafood fra diablo), the Esquire Room in the old Penn Harris (great burgers), and Santanna's on 2nd Street with the fish tank at the door and hard shell crabs by the bushel.

We have new places to love now: Carley's and Stock's; Mangia Qui and Char's; Café Fresco and Home 231; Bricco and El Sol; and many wonderful casual spots like the Federal Taphouse, Arepa City, Pastorante, Alvaro and Crawdaddy's.

But driving on Chestnut Street in downtown Harrisburg always brings back memories of a little bistro that was very dear to my heart. Many years are gone since Dennis and Terry Snyder opened Caruso's not far from the train station near what now is Bricco. It was a tiny place with a frontfacing window, forest green walls decked with Italian art, and, on weekdays, the sounds of opera softly playing in the background. Caruso's smelled like an Italian restaurant should smell, in my view: of olive oil and garlic.

It was the early '80s, and our children were very little back then. When my family could babysit, we would sneak out to Caruso's for a late dinner, usually on a Saturday night. The little bistro was always bustling and, on weekends, Carl Iba, violinist for the Harrisburg Symphony, would stroll and play all night. I can never hear music from "Fiddler on the Roof" without thinking of him.

The food was wonderful: homemade pasta, fresh fish from Baltimore, chicken and meat dishes, all prepared in classic Mediterranean style. Terry made all the desserts herself. Her specialty was zuccotto, a chilled cake, brandy, chocolate and cream dessert prepared in a rounded mold. It was always on the menu. Lacrima Christi and Cortese di Gavi were always available for perfect wine accompaniments.

I still remember my first meal at Caruso's: homemade spinach fettuccine with gorgonzola cream sauce and chicken with vinegar peppers. It was delightful. And, after that, we were regulars.

For this month's column and as a tribute to Caruso's, I searched and searched for a recipe for chicken with vinegar peppers to share with TheBurg readers that was reminiscent of that first meal. I found a recipe by Bobby Flay called "Chicken and Peppers in Balsamic Vinegar Sauce" and decided to give it a try:

CHICKEN AND PEPPERS IN BALSAMIC VINEGAR SAUCE

- Heat 3 tablespoons olive oil in a medium Dutch oven over moderately high heat (I used my cast iron Le Creuset) until it
- Pat dry 8 chicken thighs (bone in or boneless) with a paper towel and season with salt and pepper. Brown the thighs in batches (give them room!) until golden brown, about 4 minutes per side. Remove each batch to a clean plate until the others are done and before adding the peppers.
- Cut 3 bell peppers (I used red, yellow and green) into thin strips and add to the casserole. Cook the peppers about 5 minutes until slightly soft. (August is a great month for peppers.)
- Add 4 cloves chopped garlic and toss with the peppers about 1 minute.
- Then add 1 tablespoon tomato paste and cook for another minute, working the paste through the pepper mixture.
- Add 1 cup balsamic vinegar (I used a good white balsamic) and cook the pepper mixture until the vinegar is reduced by half.
- · Add 2 tablespoons honey and a cup of low sodium chicken broth and cook for 5 minutes more. The heat should still be moderately high.
- Return the chicken to the pot, reduce the heat to medium, and cover the lid. Simmer the chicken until completely cooked through (at least 30 minutes) and then remove the lid.
- Remove the chicken to a platter and then boil down the sauce a little to thicken.
- Pour the sauce over the chicken and sprinkle with chopped Italian parsley.

We loved this dish. I served it with rice for him and creamy mashed Yukon gold potatoes for me. Sliced summer tomatoes with chopped basil would be a nice accompaniment to the chicken, along with chilled melon slices.

Now, as a matter of full disclosure, this dish was very different from my first cherished entree at Caruso's. (I will have to keep searching.) But writing this column brought back wonderful memories of that special place. Here's to a little restaurant on Chestnut Street that was decades ahead of its time. Salute! B







MAKING "THE ASK"

A new column seeks to add diverse voices to TheBurg.

BY WENDY JACKSON-DOWE

n November 2013, I was having coffee in the downtown location of Little Amps when I was introduced to Lawrance Binda. Well, my mind immediately starting racing and I thought, "Yep, I'm going to ask him!"... so I did.

I knew Lawrance was editor-in-chief of TheBurg, a magazine I really enjoyed reading and looked forward to each month. However, each issue seemed absent of a perspective that, in my opinion, was and is quite necessary to share, particularly in central Pennsylvania. The perspective I'm referring to is that of the progressive and professional black population in our region.

As I have shared with some who cared to know (and perhaps some who didn't), most of my adult life has been lived outside of Harrisburg in places like Nashville, Chicago and Maryland. You may wonder, "What does this have to do with anything relative to TheBurg?" It is, in fact, the impetus of the "ask" I made of Lawrance—or LB as some call him.

Although Harrisburg is my hometown and my family has deep roots here, I sometimes struggle with the realization that I now live here and am raising my impressionable children in this region. When I left Harrisburg in 1980 to go to Fisk University as an impressionable, eager college freshman, I soon was exposed to-and interacted with-black folk who owned banks, motels and insurance companies;

who published national magazines and were transplant surgeons; who owned multiple luxury car dealerships and investment banking firms; who leased their sprawling acreage to railroad companies. This exposure left quite an impression on me, as it would anyone.

So my "ask" of LB was to add a perspective to the magazine that highlights success stories from the greater Harrisburg black community, past and present, as they relate to intellectualism, economic empowerment, fiscal leadership, the sciences, banking, etc. We embody incredible intellectual capital, and, too often, it is omitted, overlooked, slanted or simply spoken about within an insular setting.

As stated in my first article published in the magazine, too often black folk are lauded for our superior athleticism or our exceptional ability to entertain. We are barraged with the negative images of black boys and men in the news. Now, people certainly should be held accountable for their actions. However, I feel these images cannot be the only prominent images of black men, young and old, that my children and members of the greater population believe to be true.

This dynamic also added to my eagerness to make

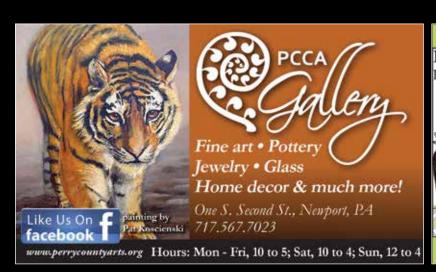
There is no stopping the "browning of America,"

and, if we are to live together, we must have constructive dialogues that work toward the greater good, work in teams that are efficient and productive, hire one another, take direction from each other, provide constructive criticism, successfully apply for business loans, and rely on one another to protect our communities. We must teach our young, award contracts to each other, and promote those who may look a little different to positions of power. We must make a greater effort to get to know each other outside of often-superficial workplace relationships.

You won't read about a victim mentality in my articles. You will read stories of hard work, stories of a tenacious desire to reach a goal, stories of pride, stories of economic empowerment, stories of a dignified people. My hope is to inspire, to move people to engage one another, to open minds to make considerations where one may not have before. Some may call it bold; I call it common sense.

So, again, I say, thank you to Lawrance Binda who saw value in my "ask" and who provides me a platform to do my part to make a positive difference in my space of the world in central Pennsylvania and beyond. **B**

You can reach Wendy Jackson-Dowe at wendydowe@yahoo.com.



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A fusion of styles, locales at annual Central PA Jazz Festival.

BY JESS HAYDEN

ometimes, when life hands you lemons . . . well, you know the rest. It may be a cliché, but making the best of a bad situation is exactly what the folks at the annual Central PA Friends of Jazz did after funding was reduced for their annual jazz festival.

"We used to hold our entire festival centered around the Harrisburg Hilton and downtown sights in Harrisburg," explained Steve Rudolph, CPFJ's executive director. "But, because of some funding cuts, we've lost some of the affiliations that made that possible."

Instead, CPFJ has chosen to reinvent the event and spread it out over a broader geographic area.

"For the past three years, the festival has been in sites all over the place," said Rudolph. "It's really helped us to draw in a wider audience."

CPFJ also recognizes that fans like to listen to their jazz in different type of settings.

"For this festival, we are trying to appeal to a variety of tastes," said Rudolph.



"Some people like the formal concert thing and some people prefer to enjoy music in a more intimate space."

He also noted that a lot of people like to bring their families out to events such as their annual picnic. "We've had the picnic for about 30 years," he said. "But only in the past two years have we included it as part of the festival schedule."

Another departure from the original festival model is that now the event features fewer headliners, instead showcasing a cadre of excellent jazz musicians who live locally or in nearby cities.

"The one thing that we can still guarantee on a quality level is that, anytime you come to a Friends of Jazz event, you're going to hear some of the best jazz musicians alive today," said Rudolph. "It may not be anyone who you have ever heard of, but, if you love jazz music, you'll love what we are presenting."

With that, let's take a look at what CPFJ has planned for the 34th annual festival.



THURSDAY, AUG. 7: JAZZ CRUISE, 5:30-8:30 P.M.

The Central PA Jazz Festival will kick off with a riverboat cruise on the Pride of the Susquehanna, which leaves from City Island in Harrisburg. During the summer months, CPFJ sponsors a weekly Thursday evening series called "Jazzin' on the Pride," but, according to Rudolph, "we beef up the money for the band on festival night." The Dave Stahl Quintet, featuring Stahl and woodwind master Tom Strohman, will provide the entertainment. Food and drink will be available, and there is a \$10 admission charge.

FRIDAY, AUG. 8: JAZZ PARTY, 6:30-11:30 P.M.

New for this year's festival is a jazz party held in three different venues in the 1500 Condominium building at N. 6th and Reily streets in Harrisburg. Two restaurants in the facility, Café 1500 and Crawdaddy's, will feature live jazz. Crawdaddy's is scheduled to honor legendary area drummer Sammy Banks with music by pianist Danny Stuber and his trio. In addition, CPFJ will host "Jazz Under the Stars" on the building's rooftop patio, featuring jazz vocalist Diane Wilson Bedford and Jimmy Wood's Trio. There is no cover charge for the restaurants, but tickets are \$12 for "Jazz Under the Stars."

SATURDAY, AUG. 9: PICNIC, 2-7 P.M.

The Jazz Picnic, a festival highlight for many, will be held this year on the grounds of Indian Echo Caverns at 368 Middletown Rd. in Hummelstown. Many activities for families will be available, including tours of the caverns and a petting zoo. Continuous music will be provided, including the Larry Marshall Trio at 2 p.m., Central PA Youth Band at 3 p.m., Greg and Tom Strohman at 4 p.m., the Sonia Vrooman Group at 5 p.m. and No Last Call at 6 p.m. Food is available for purchase or picnic-goers can bring their own. Complimentary beverages are included with the ticket, which is \$15 for adults and free for children under 12.

SUNDAY, AUG. 10: JAM, 3:30-6:30 P.M.

A jam session will be held in the afternoon preceding the concert at The Timbers Restaurant at 350 Timber Rd. in Mt. Gretna. Jonathan Ragonese will be coming home from New York to lead the jam session, and all aspiring jazz musicians are welcome to sit in. Everyone is also encouraged to enjoy a meal at the restaurant. Admission to the jam is \$5, but free for students, children and musicians who participate.

SUNDAY, AUG. 10: CONCERT, 7:30 P.M.

The festival will culminate with a concert featuring two jazz luminaries—harmonica and vibraphone virtuoso Hendrik Meurkens and legendary bassist Lee Smith. It will be held in cooperation with Gretna Music at the Mt. Gretna Playhouse at 200 Pennsylvania Ave. in Mt. Gretna.

Hendrik Meurkens is first on the bill. He will appear with his New York Samba Jazz Quartet, which features Russian pianist Misha Tsiganov and Brazilian musicians Gustavo Amarante on bass and Adriano Santos on drums. Meurkens, who is German born, fell in love with the music of Brazil while living there. He currently resides in New York, where he has recorded 15 CDs for Concord Records.

"Hendrik is a fantastic jazz musician," said Rudolph. "He is widely considered to be the greatest jazz harmonica player ever."

The Lee Smith Sextet will close out the festival. The group features Smith on bass, Marc Adler on flute, Tim Thompson on trumpet, Tim Warfield on sax, Joshua Richmond on piano and Justin Faulkner on drums. Perhaps better known as a sideman for jazz greats such as Lionel Hampton, Dizzy Gillespie and Roberta Flack, Smith started focusing on his own compositions and arrangements while working on his latest recording, "Sittin' on a Secret." Now, with a new recording due out in the fall, Smith has had the opportunity to explore a growing repertoire with the members of his sextet.

"When I write, I try to compose in such a way to reach out to as many people as possible and not just the jazz enthusiasts," he said. "At the concert, people are going to hear some songs that they know and some that they don't. They should just expect to hear some really good melodies."

For tickets and to learn more about the festival, visit www.friendsofjazz.org.



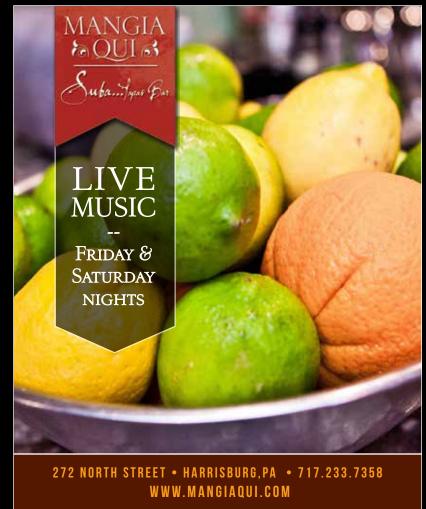


Sharon Merkel, Cathedral

Pouran Esrafily, Unknown

Paula Everitt, Nude, No. 15



















ACC student Haad
Naqvi of Hummelstown
remembers being on his
way to visit a professor on
campus when a flyer caught his eye.

It was for a class—sans grades and credit points—to learn a comedy form known as improvisation. The place? The new Harrisburg Improv Theatre in Midtown Harrisburg. The instructors? Jake Compton and Paul Barker, two members of its resident troupe, The HIT Squad.

"I was hesitant to participate," Naqvi recalls. "I actually didn't have any acting, singing, comedy, performing skills. At the same time, I know these things work better with everyone participating, so I decided that my hesitance should die right away."

But that "hesitance" took a little while to make its exit. Naqvi had told the instructors that he would perform only if it were a requirement to take the class. After all, his initial intention was simply to think quicker on his feet, but Naqvi ended up performing, found it valuable and was hooked.

"The experience was fantastic," he says. "I felt performing completed the experience."

INTIMATE, ARTSY

Harrisburg already lays claim to several improv groups that perform around the region, but now the comedy form has a home of its own. Go on over to the Midtown space—a

former shoe repair and tailor shop and then an art gallery—now repurposed as a theater by Perry County native Jake Compton and his wife, Somers, a native of Etters. The Harrisburg couple are amazed that their dream of offering a place for improv and other creative endeavors has come true.

About 10 years ago, Jake got hooked on improv and took some classes in New York after inviting himself along when friends wanted to give it a try. He discovered that he loved it, but got busy with other things and put it on the back burner.

"I knew it would cycle back in my life," Jake says, as he relaxes on one of the cushioned pews in this cozy theater. "We launched classes at MakeSpace and got a full house."

That evidence of interest was all Jake needed. It fueled his need for a space where creativity and the improv mantra of "yes, and" (meaning that performers always affirm each other's contributions) could flourish. At the end of last year, Jake was online and noticed that a building on 3rd Street was available, and, when the price dropped, he and Somers were able to make that dream a reality.

It was perfect—intimate, artsy, filled with potential. Jake wanted a niche space for improv; Somers sought a place where people could rent the storefront building for events like birthday parties and bridal showers, as well as poetry slams. They

compromised. It was going to be all of those things.

"We look at this and laugh," Jake says. "How legitimate we must look to other people."

OPEN, WELCOMING

The theater officially opened in June, but not before hitting an unexpected snag. After taking ownership of the building, the Comptons decided to paint over a mural on an outside wall facing a community garden. At the time, they didn't know that the mural was a commissioned work that had become a cherished part of the neighborhood.

A brief media kerfuffle ensued, and the Comptons suddenly found themselves facing TV news cameras, explaining and apologizing for their oversight. The controversy now seems to have receded, allowing them again to focus on the potential of the theater.

"We're very excited about what the future holds," Jake said.

So is Jennie Adams of Hummelstown, a seven-year improv performer/teacher, member of Gamut Theatre's TMI Improv Troupe and a performer with and co-owner of the all-female No Artificial Sweeteners. She took a class at MakeSpace with Jake last spring and enjoyed it so much that she signed up for Level 2.

"Jake and Somers Compton have been very open and welcoming to the already strong Harrisburg improv community and are open to collaborating with all the existing troupes here," Adams says. "In fact, No Artificial Sweeteners and The HIT Squad did a joint show that benefited their improv class scholarship program."

The young improvisers scholarship is for young people ages 17 to 19 who are interested in taking a class but for whom price might be an issue.

"We are hoping it helps to draw in young people who otherwise would not become involved," Jake says. "I lucked into getting involved with improv when I was 19. I'm excited at the chance to give young people the same opportunity I had."

On Aug. 15, the Harrisburg Improv Theatre will present a Level 1 class show at 6 p.m. and a Level 2 class show at 7 p.m. Then The HIT Squad will take to the stage at 8 p.m. At 9 p.m., there will be a free mini class and mixer for those who want to try improv.

"If it terrifies you, you should take a class," Jake says. "It will help you with life."

The Harrisburg Improv Theatre is at 1633 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. See www.hbgimprov.com for more information on classes and shows.

Disclosure: Paul Barker, one of the instructors at the HIT, is senior writer for TheBurg.



BIG BANDS, SMALL SPACES

Amazing music, up close and personal.

BY ANDREW DYRLI HERMELING

ummer is heading towards its end, but that doesn't mean Harrisburg's music scene is winding down.

Our little city continues to invite visits from excellent, nationally renowned touring artists, often featured within some of our smaller venues. This is the perfect opportunity to hear excellent live music in a setting that promotes a level of interaction that cannot be replicated in a larger arena. So, make your way to one of these great shows and introduce yourself to the artists, buy an album (preferably on vinyl) straight from the source, and support Harrisburg's amazing musical culture.

DRGN KING w/THE INDIAN BURN BAND, 8/17, 6 P.M., LITTLE AMPS UPTOWN, \$5 SUGGESTED DONATION: There is nothing like seeing a solid, energetic rock band in the intimate confines of a small space. When Philadelphia's DRGN KING takes the "stage" at Little Amps Uptown, their infectious rock hooks will fill every corner of the friendly coffee shop. But don't let the setting fool you. This is a rock band with a solid repertoire of soaring and bombastic anthems designed to fill large clubs. Their full-length, 2013 album, "Paragraph Nights," was released by the Hoboken, N.J., imprint Bar/None. DRGN KING will be supported by locals, the Indian Burn Band.

ARBOREA, 8/22, 8 P.M., THE MAKESPACE, \$5: The haunting folk duo, Arborea, will be making their way to the equally moody atmosphere of The MakeSpace. Wife and husband Shanti and Buck Curran compose delicate psychedelic folk that conjures up images of the autumnal wilderness, centered around Shanti's lilting melodies and melancholic lyrics. They have caught the attention of WNYC's "Spinning on Air," been featured in a "Tiny Desk Concert," and have been a showcase performer at Austin's famed SXSW festival.

MATT WHEELER & VINTAGE HEART, 8/30, 9 P.M., HMAC: Lancaster County's Matt Wheeler is a folk songwriter in the truest sense of the word. His songs are morose and thoughtful, designed to tell stories that are deeply personal yet instantly relatable. Channeling a long and rich tradition, his music invites comparisons to James Taylor, Josh Ritter and Iron & Wine. His backing band, Vintage Heart, only complements Wheeler's tendency towards introspection, with laid back folk-rock percussion and moody string arrangements elevating the impact of tales of searching and heartbreak.

Mentionables: Dr. Slothclaw and The Dogs of Lust, Abbey Bar, 8/1; Indigo Girls, Whitaker Center, 8/13; Yo Momma's Big Fat Booty Band, Abbey Bar, 8/26; Hot Jam Factory, Little Amps Downtown, 8/29



DR. SLOTHCLAW AND THE DOGS OF LUST, AUG. 1

THE ABBEY BAR 50 N. CAMERON ST., HARRISBURG

8 15

INDIGO GIRLS, AUG. 13

THE WHITAKER CENTER
225 MARKET ST., HARRISBURG

8 17

DRGN KING W/ THE INDIAN BURN BAND, AUG. 17

LITTLE AMPS COFFEE ROASTERS 1836 GREEN ST., HARRISBURG STARTS AT 6 PM

8 22

ARBOREA, AUG. 22

THE MAKESPACE 1916 N. THIRD ST., HARRISBURG STARTS AT 8 PM

8 30

MATT WHEELER & VINTAGE HEART, AUG. 30

HMAC STAGE ON HERR 1110 N 3RD ST., HARRISBURG STARTS AT 9 PM



DRGN KING (Photo credit: theswollenfox.com)



f you were to shoot a film over the course of 12 years about a boy's adolescent life, pouring your own experiences into it and creating the script as you go, what would that experience be called? Patricia Arquette, who, for the past 12 years has been acting in a film that did just that, called it "the strangest, most unorthodox and beautiful experience ever." Director Richard Linklater called it "Boyhood."

The film takes you on a journey through the life of a boy named Mason (Ellar Coltrane), starting when he is in first grade and ending just as he enters college. The film cuts in and out of his life in a way that is refreshing and natural. We aren't burdened by the clichéd turning points of life, like a first lost tooth or first kiss, but instead get to see Mason in his downtime, relating with his friends and family. It becomes more about his character than what's happening around him.

Sometimes, the film jumps in time and the audience has to scramble to catch up. Life is never the same for more than a moment, and Linklater makes sure to portray that. Overall, the film does a beautiful job of encapsulating the interactions of this family, so much that you feel you really get to know them.

In a phone interview, Arquette gave me a little more detail about how the film was created. Fascinatingly, the scenes were shot in real time, in the midst of other projects, so you actually watch these people as

Why did she call the project unorthodox?

"I immediately said yes," Arquette remembers, "and [Linklater] said, 'We don't have any money,' and I was like, 'Yeah yeah yeah, I'm in!' And I said, 'Can I look at the script?' and he said, 'Well, we don't have one."

It turns out that Linklater had the structure for the script, but wanted to leave room in order to develop the characters naturally as they grew. So, Arquette and the rest of the cast had to discover the script as they went.

"It took a really different skill set...and I was excited by that," added Arquette. "Rick would write the rough draft of a scene, and we would read it, and then we would talk about different people's life experiences that sort of correlated to the scene in some way or another, or each other... and then we would do an improvisation of it, and Rick would say, 'That second part of that story you told about your friend, let's use that. That little improv you said on that line, let's use that part.' And he would craft it from there, and then we would shoot it the next day. So, it was a bonding experience and a really creative, collaborative experience every year going back."

This collaborative way of creating the story meant that it was ultimately a blend of different people's experiences, even in the little, "dumb" moments.

"My friend told me that story about her son sharpening a rock," Arquette said. "It's so crazy how the world's set up. You teach little children, here's this tool, here's what it does. It sharpens something. And then, they're kind of brilliant, and they think, I want to sharpen this thing—I'm gonna use a sharpening instrument. And then they get in trouble."

The beauty of this collaborative blend is that every moment is based on something true. That explains why the characters feel so real: there's not a contrived moment in the film. You see all sides of this family, even the ugly ones, and that becomes the message of the film.

"Families bug each other, and they get on each other's nerves, and they push against each other... but what love feels like is... imperfect, but it's there," said Arquette. "It's your base, but it's not always flowery and perfect. You go through things in life, everyone goes through things in life. You show me the perfect parent, I'm gonna show you a lunatic."

And that on-screen family became a kind of second family.

"I never got the full script, so Rick would tell me, 'Oh, this year their dad's gonna take them camping... But I didn't know exactly what they talked about. So

"THE STRANGEST, MOST UNORTHODOX AND BEAUTIFUL **EXPERIENCE EVER."**



"IT TOOK A REALLY DIFFERENT SKILL SET...AND I WAS EXCITED BY THAT."

when I saw it, my character was also watching. And my character immediately had a lot of thoughts, like when they went on that little hang out with their friends, and he lied to his mom, I was just thinking, 'What are you doing, I don't like that guy, you're never hanging out with him again, I'm coming to get you right now...' My character just started thinking, while I was watching the movie."

Of course, the actors were very different from their characters. "[Ellar Coltrane and Lorelei Linklater] were both only children, they didn't really know what that sibling dynamic was like, so they were playing it very early on."

She spoke of the haircut scene: "Rick called [Ellar] and said, 'Don't cut your hair this year, we're gonna do a haircutting scene.' Ellar was dying to get a haircut. He looks really bummed in the scene, but he was really happy... And it was one take, just that. So we were like, can he pull it off, or will he just start laughing?"

I asked her about people's reactions to the film.

"For seven years I was doing a TV show, and people would say to me, 'You used to make these art movies, and you'd work with these really interesting directors,' and I was like, 'Yeah, I still am.' And they would look at me like, yeah, right. I was like, 'Tm making a movie right now; I'm making a really important art movie right now!' I told so many

people, and so did Ethan, and we both had this experience that nobody cared. It wasn't interesting and their eyes would glaze over and they'd get really bored..." She laughed. "And I didn't understand it because the second I heard about it, I thought it was incredible. But they didn't."

But, once the film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, people came around.

"You know, it's such a personal, beautiful project, and we cared so much about these characters and story and experience, and each other, and I was worried about giving it to the world... but people really come up to you and tell you personal things, and are moved, and introspective, and they want to call their mom, and have a different perspective on their life...and so the love we made has been returned, and it's been incredible."

The full interview with Patricia Arquette is available on the Midtown Cinema website, www. midtowncinema.com.

Sammi Leigh Melville is a staff member and film reviewer at Midtown Cinema.



"IT'S SUCH A PERSONAL, BEAUTIFUL PROJECT, AND WE CARED SO MUCH ABOUT THESE CHARACTERS AND STORY AND EXPERIENCE, AND EACH OTHER, AND I WAS WORRIED ABOUT GIVING IT TO THE WORLD..."



AUGUST EVENTS

Brunch & a Movie

8/3 10:30 am brunch; 11 am movie "Mean Girls": Celebrate the 10th anniversary of this cult classic with a great brunch sourced from the Broad Street Market & Yellow Bird Cafe. BYOB.

2nd Sunday Foreign Series 8/10 6pm Fritz Lang's "M," a 1931 German drama/thriller starring Peter Lorre.

3rd in The Burg \$3 Movie
8/15 about 9:30 pm
"Aliens": Ripley & crew return to the
planet to kill the remaining aliens that
have slaughtered the colonists.

3rd Sunday Down in Front!

8/17 7pm

Help us make fun of the horrifically bad 1960 horror/accidentally hilarious ghost story, "Tormented."

BYOB.

National Theatre Live 8/17 4pm & 8/19 7pm A recording of the play, "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," based on the best-selling novel by Mark Haddon.

Moviate Night 8/24 7pm Moviate night at the MC. Film TBA.

BBC Worldwide WWI Series Three highly acclaimed productions focus on events leading up to the First World War.

=====

8/3 4pm
"37 Days," a drama about the
machinations that took place between
the assassination of Archduke
Ferdinand and the declaration of war.

8/10 4pm
"Royal Cousins at War"
A riveting account of three first cousins:
the tsar, the kaiser and the king of
England, whose relationship helped
fuel the war.

8/24 4pm

"Churchill's First World War"

A fascinating documentary on the lesser-known period in Churchill's life when he was disgraced politically and militarily.

GAEL FORCE FUN

McLain Celtic Festival celebrates 2 decades of heritage, music, food.

BY DON HELIN

áilte!

In Irish Gaelic, that means "welcome," and you're sure to feel welcomed this month at the McLain Celtic Festival.

On Aug. 30, the festival celebrates its 20th anniversary at the Two Mile House in Carlisle. This family-oriented festival is an opportunity to immerse oneself in traditional Celtic music and food and learn more about the heritage of Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

I had something of a personal introduction to the festival. I met the director, Joan McBride and her husband, Jay, on a trip to Ireland a few years ago.

"Everybody thinks the Germans were here in Cumberland County first, but as a matter of fact, 90 percent of Cumberland County residents were Scotch-Irish in the early 18th century," Joan said. "Through this festival, I wanted to share the exciting things I've learned about my Irish heritage during the 11 trips I've taken to Ireland over the past 15 years."

At the festival, you'll see authentic Highland athletics, border collie demonstrations, Scottish clans, vendors with Celtic goods and musical entertainment, including folk singers, bands and dancers. Come prepared to enjoy toe-tapping music, tasty food and plenty of *craic* (Irish word for fun).

AN IRISH HERITAGE

The festival has always been at the Two Mile House. "At first," Joan explained, "part of the festival was held on land borrowed from the phone company, but, as the festival grew, we cleared land, so now we use all five acres of the property. Eight years ago, we built a permanent stage to replace the rented stage we had to bolt together every year."

The Two Mile House, named for its distance from the Carlisle town square, was built in 1820 and, from 1826 to 1857, housed the James Given Tavern. Given hailed from Colerain in Northern Ireland and saw to it that travelers could stop to quench their thirst, spend the night and enjoy the tavern's simple fare.

Mary Wheeler King bequeathed the property to the Cumberland County Historical Society in 1992, and the society has been the steward of the mansion, preserving and maintaining it, since.

CELTIC SOUNDS

For Joan, the festival revolves around the music, a form that has become widely known and admired throughout the world

"I love traditional Celtic music," she said, "and that's what we bring to our two stages."

Performing this year will be Across the Pond, Fire in the Glen, Iona, Mark Maurer, Celtic Martins and Charlie Zahm. The Coyle School of Irish Dance and the Scottish Country Dancers will be on the Glen Stage, and the Quittapahilla Highlanders Pipes and Drums will provide traditional bagpipe music.

Joan told me she has watched the Celtic Martins perform over the years, and it's been fun to see the kids grow into top-flight performers.

"The family consists of mom and dad, three girls, three boys and a son-in-law playing a wide range of instruments, including fiddles, bagpipes and tin whistles," she said. "And the girls do Irish step dancing while playing their fiddles."

Joan's husband, Jay, particularly loves the food.

"You'll find a full assortment of traditional Celtic food," he explained, "including fish and chips, bangers and mash, Scotch eggs and tasty meat pies. For the more American flavor, try the BBQ, burgers or hot dogs."

CABERS AND SHIRES

In addition to the music and food, two perennial attractions are the athletic competitions and the historical re-enactors.

Highland athletics features several events, including throwing 16- to 22-pound stones for strength (similar to shot put) and distance (similar to discus), a sheaf toss for height and the caber toss. A caber is a 15- to 20-foot tapered pole weighing 90 to 140 pounds. The object is to flip it end over end. Usually, there are 8 to 10 men in kilts participating.

There is a full selection of mini-Highland athletics for the younger generation. Children can learn how to toss a "mini-caber" using a cardboard tube. For the sheaf toss, kids can demonstrate their strength and skill with a hay-filled burlap bag. Both of these events are quite a challenge for youngsters—exciting for them and fun for adults to watch.

"I also enjoy the re-enactors who join us at the festival," Joan remarked. For example, the Shire of Blak Rose group of the Society for Creative Anachronism is an international living history group with the aim of studying and recreating medieval European cultures and their histories before the 17th century. The group will display different projects depicting the various aspects of life in the Dark Ages through the Middle Ages in the Celtic world. The ladies in the Shire will bring a variety of crafts, including needlework and tailoring of period clothing.

The Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania promotes an interest in the history, culture and traditions of Scotland and Scottish Americans. The group will be on hand with a display of different clan tartans.

The motto of the Welsh Society of the Greater Harrisburg Area is, "to be born Welsh is to be born privileged, not with a silver spoon in your mouth, but with music in your heart and poetry in your soul." Their display will include photos of Wales, along with the symbols of Wales—the dragon and the daffodil.

Another group, Muskets of the Crown, is dedicated to preserving and demonstrating the life of the 18th-century British Soldier in North America. During the festival, they will portray the grenadier companies of two Scottish Highland Regiments, including the Black Watch. They also will demonstrate how to take nine yards of tartan and fold it into the "great" kilt.

I attended the festival last year, and it was great fun. I learned about Celtic heritage and enjoyed the music and dance. And I must agree with Jay about one very important thing. The fish and chips? Outstanding. **3**

GOING THERE

The McLain Celtic Festival is Saturday, Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Two Mile House, 1189 Walnut Bottom Rd., Carlisle, just two miles west of the town center. Tickets are \$10 and children under 10 are free. No pets allowed. For more information, call 717-243-3437 or visit www.historicalsociety.com.

Don Helin published his first thriller, "Thy Kingdom Come," in 2009. His second, "Devil's Den," has been selected as a finalist in the Indie Book Awards. He lives in central Pennsylvania and his latest thriller, "Secret Assault," was published in June. Contact Don on his website, www.donhelin.com.





COMMUNITY CORNER

Lunchtime Concert Series

Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Have your lunch at the Broad Street Market and enjoy a concert in the courtyard every Friday in August. Concerts run 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and feature local musicians. Contact 828-230-0451 or broadstreetmarketmanager@ gmail.com.

Cultural Fest

Aug. 1: The annual, free Cultural Fest at 2nd and Market streets, Harrisburg, will be held 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Celebrate diversity in Dauphin County with food, crafts, and music. Visit dauphincounty.org.

Mt. Gretna Home Tour

Aug. 2: Mt. Gretnans will open their homes for this self-guided walking home and garden tour. Tour runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 day of. Visit gretnamusic.org.

India Day Festival

Aug. 2: The annual free event features more than 30 performances and food, clothing and jewelry vendors. The festival takes place at HACC's Harrisburg campus 12 to 8 p.m. Visit aiacpa.org/ indiaday.

Bookstock Read-In

Aug. 4: Celebrate the 45th anniversary of Woodstock with the Fredricksen Library at this summer read-out. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, snacks and a book. The free event takes place 5 to 8 p.m. Visit fredricksenlibrary.org.

National Night Out

Aug. 5: Neighbors meet neighbors during National Night Out, which will be celebrated after work throughout greater Harrisburg. Check with your town or community group for happenings in your neighborhood and enjoy this annual communitybuilding event.

34th Annual Central PA Jazz Festival

Aug. 7-10: Support local music and Central PA Friends of Jazz at this year's JazzFest. The weekend includes a jazz cruise, jazz party, jazz picnic and a jam session. More information is available in a story in this issue and at friendsofjazz.org.

Decked Out Live

Aug. 8: Dauphin County Library System and Vineyard and Brewery at Hershey have teamed up to benefit the library. Tickets are \$20, which includes a wine and beer tasting at 6 p.m. and a reserved seat for the Soul House Quartet at 7 p.m. at the winery/brewery. Contact Lori Lane at 234-4961 x 110 or visit dcls.org/DeckedOut.

Keystone Cluster Dog Show

Aug. 8-10: See show dogs compete and participate in events, including an all-breed dog show and junior showmanship classes for children and their dogs. Event is at the PA Farm Show Complex. Admission is \$6 and free for children 12 and under. Visit hkc.org.

Music at Gretna

Aug. 8-10: Mt. Gretna Playhouse will host a weekend of music. On Aug. 8, Capitol Steps will perform political parodies. On Aug. 9, the Russian Festival Chamber orchestra will perform classic Russian masterpieces. On Aug. 10, the Lee Smith Group and Hendrik Meurkens Samba Jazz Quartet will perform as part of Central PA Jazz Festival. Visit gretnamusic.org.

4th Annual Chocolate Tour

Aug. 9: Support cancer research at Penn State by walking, running or cycling. Events range from 6-mile walk and run to a 10-, 25-, 35-, 50-, 75- and 100-mile bike ride. Samples of local chocolate and other foods will be available. Visit pennstatehershey.org/web/melanoma/home/ fundraising.

.5K Challenge

Aug. 10: Join Keystone Rotary Club for its fun ".5K Endurance Challenge." Registration for the "exhausting" race starts at noon at Appalachian Brewing Co., 50 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg, Fees are \$25 for adults and \$15 for kids. Proceeds benefit local service projects. Information is at www.hbgkeystonerotary.org.

Automobile Show

Aug. 10: Join the Blue/Gray Chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America at the AACA Museum in Hershey for an Oldsmobile, Buick, Pontiac, classic and antique automobile show. Event takes place from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit aacamuseum.org.

Genealogy & Adoption

Aug. 10: Sandi Bornman, Act 101 representative for Dauphin County, will be at the Historical Society of Dauphin County research library 1 to 3 p.m. to answer questions about genealogy and adoption records. Event is free for members of the Society and \$10 for non-members. Call 717-233-3462 or visit dauphincountyhistory.org.

Twisted Stitchers

Aug. 11: The August meeting of Twisted Stitchers at Fredricksen Library will take place 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The free event is for ages 16 and older who love to knit and crochet. Visit fredricksenlibrary.org.

Teaching Residencies

Aug. 12: Perry County Council of the Arts will hold an information session for artists interested in a teaching residency in schools within PCCA's service region. Event takes place at Landis House, 67 N. 4th Street, Newport, 6 to 7 p.m. Contact 717-567-7023 or amy@perrycountyarts.org.

Fredricksen Reads

Aug. 12: Be a part of Fredricksen Reads, a series of book discussions at the Fredricksen Library, with "Juliet in August" by Dianne Warren. You must have read the book to attend. Free event begins at 7 p.m. Visit fredricksenlibrary.org.

Business After Hours

Aug. 14: Join Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC for an informal networking event at Penn National Insurance. Free event takes place 5 to 7 p.m. Call 717-232-4099 or visit harrisburgregionalchamber.org.

Woodstock Tribute

Aug. 14: Shea Quinn & Friends will wrap up Concerts on the Lawn series at the Fredricksen Library with a tribute to Woodstock. Free event begins at 7 p.m. Rain date is Aug. 19. Visit fredricksenlibrary.org.

Build with Natural Materials

Aug. 16: Furniture builder and author Bill Willow will teach the basics of building with natural materials. Event takes place 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Hershey Gardens. No experience is necessary. Students must bring their own hammers and pruning shears, but all other materials are provided. Visit hersheygardens.org.

Farmers & Arts Fest

Aug. 16: Broad Street Market will hold a produceonly farmers' market in the courtyard, featuring farmers within 100 miles of Harrisburg. Deep Roots Fest, a concurrent celebration, will feature locally made art and community groups promoting positive change in Harrisburg. Join the celebration 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact 828-230-0451 or broadstreetmarketmanager@gmail.com.

After Dark 7K

Aug. 22: Harrisburg Area Road Runners Club will host this race at 7 p.m. starting at Kunkel Plaza in Harrisburg. Registration is \$30. Prizes awarded to the top three runners in each age group. Visit usroadrunning.com.

Yorkfest

Aug. 22-24: Celebrate our neighboring city at the Yorkfest Fine Arts Festival, featuring about 100 fine artists from around the country, a juried exhibition at YorkArts, free family entertainment and more. Visit yorkcity.org/yorkfest.

Supercars on State Street

Aug. 23: The annual showcase of exotic and supercars benefits Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the American Cancer Society. Registration takes place 9 to 11:45 a.m. on City Island, and the event runs 12 to 3 p.m. Cost of registration is \$40. Visit carshowlink.com/August.

Keystone State Triathlon

Aug. 23-24: Challenge yourself in one of several triathlon courses, including an Olympic course, at Gifford Pinchot State Park in Lewisberry. The top three males and females in each age group will win awards. More information is available at trimaxendurancesports.com/KeystoneState.

Transportation Briefing

Aug. 26: Sheryl Connelly of Ford Motor Co. will reveal 10 transportation trends changing our world. Event will take place at the Radisson. Registration required. Cost is \$45 and \$35 for Harrisburg Regional Chamber members. Visit harrisburgregionalchamber.org or call 717-232-4099.

Luminary Awards Luncheon

Aug. 27: West Shore Chamber of Commerce will honor two businesswomen with the Visionary and Shining Star Luminary awards at this luncheon at the Radisson, which takes place 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 for members and \$45 for nonmembers, with a portion benefiting a nonprofit chosen by the award winners. Call 717-761-0702 or visit wschamber.org.

Aug. 30-Sept. 1: Harrisburg's Kipona festival migrates to City Island with its "celebration of sparkling waters." Each year, Kipona marks the conclusion of the summer festival season with the three-day event over the Labor Day weekend. Check the city's website for more details at www.harrisburgpa.gov.

Country Casual

Aug. 31: Celebrate the arts at Hunters Valley Winery. Enjoy beer, Hunters Valley wine, food and music by local band Hemlock Hollow and participate in exciting Silent and Live Auctions. Event will take place 4 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50. Visit perrycountyarts.org.

MUSEUM & ART SPACES

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

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

"Morning Mysteries of the Far East," an exhibit showcasing vehicles manufactured in countries such as Russia and India that are unknown in the United States, through Sept. 14.

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

"4 Artist Invitational Exhibit" featuring artists Terrie Eshleman, Judith Hummel, Larry Rankin and Lynette Shelley, Aug. 1-Sept. 4; reception Aug. 1, 5-8 p.m.

Brath and Hughes Fine Art

41 W. Main St., Mechanicsburg 717-691-1333

brathandhughesfineart.blogspot.com

Featured artists: Linda Billet and Michael Lekites, through August.

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market St., Camp Hill thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Featured Artist: Linda Buckwalter, through August.

Fort Hunter

5300 N. Front St., Harrisburg 717-599-5751; forthunter.org

"Downton Elegance: Fort Hunter High Fashions of the Downton Abbey Era," an exhibit featuring dresses worn by Helen Reily, mistress of the Fort Hunter mansion, 1912-1918, through Dec. 23.

Gallery@Second

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

Artwork by Madeline C. Reilly and B. Keith Putt, through Aug. 2.

Artwork by Jill Peckelun and Lisa Bennet, Aug. 7-Sept. 13; reception Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m.

The Gallery at Pennsylvania College

1 College Ave., Williamsport 570-320-2445; pct.edu/gallery

"Collective Pop," artwork by Charles Fazzino alongside student art, through Aug. 24; meet the artist reception Aug. 18, 5-7 p.m.

Landis House

Perry County Council of the Arts 67 N. 4th St., Newport perrycountyarts.org

"The Wool Beneath Your Feet: Not Your Grandmother's Hooked Rugs!" through Oct. 4.

Metropolis Collective

17 W. Main St., Mechanicsburg 717-458-8245 metropoliscollective.com

"Femme Fatale," through Sept. 12.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

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

"The Art of Tom Duran," through Aug. 24.

PCCA Gallery

Perry County Council of the Arts 1 S. 2nd St., Newport perrycountyarts.org

"Perry County Faculty," through Aug. 20.

"Flock Together," featuring a collection of bird paintings by Andrew Leach, Aug. 27- Oct. 11; reception Aug. 29, 7-8:30 p.m.

Rose Lehrman Art Gallery

One HACC Drive, Harrisburg 717-780-2435; hacc.edu

"Secrets of Water," photographs by Rance Shepstone, through Aug. 28.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

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

"Art of the State," through Sept. 14.

Whitaker Center/The Curved Wall

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

"The Art & Science of Color," presented by Susquehanna Art Museum, through Aug. 22.

"Y Art," a youth juried art show, Aug. 29-Oct. 31.

Yellow Wall Gallery/ Midtown Scholar

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

"Abecedarium," artwork by Jordan Grove, through Aug. 10.

"Cuentos de Alas (Stories with Wings)," paintings by Eiody Gyekis, Aug. 12- Sept. 15; reception Aug. 15, 6-10 p.m. "Bodies of Air," recent prints by Ward Davenny in Robinson's Rare Books and Fine Prints, Aug. 15-Nov 15; reception Aug. 15, 6-10 p.m.

READ, MAKE, LEARN

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market St., Camp Hill 717-737-5026;

thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Aug. 6: Wednesday Word Flow, 7:30 p.m.

Little Amps Coffee Roasters, Downtown

133 State St., Harrisburg 717-635-9870; littleampscoffee.com

Aug. 15: 3rd in the Burg Record Swap with D.I.

The LGBT Center of Central PA

1306 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg 717-920-9534 centralpalgbtcenter.org

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Alcoholics Anonymous, 12-1 p.m.

Aug. 5: Women's Group, 7-9 p.m. Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27: Common Roads Harrisburg, 6-8 p.m.

Aug. 14, 28: Aging with Pride, 12-2 p.m., 6-8 p.m.

The MakeSpace

1916 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg hbgmakespace.com

Aug. 10: Yoga Nap, 2 p.m.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29: Spoken Word Café, 7 p.m.

Aug. 2: Good News Café, 6 p.m. Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: TED Talks, 1 p.m.

Aug. 4: Swing Dance at the Scholar, 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 5: Sci-Fi Writer's Group, 7 p.m. Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27: Midtown Chess Club, 11 a.m.

Aug. 6: Healthy Eating, Healthy Living, 7 p.m.

Aug. 7: Coffee w/Alinsky Book Club Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28: Almost Uptown Poetry Cartel, 7 p.m.

Aug. 13: Susquehanna Salon— Discussion of Hiroshima, 7 p.m.

Aug. 14, 21: Camp Curtin Toastmasters, 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 15: The Science of Coffee with Café Staff, 12 p.m.

Aug. 15: Tea Tasting with Café Staff, 2 p.m.

Aug. 15: TMI Improv Group/Comedy Night, 7 p.m.

Aug. 15: Comedy Night at the Scholar, 8 p.m.

Aug. 17: LGBT Book Club, 5 p.m. Aug. 20: Sci-fi/Fantasy Book Club, 7 p.m.

Aug. 25: Feminism Group Book Club, 7 p.m.

Aug. 27: Bike in the Burg, 7 p.m.

The Perfect 5th Musical Arts Center

6240 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg 717-691-9100; theperfect5th.com

Aug. 2, 16: KinderFlute Intro Class, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Aug. 4-8: Songwriting Camp, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Aug. 4-8: Youth Music & Activity Camp, 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Aug. 11-15: QuickStart Guitar Camp, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Aug. 11-15: Young Rockers Camp, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Aug. 27: Open Mic Night, 7 p.m.

Wildwood Park

100 Wildwood Way, Harrisburg 717-221-0292; wildwoodlake.org

Aug. 2: Wild About Art: Plants in Pastels, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Aug. 9: Beginner Bird Walk, 8-10 a.m.

Aug. 9: Volunteer Work Day, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Aug. 10: Flower Walk: Heat Tolerant Plants, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Aug. 12: Educator Workshop: Pennsylvania Biodiversity, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Aug. 13: Educator Workshop: Biodiversity of the Susquehanna River, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Aug. 13: Stress Relief Walk, 6-7:30 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC AROUND HARRISBURG

American Music Theatre

2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster 717-397-7700; amtshows.com

Aug. 1: Lee Brice

Aug. 8: Third Day

Aug. 10: Jackie Evancho

Aug. 12: Smokey Robinson Presents "Human Nature— The Motown Show"

Aug. 14: Jennifer Nettles: That Girl Tour

Aug. 19: Yanni

Aug. 23: The Shoji Tabuchi Show

Aug. 25: Johnny Mathis

Aug. 29: Eli Young Band





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Appalachian Brewing Co./ **Abbey Bar**

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

Aug. 1: Dr. Slothclaw and The Dogs of Lust

Aug. 8: Crippled But Free

Aug. 13: The Line, The Howl and The Give/Take

Aug. 16: Cheezy and the Crackers

Aug. 22: Driftwood

Aug. 23: The HairCut Aug. 26: Yo Momma's Big Fat

Booty Band

Aug. 29: Adam Stehr, Shine Delpi Aug. 30: New York Funk Exchange

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

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

Aug. 1, 4, 5: Chris Gassaway Aug. 2, 9, 12, 19: Roy Lefever Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27: Jessica Cook Aug. 7, 15, 21, 23, 29: Ted Ansel Aug. 8, 16, 22, 30: Noel Gevers Aug. 10, 14, 24, 28: Anthony Haubert Aug. 26: TBA

Chameleon Club

223 N. Water St., Lancaster 717-299-9684; chameleonclub.net

Aug. 9: Andrew McMahon Aug. 12: Nothing More Aug. 29: Circa Survive

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market St., Camp Hill 717-737-5026: thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Aug. 1: Broken Owl Aug. 2: Tom Yoder

Aug. 3, 10: Drew Zimmerman

Aug. 8: Antonio Andrade

Aug. 10: Open Mic

Aug. 15: Pat McCaskey

Aug. 16: Marc Lubbers

Aug. 17: Colette Eckert

Aug. 22: Jeanine & Friends

Aug. 23: Rhythm on Main

Aug. 24: Second Time Around

Fed Live

234 N 2nd St, Harrisburg 717-525-8077 federaltaphousehbg.com

Aug. 1: Youngblood Hawke

Aug. 2: Rock the Stage! Rock Cital

Aug. 31: Bigtadoo

Hershey Theatre

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

Aug. 5: 3 Doors Down Acoustic

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Aug. 2: Timmy and the Creeping Thyme, Tsunami Experiment and the Mad Doctors

Aug. 7: Nate Myers Trio

Aug. 8: Still Hand String Band

Aug. 9: Fink's Constant

Aug. 14: The Strangest of Places

Aug. 15: Sub-Culture

Aug. 16: The Dirty Sweet

Aug. 29: Hip Pocket

Aug. 30: Matt Wheeler and Vintage Heart

Little Amps Coffee Roasters, **Downtown**

133 State St., Harrisburg 717-635-9870; littleampscoffee.com

Aug. 1: Mock Suns & TBA Aug. 8: Bandit, Lake Superior Aug. 22: Eeks&Hash, The Indian Burn Band

Aug. 29: Hot Jam Factory, The Shackletons

Little Amps Coffee Roasters, Uptown

1836 Green St., Harrisburg 717-695-4882; littleampscoffee.com

Aug. 17: DRGN King, The Indian Burn Band Aug. 23: Talent Show

The MakeSpace

1919 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg hbgmakespace.com

Aug. 1: Show TBD Aug. 22: Arborea/TBD

Mangia Qui & Suba

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

Aug. 1: Keith Kenny

Aug. 2: Science

Aug. 8: The Wilhelm Brothers

Aug. 9: Chris Padgett

Aug. 15: Jamie O'Brien Band

Aug. 16: Flint Zeigler

Aug. 22: Sean Farley

Aug. 23: Jonathan Frazier

Aug. 29: The Chris Dean Band

Aug. 30: TBD

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Aug. 8: Erik and Abby of

the Speedbumps

Aug. 9: David Pedrick

Aug. 15: Brandon Parsons

Aug. 16: Carly Simone

The Tomato Pie Café

3950 TecPort Dr., Harrisburg; 717-836-7051; tomatopiecafe.net

Aug. 2: Natalie Savage

Aug. 9: Tyler Jazz & Tim White

Aug. 16: Vern & The Zesty Wrens

Aug. 2: Jamie O'Brien Aug. 30: Julie Moffitt

St. Thomas Roasters

5951 Linglestown Rd., Linglestown 717-526-4171; stthomasroasters.com

Aug. 1: Kailian Boyer

Aug. 2: Craig Banner

Aug. 7: Dominic Farole

Aug. 8: Joe Scamturro

Aug. 9: Sivart Lee & Grant

Aug. 14: Tom Yoder

Aug. 15: Cotolo

Aug. 16: Rough Edges

Aug. 21: Sofea Puffins

Aug. 22: Antonio & Ralph

Aug. 23: Dan Zukowski

Aug. 28: Shanna Rae Aug. 29: Drew Zimmerman

Aug, 30: Rayzen Kane

Stocks on 2nd

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

Aug. 1: Wally Dewall

Aug. 2: 3 West

Aug. 8: Mitchell Graeff

Aug. 9, 15: Dominick Cicco

Aug. 16: Steve Swisher & Shea Quinn

Aug. 22: Hoot Baker

Aug. 23: Mitchell Graeff

Aug. 29: Hoot Baker

Aug. 30: Wally Dewall

Strand Capitol Performing Arts Center

50 N. George St, York 717-846-1111; mystrandcapitol.org

Aug. 2: Freddie Jackson

The Ware Center

42 N. Prince St., Lancaster 717-871-2308; millerville.edu/muarts

Aug. 4: Chelsea Berry w/Lisa Huber Aug. 9: Allegro Chamber Orchestra of Lancaster

Whitaker Center

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

Aug. 7: Kenny G

Aug. 8: The Mavericks

Aug. 13: Indigo Girls

THE STAGE DOOR

American Music Theatre

2425 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster 717-397-7700; amtshows.com

Aug. 17: Bob Newhart Aug. 24: Terry Fator

Harrisburg Improv Theatre

1633 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg www.hbgimprov.com

Aug. 15: Class Graduation Show & The Hit Squad

Aug. 23: Class Graduation Show, Triple Double (from Philly) & The Hit Squad

Harrisburg Shakespeare Company

Strawberry Square, Harrisburg 717-238-4111; gamutplays.org

Aug. 8-16: "Fight Til the Last Gasp: Cry Havoc! (A Stage Combat Showcase)"

Luhrs Performing Arts Center

1871 Old Main Dr., Shippensburg 717-477-7469; luhrscenter.com

Aug. 23: Terry Fator

Oyster Mill Playhouse

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

Aug. 15-31: "Done to Death"

Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut

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

Aug. 1-16: "The Three Little Pigs"

Whitaker Center

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

Aug. 16: "Girls Night: The Musical"

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HARRISBURG MILE

Waves of runners sprinted down Front Street during the 33rd annual Harrisburg Mile, which took place July 16. Harrisburg's most popular race attracted participants of all ages, sizes and fitness levels, from those who hardly broke a sweat to those who could barely make it. Following the run from Maclay to Boas streets, many racers gathered in Riverfront Park to share a drink, a meal and stories of 10 minutes of flying down the road.

















DAUPHIN COUNTY **BREWFEST**

Beer-lovers crowded into Fort Hunter Park last month for Dauphin County's third annual BrewFest, which quickly has become a high point in the region's summer festival schedule. Fort Hunter Mansion served as the backdrop as more than 30 beers were poured for the thirsty attendees, who sipped, took in the scenic views along the Susquehanna River and listened to several local bands. There were even home-brewing demonstrations for those who felt inspired to make their own lagers and ales.



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PECHA KUCHA: BUILDING COMMUNITY

Join HYP, American Institute of Architects, USGBC, and Women in Housing and Finance for this premier event. Thursday, September 4 6pm - 9pm

Appalachian Brewing Company Gallery Room

NEW MEMBER SOCIAL

Grab some drinks at Cafe 1500 Monday, August 18 6pm - 8pm

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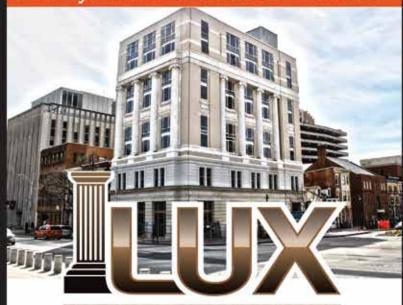
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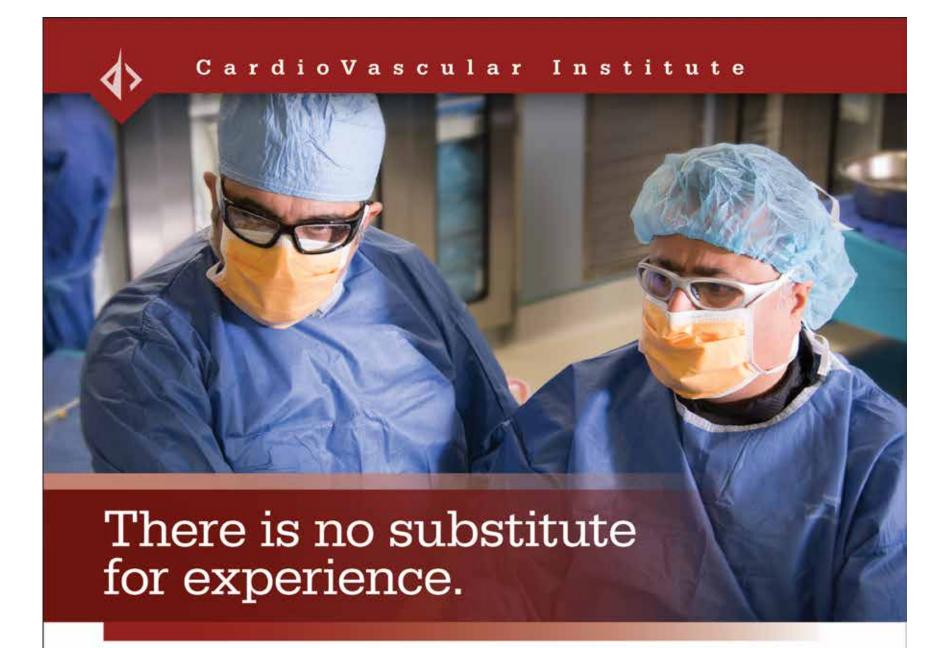
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BUDDHA BUDDHA 400 N. 2ND ST., 6-10 PM
CRAVE & CO. 614 N. 2ND ST., 6-9 PM
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GALLERY@SECOND 608 N. 2ND ST., 6-9 PM
HARRISBURG FOOD TRUCK FEAST 1601 N. 3RD ST., 5-9 PM
HARRISBURG IMPROV THEATRE 1633 N. 3RD ST., 6-9 PM
HMAC STAGE ON HERR 268 HERR ST., 5-9 PM
LITTLE AMPS 133 STATE ST., 6-9 PM
THE MAKESPACE 1916 N. 3RD ST., 6-10 PM
THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER CORNER OF N. 3RD
& KELKER ST., 6-9 PM
STASH 234 NORTH ST., 5-9 PM
STASH 234 NORTH ST., 5-9 PM

SUSQUEHANNA ART MUSEUM CORNER OF N. 3RD & CALDER ST., 6-9 PM
YELLOW BIRD CAFE 1320 N. 3RD ST., 6-9 PM

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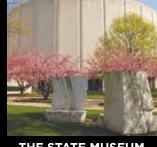
FRIDAY, AUGUST 15: ART, MUSIC & MORE. THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH IN HARRISBURG.



MIDTOWN SCHOLAR 1302 N. 3RD ST.

236.1680 | MIDTOWNSCHOLAR.COM

12 pm: The Science of Coffee
2 pm: Featured Tea Tasting
6 pm: Yellow Wall Gallery
Opening Reception for
"Cuentos de Alas"
(Stories with Wings)
by Elody Gyekis
6 pm: Robinson's Rare Books
& Fine Prints presents: "Bodles
of Air" recent prints by
Ward Davenny
7 pm: TMI Improv Troup, Stage 2
7:30 pm: Brandon Parsons in
Concert on the Main Stage
8 pm: Comedy Night at
the Scholar, Stage 2



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787.4980 | STATEMUSEUMPA.ORG

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Museum of Pennsylvania to
provide an opportunity for
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Pennsylvania artists to exhibit
their work and receive
statewide recognition.



CITY HOUSE B&B

915 N. FRONT ST. 903.2489 | CITYHOUSEBB.COM

6-9 pm: City House B&B hosts artist Melissa Mallams and 'The Collection' featuring Parisian entertainers, courtesans, favorites of the Queen, French aristocrats, and the Paris apartments, stories abound! Mixed media with universal appeal. Refreshments served.



WHITAKER CENTER

222 MARKET ST.

214.ARTS | WHITAKERCENTER.ORG

9:30 am-8 pm: "The Art & Science of Color." The vastness of color, whether it is reflected, projected or processed, presents a distinct opportunity for individual perceptions. We ask each artist to consider the subtle possibilities of color at the heart of a work of art and the long-lasting sensory impressions left on the viewer.



MANGIA QUI & SUBA 272 NORTH ST. 233.7358 | MANGIAQUI.COM

5-11 pm: Featured artist is Vivian Calderon. Music by Jamie O'Brien Band. Ask for the night's Featured Cocktail!



HISTORIC HARRISBURG ASSOCIATION

1230 N. 3RD ST. 233.4646 | HISTORICHARRISBURG.COM

5-9 pm: HHA and Broad Street Market present an evening of food, music and historic photography. Enjoy jazz, food from Market vendors, and photography that will transport you back in time.



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909.6566 | MIDTOWNCINEMA.COM

9:30 pm: A \$3 film screening of James Cameron's "ALIENS," (1986), the director's cut! The planet from ALIEN (1979) has been colonized, but contact is lost. This time, the rescue team has impressive firepower, but will it be enough? BYOB after-party.



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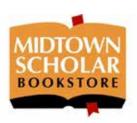
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