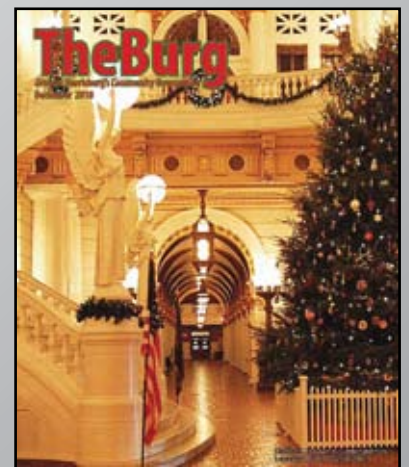
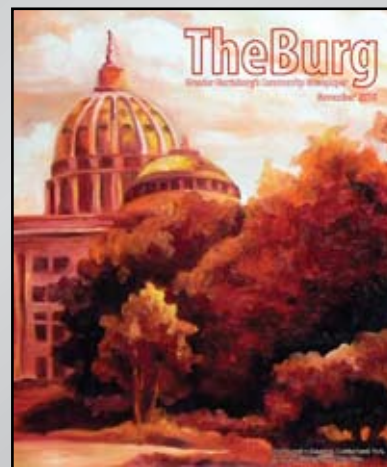
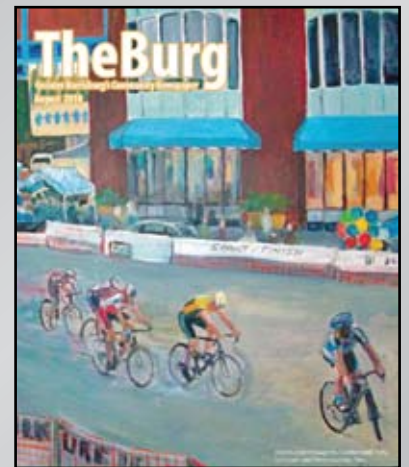
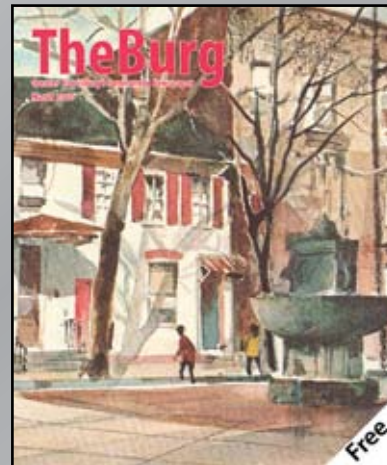
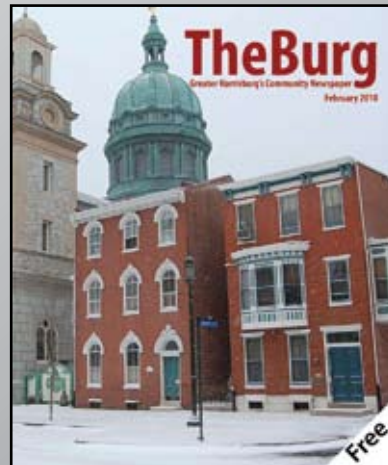


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Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

January 2011



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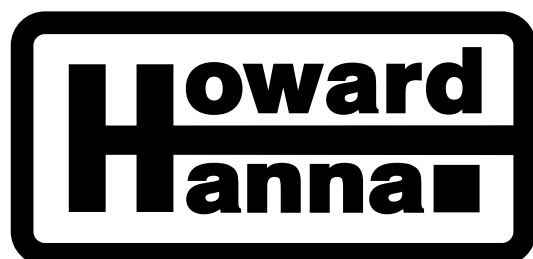
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"Year in Review"

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It's Official: Harrisburg Deemed "Distressed," Enters Act 47 Program

Harrisburg last month was declared a "distressed municipality," meaning the city will enter the state's Act 47 program to help it formulate a comprehensive plan to manage its financial crisis.

Austin Burke, secretary of the state Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), issued his decision following two hearings on the city's application to enter the program.

"This determination will bring objectivity and financial expertise to a city that desperately needs a path to fiscal recovery," Burke said.

Burke has until mid-January to appoint an Act 47 coordinator, who then will have 90 days to draft a comprehensive financial recovery plan. The City Council would have to approve many elements of the plan, which also must pass muster with DCED.

"This is an important first step on the city's road to fiscal recovery," Mayor Linda Thompson said in a statement. "There will be difficult choices to be made by the city's leaders as we craft a comprehensive long-term recovery plan. But we have an opportunity to become the model for comeback cities, and it is my intention to seize that opportunity."

Harrisburg is saddled with an overwhelming debt load of about \$288 million due to upgrades, many botched, over more than a decade to the city's incinerator. In addition to defaulting on several scheduled bond payments, the city has begun to have problems meeting general fund obligations, such as paying employees and vendors.

Harrisburg is the 20th city to enter the Act 47 program since it was launched in 1987. To date, the program has had very mixed results, as most cities, once accepted into Act 47, have found it difficult to exit.

"Act 47, if it's all by itself, will not help this city," said Neil Grover of Debt Watch Harrisburg, a local taxpayer group. "It does not have the ability to deal with both the incinerator debt and the structural debt. Our problem does not fit its parameters."

Grover has been outspoken that he believes the city also must file for Chapter 9 municipal bankruptcy, a move that temporarily would freeze several lawsuits filed against the city by its creditors. In addition, it would strengthen the city's hand as it seeks some relief from creditors, he's said.

The decision to enter bankruptcy lies exclusively with the City Council.

City Changes Trash Collection Days

Starting Jan. 1, Harrisburg will change its weekly trash collection schedule, dividing pick-up by neighborhood, the city said. The new schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday: Downtown/Allison Hill
- Wednesday: Midtown/Uptown
- Thursday: North Side/Bellevue
- Friday: South Side/Paxton South

The change was made to maximize fuel efficiency, consolidate trucks, facilitate route management, establish clear boundaries for collection and eliminate the need to change the schedule on eight holidays, said Public Works Director Ernie Hoch.

There will be no scheduled collections on Mondays, except on some holiday weeks. Mondays will be reserved for leaf collection, bulk collection, special weekend event support collection, city clean-ups and holiday-week collections.

"The steps we are taking will make Harrisburg's trash and recycling collections more efficient," said Hoch.

Mayor, Council Butt Heads on Budget

The City Council spent much of December grappling with the 2011 budget, with more than half-a-dozen hearings dedicated to drafting a spending plan.

The tough task was made even more difficult after a \$4.4 million error cropped up in Mayor Linda Thompson's proposed \$56.4 million plan. To close the gap, Thompson suggested selling land under four municipal parking garages.

Several council members balked at the proposal. Councilwoman Susan Brown-Wilson wanted a 10 percent expense reduction across all departments. Other members favored selling or leasing the garage property or selling tax liens.

At press time, the council had not yet passed the 2011 budget.

If Thompson vetoes the Council's plan, which is possible, the budget reverts to 2010 levels.

—All articles by Lawrance Binda

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Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

General & Letters

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Inaugural Slated, Parade Deleted

The New Year brings in a new administration as Tom Corbett and Jim Cawley are sworn in as governor and lieutenant governor.

Festivities kick off at 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 17, with a family program at Whitaker Center, showcasing the state's performing arts, with a focus on sharing the arts and culture with children.

"I'm honored to have been chosen to serve the commonwealth as governor," Corbett said.

Corbett will attend Mass at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick, 212 State Street, at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18, before he is sworn in at 11:30 a.m. on the plaza outside the East Wing of the Capitol.

The events are free and open to the public. Unlike previous inaugurations, there will be no parade around the Capitol. The Inaugural Committee did not want to burden the city, struggling with finances, with the expense, a spokeswoman said.

The Inaugural Ball is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the state Farm Show Complex. The cost is \$150 per person.

Farm Show Gallops into Harrisburg

Thousands of animals, competitions and delicious food will be among the many attractions at the 2011 Pennsylvania Farm Show, Jan. 8-15 at the state Farm Show Complex and Expo Center, 2300 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg.

The eight-day event features 6,000 animals, 10,000 competitive exhibits and 290 commercial exhibitors. Started in 1917, although, early on, it was not always an annual event, the Farm Show is the largest indoor agricultural exhibition in the United States.

It's designed to showcase the relationship between the state's 63,000 farms and its 12.5 million residents.

Some of the new attractions include celebrity teams competing in a draft horse team driving contest on Tuesday, Jan. 11, and "Agricadabra," an educational agricultural magic show, offered each day for kids of all ages.

The Farm Show runs 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Admission is free and parking is \$10. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.farmshow.state.pa.us.

Tax Rate the Same in Dauphin County

For the sixth straight year, Dauphin County residents will pay the same county tax in 2011.

Last month, county commissioners passed a \$226 million budget, which keeps the tax rate unchanged at a rate of 6.876 mills. Therefore, a homeowner with property assessed at \$100,000 would incur a \$687 county tax.

In addition to a county tax, most property owners pay local and school property taxes.

The budget includes \$167 million of general fund spending, which covers most costs of running the county on a day-to-day basis.

The county's general fund budget is about 1.7 percent higher than in 2010. It includes a 2 percent pay raise for county employees, but none for elected officials.

Papenfuse Runs for County Seat



Businessman Eric Papenfuse (left), owner of Midtown Scholar Bookstore in Harrisburg, has announced his candidacy for Dauphin County

commissioner.

Papenfuse, 39, the first person to officially declare, will run as a Democrat for the three-person board. He said he is emphasizing three issues in his campaign: holding down taxes, creating jobs and ending wasteful spending.

Papenfuse previously ran unsuccessfully for Harrisburg City Council and has served on the Harrisburg Authority.

This year, county and municipal primaries will be held May 17.

Winter Break



With the second phase of the renovation and restoration of South Capitol Park along N. 3rd Street now completed, a state official said the third and final phase, which will focus on the area of the park from the Pine Street steps to the Capitol's south driveway, as well as the east end of the park along N. 4th Street, is scheduled to begin in April.

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TheBurg 5

The Fabric of Community

Neighborhood groups help sew together the city.

Peter Durantine

What makes Harrisburg thrive, what holds it together, what provides some sense of order through its 11.4 square miles? It's the many neighborhoods, which often operate like small villages, each with its own business district.

As defined, the city is comprised of 18 neighborhoods, most of which are well-known, such as Allison Hill, Midtown, Downtown and Uptown.

Some neighborhoods are part of larger neighborhoods: Engleton is part of Midtown, Riverside is part of Uptown and Mount Pleasant is part of Allison Hill. Other neighborhoods are unto themselves, like Bellevue Park and Shipoke.

While the neighborhoods, like pieces of a puzzle, form the city as a whole, it is the residents in these areas who have formed associations by which to create, promote and support that fellowship of community within their neighborhoods.

"I think I represent a lot of the people my age who are looking for a place in the city that is a strong community," said Devan Drabik, a 24-year-old Midtown resident.

Drabik serves on the board of Friends of Midtown, a neighborhood

group with a mission "to engage the community through initiatives designed to spur Midtown's progress as a vibrant, clean, safe and diverse urban community."

FOM's initiatives include clean-up days on weekends, crime prevention measures, such as distributing safety whistles, block parties and other events that bring neighbors together. A website keeps residents informed of events.

The group has more than 200 members, some of whom once lived in Midtown, but now live outside the city, though most members, like Don Barnett, the president of FOM's board, live in the neighborhood.

Barnett, in fact, had been living in the suburbs before moving to Capitol Heights, one of many smaller neighborhoods that comprise the Midtown area. "One of the reasons I picked Midtown was being able to walk to work," he said.

As a group, FOM supported locating the new U.S. courthouse near Midtown's outskirts at 6th and Reilly streets, which is expected to generate significant economic activity for Midtown businesses.

As a neighborhood group, FOM "is a great way for people who come to Midtown to become immediately connected."

Within Midtown is the smaller neighborhood of Engleton. Its association, Engleton Community Group, is strongly active, with a website that serves as a sort of town crier, with notices about crime, city hall actions and local events.

"We try to be

the communicator so everyone is informed," said Mitch Smith.

About 250 neighbors participate in the 3-year-old group. Five volunteers "carry the load," he said, but, for special events, more than 100 residents have helped out.

For many neighborhood groups, including Engleton's, street parking is an evergreen concern.

No group is more identified with the issue than Capitol Area Neighbors. Unlike most cities, many Harrisburg residents live right in the dense downtown. So, CAN has waged battle after battle over who should have access to street spaces and at what cost.

CAN has weighed in on many debates, such as city proposals to boost parking fees and efforts by developers to get waivers from off-street parking rules.

"Parking has always been an issue," said Jane Allis, CAN's president.

Across town on South Allison Hill, there are two groups, the Residents Association, organized by the Community Action Commission, and the Weed and Seed program overseen by the YWCA.

Peter Kehler, a 78-year-old retired truck driver, has lived near the corner of 16th and Hunter streets on South Allison Hill since 1957. He's team chair on Weed and Seed and wears several hats on the Residents Association, among them secretary and treasurer.

"When we moved here in 1957, the homes were all owned by elderly people," he said, noting as those owners passed away their children did not take the homes. They had moved to the suburbs.

Today, the neighborhood is mostly transient. More people rent instead of own, which makes it a struggle for a community to flourish,



Jane Allis, head of Capitol Area Neighbors, in front of a rare sight: empty parking spaces downtown.

though the Weed and Seed and Residents Association organizes events, particularly for children.

"My feeling is we need to work with the young people," Kehler said. "They have a lot of energy and, if we can tap into that energy, it can benefit the community."

Despite the ups and downs the neighborhood has experienced since the 1950s, Kehler is happy where he lives. "As long as we respect one another and that respect is mutual, your home is where you make it," he said.

Susquehanna Art Identifies New Home

Susquehanna Art Museum, which, after 10 years, closed its downtown Harrisburg location at 3rd and Market streets last month, has identified a potential site in the city for its new home, according to Stephen A. Moore, the museum's board president.

Moore expects to announce the location this month. The museum is seeking 15,000- to 20,000-square-foot of space—triple what it had in the nine-story Kunkel Building at 301 Market St.—for exhibits, retail, preservation and classrooms.

For now, the museum has temporarily set up in Strawberry Square. The State Museum is showing some of the museum's art.

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Around Town

A Year of Living Artfully

Eyeing growth, 3rd in The Burg Turns 1

Lawrance Binda



Artists and art lovers gathered at Gallery@Second during last month's 3rd in The Burg.

The evening was chilly, though not as cold as it could've been for a mid-January night in Harrisburg.

Bundled up, people darted from one place to the next—mostly up and down N. 3rd Street, from Gallery Blu to Midtown Scholar to Arts at 510. It was the inaugural night of 3rd in The Burg, a monthly celebration of local arts that quickly would become an institution in the city.

"We thought that it would be difficult to compete with other 'First Fridays' in the region," explained co-founder Christina Heintzelman-Jones. "So we looked to start something on the third Friday."

This month, with the Jan. 21 event, 3rd in The Burg marks its first anniversary of giving Harrisburg an extra dose of "art, music and more," as its slogan says.

Over that year, 3rd in The Burg has experienced a great number of changes. A couple of the original members just recently closed their doors, so no longer will participate.

Others have jumped on board during the year, including Gallery@Second and 3rd Street Studio, both of which opened shop in 2010. A Harrisburg stalwart, Gallery at Walnut Place, is one of the newest members of the group.

In addition, the success of 3rd in The Burg has attracted non-traditional art spaces.

Nonna's and Mangia Qui both hope you'll stop in for dinner before hitting the galleries, while Midtown Cinema has developed a niche among film lovers for a night of

movie trivia. And Open Stage of Harrisburg, new this month, is the first dedicated live theater to join.

So what's next for 3rd in The Burg, as it moves out of its infancy?

Late last year, the group partnered with the local arts organization, Jump Street, giving it the ability to pursue grants and other types of funding reserved for non-profits. It also hopes

to get more sponsors that will help it to defray costs and reduce membership fees, following a successful sponsorship relationship with GreenWorks Development during 2010.

But, for the most part, 3rd in The Burg, now past the stage of getting established, is looking to grow.

The group would like to branch out beyond its base of art galleries into other types of businesses, including shops, restaurants, cafés and any other place that would like to stay open late and do something a little special the third Friday of each month.

In addition, group members are seeking complementary ideas. For instance, Harrisburg Bike Taxi held "tips only" nights last year, which was a creative way to get around hard-to-park downtown and Midtown. And, just last month, JanGroh Collective filled another need—hosting the first 3rd in The Burg after-party, an art-themed event perfect for all those folks who thought that 9 p.m. was just way too early to go home.

"We've seen a lot of growth as we start our second year," said Heintzelman-Jones. "We'd like to find ways to make it even better, to see how we can get more businesses to be part of the energy."

Would you like your business to join 3rd in The Burg? Contact Christina Heintzelman-Jones at 717-234-3009. For general information, go to www.3rdintheburg.com.

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Bethesda Mission takes its calling to the streets.

T.W. Burger



On a cold night, homeless men gather around the Bethesda Mission van in a downtown alley.

Behind the Dauphin County Courthouse, the homeless clustered around the big Sprinter van.

"Do you have any coats left? Do you have any shoes? My feet are freezing. Do you have any more blankets? Do you have sweatpants? Somebody stole my sweatpants. They steal anything. They would steal ME if they could...."

The van belongs to Bethesda

Mission. Every Friday and Saturday night, starting around 9 p.m., Karl Beardsley barrels through Harrisburg's streets and alleys, into some very dark places that most city residents have never seen, looking for the homeless and the simply poor who need, well, stuff—as in a blanket and some washcloths, some soap, a toothbrush, socks, a warm knit hat, a cup of

coffee, company, a prayer.

A woven wicker basket sat on the truck's dash. In it were a copy of the Bible, six leather-bound editions of the New Testament and Psalms, a booklet titled "Touched by The Fire," and another titled "Where to Go When You Need Help."

"Somebody asked me once if that was the collection basket," Beardsley said, keeping

a straight face. "I said yes, but they didn't put anything in it."

It is November, with winter stalking near. In Harrisburg, the homeless are legion, 650 or more, some in shelters, or living in borrowed space with friends, a night here, a night there, or sleeping in cars, under bridges, in stairwells. A lucky percentage find real shelter with food and stability. Bethesda Mission is the largest and best-known shelter in the area.

Beardsley and his rotating crew of volunteer helpers provide what they can.

The food, coffee, the material things come from Bethesda Mission on Reily Street. The mission gets those things from donations from churches, businesses and individuals. The company and prayer Beardsley and crew provide on the spot.

Members from as many as half-a-dozen churches rotate weekend volunteer duty helping out with packing the van and distributing the goods.

On the way to the stop, four women and two men share the rear seats of the Sprinter with bags of clothes, socks, some shoes and a stack of blankets and bedspreads that reaches the tops of the van windows.

On the first sharp turn—Beardsley drives as though he were piloting an ambulance—the mountain of blankets avalanches onto one of the women, and the group explodes into laughter and good-natured kidding. It's like a Sunday school hayride in fast-forward.

But the hilarity is tempered by reality.

"This is my second time," said Barb Gruver, who lives in the Carlisle area. "It makes your heart ache. What can you do? We only have so much stuff to give them."

The van makes four regular stops, not always in the same order; under the Mulberry Street Bridge,

where figures emerge out of the inky darkness and greet Beardsley by name; behind the courthouse, sort of a "homeless central" downtown; beside St. Patrick's Church on State Street; and in the area around the train and bus station.

Behind the courthouse, perhaps 20 homeless people gathered for coffee or hot chocolate, milling around, talking to the volunteers and one another.

One of the homeless men started an argument with a woman whose arms were filled with things from the van. He seemed angry at how much she had taken, though he took easily as much. He accused her of having a gun, but no gun is in evidence.

One of the older vans that Beardsley drove has a bullet hole in the front passenger door. He was a little coy about how it got there, but he said he likes to tell new volunteers that it happened while volunteers were handing out sandwiches at a stop.

Barbara Bell belongs to the Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., Jerry Falwell's old church. She drove up to visit her sisters in the area and volunteer for a weekend in the mobile mission. It was also her second time ministering to the homeless.

She rooted around in the by-now totally disorganized pile of donated goods, looking for a pair of shoes for Elsie, the woman whose feet were freezing. Elsie wore thong sandals and a pair of thin socks. All the shoes were gone. Bell removed her own and gave them to Elsie.

"They fit like they was made for me," Elsie said. "But I can't take...."

"Yes, you can," Bell said, and spent the remainder of the evening running around in her socks. One of the other volunteers asked if her feet were cold.

"What feet? I can't feel them at all," she said. "But I can buy myself more shoes."

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The Servant as Leader

A new type of leadership emerges locally.

Una Martone

Of the many leadership styles and models in the business world, servant leadership is growing. It's a concept as old as time, dating to ancient India in 4th century B.C., and brought modern awareness by Robert Greenleaf in his 1970 essay, "The Servant as Leader," which he describes as follows:

"The servant-leader is servant first.... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead.... The best test, and difficult to administer, is: Do those served grow as persons? Do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants? And, what is the effect on the least privileged in society? Will they benefit or at least not be further deprived?"

Who are the Harrisburg-area servant leaders? Are they business leaders, elected officials; are they running non-profits or members of your own family, perhaps even your children? Can you immediately recognize a servant leader or do you need to see the results of their actions over time?

Leadership Harrisburg Area's programs have propagated servant leadership for the past 25 years. We have indeed seen results! Our alumni make tremendous impacts throughout the region. Their actions may be as simple as stringing Christmas lights

at the senior center or baking cupcakes for school students. They are catalysts for programs and projects that change the landscape in and around Harrisburg.

One such project is BARAK, Inc., a community arts organization founded in 1999 with a vision to transform lives and communities across the region through engagement in the arts. Wendell Murray, its founder, graduated LHA's program in 2007 and leveraged all the resources and partnerships available to him. Today, because of BARAK, hundreds of inner-city students have defeated violence and learned to express their feelings through visual and performing arts, which has revitalized their neighborhoods and helped reconcile and heal their community. To admire their work, look at the murals in Reservoir Park or the hand-painted trash cans around Harrisburg.

In honor of LHA's 25th anniversary, we will celebrate servant leaders in our Alumni Impact Series that launches Jan. 19 at Capital BlueCross. Nancy Dering Mock will give real-life examples of local and international service and highlight two powerful examples: Esmeralda Hetrick, a founding member of Estamos Unidos de PA, and Murray. To learn more or to register for the series, visit www.leadershipharrisburg.org or call 717-213-5035.

Una Martone is president of Leadership Harrisburg Area.

Then & Now



Typically, we show century-old images in our "Then and Now" feature. But, this month, our "then" photo is just months old, when a once-beautiful Victorian building at the corner of Mulberry and Crescent streets in Allison Hill was deemed too dilapidated to save and razed by the city. Fortunately, several other historic buildings, now boarded up, just up Derry Street are slated to be rehabbed.



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A View from the Inside

Bill Cluck finally got a seat at the table. What happens now?

Peter Durantine



Inside the henhouse: Bill Cluck seated in the conference room at the Harrisburg Authority.

For years, William Cluck was a thorn in the city's side. He appeared at meetings of the Harrisburg Authority that typically lacked public attendance and questioned things—many things.

As the city's incinerator problems grew from bad to worse, Cluck questioned the city's and Dauphin County's actions to the point where he was dismissed by officials as a trouble-maker, a gadfly.

But what he was trying to do was raise alarms about the Authority's borrowing of tens of millions of dollars on a facility already mired in \$100 million in debt. As Cluck found, though, no one seemed interested in understanding what was going on.

To a great extent, Cluck believed that the way things were done was financially and legally questionable. He is an attorney who practices environmental, energy and land law from his home in Shipoke.

As the Authority struggles to settle the incinerator's \$288 million debt, the once-derided gadfly now serves on its board, a mayoral appointment insisted upon by the City Council. To many, Cluck has already proven his value, recently ensuring that a \$3.8 million Authority windfall was transferred to the city to help balance last year's municipal budget.

While Cluck's ascension to a

body he has questioned relentlessly is an impressive political feat, the question may be why a private citizen with a respected law practice would bother entering a maelstrom that brings no compensation and little thanks.

"I've been civic-minded from my days at Penn State—I was a student activist up there," he said. "When I see narcissistic people more interested in having political power than in getting things

done, then I get involved."

Cluck was raised in Philadelphia's suburbs, graduated Penn State, where he was president of the student government, and earned his law degree at Temple University.

He went to work for Philadelphia-based Saul Ewing in 1987. In 1991, the firm sent him to Harrisburg to open an office. The firm named him special counsel in 1999, and, a year later, he opened his private practice.

Cluck became aware of the Authority's unorthodox financing practices from his position at Saul Ewing. He represented one of the firm's clients, a waste hauler, with litigation against the Authority.

This gave him a general understanding that the incinerator was "an iffy proposition," with a history of troubles that would require significant upgrades, he said. Also, he typically was the only member of the public present at Authority meetings.

"Having certain knowledge made me more informed than the average citizen about what was going on," he said. "I saw the city was building a financial house of cards because of the incinerator, and no one was paying attention."

Cluck's comprehension of the legal issues swirling around the incinerator and the many actions

regarding it by the Authority, city and county made him a formidable inquisitor who often shared his knowledge of what was going on with City Council.

"He was also, at times, the only citizen at my public hearings while I was chair of Public Works" in 2008-09, said Councilwoman Patty Kim, who nominated Cluck and J. Marc Kurowski to the Authority. "[Mr. Cluck] was constantly raising good questions."

Cluck followed the actions and decisions by the Harrisburg Authority, Kim said, noting that, "he had researched the deals and contracts made during the [former Mayor Stephen] Reed administration and waved red flags."

Kim said she chose Cluck because, "I believed he would add a lot of working knowledge and incinerator history to the board. I can confidently say that he has done that since being on the board."

City Council not only wanted a way out of the financial hole, but also an understanding of how the Authority, city and county dug it so deep. That's one task Cluck has helped the Authority take on—and it has not been easy.

Last May, the Authority was about to start a forensic audit of past practices—to see how the incinerator became such a debacle and whether matters were handled fairly, properly and legally.

Then, out of nowhere, the state Supreme Court nullified the board, throwing Cluck and his fellow members off. Mayor Linda Thompson re-appointed Cluck, but, due to political wrangling between her and the City Council, a new board wasn't seated for months. Therefore, movement on an audit only recently resumed.

Cluck said the audit will allow the Authority to "establish credibility" when it begins to negotiate with creditors to reduce its liabilities. Whether the audit uncovers legal wrongdoing is

unknown, though Cluck strongly suspects it will.

"I think, at the end of the day, you're going to find this thing is actionable," he said. "This should have been investigated by law enforcement five years ago."

A big question is whether Reed will cooperate in the investigation. Cluck believes he will. "I would think he would want to be cooperative," Cluck said. "I would think he would want to clear his reputation."

For Reed, there is "no mystery" how the Authority got into such financial straits. The first contractor to retrofit the incinerator had bid too low to finish the job, and the cost of subsequent work mushroomed, he said in an interview.

The former mayor will, though, cooperate with the auditors. "If they have questions I can answer, then certainly I will answer them," he said.

Cluck also expects local professionals involved in the financing and retrofitting to cooperate, if only to save their reputations. Cluck is not willing to say there was corruption—though he acknowledges the audit may show otherwise.

What he suspects, after culling through Authority files, is there was "professional neglect." Things were done for expediency because Reed wanted to resolve the incinerator's operational problems quickly and return it to profitability, he said.

One thing Cluck is certain the audit will show is gross incompetence.

"As I watch this, I get more and more angry," he said. "Corruption is too strong a word—it's just unbelievable."

City Council also is interested in the audit. Kim said it's necessary.

"The city got burned with some bad deals by attorneys who weren't looking out for our citizens," she said. "I believe that a forensic audit should be conducted while the Harrisburg Authority continues to find ways to pull itself out of debt."

Pedaling for a Purpose

Bike ride to raise awareness of disabilities.

Peter Durantine



Terry Shaffer, atop the bike he'll ride through six states and Washington D.C.

Terry Shaffer once was confined to a wheelchair for 18 months, following an accident, and he has arthritis through more than 90 percent of his body.

Nonetheless, he's now mounting a grueling, 1,800-mile bicycle journey in order to raise awareness of those with disabilities.

"There are all sorts of disabilities you can't see," he said, noting his arthritic limbs and citing those who suffer from mental disabilities. "People who are disabled are not just confined to wheelchairs."

Terry's wife, Susan, an activist who is permanently confined to a wheelchair because of a congenital condition, runs a program, "Infobility: Inform and Empower People with Disabilities." It's designed to enlighten the non-disabled and teach the disabled how to meet their particular challenges. Infobility is organizing Terry's trek through six states—Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia—and Washington, D.C. Susan, traveling in a van that accommodates her wheelchair, will meet Terry at various

stops along the way to promote awareness by meeting with media.

"I may look handicapped, but I don't have any pain," said Susan, moving about their Chestnut Street apartment in her electric wheelchair. "He has pain all the time."

The accident that had put Terry in a wheelchair was a fall from a three-story building while doing construction. He also suffers from migraines. He showed a bottle of Aleve, the over-the-counter pain medication, when asked how he treats his arthritis.

Susan was born with arthrogryposis, a rare disorder characterized by multiple joint contractures—known as "hooked joints"—and muscle weakness. She has a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Hofstra University.

The bicycle journey her husband will make in June is intended to educate people about physical disabilities and promote greater integration of the disabled into mainstream society, as well as bring awareness to an under-used skilled workforce.

According to U.S. Department of Labor figures, 53 million Americans have disabilities, yet the unemployment rate for them in 2010 was 58 percent higher than the non-disabled population.

To prepare for

the long excursion, Terry is training when the weather is good, riding his Raleigh racer, which he keeps in a room in their apartment. On cold, damp days he rides a stationary bike in the apartment building's exercise room.

Long-distance bicycling is not new to him, he said. Fifteen years ago, he set out for the West Coast, but somewhere in Colorado his bicycle broke down, and he ran out of money to fix it. "I made it half-way across the United States," he said.

To ensure Terry has the resources to complete his six-week journey, headlined as "Pedaling for a Purpose: Across America for Disability Awareness," the Shaffers are trying to raise funds to help cover the estimated \$3,100 in costs, which will cover lodging, food, bicycle maintenance and gas.

For more on sponsoring or contributing to Terry's bike journey, visit www.terryonwheels.blogspot.com or contact Susan Schaffer at 717-412-4145.

MLK Day: Day Off, Day of Service

Instead of taking off for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Jan. 17, spend it offering your help on one of 27 needed projects across the region that the Central Pennsylvania MLK Day of Service Committee has lined up for the holiday.

Volunteers are needed to paint rooms, visit nursing homes or lend a hand at shelters, among other activities.

This is the 25th year of MLK Day of Service, but the ninth year in which the day has been celebrated with community projects manned by volunteers.

"Every year, we have more volunteers and more people [to serve]," said Lourdes Swarts, one of the organizers and president of the Pennsylvania Family Coalition.

At 2 p.m. on Jan. 17, a free performance at the Forum Building

on Walnut Street will honor the life and legacy of King, featuring speaker Craig Dietz, a triathlon swimmer and avid outdoorsman who was born without limbs.

Audience members are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to the event to donate to the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank.

Most of the day, though, is devoted to volunteers giving back to the community in such projects as building shelves at Bethesda Mission, gathering books for a book drive, and donating arts and crafts supplies for the Boys and Girls Club.

The day of service reminds us of the inspiration and contributions of King, but it also gives volunteers the satisfaction of having contributed to the community.

To sign-up to volunteer, or make a tax-deductible donation for the event, visit www.centralpamlkday.org.



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... a Month in Pictures



Dec. 8: Fran Harris, right, executive director of the Heinz-Menaker Senior Center on 4th Street, talks to Lorelee Isbell from Dixon University Center, one of the Leadership Harrisburg Area board members who were serving seniors a holiday dinner.



Dec. 9: Al and Charlotte Nelson were among those who attended the holiday party at Mitrani at Home. A portion of the proceeds was donated to Channels Food Rescue.



Dec. 12: Masjid Hadee, a new mosque of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, opened in the former Lakeside Lutheran Church, which closed last year because of a dwindling congregation.



Dec. 12: Rich, Sydney, Bentley and Trina Gribble relax at The Civic Club after the annual Historic Harrisburg Candelight House Tour. Their house was part of this year's event.



Dec. 15: Engleton Community Group held its holiday fest at Gallery Blu. Among the partiers: Branka Lukic and Steph and Ammon Perry.



Dec. 17: Artfully painted fabric and eerie lighting transformed the Historic Harrisburg Center at JanGroh Collective's "La Cage after Party."



Dec. 18: The International Kwanzaa Festival was held at the State Museum. Left, Nataki McNeal Bhatti, Tru Poet, Sankofa the Poet and Dennise L. Hill performed in "If This Art Could Talk," directed by Katie Wigdahl. Right, Imani EduTainers African Drum & Dance Company entertained the crowd.



Sacred Space to Living Space

Church facilities eyed for rooming houses.

Peter Durantine & Lawrance Binda



Rooming house ahead? The convent building at N. 2nd and Liberty streets.

A Harrisburg company is seeking to turn two Catholic church facilities into rooming houses, one on Allison Hill and the other downtown.

The city's Zoning Hearing Board last month approved Skynet Property Management's request to turn the former Lourdeshouse Maternity Home at 1611 Boas St. into a 21-unit rooming house.

Skynet sought a special exception to convert the 3,119-square-foot home, built around 1900, from institutional use to multi-unit residential, which does not conform to zoning in that

neighborhood.

The building and adjacent property, an area of land at 920 N. 17th St. to be used for parking, are owned by the Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, according to Dauphin County property records.

Skynet is expected soon to buy the properties. It bought another adjacent property, 900 N. 17th St., from the diocese in October.

According to Skynet, some rooms actually will be apartments, while others will share kitchens and baths. The average patron's stay is about eight months, said Joshua Juffe, Skynet's president.

Skynet had less luck with a proposal to turn a downtown Catholic convent into a 39-unit rooming house.

The company was seeking a special exception for the 5,166-square-foot building at 603-605 N. 2nd St., as the area is not zoned for that use. It also sought relief of the requirement of

providing 33 parking spaces.

The zoning board, though, had a number of concerns, including density, parking and recreational space, issues also raised in a letter to the board from the downtown group, Capitol Area Neighbors.

The board asked Skynet to return and present cases for both a special exception and a variance, a higher standard that requires the company to demonstrate hardship. It also wants proof that the Harrisburg Parking Authority has pledged spaces in its South Street garage for residents.

The century-old convent is owned by Mercy House, according to county property records. The run-down building currently houses just eight nuns.

Skynet wishes to buy the property and renovate it. The rooming house would feature efficiency and one-bedroom apartments, as well as rooms with shared kitchens and baths, at rents of \$90 to \$150 per week.

Since July 2009, Skynet has bought seven properties throughout Harrisburg, according to the county.

Café Perking in Olde Uptown



Olde Uptown residents soon will get what many have long desired: a real

coffeehouse smack-dab in their revitalizing neighborhood.

Last year, WCI Partners bought the old corner grocery (above) at Muench and Green streets, and the developer now plans to open an 800-square-foot café there, with a one-bedroom apartment on the second floor.

But don't hurry over just yet. WCI still must get a variance for that use from the city's Zoning Hearing Board, an item that probably will be on the board's February agenda. The company also must renovate the building and find an operator.

"There's a lot of support in the community for a project like this," said Dave Butcher, WCI president.

New Biz: Grand Openings

Sita's Kitchen: Sita Nhek gets ready to serve two of her specialties—beef stew noodle soup and chicken kabob—at her new eatery in the Broad Street Market's stone building. Sita's pan-Asian menu features cuisine both from Japan, including sushi, and her home region of southeast Asia. Try one of her Phnom Penh-style noodle soups, named for the capital of Cambodia, where she was born. Sita's Kitchen is open during regular Market hours. 717-512-0865



The Candle Bakery: For Dinnie and Rocky Flood, a candle shouldn't just smell like strawberry shortcake, it should look like one, too. The Candle Bakery, newly opened in the Broad Street Market, offers hand-poured soy candles that look like all kinds of baked goods and sweets. Hours are Wed., 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Thurs. and Fri., 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat., 7 a.m.-4 p.m. www.soycandlebakery.com

Changing Hands: November Property Sales

Bigelow Dr., 30: B. Higgins to G. Neff, \$88,000	N. Front St., 1525, #310: Riverview Manor Associates LP to R.L. Pauletta, \$54,900
Bigelow Dr., 31: B. Higgins to G. Neff, \$88,000	N. Front St., 1525, #411: Riverview Manor Associates LP to A. Hoffman, \$164,900
Briggs St., 1925: M. & N. Godfrey to C. Forney, \$77,000	N. Front St., 2843: J. Tillery & L. Pierce to M. & A. Saracino, \$299,000
Crescent St., 222: P. McDaniels to Z. Chadwick, \$57,000	Norwood St., 926: Fannie Mae to R. Escate, \$38,000
Croyden Rd., 2994: PA Deals LLC to J. Wertz and M. Clarke, \$37,850	Peffer St., 234: Stardog Investors LLC to WCI Partners LP, \$115,000
Forster St., 1718: PA Deals LLC to D. Thurbon, \$39,900	Reilly St., 109: K.L. Anderson to C. Love & S. Kehler, \$139,900
Green St., 1406: N. Whitmore to J.D. Leaman, \$50,000	Reilly St., 111: K.L. Anderson to B. Kelly, \$137,900
Market St., 335: Governor Hotel Partnership to Riverview Manor Associates LP, \$1,615,000	Rumson Dr., 345: C. Hetzko to M. Vega, \$96,900
Market St., 1855: Bruce Alan Homes Inc. to M. Miller, \$100,000	Rumson Dr., 2941: R. & J.M. Houseal to C. Thorp, \$75,000
N. 2nd St., 2023: 44 Cameron Street Associates LP to WCI Partners LP, \$157,500	Swatara St., 2134: D. Fry to M. Lalmohamed, \$70,500
N. 2nd St., 2337: R. Little to S. Miller, \$158,000	Wiconisco St., 505: T. Bui & N. Nguyen to Divine Nest LLC, \$132,500
N. 2nd St., 2921: R. Martin to J.A. Hartzler & K. Werley, \$300,000	Wiconisco St., 531: Quadrant Residential Capital II LLC to Toomey Investment Group LLC, \$35,000
N. 3rd St., 3205: T. & M. Asman to G. Geedy, \$110,000	Source: Dauphin County, City of Harrisburg, property sales greater than \$30,000. Data is deemed to be accurate.
N. Front St., 1015: Absecon Holdings Inc. to R. Dishong, \$158,000	

From the Ground Up

Hurry Up and Wait

Courthouse to start in 2013, finish in 2016.

Lawrance Binda



The site of the new federal courthouse at 6th and Reilly streets.

Harrisburg's new federal courthouse at 6th and Reilly streets is on track, but it's a very slow track, still years away from being started, according to a federal official overseeing the project.

The building likely won't break ground until 2013 and won't open its doors until 2016, said David Ehrenwerth, mid-Atlantic regional administrator for the federal General Services Administration (GSA).

Moreover, these dates are best-case estimates, as Congress still must appropriate most of the money for the project, estimated at \$130-\$135 million. So far, only \$26 million has been approved.

"We have enough funds to start the process," he said. "We will get a request into the fiscal year 2013 budget to begin construction."

In April, after a years-long search, GSA announced that it would build the 260,000-square-

foot courthouse on the mostly vacant site at the edge of Midtown. When completed, the courthouse will house seven or eight courtrooms and about 260 employees.

The current federal courthouse, located downtown, does not meet requirements for security and is tight on space.

Ehrenwerth last month updated the City Council on the project, saying that land acquisition, land appraisals and other preparations will

eat up the next two years. Currently, GSA is in the process of buying out the nine homeowners and one business that occupy the 4.5-acre site.

Council members queried Ehrenwerth on a number of issues, including homeowner buyouts, minority contracting and employee parking. He said GSA would pay fair-market value for the land that needs to be acquired and would help residents move. The project should generate 475-500 construction jobs, with about one-quarter of contracts reserved for small and minority businesses, he said.

Parking appeared to be a stickier issue, as only about half the needed spaces are expected to be built on site. Another 150 or so spaces would have to be found nearby, within a block or two, Ehrenwerth said.

About \$500,000 will be

reserved for courthouse art, he said, adding that Councilman Kelly Summerford will help lead a committee that will commission artwork for the courthouse.

Grocery/Restaurant Sited for Cameron St.



Restaurant/store site at Cameron and Herr.

Work should begin in spring on a restaurant and grocery store on an empty lot near Cameron

and Herr streets after the project won city Zoning Board approval last month.

The two-story, 2,290-square-foot building at 1125 N. Cameron St. will be a restaurant and grocery store on the first floor with storage on the second, said Mark Saber, who is managing the project for Martha Camacho.

The board approved a variance for the structure to be built in a 100-year floodplain, after the project's architect, Richard Gribble, showed how construction would employ the latest materials in flood-proofing technology to protect the building.

Saber said the restaurant would offer a variety of chicken dishes, from fried to rotisserie, and the grocery would sell mostly dry goods and some fresh items.

Savannah's Owners Plan New Venture



A nightclub is planned for this warehouse off Cameron Street.

The owners of Savannah's On Hanna, just north of I-83, are preparing to open a restaurant and bar down the block from

their gentlemen's club.

Last month, owners Philip Dobson and Joshua Kessler received approval from the Harrisburg Zoning Hearing Board on the last part of the project, a 425-foot sign rising 120 feet high and visible from the interstate.

Dobson and Kessler are converting an old, 14,000-square-foot warehouse at 801 S. 10th St. into what Dobson described as a cross between a nightclub and brew pub, featuring live music and a variety of local micro-brews. The venue will be called the Rockville Entertainment Complex.

Dobson expects the facility to open in a year. He said much work needs to be done to transform the warehouse for its new use.

Railroad Bridge Is Falling Down

Demolition of an abandoned, 83-year-old railroad bridge across Cameron and Paxton streets prepares a \$2.8-million project to widen the intersection this spring. The old Reading Railroad bridge once served a steel mill. When finished, the intersection will have two through-traffic lanes on each approach along with a left turn lane. Curbs and sidewalks will be built and a traffic signal installed. Work should be finished in July.



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Serving Harrisburg

Another eatery planned, Nick Laus adds to his menu of restaurants.

Peter Durantine



Nick Laus, in the stylish dining area of Café Fresco, his restaurant and bar in downtown Harrisburg.

Restaurateur Nick Laus' trajectory as a businessman follows that of many successful American immigrants—he arrived in the Harrisburg area at age 5 from Peru. Poor, his family struggled for years.

His stepfather opened a pizza shop on Derry Street in Swatara Township that he later inherited. And thus began a local empire that continues today as Laus, the owner

of Café Fresco, with two Harrisburg locations, plans another city eatery.

He has taken lease of the former Zephyr Express location, 231 North St., where he intends soon to open a neighborhood bistro with upscale home cooking. He's still working out the details, but said he expects to serve lunch and dinner. The soft-spoken restaurateur also is considering nightclub ventures in Lancaster and Philadelphia, where he used to visit four- and five-star restaurants

before deciding Harrisburg needed something similar.

He started slow, going from pizza to subs, opening the South Philly Sub Shop on Paxton Street. Then, a few years later and a few blocks down the street, he moved to salads, soups and sandwiches at Café Fresco, across from the Harrisburg Mall.

New Owner Plans to Reopen Club 1400

Club 1400, at N. 3rd and Calder streets, is on the verge of re-opening under new ownership.

The re-named Howard's Club 1400 will be owned by Harrisburg businessman Howard E. Hoffman under the trade name 1400 N. 3rd Enterprises, which just formed Dec. 20, according to state records.

Hoffman now is trying to purchase a liquor license from Violet Kanoff, former owner of the defunct Violet's on Walnut.

Club 1400 was closed most of 2010 after the death of its owner. It had been the site of violent incidents over the years, including the shooting of a bouncer in 2009.

In September, the building sold in a Dauphin County sheriff's sale to Richard Kushner of the 1800-block of

Clarks Valley Road in Middle Paxton Township and a partner, according to county property records.

A man named Richard Kushner, of the same Middle Paxton address, was arrested in June in Upper Allen Township on charges of alleged possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, tampering with evidence and institutional vandalism, according to Cumberland County courts. The case still is being adjudicated.

While an owner of the building, Kushner is not listed as an owner of the business.

The state Liquor Control Board must approve the liquor license transfer. It has two public meetings this month, Jan. 12 and Jan. 26, at 10 a.m. in its building at Forster and Capital streets. At press time, it was not clear when the Club 1400 license would be on the board's agenda.

—Lawrance Binda

In 2005, Laus opened a second Café Fresco on N. 2nd Street that he likes to bill as "urban café by day and metropolitan gourmet by night." Indeed, Café Fresco transforms into a sophisticated restaurant that rivals big city venues, serving American-Asian fusion dishes.

The 51-year-old Laus believes Harrisburg needs, if not demands, fine dining and real nightclubs. He opened Level 2, above Café Fresco downtown, three years ago for adults 30 and older, with a dress code that invites people to appear stylishly for the occasion.

"We're trying to educate people," said Laus, who dresses with flair. "You can always teach somebody

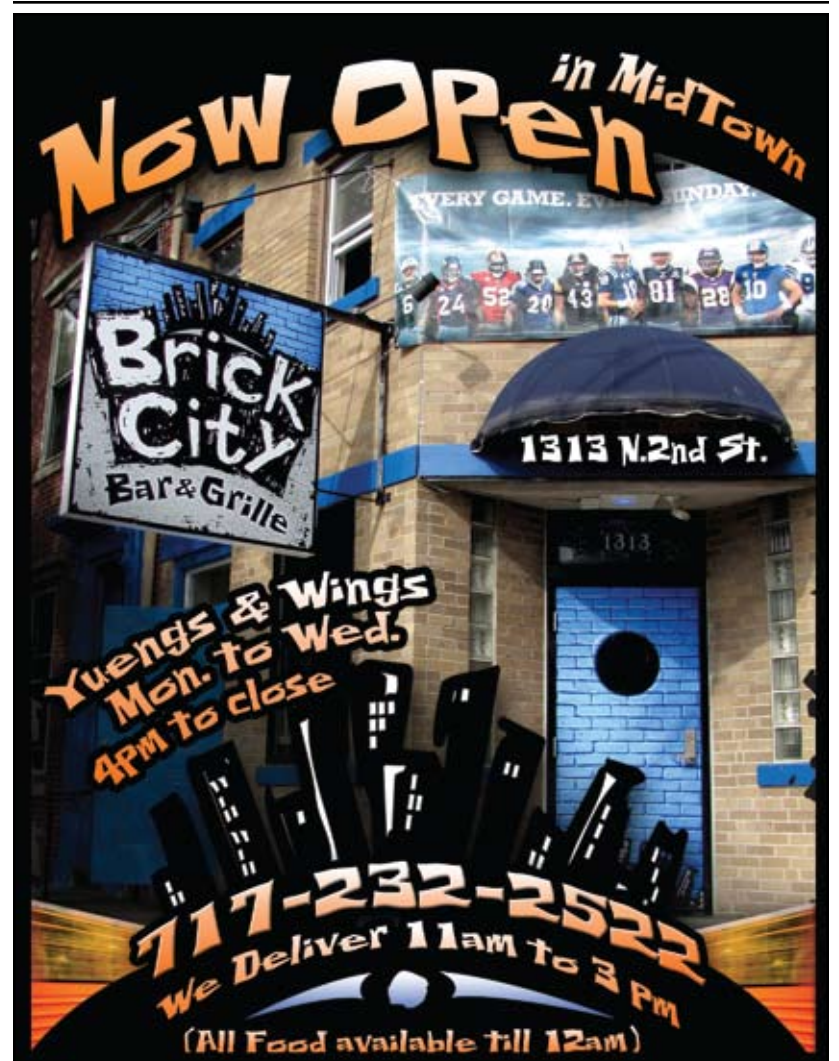
something."

That includes Laus himself, who constantly studies the restaurant business by visiting high-end restaurants in major metropolitan areas. "If you think you know it all, you're going to fail," he said.

As he prepares to open his next restaurant, at North and Green streets, he continues to think forward and upward, though he still owns the pizza shop where it all started. The irony is Laus never had dreams of being a restaurateur.

"I think I just wanted to be successful," he said, amazed at his success. "When we came here, we were so poor.

"I pinch myself sometimes, too."



Kids, Cookies & Cold

Making no-bake treats may be the perfect winter activity.

Sara Goulet

The holidays are over. The days are short, and the nights are long. In the summer, I think nothing of running an errand at 8 p.m. In the winter, if I find myself out after dark I get this panicky sensation that I must get home. Some evenings, I'm in my pajamas at 6 p.m.

But you have to fight through the winter blues. Sticking to my running schedule despite sub-zero wind chills is my way of laughing in the face of winter. Cold be damned, I'm getting my exercise.

Shortened days bring the challenge of what to do with kids, who don't really focus on the clock or the amount of light outside. My son is always up for street hockey, no matter what the thermometer says. Dog-walkers hurry past our driveway in the chilly evening air and look at us like we're nuts.

It's especially tough to keep children occupied when snowy winter weather inhibits routines. Schools are closed, roads are

treacherous, hockey practice is cancelled. What do you do when the kids have exhausted reading, television and video games as outlets for their energy?

Get them involved in the kitchen. The time-tested, easy recipes of our youth still work well. The fancy, decorated cookies of the holiday season might be a memory, but these treats require no baking and still satisfy.

Oatmeal Clusters

2 cups sugar
1/2 cup milk
1 stick butter
Pinch of salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup peanut butter
3 cups oatmeal

Combine sugar, milk, butter and salt in saucepan and stir. Bring to a boil for one minute. Remove from heat. Add vanilla and peanut butter.

Stir until smooth. Add oatmeal and mix well. Cool slightly until mixture holds its shape a bit. Drop by teaspoonful onto waxed paper. Cool until hard and serve.

Peanut Butter Fudge

2 cups sugar
3/4 cup milk
4 tablespoons peanut butter
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/8 teaspoon salt

Boil sugar and milk to soft ball stage. Remove from heat and let

cool. Add peanut butter, vanilla and salt. Beat until creamy. Pour into buttered dish. Cool.



Sara Goulet is the owner of Putch & Buckie's Baked Goods. For more information, visit www.putchandbuckies.com.

Chicken Corn Soup, a Midstate Special

Randy Straub

If you were to start asking people outside of central Pennsylvania if they know what chicken corn soup is, I'll bet you that the resounding answer would be, "What in the world is that?"

Although this Pennsylvania Dutch soup—with delicious dumplings inside called rivels—may not be top-of-mind to outsiders, it is one of the best-known Pennsylvania Dutch dishes and The Soup Spot's top seller. Our version of the recipe has been handed down for generations in my grandfather's family. I encourage you to give it a try. It might just become one of your family's favorites!

1 whole chicken, shredded
2 16 oz. cans corn, drained
1/3 medium onion, chopped
2 ribs celery, chopped
salt & pepper to taste
dash of parsley
rivels (recipe follows)



Place chicken in a large pot with enough water to cover. Bring to a slow boil with a dash of salt and pepper for an hour. Remove chicken from the pot and set aside to cool. Strain the broth and put it back in the pot. Add corn, onion, celery, salt and pepper and bring to a simmer. When the chicken cools, pull the meat off and add to the pot of broth and vegetables. Return the pot to low boil. Sprinkle and stir the rivels into the broth in small batches. Cook for an additional 5 minutes. Add parsley and serve. Serves 6–8 people.

Rivels:

1 egg
1 cup flour

Lightly beat the egg. Add flour and mix with a fork until rivels appear in small crumbles and there are no large lumps. Serves 4–6.



Randy Straub is owner of The Soup Spot, 912 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. 717-232-7687

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Living the Artistic Life

Painting, drawing, music—it's all part of Jonathan Frazier's creative fabric.

Lori Myers



As artists have through the ages, Jonathan Frazier seeks inspiration in nature.

Jonathan Frazier is what you'd expect an artist and musician to be: casual, comfortable, with an easy smile and that just-got-up-in-the-morning tousled hair. He's soft-spoken, unassuming, but give him a paintbrush, a guitar, a Native American flute or a keyboard, and he's a creative whirlwind.

Born in Hagerstown, Md., and raised in Dillsburg, Frazier now calls Wormleysburg home. He frequents the Midtown Scholar Bookstore and, amid the bookstore's "artsy" setting, sips his favorite hot tea—ginger tumeric—works on a sketch or a painting, connects with friends on his laptop computer or simply people-watches to gather inspiration.

There's much that's inspiring about this 30-something artist whose paintings, drawings, and music have taken center stage—from Midtown's Gallery Blu and the Art Association for his art, to Camp Hill's Crimson Frog Coffeehouse and the Governor's Residence for his music.

"I'm doing what I should be doing," Frazier said. "I'm constantly challenged and energized."

Frazier knew early on what he "should be doing." In what he describes as his "pre-verbal" childhood stage, he chose to draw with magic markers first before he

eventually graduated to paintbrushes. In middle school, he loved drawing trucks and later his work stood out in art classes. His parents (his father's an avid photographer) were pleased with their son's talent.

"I never felt the need to play football," Frazier said. "By the end of high school, I was drawing figures, still lifes, landscapes—using watercolor and colored pencils."

In his senior year, Frazier attended Harrisburg Arts Magnet School then went to study at the Maryland Institute, College of Art, before going to Kutztown University. In what might be viewed as an unusual next step for an artist, Frazier signed up for a four-year stint with the Air Force, working as a medical technician, doing blood work and gazing into microscopes at Andrews Air Force Base. But his artistic side was not ignored.

"I was good at math and science," he said. "Going into the Air Force seemed like a good thing to do at the time. Near the end of my enlistment, they had me paint a mural in the break room."

After Frazier left military service on an honorable discharge in 1998, he returned to the Harrisburg area determined to support himself through his art and music. As if he willed it, work came in fairly

quick succession. Anyone who has enjoyed the Historic Harrisburg Association holiday home tours will see Frazier's pen and ink renderings of the homes in the program. He also had done a painting depicting the USS Susquehanna, for which he received a civilian medal by the U.S. Navy.

For the past dozen years, the 'Burg has been the setting for many of Frazier's paintings and drawings. His art has been synonymous with much of Harrisburg's skyline, from a view of Italian Lake to Front Street. His watercolors of the state Capitol have been commissioned as gifts, and Frazier gets many requests by midstate homeowners to draw their residences.

"Pen and ink drawings of buildings are easy and marketable," Frazier said. "Being an artist is tough. Art is expensive to make."

With that in mind, Frazier, also a member of The Seven Lively Artists, ventured out to Virginia. He gathered inspiration while driving along Skyline Drive, delighting in its hills and valleys. "I was drawn to the vibrant colors I saw there," he said. "There was so much visual information."

He painted what he saw in those hills and valleys, but colored them in lively reds, greens and blues. Several landscapes of that region have been completed and Frazier earned accolades for exhibitions at Lebanon Valley College and at an art center in Frederick, Md. He plans a total of 20

canvases in the series. Cape Cod has been another inspirational locale, and one of his paintings gained international notice when featured in an ad in Fine Art Connoisseur magazine.

Frazier doesn't consider his art to be much different from the music he performs. Both creative efforts involve texture, shape, form, improvisation—and Frazier loves them both.

"With other jobs I've had, I've known what time it was," Frazier mused. "I don't feel that way now. Now, time seems to fly by."

Harrisburg Region to Host State Games

The National Congress of State Games is bringing the biennial State Games of America to the Harrisburg region.

The Olympic-style sports event, slated for late July and early August of 2013, attracts 10,000 athletes and features competition between top medal winners from the 31 State Games across the nation.

Event organizers anticipate more than 30 different sports will be hosted at a variety of venues located in Harrisburg and Hershey, including at Metro Bank Park, the Farm Show Complex, Hersheypark Stadium and the Giant Center. One highlight will be the Olympic-style opening ceremonies, when athletes parade in under their home state banners.

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What's Lost Is Now Found

Liz Laribee re-thinks, re-shapes our throw-aways.

Lawrance Binda

Do you need coasters made from discarded bathroom tiles?

How about a large sculpture assembled from construction debris fished out of a trash bin on Green Street? Earrings made from old Scrabble pieces, from archaic foreign currency, from used hymnals?

Of course you do! Then just reach out to Liz Laribee, Harrisburg's master of recycled, repurposed crafts and art.

"Every art venture I've done has been to take waste and turn it into art," she said.

Laribee's choice of artistic media may be environmentally sound, but it's driven as much by practical economics as social awareness. Simply put: art supplies can be expensive—dumpster diving isn't.

"I'm interested in subverting the traditional art form because I'm broke and because I like the aesthetic," she said.

The 26-year-old Messiah College graduate seems well suited for a dedication of turning trash into artistic treasure. The daughter of an Episcopal priest, Laribee's favorite movie growing up was "Swiss Family Robinson," a tale of castaways who build an island home out of items

salvaged from their shipwreck.

At a young age, she began making handcrafts from objects other people might consider junk, imagining new uses for them. Small-scale usable and wearable art remains a large part of her work today, and you may find her selling her creations at craft shows throughout the area, as she did last month at the JanGroh Collective's after-party following 3rd in The Burg.

But then, just a year ago, she took another step, expanding into larger-scale work almost by accident. She noticed that Midtown Cinema had art pieces displayed in its lobby, and she inquired about a show there.

Soon after, she saw an old dresser that was being tossed out and thought the drawers would make great canvases. Meanwhile, near her home in Olde Uptown, dumpsters overflowed with construction debris and discarded objects as entire blocks of old houses were being renovated.

"I realized I could take these things and integrate their existing architecture into my work," she said. "It was like incorporating a piece of Harrisburg history into my art."

The result was a show called "Functional Fixedness," a psychological term that describes when a person cannot imagine an object as anything other than its current use.

"I liked that title because I was rethinking the function of these objects," explained Laribee, who ended up selling all the pieces in her show.

Since then, she has exhibited at Midtown Scholar Bookstore, where she also works as a barista, and at St. Stephen's Mission Gallery. She has also taught recycled art and creative writing at Danzante Community Art Center in Harrisburg.

This month, she again demonstrates her talent for larger-scale art. She has several pieces



Art after dark: Liz Laribee at her booth last month at JanGroh Collective's La Cage after Party at Historic Harrisburg Center.

showing at Garden Fresh Market & Deli, Harrisburg's new organic market in Midtown that quickly is becoming a place for artists to congregate.

"I value the redemptive part of making things anew," she said. "I like to leave things better than I found them."

Want to see examples of Liz's work? Check out her blog at <http://bottomdrawerdesigns.blogspot.com>.

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Best in Cinema of 2010

Kevyn revisits his old friend, the Top 10 list.

Kevyn Knox

The old year is at an end and a new one just begun, which means it is time for that old annual critic's chestnut that we see each and every year around this time—the Top 10 list. Well, since it is that time after all, I suppose I should give you mine.

1. *The Social Network*. The most timely of any movie released in 2010, visionary director David Fincher and screenwriter extraordinaire Aaron Sorkin have concocted a briskly paced, semi-linear, partially accurate biopic of Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg that never stops amazing with its fluid camerawork, which seems both unobtrusive and shockingly noticeable, and its fast-paced, almost screwball comedy-like screenplay.

2. *Black Swan*. What can really be said about this maddening dive into the proverbial rabbit hole? It just manages to become curiuser and curiuser with every twist and turn that director Darren Aronofsky puts into his take on the world of not just dance, but of ultimate artistic desire to achieve perfection—at any cost.

3. *The Killer Inside Me*. The film stars Casey Affleck in one of the most easily chilling performances I have seen in a long time. This adaptation of Jim Thompson's pulp-like novel

will send a chill of dread up your spine and right into your cerebral cortex, not to leave for a long time.

4. *Shutter Island*. Filmed as if he were making a Hitchcock movie, master director Martin Scorsese unleashes a film that, though it may be quite obvious in its inevitable conclusion, is a fun (almost giddily so) ride into the deep, dark secrets of one man's mad mind.

5. *I Am Love*. Part frenetic opera, part archetypal Greek tragedy, part glorious platform for one of the most daring women working in film today, Tilda Swinton, "I Am Love" is a visual masterpiece of cinema. It weaves its intricately simple story through both modern man's bourgeois sensibility and feverish lore of 1950s and '60s arthouse cinema.

6. *Winter's Bone*. Coined as "Ozark Noir," I was mesmerized by the brutally stunning visions of this film and equally stunning performance of Jennifer Lawrence.

7. *Blue Valentine*. At first glance, the MPAA inexplicably handed this gorgeous, yet brutally honest, depiction of a relationship both coming together and falling apart the dreaded NC-17 rating, but have since relinquished it to an

R. Whatever the case, the film is brilliantly acted by Michelle Williams and Ryan Gosling.

8. *Enter the Void*. Shot in a P.O.V. style, this film takes us inside the head and eyes of its lead character. French provocateur Gaspar Noe has created a brand new world of electric neon and perverse desire—and all while adapting "The Tibetan Book of the Dead" into his own twisted fashion.

9. *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World*. Director Edgar Wright has created the most surprisingly enjoyable film of the year, based on a graphic novel and styled as if we were inside a world of video games. And then there is the lovely Ramona Flowers.

10. Since deadlines is deadlines (as they say?), I have yet to screen several films that could very well make this list; films such as the Coen Bros' "True Grit" or Sofia Coppola's "Somewhere." So instead of squeezing on a film that will eventually end up as a runner-up ("White Material" or "Carlos" or "Never Let Me Go"), I will leave this spot blank, awaiting the insertion of a film to be named later.



Kevyn Knox is a film critic + historian. His reviews can be read at thecinematheque.com.



La Cage after Party: The JanGroh Collective held a party+art show last month following 3rd in The Burg. Organizers Reina Wooden and J.D. Anwar Khan (left) gave party-goers a visual feast with their costumes and performances. Below, performance art was a big part of the evening.





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Happenings

Museums & Art Spaces

3rd Street Studio

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

Works by Carolyn Pio and Lawrence Charles Miller; reception: Jan. 21, 6–8 p.m.

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

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

"From Roads to Rails," a custom train display, through Jan. 2.

"Ash & Maple Marvels, Wood-Bodied Cars 1910–1953," through Jan. 31.

"Two-Wheeled Treasures from the Dennis Carpenter Collection," motorcycles from the 1930s to the 1970s, through May.

"Stainless Steel, 1967 Lincoln Continental Convertible," through September.

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

Invitational exhibit, featuring artists Barbara Dombach, Richard Hamwi, Michael C Layser and Nicky Schleider, through Jan. 6.

"Figuratively Speaking," Winter Membership Exhibition, Jan. 14–Feb. 10; reception, Jan. 14, 5–8 p.m.

Café di Luna

1004 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-695-9449; cafediluna.com

Local artists featured monthly in a comfortable café setting.

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

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

January Artist of the Month: Emily Truckenmiller (photography).

Cygnets Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

336 S. Market St., Elizabethtown
717-367-6140; conewagocoffee.com

January Artist of the Month: Jay Gerber, acrylic & mixed media painting.

Gallerie Thirteen

13 E. Main St., Mechanicsburg
717-591-6940; www.gallerie13.com

January exhibits: "Winter Blues" group show and "New Artists" group show.

Gallery@Second

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

Artwork of Edward E. Jonason and Robert Reynolds, through January.

Gallery at Walnut Place

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

Exhibiting regional artists in a unique gallery setting; artists' reception: Jan. 21, 5–8 p.m.

Gallery Blu

1633 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-234-3009; www.galleryblu.org

"I Hear What You're Seeing: Artists and Their Music"; closing reception: Jan. 21.

Garden Fresh Market & Deli

1300 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-994-8552

Works by Liz Larabee, Kinsey Rice and Beth Rice, through January.

Harsco Science Center

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

"The Eyes Have It ..." through January.

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Works by various local and regional artists.

The Mantis Collective

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

Drawings and paintings by Susan Lowe, through Jan. 16.

Photography by Lynn Rossi, Jan. 21–Feb. 13; reception: Jan. 21, 8–10 p.m.

Midtown Cinema

250 Reilly St., Harrisburg
www.midtowncinema.com

Artwork by local artists.

Midtown Scholar/Yellow Wall Gallery

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

"Communion," paintings by Keith Pomeroy, through Jan. 16.

"Sewn Stories," works by Beth Rice. Reception: Jan. 21, 7–9 p.m.

National Civil War Museum

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

"1861," the first in a series of exhibits recognizing the sesquicentennial of the Civil War; opening reception, Jan. 25, 5:30 p.m.

"War on the Homefront," through March 13.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

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

"Moments in Time," art using natural elements by Andy Goldsworthy, through Jan. 8.

"Gone for the Day: Ned Smith and the Pennsylvania Game Commission," Jan. 8–Aug. 13.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

"Mata Ortiz: Pottery in the Casas Grandes Tradition," the collection of Carl and Holly Socolow, Jan. 12–Feb. 4; demonstration, lecture and reception, Jan. 20.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

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

"Voices of the Revolution," an exhibit commemorating the Civil Rights movement through woodcuts, poetry and more.

"Wood on Glass: The Lumber Industry Photographs of William T. Clarke," the story of lumbering and its transformation of northern Pennsylvania circa 1900, through May 1.

The Stage Door

Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse

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

No shows scheduled for January.

Broadway Classics Productions

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

"Greater Tuna," Jan. 21–Feb. 27

Fishing Creek Playhouse & Dinner Theatre

450 Fishing Creek Rd., Etters
877-998-7469; fishingcreekplayhouse.com

"The Odd Couple," Jan. 7–23

Harrisburg Comedy Zone

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

B.T., Jan. 7–8; Steve Burr, Jan. 14–15; Rich Vos, Jan. 21–22; Derrick Cameron, Jan. 28–29

Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival

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

"The Sunshine Boys," Jan. 14–22

Hershey Area Playhouse

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

No shows scheduled for January.

Hershey Theatre

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

"Behavioral Problems," Ron White tour, Jan. 28

"Beyond the Footlights: Hershey Theatre Apollo Awards Grand Stage Cabaret," Jan. 29

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Soul Comedy Café, Jan. 9

Open Stage of Harrisburg

223 Walnut St., Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; www.openstagehbg.com

No shows scheduled for January.

Oyster Mill Playhouse

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

"Steel Magnolias," Jan. 14–30

Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut

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

"The Frog Prince," Jan. 26–Feb. 12

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

Nancy Fancy and Other Story Books, Jan. 22

Theatre Harrisburg

Whitaker Center, Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; www.theatreharrisburg.com

No shows scheduled for January.

3rd in The Burg: Jan. 21

Forty years ago, Lawrence Charles Miller, then a very young man, unexpectedly met acclaimed surrealist Salvador Dali at a party. Now an artist in his own right, Miller has added his own touches to a photograph of Dali that he took that evening (right). You can buy a signed print at 3rd Street Studio, 1725 N. 3rd St., during this month's 3rd in The Burg, which celebrates its 1-year anniversary on Jan. 21. You also can visit many other galleries, restaurants and venues at the monthly event featuring art, music and more at venues around Harrisburg. For more information, see our back cover or visit www.3rdinTheBurg.com.



At the Cinema

Movie Film Co-Op

1106 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
www.moviefilmcoop.org

Jan. 5: Federico Fellini's "I, Vitelloni" feature film on 16mm film, 8 p.m.

Jan. 12: "Herschell Gordon Lewis—The Godfather of Gore" documentary, with phone-in introduction by Lewis, 8 p.m.

Jan. 19: Animator Martha Colburn, in-person with live pianist accompaniment, 8 p.m.

Jan. 22: Filmmaker Brian Lonano in-person, presenting his short films, 8 p.m.

Jan. 28: Olafur Arnalds plays live indie/electronic chamber music at the Midtown Scholar Bookstore, 1302 N. 3rd St., 7:30 p.m.

Live Music around Harrisburg

Appalachian Brewing Co./Abbey Bar

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

Jan. 7: The Thrives w/The Shackeltons & The Sketties
Jan. 8: The Illuminati w/Mountain Road & The Hawkeyes
Jan. 13: Mark Ballas Acoustic/Gallery Show
Jan. 14: Juggling Suns
Jan. 15: The Greatest Funeral Ever
Jan. 20: Eilen Jewell w/Rebecca Miller
Jan. 21: Surprise Show! See website for details
Jan. 22: Jessica Jellen Yellow Day w/Shine & The Junkies and Megan & The Wheelmen
Jan. 28: Cabinet w/Mike Miz & Whistle Pigs
Jan. 29: Windchill CD Release

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

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

Jan. 5: Mark Zangrilli
Jan. 6: Giovanni Traino
Jan. 7: Noel Gevers
Jan. 8: Ted Ansel
Jan. 12: Andrew Bargh
Jan. 13: Noel Gevers
Jan. 14: Anthony Haubert
Jan. 15: Giovanni Traino
Jan. 19: Chelsea Caroline
Jan. 20: Ted Ansel
Jan. 21: Giovanni Traino
Jan. 22: Noel Gevers
Jan. 26: Mark Zangrilli
Jan. 27: Giovanni Traino
Jan. 28: Anthony Haubert
Jan. 29: Ted Ansel
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Ceolta's Irish Pub

310 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
717-233-3202; www.ceoltasirishpub.com

Please contact the venue.

Char's Bella Mundo

540 Race St., Harrisburg
717-213-4002; www.charsbellamundo.com

"Jazz Wednesdays," with special wine menu

Clover Lane Coffeehouse

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

Jan. 11: Andrew Bellanca w/Jim Haas

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market Street, Camp Hill
www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Jan. 2: Mitch and Lee
Jan. 7: Maria Wilson
Jan. 8: Soji
Jan. 9: Paul Zavinsky
Jan. 14: Seasons
Jan. 15: Darin Rex
Jan. 16: Joy and Paul Thiessen
Jan. 21: Thomas Long
Jan. 22: Jeff Calvia
Jan. 23: Kevin Kline
Jan. 28: Antonio Andrade
Jan. 29: Nick Lindsay
Jan. 30: Andrew Bellanca and Friends

Cygnets Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

336 S. Market St., Elizabethtown
717-367-6140; conewagocoffee.com

Jan. 21: Michael Sweigard
Jan. 28: Super Dance Party w/
Kyle Sloka-Frey & Seth Thomas
Jan. 29: Mike Rydock

Dragonfly Club/Spy Club

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

Jan. 22: A City Undone

H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center

Shippensburg University, Shippensburg
717-477-SHOW; www.luhrscenter.com

Jan. 22: "Click Clack Moo" (Theatreworks USA)
Jan. 27: Kulu Mele African American Dance Ensemble

Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra

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

Jan. 15-16: "Catch a Rising Star"
Jan. 29-30: "Simply Swingin'"

Hershey Theatre

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

Jan. 8: B.B. King

Hilton Harrisburg and Towers

1 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg

Tues.-Sat.: Solo jazz piano in the bar

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Jan. 1: D&M w/Wild Rompit
Jan. 6: Mike Banks & Friends
Jan. 7: Royal Benson w/River Rat Jenkins & Betty Poison
Jan. 8: Arctic Death w/Driving Vegas
Jan. 13: Harpeth Rising w/When Worlds Collide Ensemble
Jan. 14: Colebrook Road w/Chester River Runoff
Jan. 15: Jo Henley w/The Swaines & JT & the Mildheat
Jan. 16: Dan Navarro
Jan. 20: Adam Blessing
Jan. 21: Cuddle Magic w/Zach Bailey
Jan. 22: Innave w/ Kilego Vert
Jan. 28: Corty Byron Band w/Hexbelt
Jan. 29: Gleason's Drift w/CASE 150 & Fallen Troubadours
Jan. 30: Jason Myles Goss w/Dietrich Strause
Every Wednesday: Open Mic Night

Hollywood Casino at Penn National

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

Jan. 1: Dueling Pianos & Cazhmeire
Jan. 7: Goodfoot
Jan. 8: Bunchafunk
Jan. 14: Luv Gods
Jan. 15: Beginnings & Honeypump
Jan. 21: Uptown
Jan. 22: Maxwell Project
Jan. 28: M80s
Jan. 29: Grumpy Old Men

Mangia Qui/Suba

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

Jan. 7: The Big Bottom Blues
Jan. 8: Nina Scarcia
Jan. 14: Creekside Soul
Jan. 15: Jeff Calvin and The Converse Allstars
Jan. 21: TBA
Jan. 22: The Humblers
Jan. 28: TBA
Jan. 29: Batida!

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Jan. 21: Brad Yoder
Jan. 22: John Francis
Jan. 28: Olafur Arnalds (Moviate-sponsored)

Morgan's Place

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

Please contact the venue.

Stock's on 2nd

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

Jan. 8: Don Johnson Project Band
Jan. 15: Funktion
Jan. 22: Cruise Control
Jan. 29: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (check website for location)

Jan. 15: Bill Staines
Jan. 22: Winter Coffee House, featuring local and regional performers
Jan. 29: Four musicians in one concert: Kevin Neidig, Henry Koretzky, Ken Gehret & Bruce Campbell

TuesdayBluesday

Der Maennerchor, 221 North St., Harrisburg
www.tuesdaybluesday.com

Jan. 4: The Dark Matter Trio
Jan. 11: Blue Elephant
Jan. 18: The Cornlickers
Jan. 25: Boss Guitar w/Robert Frahm & Bobby Brewer

Whitaker Center

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

Jan. 21: Caroline Herring
Jan. 22: Ching-Yun Hu

Other Highlights

Jan. 1: Penguin Plunge. The Humane Society of Harrisburg Area will hold its 14th annual Penguin Plunge. Participants plunge into the icy Susquehanna River (or stand in the "Chicken Coop") to raise funds for homeless pets. Registration starts at 10 a.m.; the event takes place at noon. More information at www.humanesocietyhbg.org.

Jan. 7: Lancaster First Friday. Lancaster highlights its arts and gallery community in this city-wide event. lancasterarts.com

Jan. 20: Friends of Midtown Annual Meeting & Social. The meeting gives Midtown residents an opportunity to meet each other and the FOM executive board. Members and non-members welcome. Stage on Herr, 268 Herr St., 7-9 p.m. www.friendsofmidtown.org

Readings, Classes, Etc.

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

Jan. 30: "Artistic Creation in the Italian Renaissance," a lecture by art historian Robin O'Bryan, 2 p.m.

The HodgePodgery

1100 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-0150; www.thehodgepodgery.com

Jan. 14: "Close to the Heart Charm," 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Jan. 21: "Stained Glass Charm Make & Take" 5-10 p.m.
Jan. 23: "Boudoir Shoot," 12-6 p.m.
Jan. 29: "Groovin' Granny Square Crochet," 2-5 p.m.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Jan. 22: Book signing by local essayists, including Curtis Smith, 7 p.m.

Jan. 23: "Fight 'til the Last Gas," a production of Shakespearean fight scenes, from Gamut's Stage Door series, 7 p.m.

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (check website for location)

Jan. 9: Israeli dance workshops, 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

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Ode to a Dino

It's Jurassic rhyme time for father and son.

Jamal A. Jones



The Sgrignolis, with their poetic muses.

Blending his passion for writing with a need of interesting books to read as bedtime stories, Michael Sgrignoli and his son, Ethan, went to work. The product is a collaboration called, "Dinorific Poetry: Stories of Ancient Animals Created by a Father and Son."

Michael, of Middletown, thought it would be exciting to "time capsule" the relationship between him and Ethan, now 10.

With experience writing radio commercials and penning lyrics for his band, Sgrignoli began crafting poems for their project as Ethan started drawing pictures of the pre-historic creatures.

"Ethan illustrated the dinosaurs as he wanted in terms of colors and appearance," Sgrignoli said. Although the project was a children's book, Michael wanted "Dinorific Poetry" to maintain its scientific integrity. "It was for Ethan's enjoyment, but I didn't want to dumb it down. Kids can absorb a lot."

The book is a learning tool for kids and parents. Sgrignoli includes facts about the dinosaurs within each poem. Complete with phonetic spellings of the dinosaur names, neither child nor adult need to feel intimidated by reading the book. Sgrignoli feels it's beneficial for parents to share "Dinorific Poetry" with their children.

"It's about dedicating time away from the hustle and bustle of life," said Sgrignoli. "It forces you to stay in communication."

Sgrignoli and his son began writing and illustrating in the fall of 2008. After self-publishing, they

received their first shipment of the finished books in April 2010. To support the project, Michael and Ethan do book signings and engagements where Michael speaks to schools and other organizations about the book and the creative process.

"I was charmed," said Carrie Wissler-Thomas, of her first impressions of the book.

Wissler-Thomas is executive director of the Art Association of Harrisburg, which hosted two signing events for "Dinorific Poetry."

"The drawings are very colorful and whimsical," Thomas said, "The poems are wonderful; Michael has done a lot of research."

Sgrignoli hopes that their experience influences Ethan to explore interesting ideas that he may have in the future. That sentiment was echoed by P.J. Heyman, owner of the Village Artisans Gallery in Boiling Springs.

"This should inspire other parents to grab the bull by the horns and try it themselves," Heyman said.

Despite the success of the project, Sgrignoli gives the impression that the process of

creating the book with his son was the real reward.

"Spending time is a blessing," he said.

"The Fossil"

by Michael and Ethan Sgrignoli

There were many dinosaurs that you could say were docile.

Thankfully a lot of them were turned into a fossil. Studying these rocks can give us loads of information

all about the dinosaurs and even Earth's creation.

Now we know some dinosaurs had lovely feathers sprouting—

years ago some scientists were skeptical and doubting. Everyday discoveries are made and keep us learning

helping us to answer all those questions that were burning.

Evidence from fossils says a meteor came crashing.

Yucatan Peninsula is where it did the smashing.

People thought that this was surely why most life was ended.

Sunlight was obscured and on it most of Earth depended.

Did it cause the dinosaurs to vanish? Some don't buy it.

Now another theory claims volcanoes changed the climate. Where should we be looking for a theory that's colossal?

Right back where we started from: the all-important fossil.

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Hearing Scheduled on School Closings

The Harrisburg School District will hold a public hearing on Jan. 10 at 5 p.m. to receive public comment on the closure of the William Penn campus and Steele School.

The meeting will be held in the first floor boardroom of the Administration Building, 2101 N. Front St., Building 2.

Wags & Whiskers

A Campaign for Animals

Humane Society expands as needs grow.

Peter Durantine



Aaah! Kittens by the handful are available at the Humane Society of the Harrisburg Area shelter.

The Humane Society of the Harrisburg Area has come a long way since its inception in 1911 in the parking lot of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex—and later, a small, two-car garage with storage space on Grayson Road in Swatara Township.

Although the Grayson facility later expanded into a building with room for animals and staff, growth in demand for its services and its own limits on euthanasia imposed four years ago have squeezed an already crowded shelter.

Each year, the society cares for thousands of homeless pets and helps countless people in need through programs like adoption, low-cost clinics, education, cruelty investigation and a pet food bank.

As the only Humane Society serving the region (though there are other organizations offering rescue shelters), the society is also under contractual obligations with area municipalities.

Because of the increased demand for services, the facility is no longer able to accommodate this growth, society officials said. No space exists to expand vital community programs, and pets are housed in the lobby, conference room and hallways.

"They're in every nook and cranny of our building," said Kelly Hitz, the society's director of public relations.

Last February, the society launched a \$2.8 million shelter expansion fundraising campaign to build a 6,000-foot addition to the Grayson facility.

Since then, the Humane Society has raised more than \$800,000 in donations from local and national supporters, businesses and foundations, which has allowed the organization to construct the first phase of the project—an animal care area inside the existing facility.

In October, the society cut the ribbon on new dog kennels, cat kennels, a cat play room and retail area. In addition, new systems for ventilation and sprinklers were installed.

The construction helped alleviate crowding, but the society still needs to build a two-story addition, which would include another animal area and space for counseling programs. Therefore, it is seeking donations to meet its \$2.8 million fundraising goal.

"We are absolutely grateful for the support we have received thus far in the campaign," Hitz said. "The community has really stepped up and shown that HSHA is not just an animal shelter, but the community's animal shelter."

To contribute online to the Humane Society of the Harrisburg Area's shelter expansion fundraiser, visit www.humanesocietyhbg.org/capital-campaign. The shelter is located at 7790 Grayson Rd., Harrisburg. Phone: 717-564-3320.

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Quack Addicts

Fowl fans foster success with nesting boxes.

Kermit G. Henning



The wood duck is considered by many to be North America's most colorful waterfowl species.

With their distinctive, multicolored, iridescent plumage, male wood ducks put other ducks to shame. Today, it is one of the most common ducks breeding in the United States, but this has not always been the case. Much sought

after for their meat and their ornate feathers, plus a severe loss of habitat, wood duck populations decreased to alarmingly low numbers. By the end of the 19th century, woodies had virtually disappeared from their natural range.

The 1918 Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act put an end to market gunning (mass shooting of birds for sale) and unregulated hunting, and populations slowly started to recover. Wood ducks still faced decreasing habitat, but the invention of the artificial nesting box in the 1930s cleared the last hurdle in their recovery.

Wood ducks are one of the few species of ducks that nest in trees, in natural, pre-formed cavities near or

above water. These types of habitats are disappearing rapidly, but, luckily, artificial nest boxes are readily used by the birds as replacements.

Wood ducks breed across most of central and eastern United States and southeastern Canada; they winter in southern Georgia and southwest Texas. They are already paired up in January and are actively seeking nesting sites when they return to the breeding grounds in early spring—as early as February or March. Boxes should be placed well before this to assure they are available when the nesting-minded birds return and start looking. The wood duck is one of the few birds that will produce two broods every year, so getting an early start is paramount.

While wood ducks readily accept artificial boxes, proper measurements and placement are important. Commercial nesting boxes are available, but making your own is easy and rewarding. Plans are available from the Pennsylvania Game Commission or the Internet.

One local group is doing more than its part to provide boxes and help the wood ducks recover.

The Susquehanna River Waterfowler's Association has been building and erecting nest boxes on local lakes, ponds and marshes for more than 30 years. It also provides fully assembled boxes or pre-cut kits to its members and other groups that erect them in likely habitats. More than 2,000 boxes have been placed to date, and



A local family is hard at work building a nesting box for the wood duck.

the success has been tremendous. Woodies seek out these boxes when natural cavities are scarce.

Rough-cut, 1-inch thick wood, such as pine or spruce, is ideal. It's inexpensive, lightweight, takes the weather well and provides a rough surface that helps the newly hatched chicks to climb out of the box. Finished boxes should be mounted on a metal pole over water or as close to water as possible. A metal baffle on the pole will keep out predators such as raccoons and snakes. If mounted over water, the bottom of the box should be at least 4 feet above the water.

Boxes should be cleaned out after nesting is finished to remove any parasites, egg fragments and droppings. This can be done in the winter and will let you see how successful the nesting has been. It's very rewarding to know that you have actually impacted the future of this most beautiful bird. Building and placing nest boxes for wood ducks actually does work. If you know a likely nesting spot, put up a few boxes and see for yourself.



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

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What's the Right Formula?

It may be a question of bacteria.

Dr. Deepa Sekhar

A new parent attempting to choose the best infant formula at the local grocery store can be easily overwhelmed.

There are myriad products listing benefits for growth, brain development and the immune system. Some recent ingredients advertised in infant formulas are probiotics and prebiotics.

Probiotics, which mean "for life," are types of "good" or "friendly" bacteria that may offer beneficial health effects. Prebiotics are ingredients that can promote the growth of probiotic bacteria.

You may be familiar with products such as Dannon Activa yogurt, Stonyfield Farm yogurt and Kefir—all of which claim to contain probiotics. For infant formulas, Good Start Natural Cultures advertises the addition of a probiotic. Enfamil Premium Lipil with Triple Health Guard and Similac Advance with Early Shield both contain prebiotics.

I have many a confused new mother in my office asking, "Does my baby need this?" In November, the American Academy of Pediatrics released a report attempting to address this question.

At birth, a baby's stomach and intestines are sterile, but, within a couple of days, they become populated with bacteria. By adulthood, there are more than 500 different bacterial species in the adult digestive tract. These bacteria play key roles in the body's ability to resist disease. Though a major factor in developing a disease is an individual's genetic makeup, increasing evidence suggests the occurrence of certain diseases may be related to interference with the early development of natural bacteria in a baby's digestive system. Some of these diseases include asthma, eczema, allergies, multiple sclerosis, Type 1 diabetes and inflammatory bowel disease.

Breast milk contains a number of prebiotics and also may contain probiotic bacteria. It is the preferred

food for infants through six months of age, and breast-fed infants typically have a majority of probiotic bacteria in their digestive systems.

Formula manufacturers have added prebiotics and probiotics to their products to mimic breast milk.

Studies on the use of probiotics have reported some evidence to support their use in preventing intestinal infections in premature infants. The use of probiotics may also shorten the duration of diarrhea associated with viral gastroenteritis. There is also evidence to suggest probiotics may prevent diarrhea associated with taking antibiotics. However, probiotics should not be given to children who are seriously or chronically ill without checking with their pediatrician or specialist.

The addition of probiotics and prebiotics to powdered infant formulas appears safe. Makers of infant formulas in the United States must comply with strict regulations to ensure product safety. However, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics, evidence is insufficient to prove that adding probiotics or prebiotics prevents disease. Thus, there is no official recommendation for their use in formulas.

It is both exciting and humbling to consider that the bacteria in your gut may be a factor in disease-prevention. In fact, the report by the Academy stressed that the current lack of evidence does not mean that probiotics and prebiotics will not ultimately prove to have health benefits. The Academy continues to support breast-feeding as the preferred source of nutrition for infants through six months of age. Breast-versus-bottle-feeding is a personal decision, but if parents opt not to breast-feed, the choice of the best formula, including those containing probiotics or prebiotics, should be discussed with the baby's doctor.



Dr. Deepa Sekhar is a pediatrician at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

Fitness Fundraiser: Work(out) for Hope

Absolute Wellness Group plans a fun day of exercise, all for a good cause.

The fitness studio, 1519 N. 3rd St., will hold a group fitness fundraiser on Jan. 22 to support Bridge of Hope, Harrisburg Area, an organization dedicated to helping homeless moms and their children.

Participants will take part in 30-minute group fitness classes, noon to 8 p.m. Interested in forming or joining a team? Contact Brenda Hoover at 717-525-7037 or Brenda@absolutewellnessgroup.com.



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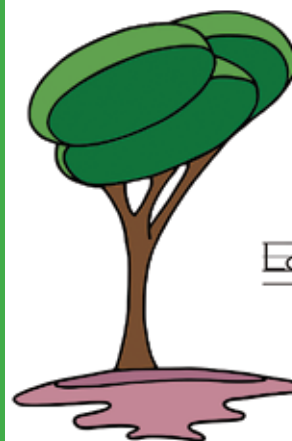
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Bam! She Sure Can Hit!

It's full-contact for Harrisburg's female football team.

Laura Spurgeon



Harrisburg Assault linebacker Jodi Pritchard takes down a Baltimore Burn fullback in action last year.

The women—mothers, students, businesswomen, athletes—have learned to answer the questions patiently, and with a smile.

"Yes, full pads and helmets. Not flags."

"It's 11-on-11, just like the men."

"No, we don't wear lingerie and heels."

"Seriously, we hit pretty hard."

The veteran players on the Keystone Assault, Harrisburg's only women's full-contact football team, are used to explaining themselves and their game.

But as the Assault begins workouts for its fourth season—eyeing a division title, no less—the team is ready to move beyond the incredulity, and show the midstate that women can not only play real football, they can hit—and win.

"I knew it would be intense, but it doesn't even come close to the other sports I played in high school and college," said lineman Christine Ross, a 26-year-old teacher in the Harrisburg School District. "I knew nothing except

the basics of football and was pretty clueless during our pre-season classrooms. I stepped on the field on the first day of practice praying I wouldn't look like a complete idiot.

"I figured out soon enough that I needed to hit harder than I was being hit," she said.

First-year Head Coach A.J. McKay, a coach with Northern High School's freshman team, wasn't sure what to expect when he decided to help out with the Assault this year.

"The boys and young men that

I've coached have typically played for several years by the time that I get them," he said. "People call this a contact sport, but it's not. It's a collision sport."

The Assault is part of the Women's Football Alliance, a mammoth 62-team league with members across the United States and Mexico. In the past, women's teams were fragmented among multiple leagues, but, with recent consolidation, the WFA hopes to thicken the talent pool and resources to move the sport forward.

The Assault play home games at East Pennsboro High School for \$5 a ticket; their season runs April through June. The players pay for their own equipment, travel, lodging and meals, and they pay fees to cover officiating crews and other costs. It's not cheap, but the WFA is not a bubblegum league. It has divisions and conferences, a competitive playoff system and, yes, a national championship game every summer in Las Vegas. The games generally follow NCAA and NFL rules, and the officiating crews are certified and legit—they throw real flags for real penalties.

Many players are willing to pony up their own cash or find local sponsors. As any football player—male or female—will attest, the rush is like nothing else, and worth it. At game time, "There's one thing on my mind, and that's cracking the first girl that gets in my way during kickoff and making my way to the ball," Ross said. "Bruises are trophies."

McKay, who initially signed on as linebacker coach over the summer, stepped in when former Assault Head Coach Tim Smart—a veteran with years of experience leading women's teams—took a position with the rival D.C. Divas.

McKay inherits a team that finished last season 6-2, tied with perennial division champ, the Baltimore Burn. The Assault missed the national playoffs by a razor-thin tiebreaker, and a dozen players

were named to the WFA National Conference All-Star teams.

Last year's team ranked fifth in the WFA in team offense with an average of 382 yards per game and 14th in team defense. Quarterback Rachel Fischer finished among the league's elite, completing 45 of 105 passes for 894 yards and 11 touchdowns (she rushed for another five TDs). Wide receiver Cori Young snagged 20 receptions for 557 yards and eight TDs. Running back Jen Robertson added 756 yards (a 6.4 average) and seven touchdowns.

This year's team, which McKay said is still accepting new players, has a roster that is 30 percent rookies. During January, the coaching staff will conduct classroom sessions designed to educate players on the sport's fundamentals and nuances, "something they wouldn't have learned from watching football on TV," McKay said. Contact drills begin in February.

Though he admits he's just as green as some of his players when it comes to women's football, McKay is genuine in his admiration for those who have committed their time, money and energy to crashing what has always been a boys' club.

"These women have a passion for this that is so very awesome to see," he said. "The more I'm associated with them, the more respect I have for them and what they are doing. I'm very proud to be a part of this."

For more information, email Info@keystoneassault.com, and visit www.keystoneassault.com and www.wfafootball.com.



Laura Spurgeon is a certified personal trainer and group fitness director at Gold's Gym, Camp Hill. She can be reached at lsurgeon@aol.com.

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January Schedule

- Jan. 1: D&M w/Wild Rompit
- Jan. 6: Mike Banks & Friends
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- Jan. 29: Gleason's Drift w/CASE 150 & Fallen Troubadours
- Jan. 30: Jason Myles Goss w/ Dietrich Strause
- Every Monday: Karaoke
- Every Wednesday: Open Mic w/Mike Banks

For full event information visit www.harrisburgarts.com or call 717-701-6199

Devoted to the diagnosis and treatment of Osteoporosis



Our **new** Osteoporosis Clinic

Staffed by an endocrinologist, nurse practitioner and a nurse educator, our new clinic:

- Treats osteoporosis through comprehensive clinical care
- Diagnoses osteoporosis by use of DEXA scan
- Prescribes oral medication
- Administers IV medication
- Educates patients on the disease, treatment plans, nutrition and exercise guidelines and fall prevention
- New treatments for people on Bisphosphonates

By the time one gets a fracture it is too late, but we can diagnose Osteoporosis early by getting a DEXA scan. Everybody is eligible for DEXA at age 65, but you can get a scan earlier if you have risk factors.

West Shore

Fredricksen Outpatient Center
Cumberland Campus
Open the 1st, 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 1-4:30 p.m.
(717) 791-2540

East Shore

810 Sir Thomas Court, Suite 101
Adjacent to the Community Campus
Open the 3rd Friday of each month from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
(717) 614-4420

pinnaclehealth.org/osteoporosis

PINNACLEHEALTH  Proven.

3rd^{IN THE BURG}



FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

ART, MUSIC & MORE ...

THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH IN HARRISBURG

Gallery@Second • 608 N 2nd St • 717-233-2498 • galleryatsecond.com • Featured artists: Edward Jonasen & Robert Reynolds. Plus visit "The Upstairs Gallery" showcasing over 200 pieces of artwork. Food and drink served, 6-9p.

Gallery Blu • 1633 N 3rd St • 717-234-3009 • galleryblu.org • Closing reception: "I Hear What You're Seeing: Artists and their Music." Entertainment by Jonathan Frazier and Eric Leitzel, 7-9p.

3rd Street Studio • 1725 N 3rd St • 717-385-3315 • 3rdstreetstudio.org • Featured artists: Lawrence Charles Miller (oils) and Carolyn S. Pio (watercolors).

Gallery at Walnut Place • 413 Walnut St • 717-233-0487 • Exhibiting regional artists in a unique gallery setting. Reception open to public, 5-8p.

Mangia Qui • 272 North St • 717-233-7358 • Paintings by Elide Hower & Joanne Landis. Featured cocktail: Count Diablo.

Open Stage of Harrisburg • 223 Walnut St (street level of Walnut St. Garage) • 717-232-1505 • openstagehbg.com • JAZZ ON COURT presents "Jazz & Poetry". Poet Rick Kearns w/musicians Tom Witmer, Patrick Murphy and Keith Mohler. \$10 advance, \$12 door. 6-8p.

Midtown Cinema • 250 Reilly St • 717-909-6566 • Movie triva, prizes & free popcorn, 7:30p.

Nonna's • 263 Reilly St • 717-232-6150 • nonnasdeli.com • Featuring 5 cheese jumbo ravioli with sundried tomato pesto, 5-9p.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore • 1302 N 3rd St • 717-236-1680 • midtownscholar.com • Noon: the science of coffee (cupping). 2 pm: sample mint teas. 6-9 pm: Yellow Wall Gallery reception for "Sewn Stories," works by Beth Rice. 7-9 pm: music by Pittsburgh's Brad Yoder. Sat. 1/22, 8 pm: John Francis in concert.

Gallery@Second



Gallery Blu



3rd Street Studio



Gallery at Walnut Pl.



Mangia Qui



Open Stage



Midtown Cinema



Nonna's Deli-Sioso



Midtown Scholar

FOR MORE INFO & A PRINTABLE MAP: WWW.3RDINTHEBURG.COM