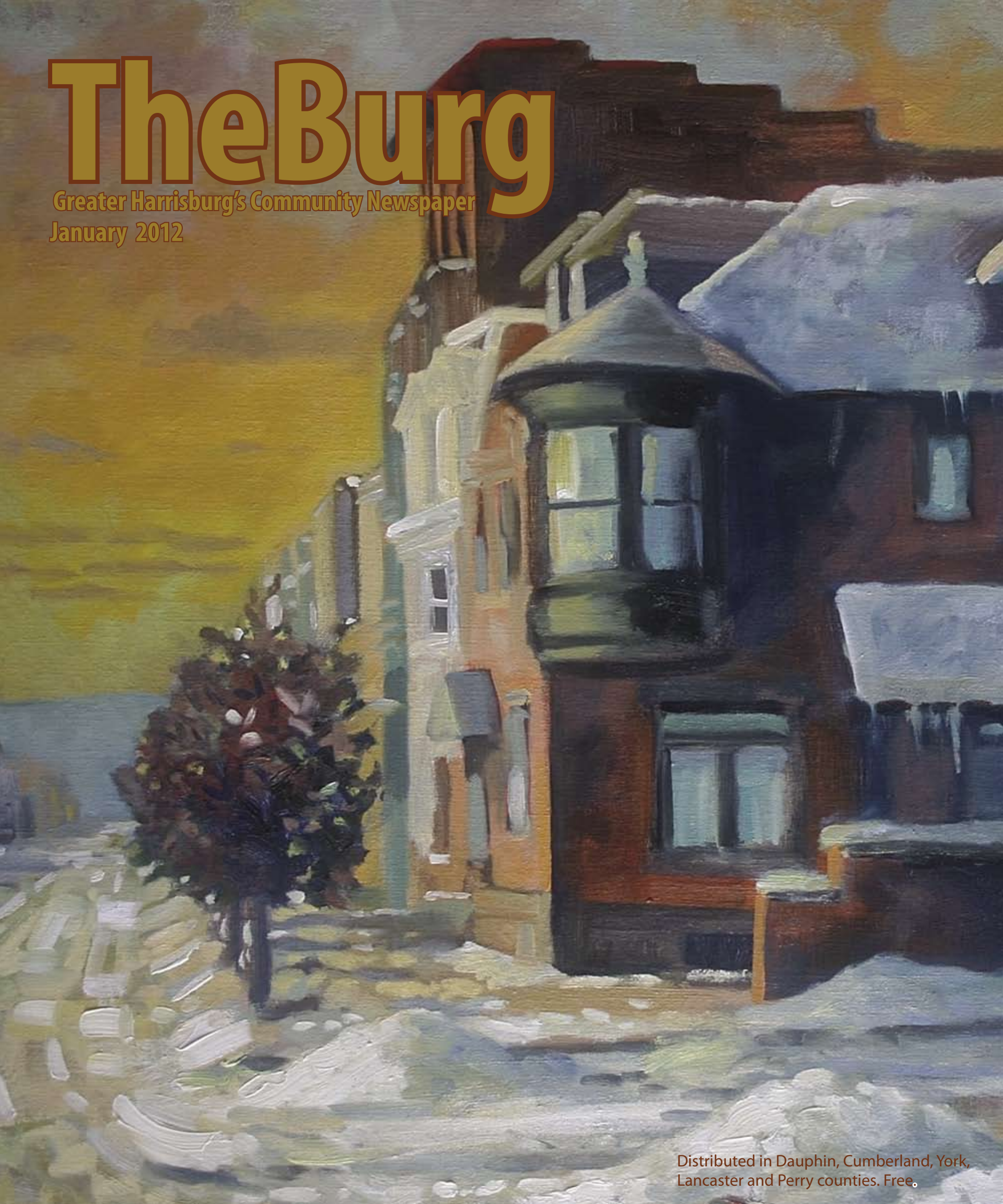


TheBurg

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January 2012



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Receiver Gets More Time for Plan

David Unkovic, Harrisburg's state-appointed receiver, has an additional month to unveil his financial rescue plan for the city, which now is due Feb. 6.

Originally, Unkovic had just 30 days after his Dec. 2 confirmation to put together a comprehensive plan on how Harrisburg might dig itself out of more than \$310 million in debt from multiple upgrades over many years to the city incinerator.

However, he found the task too complex to complete in just a month, so petitioned for an additional 30 days, which was granted.

Harrisburg also has accumulated a tremendous amount of debt in general obligation bonds and has run severe shortfalls in multiple annual operating budgets.

Unkovic has indicated that his plan will include the sale or lease of certain municipal assets to help pay down debt, as well as possible concessions from debt holders.

Separately, the City Council last month held hearings on the proposed 2012 budget of \$55.5 million. That proposal called for a property tax increase of .8 mills. At press time, it had not yet passed.

The council's budget could be superceded by Unkovic's plan, which, once introduced, needs to be confirmed by the Commonwealth Court within 60 days. There will be several public hearings on the plan after its release.

City Takes Steps to Fight Crime

Harrisburg will employ a combination of perpetrator profiling, crime mapping and citizen awareness to help battle crime in the city.

Mayor Linda Thompson said last month that her administration will approach both the FBI and Dauphin County, which she hopes will work with the city to build criminal profiles.

"We want to create a profile of these individuals who are committing these crimes," she said.

Thompson said the effort is in a nascent stage, so did not have details on exactly how such a program would work. Over time, though, she said it should enable police to better identify and arrest people who commit crimes.

Thompson's announcement came in response to a rash of violent crime in Harrisburg, including three murders in November and December.

Harrisburg also is testing an electronic crime mapping system, which would replace a manual system that uses pins to map criminal activity. The computer-based system currently is in an advanced testing stage, said Police Chief Pierre Ritter.

The city also has begun holding weekly press conferences to update residents on crime trends and police response.

At press time, Harrisburg had recorded eight homicides for 2011, the fewest in many years. There were 16 murders in the city last year and 17 in 2009.

Court Rejects Bankruptcy Appeal

A U.S. bankruptcy judge last month tossed out the Harrisburg City Council's appeal of a decision that rejected its Chapter 9 municipal bankruptcy filing.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Mary France rejected the appeal just two days after it was filed, stating that council attorney Mark Schwartz had missed the deadline to file it.

France said that the 14-day window to file the appeal began on Nov. 23, when, from the bench, she verbally threw out the council's bankruptcy filing.

Schwartz, however, had waited to appeal until after France had issued her written order in early December.

France also denied Schwartz's motion for an extension of time.

Schwartz then appealed France's denials. No court decision had been made on that appeal by press time.

France's denial of bankruptcy—and the subsequent rejection of the appeal—has allowed the state to move forward with its plan to appoint a receiver and force a financial recovery plan on Harrisburg.

Audit's Almost Done, Says Harrisburg

Harrisburg's 2009 audit is nearly complete, and the 2010 audit also should be done this year, according to city officials.

Robert Kroboth, the city's finance director, told the City Council last month that the 2009 audit should finally be finished this month.

Kroboth blamed the delay on numerous factors, including staff turnover and recruitment problems. Last March, the council allocated \$84,000 specifically to hire consultants to complete the audits.

Kroboth was quizzed on the matter just after Shannon Williams, executive director of The Harrisburg Authority, told the council that the lack of an audit is endangering the renewal of certain water system bonds, as well as a \$5.7 million low-interest loan from PENNVEST.

Kroboth said the 2010 audit would begin immediately upon completion of the 2009 audit.

—Lawrance Binda

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A City in Transition

Who holds the power in Harrisburg?

Lawrance Binda

Who exactly is in charge here? If you're a resident of Harrisburg, you may be asking that question.

You've probably heard that state-appointed receiver David Unkovic has near-absolute power to make policy and order it implemented.

But Mayor Linda Thompson seems to retain day-to-day control of city operations. Meanwhile, the City Council continues to meet normally and consider ordinances and resolutions.

So then who's in control of your city government?

Currently, the city is in a transitional phase. The power structure is evolving, dispersed among the mayor, the council and the receiver. That, however, is about to change.

The state takeover legislation explicitly states that the receiver has sole authority to draft and implement a recovery plan for Harrisburg. If the mayor or council refuse to implement it, the receiver is authorized to use the courts to force them to obey.

Yes, Thompson and the new City Council president will be two members of a four-member advisory committee—but the committee's advice extends only to how best to implement the plan, not what's in it.

For their part, the various players frame their roles in different ways. Unkovic acknowledges his overwhelming authority over Harrisburg, but says he will wield power in the most inclusive, enlightened way possible.

"I'm not looking for power," he said. "I've never looked for it my entire life, and I'm 58 years old."

Unkovic said that he expects officials, including the mayor, council, treasurer and city controller, to continue in their roles.

"Elected officials are in their positions for a reason, and I will listen to their opinions," he said. "I've treated them with respect, and I've reached out to them. I've met with them all."

He added, "They still will have their jobs, just in context of the plan."

Thompson says that she and Unkovic have met many times and

that he respects her office and input. She said that she expects to play a meaningful role as the receiver's plan is implemented.

"I see my role continuing as the CEO of the city," said Thompson.

She said she will work to ensure that vital services, such as public safety and sanitation, continue to run smoothly, even as the city undertakes significant asset sales to settle its debt.

She also sees herself as both adviser and administrator.

"Ultimately, Dave will hear my input, and then I need to implement what he puts together," she said.

Of all actors, City Council may be on the line to lose the most power, as so many council decisions involve either raising or spending money.

Councilwoman Susan Brown-Wilson said that she expects the council to operate in a normal way until shown otherwise.

"We'll continue to legislate and do what we normally do," she said. "His job is not to tell us how to legislate, in my opinion."

Brown-Wilson said she will not vote for legislation that she believes is not in the best interest of the city, even if that leads to court involvement.

"Let him go to the courts, and then that's where the battle will be taken up," she said.

Councilman Brad Koplinski said that, so far, he likes that Unkovic has been diplomatic and has even suggested that Harrisburg's many creditors, in the end, may have to settle for less than full payment.

"How we react all depends upon what his plan is," said Koplinski. "We could have a plan where the city gets socked. We could have a plan that calls for creditors to take a haircut. We're all in a brave, new world here."

Ironically, Unkovic will be allowed to do the one thing that the council majority most wanted to do—use the bankruptcy court.

The state law explicitly allows Unkovic "to file a municipal debt adjustment action" with the court to reduce the city's debt load after July 1, when the state-imposed bankruptcy prohibition expires.

By then, though, Harrisburg may be stripped of its most valuable assets, exactly what the council tried to prevent with its bankruptcy filing in October.

In fact, another provision in the takeover legislation—that Unkovic is prevented from "unilaterally" raising taxes—may only accelerate the city's return to bankruptcy.

In the end, Harrisburg residents can expect to be under the jurisdiction of the receiver for at least the next two years, when his term expires. That term, though, easily can be renewed by the Commonwealth Court.

It's certainly possible that Unkovic—or his successor—could be in charge of Harrisburg for multiple mayoral terms, as the city muddles through, trying to get back on its feet.

In the short-term, over the coming months, expect a growing realization among city residents of where the real power lies.

"Mr. Unkovic is the one with the bat in his hands at the moment," said



Power down: Harrisburg council members Susan Brown-Wilson and Kelly Summerford study the numbers at one of many 2012 budget hearings last month.

resident and activist Les Ford. "He's the one who's going to make the decisions."

Unkovic says that he takes his responsibility to the people of Harrisburg seriously and does not want to coerce compliance. He hopes not to have to use the court to force his recovery plan on the city.

"It's better to have buy-in and cooperation than simply to exert power," he said.

And, as things stand now, he seems to see his job as far from a long-term assignment.

"I want to do the best job that I can and then go away," he said. "That's the best that I can do."

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Receiver, on the Receiving End

At forum, Unkovic expresses sympathy for Harrisburg's plight.

Lawrance Binda



Taking over: Harrisburg's receiver David Unkovic fielded questions last month during a Harrisburg Hope forum.

Hearing him speak, Harrisburg receiver David Unkovic doesn't appear to be the big, bad overlord that many had feared.

He seems thoughtful, considerate, even well-intentioned—a man who

says he truly wishes to do right by the people of Harrisburg.

Can he really be the product of SB1151, the legislation that led to direct state control of the city, a law that Mayor Linda Thompson has called "punitive" and that many others have said is simply mean-spirited? Can he be the person stereotyped at first as a lackey of the financial industry and the city's creditors?

As the cliché goes, the proof is in the pudding—and the pudding will be Unkovic's financial recovery plan for the city, due to be unveiled on Feb. 6.

But, so far, and particularly at a Harrisburg Hope community forum last month, Unkovic has impressed many with his concern for the city and

its beleaguered residents.

"As receiver, I'm going to do what's best for the citizens of Harrisburg and the commonwealth," he said.

Unkovic spoke for about 90 minutes to an overflow crowd gathered at Midtown Scholar Bookstore. For most of that time, he answered audience questions, which ranged from his background as a bond attorney to his negotiations with creditors who hold more than \$310 million in bonds due to repeated re-financings for numerous upgrades to the city incinerator.

Much time was spent on his opinion that the city's creditors may have to accept less than 100 percent repayment as part of a negotiated settlement.

"It will require sacrifices by many entities with interests in the city," he said. "In order for the plan to work, everyone will have to contribute."

Unkovic said he has learned much since he was nominated by Gov. Tom Corbett for the post of receiver.

Notably, he learned of the details of various financings and re-financings of incinerator debt, deals that he described as having "unusual actions in them," including the lack of a performance bond that should have guaranteed work on a botched incinerator retrofit by Barlow Projects, as well as the complex structuring of the 2007 incinerator financing.

Unkovic said he also has learned that Harrisburg residents feel victimized by forces beyond their control, such as failed political leadership, the actions of financiers and a lack of sympathy from others in the region.

"This is also a political situation, not just a financial situation, and it involves the lives of the people in this city—all 49,500 people," he said.

"It's important to look at it from a community perspective," he said. "How did a city of this size, not a large city, end up with so much debt?"

Unkovic did not shy away from the fact that the city owes about six times its annual budget just in incinerator debt, which will require it to sell or lease municipal assets,

beginning with its valuable parking garages. In addition, Harrisburg faces large and growing deficits in its annual operating budget, which has made it increasingly tough to meet payroll.

Still, he believes that a return to solvency is possible.

"My goal is that, five years from now, the city will be in good financial condition, not just kicking the can down the road," he said.

Unkovic last month set up a website so residents can review documents and make comments online. The website is www.pa.gov/harrisburgreceiver.

Incinerator Records Ordered Preserved

The state Department of Community and Economic Development has issued an order mandating the preservation of all documents relating to the financing of Harrisburg's ill-fated incinerator.

DCED directed 22 organizations to preserve documents that relate to the 2003 and 2007 incinerator financings. The order was sent to numerous financial institutions and law firms, as well as to the city, The Harrisburg Authority, Dauphin County and incinerator operator Covanta.

This step may indicate that the state might begin to probe the details of the deals that helped sink Harrisburg into fiscal insolvency.

County Taxes Remain Unchanged for 2012

The tax rate in Dauphin County will remain the same for 2012.

The Board of Commissioners voted unanimously last month to pass a \$198.7 million budget that left the county's property tax unchanged for the seventh straight year.

The rate of 6.876 mills means that a property owner with a home assessed at \$100,000 will pay an annual county real estate tax of \$687.60.

Overall, the county's 2012 budget is slightly less than the 2011 budget.

The Harrisburg Top 10

What were the most newsworthy events in Harrisburg for 2011? Here's our local take on the venerable year-end Top 10 list.

10. *Majors in the minors.* It was a banner year for the Harrisburg Senators, as likely future big league all-stars Stephen Strasburg and Bryce Harper—and future Hall of Famer Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez—all took the field.



9. *Snowtober.* 5.5 inches of snow fell on Oct. 29—a record for the month.

8. *Sandusky goes local.* The hearing for Schultz and Curley only lasted a day, but the media circus put Harrisburg in the spotlight for one of the country's biggest news stories of the year.

7. *Citizens empowered.* Who would have thought Harrisburg residents would take the streets in protest and pack City Council meetings and community forums? Yet they did.



6. *Infrastructure issues.* Sinkholes, street light outages, burst water mains, damaged sidewalks. How does a broke city get unbroken?



5. *Historic renovation.* Harrisburg's financial problems clouded some very good news: many long-neglected historic buildings—Furlow, Kunkel, Fulton Bank, Glass Factory, HHA Resource Center among them—are being put back into use.

4. *Homicide rate.* The murder rate was cut in half compared to last year. Unfortunately, an uptick of violence late in the year put a damper on what may have been the most positive news for the city all year.

3. *Mayor vs. ...* From the City Council to the controller to former aides, Mayor Thompson had some very public disputes.



2. *Flood.* September's tropical rains caused the worst flood in the Harrisburg area since 1972.



1. *Financial crisis.* Act 47, mayor's plan, bankruptcy, more borrowing, more lawyers, forensic audit, state takeover, receiver, national headlines. What else could have snagged the top spot?

They Plow by Night

Our intrepid reporter braves a snowless night.

Sylvia Grove



Plowman's perspective: An early morning view of N. 3rd and Reily streets as a plow driver waits for snow to fall.

It's 11:35 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7, and I haven't left home at this odd of a weekday hour since Black Friday. I bend over my steering wheel and crane my neck toward the sky: still no snow. Front Street is as clear as a country road, a sleek, damp ribbon studded with lamp posts. The black jogging path runs beside a silver Susquehanna. It's a picturesque scene, but the weather forecast has been clear: snow advisory for central Pennsylvania from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. Thursday.

When snow is in the forecast, most of us slide into a familiar routine: check the quantity of milk in the fridge, the level of gas in the tank. The routine typically stops there, except for the occasional glance at the sky. This is not the case for Harrisburg's Department of Public Works, for whom

the term "snow day" has an entirely different meaning.

Tonight, four men—Dave Spiroff of Enola, Rodney Keller of Hummelstown, Randy Sauder of Harrisburg and David Jordan of Susquehanna Township—have just arrived for work. I join them in a utility building on S. 19th Street, which is backlit by fog and orange light. Director Ernie

Hoch sips coffee and shakes my hand, and the men greet me with a nod. "This is my 'A' team," said Hoch, by way of an introduction. "These are the guys that I call first."

During heavy snow, as many as 45 men, CDL-licensed or otherwise, can be called upon by the department to help clear the streets, rotating over 12-hour shifts. Most snow removal strategies are systematic, including prioritizing primary and secondary streets and mapping out the city into eight sections to focus the work. However, trying to determine where to push the snow, or struggling to fit a snowplow down narrow Penn Street, can make for white-knuckle work.

"There's always that one street that you're driving down with your heart pumping Kool-Aid," said Spiroff, who has worked with the city for 16 years.

Tonight, expectations are minimal. The 1- and 5-ton salt trucks have already been loaded, the goal being to salt ramps and bridges and to keep a close eye on the roads near the river, where it's colder. The crew scatters, taking places among the city.

Hoch and I duck into a pickup truck and drive up Cameron Street. We've barely driven five minutes before Hoch checks the weather on his phone. "I actually think the snow's passed over us," he said suddenly. There is no regret in his voice. "I'm not disappointed. It's better to be

proactive. The streets will be clear by rush hour."

I will be awake again by 6:30 a.m. and part of that rush hour traffic that will move swiftly through a bitter cold sunrise. The students that I teach will be disappointed to have not had a delay, and I will secretly regret that

I can't sleep in, either. However, it's clear that this privilege of safe driving has everything to do with the four trucks that are out on the streets right now, circulating like quiet watchmen, tracing the city silently beneath a snow-less sky.

Redistricting Dilutes Harrisburg Vote

The GOP-controlled state legislature last month re-drew voting districts to dilute the influence of heavily Democratic Harrisburg.

For U.S. Congress, the legislature threw Harrisburg into the new 4th congressional district, dominated by rural York and Adams counties.

Those areas currently are represented by Todd Platts, a conservative Republican. If re-elected in November, Platts would represent the city starting in 2013.

Currently, Harrisburg—and all of Dauphin County—resides in the 17th congressional district, a seat held by moderate Democrat Tim Holden, who has represented the district for almost 10 years.

To help elect more Republicans, the state legislature carved up

Dauphin County into three oddly shaped congressional districts.

Most of the county will reside in the sprawling 11th district, while the eastern end will reside in the equally sprawling 15th district. Only Harrisburg was pushed into the 4th district.

Harrisburg fared no better in state Senate redistricting.

Starting in 2013, the city will reside in the 48th state Senate district, dominated by rural Lebanon County. It now resides in the 15th district.

Dauphin County, most of which now resides in a single district, was sliced into three almost equally sized districts. The northern part of the county will be in the 27th district, while the southern end will be in the 15th district.

Just in Time ...



PennDOT and Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission are using a new machine for snow removal this year: a 30-foot-long, tow-behind snowplow. Because of their size, tow plows are only used on limited-access roadways such as the Pennsylvania Turnpike, interstates or other multi-lane roads.

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Harrisburg: Meet the World

Financial woes puts little city in global spotlight.

Lawrance Binda



J. Alex Hartzler of WCI Partners joins a Japanese news crew, including Tomoko Horie (left) and Ayuko Hirano (second from left) at Little Amps Coffee Roasters in Olde Uptown.

How does Harrisburg look to the rest of the world?

Until recently, that question might have seemed silly, as the city, despite its status as Pennsylvania's capital, is a place that normally gets little attention from outsiders.

But these aren't normal times.

Due to its financial crisis, Harrisburg has been visited by news crews from many nations—French, German and British journalists all have been seen walking N. 2nd Street. The Arabic language network, al-Jazeera, stopped by in October.

Just last month, a three-person television news crew from Japan spent several days in Harrisburg—going to places even most Harrisburgers don't.

So, to repeat the question: How does Harrisburg look to the rest of the world?

The city came as a surprise to the visiting Japanese crew—for both good and bad.

The good first: Harrisburg is far more than a financial crisis and a failed incinerator, a one-dimensional view that people may glean from news accounts.

They found a place that is vibrant, interesting and, in places, very beautiful.

"I was surprised to see that the city is still working despite the financial condition," said Ayuko Hirano, a reporter with Tokyo-based NTV International, a major Japanese broadcasting company. "Even though the city [government] isn't able to help very much, people are still investing here."

That view was fostered by J. Alex Hartzler, who took the visitors to see the work that his company, WCI Partners, has done to rapidly transform Olde Uptown from a blighted neighborhood to a charming community of restored homes.

He also showed them the revival of downtown, including the new office building that WCI is constructing on the prominent block of 2nd and State streets.

"I wanted them to see what it's really like here—that people like it here and feel safe here," Hartzler said.

Hartzler explained the history of the city—that Harrisburg, like most American cities following World War II, suffered from de-industrialization, loss of jobs and toxic race relations. That today, despite its finances, the city is far more dynamic and has much better prospects than it did 30 or 40 years ago.

Still, there was no hiding the bad, such as the poverty in some neighborhoods. The journalists were particularly saddened by the many empty lots and fields where houses and businesses once stood, especially in the Uptown and South Allison Hill neighborhoods.

"The abandoned areas here were really surprising to me," said Hirano. "Nobody's there."

The news crew is typically stationed in Washington, D.C., which has its own problems with poverty and race relations.

Producer Tomoko Horie cited a difference. In Harrisburg, she said,

the classes and races seem to interact more.

"In D.C., there's an invisible fence between the well-to-do areas and the abandoned areas," she said. "Here, you don't have that fence."

As such, they were easily able to find and interview homeless people, in addition to the well-off, the poor, the working class and even the young activists of Occupy Harrisburg. The result will be a 5-minute segment on their news station in early January.

"We often focus on the American financial and economic situation," said Hirano. "With this piece, we want to show Japanese viewers an example of one American city."

Buxton to Retire

State Rep. Ron Buxton announced last month that he will not run for re-election next year.

Buxton, a Democrat, has represented the 103rd legislative district, which includes Harrisburg, Steelton and Highspire, in the state House of Representatives since 1993.

Two members of the Harrisburg City Council, Democrats Patty Kim and Gloria Martin-Roberts, have announced plans to run for the open seat.

New Home for the Holidays



Zegeweina Mebrahtu and her husband Tewedros "Teddy" Ghebresselasie smile broadly after receiving the keys and cutting the ribbon for their new house on Zarker Street in Harrisburg. The family of three contributed more than 350 sweat equity hours toward the completion of the home, which was a Habitat for Humanity of Greater Harrisburg rehab project.

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Debate Comes Full Circle

Roundabout begins new journey for Linglestown.

Debbie Merlo



Shape of progress: Linglestown's roundabouts stirred controversy, which, now that the project is done, is being left in the past.

Whether it's a grilled cheese sandwich or plain white slices stuffed with egg salad, The St. Thomas Restaurant in Linglestown offers more than good food and quick, friendly service. The view visible from a table tucked in a corner by a front window is one well worth admiring, as is the unmistakable enthusiasm in Bill Minsker's voice.

Minsker, a teacher and firefighter with the Linglestown Fire Co. since 1967, graciously gives up "the best seat in the house," allowing a lunch guest the opportunity to appreciate the visible charm of the third oldest town in Dauphin County. Before there's time to get too comfortable taking in the sights of old buildings with original gingerbread trim enveloping the windows, Minsker noted the traffic outside steadily

flowing through the roundabout. The roundabout (don't call it a circle) is one of two recently completed and is known as the Linglestown renovation project. Its purpose: to provide safe access

through the village while keeping traffic moving slowly and steadily. Minsker said that discussions for the project dated back to 1976 and is based upon the town's own modified bicentennial theme of, "So your children can show their children." Now that the project, which began in late 2009 and finished in mid-2011, is finally done and its success is apparent, Minsker said, "We lost a lot of battles, but we won the war." Those who objected to the project, he said, didn't understand the significance of having a roundabout as opposed to a traffic light, which, he argued, would stop the flow and take away an historical element.

Although there isn't a notion of negativity to be found among village proprietors today, the "war," as Tina Robenolt of First Impressions Boutique

explained, was the double hit: an economy that plummeted and a road that wasn't.

But, by following the red brick sidewalk as the aroma of brewing coffee wafts through the air, you discover a spirit of unity among the town's impressive array of shops and eateries.

When construction began on the road running through the heart of the village, owners banded together and formed a merchants association. The purpose, Robenolt said, was to "work together to bring people to Linglestown to establish and support a network." The main focus, she said: "Buy local, support local."

The efforts of the merchants association yielded not only The Historical Walking Tour of Linglestown, a Fall Festival and a Chocolate Walk—complete with maps guiding guests to alternative routes and available parking—but what Geof Smith, owner of St. Thomas Roasters, called a synergy of positive energy throughout the community. Without hesitation, he said there is much to look forward to in 2012, including a fresh start for a prosperous year.

With the project complete, the merchants association continues to oversee community activities. In addition to events like the Chocolate Walk on Feb. 10–11, Robenolt's First Impressions is open to host fundraisers and St. Thomas Roasters provides live music on Friday evenings.

Jim Murphy, owner of Murphy's Automotive said, "When experience counts, you can count on us."

As he finished the last bite of his egg salad sandwich, Bill Minsker proudly pointed out: "Our village has always remained just a village."

For more information on Linglestown's upcoming events and local history, please visit www.linglestown-square.com.

Glass Factory Rehab Slated to Proceed

For the last six months, the project to convert the century-old former glass factory at 3rd and Muench streets into an apartment house of 19 studio and 12 one-bedroom units has been postponed for its final review before the Harrisburg Planning Commission.

But Skynet President Josh Juffe, the project's developer, told TheBurg in December that the project would be on the planning commission's agenda in February and that the cost is now expected to be around \$1 million.

"We're going to make it more professional than we had first planned," he said.

Last July, the commission gave preliminary approval, although neighbors, local developers and the Historic Harrisburg Association opposed it, fearing the project would become a boarding house because its \$500,000 cost was too little for a conversion.

The property is in Midtown, but within the city-designated Old Uptown Historic District. It also is within the Residential Planned Conversion Zone, which permits the project.

Juffe said Skynet has approached Harrisburg Area Community College about marketing some of the apartments to their students. HACC's Midtown campus is a few blocks south of the glass factory.

—Peter Durantine

A Call for Arms



This sign at N. 14th and Market streets is one of 25 that Harrisburg installed around town last month for "The Mayor's Illegal Gun Stoppers," a new program designed to get illegal guns off the streets. The signs ask citizens to call 717-255-3131 to report illegal guns and gun owners. Police Chief Pierre Ritter said that all calls will be treated with confidentiality and that those who turn in guns will not be asked questions.

Winter Social & Annual Meeting

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Something to Celebrate

Amid crisis, a surge of citizen activism.

Lawrance Binda

Picking through the mess that is Harrisburg's financial calamity, it may seem hard to find anything that could be called a positive.

And yet there it is—and it's no small thing.

Dauphin County Commissioner Mike Pries made note of it during a recent community forum.

The forum, held early last month, featured Pries, state Sen. Jeff Piccola and City Council attorney Mark Schwartz and was most notable for the nasty barbs hurled between Piccola and Schwartz as they argued over Harrisburg's sorry situation, which has led to a state takeover of the city.

But amid the name-calling on the stage and the cat-calling from the audience, Pries rightly applauded several Harrisburg residents for their activism, which has been spawned, in no small part, by the city's financial crisis and political paralysis.

He praised Alan Kennedy-Shaffer of Harrisburg Hope; Tara Leo Auchey of Today's the Day Harrisburg; James Roxbury of Roxbury News; and Eric Papenfuse of Midtown Scholar Bookstore.

To that list, I would add Neil Grover and his group, Debt Watch Harrisburg, as well as a number of publicly minded individuals, including Bill Cluck, Nevin Mindlin, Les Ford and Brian Ostella.

All have carved out roles for themselves, using their particular expertise and talents to fill in policy and procedural gaps, disperse information and shine light on public actions. And, over time, they've stuck with it, committing vast amounts of time in the public interest for little, if any, compensation.

Kennedy-Shaffer urges civility as he brings together officials for debate and discussion. Auchey's Today's the Day website is a virtual archive of the city's financial calamity and political turmoil. Roxbury points his camera into the dustiest corners of government. Papenfuse has turned his bookstore into a center for public activity and discourse. Grover uses



Alan Kennedy-Shaffer quizzes Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson during a Harrisburg Hope forum last month at Midtown Scholar Bookstore.

his skills as a lawyer to act as a citizen advocate.

At City Council meetings, you often see these people in attendance, speaking at the microphone, taking notes, tweeting to the world. Pries said he gets first word of what's happening in city government by following Auchey's real-time tweets.

For years under Mayor Stephen Reed, some council members complained of citizen apathy and inaction. Not anymore.

Today, council meetings often are well-attended, with more residents following on Twitter, which, despite its limitations, gives people their first opportunity to follow events remotely as they happen. Over at Midtown Scholar, Harrisburg Hope forums have been standing-room-only.

On a daily basis, as I travel through Harrisburg, I get an earful as people complain about crime, city services, the state of government.

There's plenty to criticize, but some people are doing more than complaining. They're taking it upon themselves, at their own expense, to try to make a difference.

Do I always agree with what they tweet, blog, broadcast, file, argue and post? Of course not, but I always laud their dedication to the community.

Harrisburg is in crisis right now, and our future, in the hands of others, is unknown. Yet there is something to celebrate—a group of mindful, concerned, active citizens, residents committed to finding out what has happened to their city then trying to influence what will happen next.

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

Doing Good

Encouraging Dreams

Keystone Human Services marks 40 years.

Ann H. Moffitt

All people have dreams. And regardless of abilities or disabilities, all people have strengths.

Forty years ago, though, people with developmental disabilities, mental illness and autism were not encouraged to dream. For them, there was no notion of strength or equal opportunity. Children and adults were strategically segregated in institutions; locked away from everything society holds dear—freedom of choice, family, home and community.

All of that started to change in 1972. That was the year Keystone's co-founders envisioned a system that is dedicated to the fundamental rights of all people, regardless of abilities.

Because of our co-founders' vision and courage, children and adults with disabilities no longer have to lead isolated lives in dehumanizing institutions. Indeed, across America, millions of individuals and families who experience challenges are now receiving support in the community while pursuing fulfilled lives.

Every day, Keystone Human Services fulfills its mission to advance the human spirit by providing specialized services so that adults with developmental disabilities, children living below the poverty line, individuals experiencing mental illness, autism, aging and physical disabilities, can access the necessary resources to pursue their dreams.

Sometimes that means creating attractively furnished and supported residences so that individuals with intellectual disabilities or mental illness can benefit from the joys of home, family and community.

Other times, it means providing professional support for adolescents with autism who have difficulty communicating; being there with timely professional respite for a family in crisis; or providing skilled intervention at a public school where there's been a tragic shooting.

Whether we're giving pre-schoolers a "Head Start" with early education and a nutritious breakfast, teaching a recently hospitalized adult who was experiencing mental illness to manage his own medication or

training Susquehanna Service Dogs so that people with disabilities can access the community with greater ease and self-sufficiency, Keystone's mission is quietly and confidentially everywhere, providing reassuring, dependable support whenever it is needed.

This year, as we celebrate our 40th year of service to the community, the family of agencies known as Keystone Human Services is a widely respected nonprofit that is recognized for having played a leadership role in shaping the evolution of community-driven human services, not only here in central PA, but across America, Eastern Europe and beyond.

Our leaders are respected as "can-do" innovators. Our services are lauded for providing exceptional support to more than 6,000 individuals from Chambersburg, Pa., and Hartford, Conn., to Moldova, Azerbaijan, Russia and beyond. And it works through our responsive, integrated system of support that is empowered by thousands of dedicated professionals.

Many know the name Keystone Human Services because of ChocolateFest Weekend, our largest public relations and fundraising effort that takes place each year at the Hershey Lodge. This year's ChocolateBall and ChocolateFest, are Jan. 28 and 29, respectively. Purchase tickets online, at www.keystonehumanservices.org, or at Boscov's, Metro Bank or Giant. Regionally, many know of us through PawsAbilities, the trained dog festivities and competition at the Farm Show that raises monies in support of Susquehanna Service Dogs.

After 40 years of service, our organization is honored to be celebrating the advancement of individually chosen paths, fully empowered lives and the passion of dedicated employees and volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure that Keystone remains an invaluable resource for individuals and families.

Confidential inquiries about our continuum of services are welcome at 717-232-7509 or at www.keystonehumanservices.com.

Ann H. Moffitt ACFRE, is vice president of community development for Keystone Human Services/CEO Keystone Partnership.

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ShutterBurg ... a Month in Pictures



Dec. 1: Council attorney Mark Schwartz, state Sen. Jeff Piccola and Dauphin County Commissioner Mike Pries hashed out the city's future during a heated Harrisburg Hope community forum at Midtown Scholar Bookstore.



Dec. 8: Work began re-constructing the steps leading to the river walk at Locust Street. The steps collapsed during September's devastating flood and remained one of the most visible signs of flood damage in Harrisburg.



Dec. 14: Activist Bill Ayers returned to Harrisburg, speaking at Midtown Scholar Bookstore as part of Occupy Harrisburg's teach-in series. Ayers gave pointers on grassroots organizing and critiqued current economic, political and social conditions.



Dec. 19: Harrisburg City Council President Gloria Martin-Roberts announced her candidacy for the state House of Representatives' 103rd legislative district to replace the retiring Ron Buxton. Fellow Councilwoman Patty Kim also has declared for the seat.



Dec. 3: Gracie Berry and Lark Daniel, members of the Imani Edu-tainers African Dance Company, perform a traditional dance during a Kwanzaa celebration held at Harrisburg Area Community College. Photo: Yvonne Sadowy.



Dec. 11: Richard Finley greets guests to his Olde Uptown home during the Historic Harrisburg Association's annual Candlelight House Tour, which sold nearly 900 tickets, a record for the event.



Dec. 16: Owner Rhon Friend, here with Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson, marked the grand opening of Friends the Salon with a celebration, a mayoral proclamation and a ribbon-cutting. The salon at Reily and Penn streets is Friend's third location.



Dec. 20: Gov. Tom Corbett and other dignitaries joined Rabbi Shmuel Pewzner of Chabad-Lubavitch in the lighting of the state Menorah inside the Capitol, marking the first night of Hanukkah.

Community Corner

Events in Our Area

Free Tobacco Cessation Classes

Jan. 2: Penn State Hershey Respiratory Care is offering free tobacco cessation classes at 6:30 p.m. Classes will continue every Monday in the West Campus Health and Wellness Center on the Penn State Hershey Medical Center campus. For more information or to register, call the CareLine at 1-800-243-1455.

Free Lecture on New Zealand

Jan. 4: A free program, "New Zealand: A Small Country that Delivers BIG," will be presented at 7 p.m. in Lecture Room C of the Hershey Medical Center. Jennifer Monahan, traveler, author and lecturer, will describe the country of live volcanoes, earthquakes and intense geothermal activity. Program is sponsored by the World Culture Club of Central Pennsylvania, the Office for Diversity and the Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine. For information, call 717-566-3553 or visit www.worldcultureclubpa.org.

Free Homebuyers Workshop

Jan. 5-12: The Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority and the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency are sponsoring a free Homebuyers Workshop at One West Penn St., Carlisle. The two-part program will be offered 6-9 p.m. on both Thursdays. Attendees must be present at both sessions to receive a certificate of completion. Enrollment is limited and reservations are required. To register, call 866-683-5907 x300.

Preschool Soccer Program in Midtown

Jan. 7: Soccer Shots has its first "open to the public" indoor sessions in Harrisburg for 3-5 year olds at Absolute Wellness Group, 1519 N. 3rd St. Weekly 35-minute sessions teach basic soccer skills through age-appropriate games that focus on fun and character development. Classes are 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. Saturdays. Fee: \$85 for eight weeks. Class sizes are limited. Register at www.soccershots.org/harrisburg, call 717-602-3615 or email carly@soccershots.org for details. Parents can also enjoy an adult nutrition class for \$20 a week during Soccer Shots sessions. Email Brenda@absolutewellnessgroup.com for details.

Free Prostate Cancer Screening

Jan. 12: Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute and Penn State Hershey Urology will offer free prostate cancer screening 5:30-7:30 p.m. in University Physician Center, Suite 3100, on the Medical Center campus. Appointments are available on a first-call basis. For information and to register, call the CareLine at 1-800-243-1455. www.PennStateHershey.org/cancer.

Film Honors Winters

Jan. 17: In memory of the wartime hero, Major Dick Winters, the Hershey-Derry Township Historical Society will honor his birthday with a showing of the documentary "In His Own Words" at 6 p.m. at the Allen Theatre in Annville. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

Weight Management for Children

Jan. 17: PinnacleHealth's KidShape, a free weight management program for overweight children and their parents, starts a winter class on the East Shore 6-8 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, 901 N. 6th St., Harrisburg. Class is once a week over nine weeks and helps children ages 6-14, accompanied by a parent or guardian, to become healthy. If a child's body mass index (BMI) falls within the obese category, he or she qualifies for this free program. Registration is required. Call 717-231-8900.

Community Forum

Jan. 18: Friends of Midtown is sponsoring a community forum with David Patton, Harrisburg's deputy director of codes, and Ernest Hoch, public works director, 6 p.m. at the Heinz-Menaker Senior Center, 1824 N. 4th St. The forum will cover ways the community can help the city in addressing issues under their jurisdiction, discuss future goals and provide a question and answer opportunity. www.friendsofmidtown.org.

Free Lecture on Cardiac Testing

Jan. 19: Penn State Hershey Heart and Vascular Institute and Dr. Claude Fanelli will present "Cardiac Testing: What, When, Where, Why and How: A Review of Common Cardiac Tests," at 6:30 p.m. at Penn State Hershey Medical Group, 121 Nyes Rd., Harrisburg. Seating is limited and registration required. To register, call the CareLine at 1-800-243-1455 or visit PennStateHershey.org/nyes-road.

CPGLCC Annual Meeting

Jan. 21: The Central Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce holds its annual meeting at the Best Western Premier, 800 East Park Dr., Harrisburg. The event begins at 6 p.m. and features dinner and a keynote address by John J. "Ski" Sygielski, president of Harrisburg Area Community College. Register online at www.cpglcc.org. Members get a \$25 ticket discount if they register before Jan. 9.

Friends of Midtown Annual Meeting

Jan. 24: Friends of Midtown holds its annual meeting at 9 p.m. at HMac Stage on Herr, 268 Herr St. The annual meeting gives Harrisburg's Midtown residents an opportunity to meet each other, as well as the executive board, and review accomplishments during 2011 and goals for 2012. www.friendsofmidtown.org.

Free Surgical Weight Loss Lecture

Jan. 26: "Exploring Surgical Weight Loss," a free community lecture, is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. at Penn State Hershey Medical Group in Camp Hill. Seating is limited and registration is required. Light dinner and refreshments provided. To register, call the CareLine at 1-800-243-1455.

Global Game Jam

Jan. 27: Harrisburg University of Science and Technology will be the International Game Developers Association's Global Game Jam (GGJ) site this year. The 48-hour event brings together artists, audio engineers, designers, writers, producers and programmers to work in small teams to make videogames and compete for prizes. GGJ is the world's largest game jam event, drawing thousands of enthusiasts participating through local jams around the world. For more information, email cpalmer@harrisburgU.edu or call 717-901-5127. RSVP at globalgamejam.org/sites/2012/harrisburg-university.

Slow Food Celebrates Chinese New Year

Jan. 27: Slow Food Harrisburg celebrates the Year of the Dragon at its third annual Chinese New Year dinner, held at the China Tea House, 610 E. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg. Enjoy a wide variety of authentic Chinese dishes specially prepared for the occasion and served buffet style. \$27, which includes tax and tip. \$15 for children 12 and under. BYOB. For more information, visit www.slowfoodharrisburg.com. For reservations and additional information, please contact Jeff Katcher at jeffkatcher@comcast.net or at 717-545-8182.

Nature Book Sale at Wildwood Park

Jan. 29: The Friends of Wildwood will hold their annual Nature Used Book Sale through February at Wildwood Park in the Olewine Nature Center, but a members-only presale will be held 1-3 p.m. Featured items include: field guides, birds, trees, plants, animals, insects, wildflowers, rivers, mountains, hunting, fishing, hiking, canoeing, national parks, astronomy, geology, gardening, children's books and more. Book prices range from 50 cents to \$5. Proceeds support the educational programs at Dauphin County's Wildwood Park, off Industrial Road, north of the HACC campus at 100 Wildwood Way. All sales are cash or check. To join or renew membership, please visit www.wildwoodlake.org/support.

3rd in The Burg: January 20

A book-signing and reception in honor of Franklin L. Kury, author of the new book "Clean Politics, Clean Streams: A Legislative Autobiography and Reflections" (pictured), will be featured at The State Museum during this month's 3rd in The Burg, Jan. 20. You can visit many galleries, restaurants and other venues at the monthly celebration of the arts and culture throughout Harrisburg. For more information, see our back cover or visit www.3rdinTheBurg.com.



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This Being Harrisburg ...

A history tale for a resilient people.

Neil A. Grover

It may take a long time, but our city will conquer today's legal and financial woes. Will Harrisburg have to change for that to happen? Absolutely. But how much? Well, my guess would be not much at all. Here's why.

Our local history includes a long-forgotten public official, Mayor William Kepner. If your memory of him is hazy, you may find some help from a story that scrolled across my screen in recent days.

It seems that Harrisburg's elected council was fighting with a new mayor. They had passed a resolution on a public debt. The mayor was not consulted. More precisely, the council had approved a refinancing contract with an out-of-town financier, whose apparent business included handling government bonds and loans. The real dollars were huge for Mayor Kepner's day, vastly beyond the means of the average resident. City officials moved forward anyway.

In order to re-pay this public debt, local officials earmarked future tax revenue to be spent on the obligation for many years. For the council, the matter must have appeared simple enough, as Harrisburg was renewing an earlier agreement. Terms were set down and a contract drafted, followed by an official resolution by council that was quickly approved, all business as usual. But this being Harrisburg, there was a hitch.

Kepner decided that he did not like the way council had handled the matter. He voiced objections to the deal, insisting the council had no right to approve public expenditures by a mere resolution. Yet council read it differently, finding that the City Charter denied the mayor any power in such matters. With a stalemate brewing, and with this being Harrisburg, the Mayor refused to sign. He saw council as poaching his territory, taking power that rightfully belonged to him. He insisted an ordinance must be passed whenever public funds were at issue, meaning that he demanded the council follow a different process, one that included him. Does this sound familiar yet?

This being Harrisburg, a lawsuit

quickly followed. The council asked the court to direct the mayor to sign the contract, arguing he had no right to ignore such official actions and worse, in doing so, he was placing the city's sorely needed credit at risk. Though a Dauphin County jury sided with council, this being Harrisburg, the fight did not end. In short order, officials found themselves before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, the final referee in government disputes.

In fact, this tale of Mayor Kepner in large part can be found in the resulting Supreme Court opinion, in the case of *Kepner v. Commonwealth*, published 150 years ago, in 1861. That historical timestamp stands out for many reasons, the most important being that our little burg on the Susquehanna just had been reinvented in 1860, when Harrisburg was officially reclassified to be a city. With that move, a new city of 13,000 held its first local election, voting William H. Kepner to be the first elected mayor. The officials who were doing battle with him in the courts were the members of our first elected council, a body then known as a "common council."

In its decision, the Supreme Court ruled that there was little real difference between a local resolution and ordinance, rejecting the arguments of all sides. That opinion was issued by Chief Judge Lowrie, who found the city's newly formed council had inherent powers, including the power to make rules to govern themselves, to borrow money on behalf of the city and to exercise general power over city affairs. Score one for council.

But after dispensing with the officials' arguments on who should hold what power, Judge Lowrie moved on to address what he saw as the important points. He reminded these public servants that, in matters impacting the affairs of the city, "the people have a right" to the judgment of both their mayor and their council. A desire to get their input on public matters was the very reason they were each chosen. That said, the court went on to find that Mayor Kepner should get an opportunity to consider

any legislation. Therefore, as the council had not consulted him about the contract, the court found Mayor Kepner under no obligation to sign.

Of course, this being Harrisburg, the decision did little to resolve the issues surrounding the large public debt. The city still owed an earlier loan, an obligation first approved by the Borough of Harrisburg. Because the court decision sent the local officials back to square one, the lawsuit resolved nothing in terms of the city's actual financial concerns. Therefore, at the end of the city's first legal battle, Harrisburg's officials still left to find their own workable solution to the city's debt problems.

In a tradition abandoned by modern courts, Chief Judge Lowrie's decision offered sage advice to these feuding officials. Using words in the style of his day, the Judge pointed out the one thing that could resolve this dispute, reminding everyone that "respect for the law, and respect for each other ... will be ... a very sure remedy against official encroachments and official jealousies."

In modern terms, he told the parties that they must respect each other and through such mutual respect, they could prevent or at least stop most disputes, as a respectful work atmosphere would help those in government concern themselves with doing their own jobs.

Did our very first mayor and council heed that wise advice? Who knows? But this we do know: We have watched local officials wage the very same fight in much the same way, some 150 years later. So this being Harrisburg, perhaps we should not only realize that these battles rage on, but also ask if these fights are really about the powers and duties of public officials. Far too often, these battles are little more than raw political theater. We watch as the same scenes get acted out year after year, while different players enter and exit our main stage.

So what, if anything, does this history lesson tell us about what to expect for Harrisburg in 2012?



Soldiering on: Harrisburg residents last year at one of many protests and jam-packed meetings.

Consider this one thing: Most of us locals know that we are about to enter more difficult times and, yet, this glimpse into our city's past just might offer a small ray of hope, if not a hint of what our future holds. Despite the long history of a government plagued by relentless infighting, history shows that, somehow, the city abides. The root of that stubborn endurance could be found resting in those who formed Harrisburg or still exists in those who later stayed on to live here.

The people of this city have been the ones who refused to let local officials—whether they were the original slate, our present-day officials or anyone in between—to bring our city to ruin. Thus, with this being Harrisburg, our fractious history suggests that those who call Harrisburg home will be who makes certain this city abides.

We in Harrisburg are a resilient people, ones who soldier on each day, equal to whatever the next battle brings. In the tale of Mayor Kepner, it is the quiet power of our resilience that must be the lesson taught and learned. If we are to find a remedy for today's financial woes and restore our city, we will need to call upon that resilience once again, for in the end, the people of this city most likely will be the ones left to administer our own cure and remedy our own problems, this being Harrisburg.

*Neil A. Grover is an attorney living and practicing law in Harrisburg. He also is a founder of a local taxpayer organization, DEBT WATCH HARRISBURG. The views expressed herein are his own. For those interested, the official citation for the case of *Kepner v Commonwealth* is 40 Pa. 124 (Pa. 1861).*

When the War Came Home

Harrisburg Academy became part of the victory effort.

Peter Durantine



Before the war: The stately Harrisburg Academy in 1929.

Six months after Pearl Harbor and just before April 18, 1942—the day a small group of American medium bombers launched the first reprisal attack against Japan from an aircraft carrier—the army opened a military intelligence training facility in Harrisburg.

Known as the Army Air Force Air Intelligence School (this was before the Air Force became an independent service branch), it was formally established in Washington, D.C., in early January of that year, according to “Piercing the Fog: Intelligence and Army Air Forces Operations in World War II,” a 1996 history published by the Air Force Historical Studies Office.

A scramble for a facility in those early days of the war first landed the school at the University of Maryland in College Park in February, but only temporarily.

“Air Force leaders recognized the facilities at College Park would not be adequate for the expansion due to come,” according to “Piercing the Fog.” “Even before the first class of 33 officers had graduated from the college course, the AAF paid \$300,000 to purchase the Harrisburg Academy in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the new site of air intelligence training.”

At the time, the future of Harrisburg Academy, founded in 1784 by John Harris Jr., was in question. The Great Depression took a toll on enrollment, but the school managed to continue. It moved in 1959 to its present location on Erford Road in Wormleysburg.

The gothic-looking structure that

the military bought, located on the grounds of what is now Dixon University Center on N. 2nd Street, was demolished in the early 1990s.

At America’s entry into World War II on Dec. 7, 1941, the military seized many private properties. Private schools, for some reason, seemed attractive. In Washington, the U.S. Navy took a girls’ school at Massachusetts and Nebraska avenues.

“It offered \$800,000 for property easily worth \$5 million and finally agreed to pay \$1.1 million,” according to David Brinkley’s account in “Washington Goes to War.”

Despite its title, the air intelligence school was better known for learning to interpret photos taken by air reconnaissance planes “since that was two-thirds of its original curriculum; the additional one-third was combat intelligence training.”

Combat training included prisoner of war interrogation, counter espionage, learning the organizations of the Axis air forces, Soviet air force logistics, air defense deception and an array of other intelligence gathering skills, according to the Air Force Historical Research Agency.

The school’s first commandant was Col. Egmont F. Koenig and among his students were some notable figures from Hollywood, publishing, sports and literature—actors Robert Preston, Burgess Meredith and Bruce Cabot attended, according to the book “Josh: My Up and Down, In and Out Life,” by writer/producer Joshua Logan, also a student. Novelist Thornton Wilder and Golfer Bobby Jones were students.

Other alumni were Philip Graham, publisher of The Washington Post in

the 1960s who during the war served on the intelligence staff of the Far East Air Force, and Major Jesse Marcel, the air force officer who first reported the Roswell UFO incident in 1947.

It’s not clear why the military chose the old Harrisburg Academy for its intelligence school. In spring 1944, the military moved the school out of the Harrisburg Academy to Orlando, Fla., but, over the course of the war, according to the historical account, thousands of students passed through its doors.

Then & Now



Harrisburg doesn't even look like the same city in these two photos of Market Street looking west towards Market Square taken a century apart. In the first photo, circa 1900, old Harrisburg is perfectly captured, complete with horse-drawn carts, trolley tracks and clapboard and Victorian-style commercial buildings. The second photo (right) shows a totally different streetscape, as modern stone and glass buildings replaced the 19th century structures.

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Kunkel Conversion a Go

Developer expects to start work in months.

Peter Durantine

Work to convert downtown's nine-story Kunkel Building at 301 Market St. into one- and two-bedroom apartments is anticipated to start sometime this winter, possibly as early

as February, said Daniel Deitchman, the developer.

Deitchman, who restored Front Street's Riverview Manor and is now restoring the Furlow Building in Midtown, won approval

last month from the Harrisburg Zoning Hearing Board to build between 40 and 50 market-rate apartments in the 38,676-square-foot commercial office building.

In November, the Harrisburg Planning Commission gave its unanimous approval for the project, one of many such conversions of office space in the city recently—but not at the scale Deitchman is proposing—because the commercial market downtown is saturated and is expected to remain so for the foreseeable future, Deitchman and other realtors said.

Deitchman cited nearly 100 percent occupancy in his city buildings, including the recently renovated old Governor's Hotel down the street at 4th and Market that he

converted into student housing for Harrisburg University of Science and Technology.

"On the residential side, there's substantial demand and substantial use," he said, noting some of his as well as other properties have waiting lists.

The developer also received a special exception request to waive the off-street parking requirement. He has secured a lease for as many as 50 parking spaces in Harrisburg University's 4th Street parking garage.

Like the planning commission, the zoning board required Deitchman to leave the first floor for retail space, possibly a restaurant, even though he wanted to include some residential units, possibly townhouses, on that level. He said that he will proceed with the project regardless.

The Kunkel Building, built in 1913 and expanded to double its size in 1925, spent many years as a bank and a clothing store. Most recently, it housed the Susquehanna Art Museum, which is preparing to break ground on a new home in Midtown Harrisburg.

The building currently is owned by Select Capital Corp. and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Open in Uptown



A former Rite Aid pharmacist, Laxman Buddineni, left, with employee Neal Lawson, a pharmacy technician, recently opened Uptown Discount Drugs at 2336 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. The independent store, located just past the Uptown Market, is a full-fledged pharmacy offering prescriptions, over-the-counter medicines, vaccinations, first aid, vitamins, snacks and a gift shop. Phone: 717-236-9999; fax: 717-236-9998.

Fathers

& the Custody Process

As marriages and relationships end, new circumstances arise for everyone involved. In particular, many husbands and fathers find themselves facing unique challenges of child custody.

Sometimes, a father can feel like a second-class citizen in a child custody matter. The Guys Attorney recognizes that *both* parents play a vital role in their child's life, and that *either* parent may be the best choice as the primary custodian of the child. We recognize that an important decision like custody cannot be gender-biased.

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

The Guys Attorney

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Biz Notes

TheHodgePodgery, the handmade goods shop in Midtown Harrisburg, will re-open in mid- to late-January at 1320 N. 3rd St. The shop has been closed since it left its old location down the street in October.

Blue Horse has moved from Midtown to 1725 Susquehanna St., Harrisburg. The women's clothes boutique features affordable fashions, now with additional members-only discounts.

Café di Luna will be closed for a re-design until late January. When it re-opens, the cozy coffee shop at 1004 N. 3rd St. will be staffed by dedicated residents who will operate the shop for owner Ambreen Esmail.

Ebony II Barbers has opened at 202 North St. in Harrisburg, the former home of Brass Monkey Studios, a tattoo parlor.

Fuel and Food Returns



After four months of construction, Sunoco's re-built "A Plus" store and station opened at N. 2nd and Maclay streets, across from the Governor's Residence. The store doubled in size to 3,000 square feet, while the gas pump canopy tripled in size. Bowing to community concern, Sunoco modified its typical design, using real brick and a mansard roof to better reflect Olde Uptown's historic look.

From the Ground Up

Rooming House Denied

Ordinance sinks plan for student exchange housing.

Peter Durantine

Years ago, to stop slum lords and curtail parking problems in neighborhoods of limited spaces, Harrisburg adopted an ordinance that banned the conversion of single-family homes into multi-family dwellings.

The purpose was to build and maintain strong neighborhoods where residents have a stake. Harrisburg Planning Commission members grappled with an unintended consequence of the law at their meeting last month.

Before them was Ivaylo Yolov, who bought single-family homes at 413 and 417 Hale Ave. with the intention of turning each into a rooming house to accommodate one of the city's many U.S. State Department-sponsored foreign student exchange programs.

Yolov came prepared with a presentation that included two students from Argentina and Brazil. He promised to provide periodic documentation to show he participated in the federal program, and he promised to cooperate with the city.

Unfortunately, the commission was bound by the Zoning Code's "7-309(b), no single family dwelling unit shall be converted into two (2) or more units."

"We've never gone against the no-conversion clause," planning staffer Lance Claiborne advised the commission members.

Planning staff, which review and prepare each case, recommend whether to approve or deny a request. In this case, the recommendation to the commission was to deny, which anguished Claiborne.

"This is the hardest case I've had to write because it's a good program," he said.

The commission agreed with the recommendation. They explained to Yolov, who is European and unfamiliar with city zoning, that, while they trusted he would properly maintain his properties, the



No exchange: The Harrisburg land use boards last month denied a move to turn these residences into student housing.

ordinance's purpose was to build stable neighborhoods.

"We love the program," commission Chairman Joseph Alsberry told him. "But we have to abide by the law."

Two weeks later, Yolov went before the Zoning Hearing Board with his lawyer and was again turned down on the same basis.

In other action, the commission approved:

- A request by Delta Housing Inc., a social services firm, to convert its building at 2041 N. 2nd St. from two apartment units to a multifamily building containing six apartment units.
- A request by Neil Katz, owner of 106 State St., to convert a first-floor office space to a residential dwelling unit. The building already contains two apartments.
- A request by Char Magaro to convert her former restaurant, the now-closed Char's Bella Mundo at 540 Race St., to a retail space for a professional office.
- A request for relief of 16 inches of the 10-foot side yard setback requirement for 1409 S. Cameron St., filed by Martha Camacho for the purpose of building a 1,068-square-foot building for an automotive sales business.

Changing Hands: November Property Sales

Capital St., 903: E. & L. McCarthy to E. Orazi, \$126,300

Fulton St., 1710: B. Arndt & J. Sites to N. Culver, \$141,900

Green St., 2330: Kusic Financial Services LLC to WK Rentals LLC, \$83,500

Harris St., 639: G. & L.A. Neff to United States of America, GSA Contracts, \$129,000

Manor St., 125: R. & T. Roscoe to D. Martin, \$514,100

North St., 268-270: F. Iadecola to SEQ LLC, \$225,000

N. 2nd St., 610: Mid Penn Bank to C. Delozier, \$120,000

N. 2nd St., 2129: S. Snyder to G. Gudcz, \$108,000

N. 3rd St., 1312: Able Services LLC to 1312 North 3rd Street LLC, \$180,000

N. 5th St., 3108: J. Mills Jr. to J. Myers, \$75,000

Paxton St., 1640: Bee Boo 2 Inc. to J. Booth, \$30,000

Valley Rd., 205: K. & K. English to C. Best, \$187,500

Verbeke St., 219: S. Savage to T. Park, \$200,000

Wiconisco St., 409: D. & H. Helmuth to Aubrey J. Kreider Trust, \$85,400

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

Vegetarian Victory

Jayyid Harvest mixes veggies with family.

Peter Durantine

When Tanya Shariyf decided for health reasons to change her diet and become a vegetarian, she and husband Abdullah and their six children became frustrated in their search for a restaurant that served vegetarian dishes, let alone good vegetarian dishes.

That compelled this former military dietician and federal police officer and her husband, a youth counselor, to open Jayyid Harvest, one of the few, if any, authentic vegetarian restaurants in the Harrisburg area.

"Other than having to go to Philadelphia or New York, there are no vegetarian restaurants around," said Tanya, a gentle, soft-spoken woman.

Before opening the restaurant—its name means "good harvest"—in

the corner building at 1530 N. 2nd St., where Flow Buffet and several other restaurants had once served food, Tanya and Abdullah spent time researching vegetarian and vegan foods.

They visited various restaurants in Philadelphia and New York and toured Vegan Treats, a vegetarian bakery in Bethlehem.

"Vegan Treats let us talk to some of their customers and that's how we got into this," Tanya said. "Meat-eaters like Vegan Treats, too."

Realizing that a good vegetarian restaurant could serve dishes that would satisfy even skeptical meat-eaters, Tanya and Abdullah decided, "Ok, we can give it a try. We love to cook for people."

The menu offers steak and chicken sandwiches made of soy that surprisingly and delightfully taste like steak and chicken. They serve breakfast,

lunch and dinner.

"This vegetarian restaurant will put a smile on a meat-eater's face," Tanya said.

A vegetarian couple, traveling from Tallahassee, Fla., to New York was driving on Interstate 81 and found Jayyid Harvest from one of the restaurant apps on their phone.

"This is the best one we've found so far," said Jessica Evans Brady. "It's awesome."

"Yup," agreed her husband, Jason, "It's really good."

Since opening in late October, the restaurant has had a growing clientele, many from the Midtown neighborhood. It's a family-run operation.

Tanya's and Abdullah's six children—five daughters and one son, their ages range from 8 to 19—help out.

"They're all learning the business," Tanya said. "Only my older daughter is cooking and baking."

Since the restaurant opened, Tanya has been pleased by the reception.

"I want everybody to feel welcome in here," she said. "That's our goal: to bring people together with food and bring people back to enjoying the taste of their food."

Even meat-eaters, who first came warily, are returning for more, Tanya said.



Who needs meat? Jayyid Harvest's delectable dishes include its black bean burger with fries (top) and its fresh, colorful signature salad (bottom).

"They come in skeptical, but they leave here with the biggest smile on their faces."

Jayyid Harvest, 1530 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tues-Sat; Phone 717-425-3853 or visit www.jayyidharvest.com or visit them on Facebook.



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On the Move



After two years in the West Shore Farmer's Market in Lemoyne, Philadelphia native Brett Shugar, right, has moved a couple of blocks away to State Street Plaza and opened Shugar's Philly Deli, 829 State St., with partner Bill Fuhrer. They plan to expand with a larger, sports-themed dining room in the coming months. Open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday. 717-884-5900.

Olive Oil Memories

A good oil equals many possibilities.

Rosemary Ruggieri Baer

Someone once asked Marcella Hazan, the revered queen of Italian cooking, what she has never been without in her kitchen. She replied: a sharp knife, a hunk of Parmesan Reggiano cheese and good olive oil. That was certainly true in our house as well, except maybe for the good knife! As for the olive oil, I think of it as the lifeblood of my mother's kitchen. It touched almost everything we ate.

Growing up in the 1950s and '60s, we made our regular trips to the two Italian grocery stores in town: Galdino's "on the Hill" and Del Piano's, a small shop on Chestnut Street. There, my parents bought olive oil in large metal cans, certainly a gallon or more at a time. The can sat in our pantry on a dish layered with paper towels (to catch the drips) and was carried regularly to the kitchen counter by my mother who then filled small containers for cooking. We used a lot of olive oil.

My mother always told a wonderful story about my father when he was a little boy in Italy. His father was a shoemaker in Vieste, and the family was poor. As was often the custom in those days, somewhere around 1910, an uncle took my father, then about 2 or 3 years old, to live with him and his wife for a couple of years. The uncle was a sea captain and, according to my mother, traveled throughout Italy during that time and perhaps beyond. I have a photo of my aunt and uncle standing with my dad, who was dressed in a sailor suit,

standing on a little pier and looking very proud.

As the story goes, however, my grandmother, Victoria, was horrified when little Nickie came back home. His aunt and uncle had exposed him to, of all things, butter. And he liked it! She apparently considered him forever spoiled saying, "Look at him! Now all he wants is butter!" Nevertheless, aside from his buttered morning toast, my father saw very little butter in his lifetime.

Gone are the days when a trip to an Italian market or grocery store is necessary to get fairly good olive oil. There are several brands I choose from at the supermarket, which seems to expand its selection every year. I always buy extra virgin oil, either Berio, Carapelli or Bertolli (my mother's brand). These are good oils and are not overly expensive. Once a year, I treat myself to a wonderful imported olive oil from Peggy's Silver Spoon at the West Shore Farmer's Market. It comes in an ornate bottle and is very green and cloudy. It comes from the first olive pressing and requires slow rotation between the hands to disperse the sediment from the olives before using it. It has a peppery bite to it and is best used with salads or crusty Italian bread for dipping.

I guess I could talk about olive oil for a long time. But I wanted to share with you a quick recipe that requires little more than good oil and fine imported pasta. On a cold winter night, when you are tired from work

and perhaps don't have much left in the refrigerator to cook, remember this quick dish and forget the fast food, dried-out pizza and frozen dinners.

Better than Fast Food Pasta

- Boil a pound of pasta in rapidly boiling water. This dish works best with spaghetti or linguine. Drain the pasta and keep it warm.

- In a large skillet, gently heat a cup of olive oil and several cloves of chopped fresh garlic. Don't let the garlic brown or burn. Remove from the heat when the garlic becomes fragrant.

- Toss the cooked pasta with the garlic oil until well combined. Chefs often do this step right in the skillet, tossing the pasta with tongs until it glistens.

- You have two choices from here: add freshly ground black pepper (lots of it) or dried breadcrumbs, adjusting the amount to your liking. Or try using both.

That is all there is to it. Some Italians refer to this dish as "Midnight Pasta," something to be whipped up late at night after a night of reveling. Well, at my age, there's not a

great deal of reveling going on. But this is a great quick dinner. Remember: This dish will shine only with very good semolina pasta and high quality oil. These few basic ingredients are the stars. Serve with some steamed broccoli or asparagus, and you will have a great dinner in 30 minutes.

I hope you enjoy it. And save the butter for your toast.



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

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Say Cheese!



Manager Derek Delaney and owner Randy Straub are ready to take your order as Muncheeze opened last month at N. 2nd and Locust streets in downtown Harrisburg. The eatery specializes in all-things grilled cheese, as well as fresh-cut fries. Grilled cheese sandwiches can be had with a variety of cheeses, breads and fillings, plus daily specials. Muncheeze is open Monday to Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 a.m. 717-233-1344 or www.pamuncheeze.com.

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From Artists to Owners

Well-known painters team at new gallery.

Peter Durantine



Creating art space: Artists Mary Beth Brath, left and Brownyn Jean Hughes have opened a gallery, Brath & Hughes, in a well-preserved 19th century bank building.

Brath & Hughes Fine Art, the new art gallery that opened in downtown Mechanicsburg last fall, has a name that is simple, yet distinguished.

"We kept playing around with these cutesy type names and decided we just wanted it to be professional," said Mary Beth Brath, the co-owner.

Brath and business partner Brownyn Jean Hughes are artists in their own right. Two years ago, Brath started the Daily Painters of Pennsylvania, which has grown to a group of more than 40 professional artists from across the state who show their works annually in the state Capitol.

After the Daily Painters exhibit this coming June in the Capitol's East Wing Rotunda, their works will show for the month of July at Brath & Hughes.

For both women, this is their first business venture. They had been selling out of another gallery in town for a couple of years, but decided to go out on their own.

Fitting to their name, Brath & Hughes

occupies a distinguished, late 19th-century space, the 1,500-square-foot first floor of the Mechanicsburg Bank Building that has sat vacant at 41 W. Main St. for four years. The spacious lobby has tall windows that allow plenty of light.

"It's really a perfect space for an art gallery," Brath said. "It has a character all its own."

The building's interior appears pretty much unchanged, with its original white marble wainscoting and floor, black marble teller counters, varnished woodwork and walk-in vault.

The vault is reserved for special exhibits, such as the current "Tears of the World," a series of abstract paintings by Hughes—ranging from \$40 to \$600—of which 100 percent of the proceeds will go to the Red Cross.

Brath & Hughes also carry artwork by local, regional and nationally known artists such as Patricia Griffin and Linda Benton McCloskey. A list of their artists is on their blog site www.brathandhughesfineart.blogspot.com.

The gallery also sells hand-made jewelry and offers services that include select corporate art installations, social media workshops and fine art event consulting and planning.

While Brath and Hughes are serious-minded artists, they enjoy a sense of humor. Added to the name of their gallery is this phrase: "Galerie de la Muse."

"Our husbands think of us as muses," Brath said. "So we put that little catch phrase there."

Brath & Hughes Fine Art LLC, 41 W. Main St., Mechanicsburg; Open Tuesday to Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 717-691-1333 or visit the gallery on Facebook.



Valuables: Brath and Hughes make creative use of the historic bank building that houses their gallery, including showing exhibits inside the vault.

New Leadership for Friends of Jazz



The Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz last month appointed Steve Rudolph and Andrea Minick Rudolph as its new co-executive directors.

Andrea has been involved in the arts for many years as a poet, artist, dancer, choreographer and dance teacher. She was an original member of Luigi's Jazz Dance Company in New York and studied with Alvin Ailey and Rhett Dennis there as well.

Steve, a jazz pianist, composer, arranger and educator, has lived in Harrisburg for more than 30 years. He performs six days a week at the Hilton Harrisburg and is one of the original founders of the Central PA Friends of Jazz.

HoPo Wants Artists

The HodgePodgery seeks artists to join its local functional art and craft collective at its new space at 1320 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg.

As a collective space, artists will contribute \$50 per month plus 10 percent of sales toward operating costs, marketing and growth. They will also be required to contribute five hours of time per month.

Interested artists should contact dawn@thehodgepodgery.com.

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Musicianship Takes the Stage

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Caitlin Scribner

Keller Williams

When: Jan. 13, 9 p.m.
Location: The Abbey Bar at
Appalachian Brewing Company
Cover/Tickets: \$20
Genre: Indie Rock



Keller Williams might be considered an independent or folk musician, but, after listening to his music and learning

more about his style, it is clear that he is much more than just that. He is an incredibly diverse musician, songwriter and music-lover. He often defines himself as "self-indulgent," because he enjoys playing and writing music that makes him happy or sampling music that he can make his own. Others, such as myself, might add a phrase like "folk-scatter" to his resume. Williams uses his voice and guitar to create a "scat-like" sound in a way that almost resembles a banjo, hence the "folk" reference. This makes his jam interludes interesting and different and makes him unique to those musically similar to him. If you want to learn more about Keller Williams, look him up on iTunes or check out his "Theft" album, a tongue-and-cheek reference to a cover album.

<http://greenbeltevents.com>

<http://kellerwilliams.net>

Dave Mason

When: Jan. 20, 8 p.m.
Location: The Sunoco Performing
Theater in the Whitaker Center
Cover/Tickets: \$32-\$38
Genre: Classic Rock



Dave Mason, most recognized for the single "Feelin' Alright" recorded with his former band Traffic in 1968,

has worked with famed musicians such as Jimi Hendrix, Michael Jackson, The Rolling Stones and Fleetwood Mac over this long career lasting more than 40 years. Listening to his music is as reminiscent of the '70s classic rock style today as it was all those years ago. There is something to be said for those musicians who stay true to themselves and their music by not changing as the times do. Although his solo career is not as notable as his collaborative projects, Mason's music remains strong and genuine, and he continues to maintain his talent as both a musician and as a performer. To learn more about Dave Mason, check out his sites or look him up on iTunes. Also, listen to his "We Just Disagree" album, which went to number 12 on the charts in the United States in 1977.

www.whitakercenter.org

<http://davemasonmusic.com>

Our Cover



Many in Harrisburg may know Jonathan Frazier primarily as a talented musician, as he often plays at events throughout the area. However, he's also a prolific painter, capturing scenes of the outdoors, where he spends much of his free time. This work, "Sunset View From Gallery@Second," is a bit different, as it shows an urban scene—the corner of N. 2nd and North streets in Harrisburg during a snowstorm. It's shown from the perspective of the doorway of Gallery@Second, which, coincidentally, is where Frazier's works are featured through Jan. 21. For more information, visit www.jonathanfrazier.com.

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FREE INITIAL SPINAL SCREENING

PLEASE NOTE!

Enjoy your post Holiday time in January. Perhaps even recover from a pre Holiday spending spike. In January the gallery will be restoring its exhibit space back to its original setting. We want to get our feet back down on the floor for the new year. We **will not** have a guest artist or a 3rd Friday reception in January. The gallery is looking forward to a great 2012 year and hope you will be a part of it.

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717-385-3315; www.3rdstreetstudio.org

Please contact the gallery.

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

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

"Alternative Energy Vehicles," a history of automobile propulsion beyond the internal combustion engine, Mar. 2–June 3.

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

"Invitational Exhibit," featuring works by Jeffrey Bye, Linda Benton McCloskey, D. B. Stovall and Harold D. Zabady, through Jan. 5.

"Figuratively Speaking," winter membership exhibition, Jan. 13–Feb. 16; reception, Jan. 13, 5–8 p.m.

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse

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

Oil paintings by Mary Kay Fager, through January.

Gallery@Second

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

The art of Roger Shipley and Jonathan Frazier, through Jan. 21.

Works by Thom Kulp and John Whitney, Jan. 26–Mar. 3; reception, Jan. 27, 6–9 p.m.

Gallery at Walnut Place

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

Gallery open, but no featured artist.

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Works by various local and regional artists.

Mangia Qui

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

Art of Elide Hower, through January.

The Mantis Collective

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

The art of Angela Cibos Reisinger, Lara Colestock and Kristin Livelsberger, through Jan. 15.

Midtown Scholar/Yellow Wall Gallery

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

"Wonders of the Invisible World," a print-making installation by Henry Gepfer, through Jan. 15.

"Masked Intentions," mixed media and portraits by Nathan Van Patter, Jan. 17–Feb. 12; reception: Jan. 20, 6–10 p.m.

National Civil War Museum

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

"1862," an exhibit highlighting the second year of the Civil War, Jan. 19–Dec. 31.

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

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

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

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

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

The annual faculty show, Jan. 9–Feb. 1; reception, Jan. 19, 5:30–7 p.m.

The Soup Spot

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

Photography and paintings by Harrisburg-area artists.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

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

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

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

The Susquehanna Art Museum

717-233-8668; www.sqart.org

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

Whitaker Center/The Curved Wall

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

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

The Stage Door

Broadway Classics Productions

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

No shows scheduled for January.

Harrisburg Comedy Zone

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

J. Jay Boyd, Jan. 6–7; Brian Green, Jan. 13–14; Joel Lindley, Jan. 20–21; Ward Anderson, Jan. 27–28

Harrisburg Shakespeare Company

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

"Bunny Bunny: Gilda Radner: A Sort of Love Story," Jan. 20–Feb. 5

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

"1-2-3 Imagine! with Elmo and Friends," Jan. 13–15

Jim Gaffigan, Jan. 28

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Soul Comedy Café, Jan. 8

Pretty Little Things Peep Show w/GoGo Amy, Jan. 27–28

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Third Space Dance Co., Jan. 22

Open Stage of Harrisburg

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

Sticky Buns Burlesque & Glitterama! present "Gourmet Risque," Jan. 14

Oyster Mill Playhouse

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

"Angel Street," Jan. 27–Feb. 12

Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut
3rd Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg
717-238-4111; www.gamutplays.org

"Rumpelstiltskin," Jan. 18–Feb. 4

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

"Macbeth," Jan. 24

"Angelina Ballerina: The Musical," Jan. 28

Theatre Harrisburg

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

No shows scheduled for January.

Whitaker Center

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

No performing arts shows for January.

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Live Music around Harrisburg

Appalachian Brewing Co./Abbey Bar

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

Jan. 7: DrFameus (Allen of the Disco Biscuits)
Jan. 13: Keller Williams
Please visit website for additional shows.
Every Wednesday, Open Mic

Broad Street Market/Stone Building

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

Jan. 7: Hemlock Hollow
Jan. 14: Jonathan Frazier
Jan. 21: Chris Gassaway
Jan. 28: Voxology

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

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

Jan. 4, 11: Chelsea Caroline
Jan. 5: Wade Preston
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27: Ted Ansel
Jan. 7, 14, 28: Noel Gevers
Jan. 12, 26: Giovanni Traino
Jan. 18: Mark Johnson
Jan. 19: Anthony Haubert
Jan. 21: Roy Lefever
Jan. 25: Jett Prescott

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market Street, Camp Hill
www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Jan. 7: The North Side
Jan. 13: Buc Hill Aces
Jan. 14: Sweet Life
Jan. 21: Seasons
Jan. 22: Kevin Kline
Jan. 27: Antonio Andrade

Giant Center

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

Jan. 14: Rascal Flatts

Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra

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

Jan. 14-15: "Enchanting Escape"
Jan. 28-29: "Broadway's Back"

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Jan. 6: Aortic Valve presents Harrisburg's
Biggest Dance Party
Jan. 7: Colebrook Road
Please visit website for additional shows.
Every Wednesday, Open Mic

Hershey Theatre

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

Jan. 26: Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles

Hollywood Casino at Penn National

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

Jan. 1: Dueling Pianos
Jan. 6: Full Tilt
Jan. 7: The Screamin Daisies
Jan. 13: The Party Bombs
Jan. 14: Separate Ways & The Luv Gods
Jan. 20: Gas Station Disco
Jan. 21: Smooth Like Clyde
Jan. 27: Uptown Band
Jan. 28: Pop Rox

Mangia Qui/Suba

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

Jan. 6: Ryan Wickersham
Jan. 7: Voxology
Jan. 13: Matt Otis
Jan. 14: Buckey's Brother
Jan. 20: Kyle Morgan & The Backroad
Jan. 21: Hot Club du Jour
Jan. 27: Jackson Monsour
Jan. 28: Batida

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Jan. 6: Joy Ike & Jeff Waters
Jan. 13: Uwue
Jan. 14: Hemlock Hollow & Dovetail
Jan. 20: Jayme Salviati & Ben Rothermel
Jan. 27: The Vulcans w/Sarah Beth & Dani F.

MoMo's BBQ & Grille

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

Jan. 6: Bushmasters Band
Jan. 7: Good News Café
Jan. 13: Buskers Band
Jan. 20: Forrest Brown Band
Jan. 27: Bob Noble & Blue Vodoo

Stock's on 2nd

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

Jan. 7: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher
Jan. 14: Don Johnson Project Band
Jan. 21: Funktion
Jan. 28: Soul Solution

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (check website for location)

Jan. 8: January Jam Session
Jan. 8: Irish music w/Pride of New York
Jan. 21: Winter Coffee House

Whitaker Center

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

Jan. 20: Dave Mason
Jan. 21: Michael Brown
Jan. 22: Steve Earle
Jan. 26: Robert Earl Keen
Jan. 28: Stephane Wrembel

At the Cinema

Moviate Film Co-Op

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

Jan. 5: "Nanook of the North," 8 p.m.
Jan. 8: "Open Soundings," 1 p.m.
Jan. 13: "Kansas City Bomber," benefits
H.A.R.D. (Harrisburg Area Roller Derby), 8 p.m.
Jan. 19: "UFO: Target Earth" (1974), 8 p.m.
Jan. 26: "The Outer Space Connection" (1975),
stars Rod Serling, 16mm, 8 p.m.

Read, Make, Learn

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

Jan. 7: Book-signing for Caseen Gaines' "Inside
Peewee's Playhouse," 2 p.m.

Jan. 9, 23: Occupy HBG teach-in, 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 14: Writing workshop w/Danielle Ackley
McPhail, 1 p.m.

Jan. 14: Book-signing for Carl Alves' "Two for
Eternity," 2 p.m.

Jan. 15: Creative nonfiction & literary fiction
writing workshop, 2 p.m.

Jan. 17: Midtown Poets, 7 p.m.

Jan. 21: Book-signing for author Don Sarvey,
2 p.m.

Jan. 28: Book-signing for Ben & Micah Joy
Williams' "The Basics in 21 Days," 2 p.m.

Jan. 31: Art Kaleidoscope meeting, 6 p.m.

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (see website for location)

Jan. 14: Hungarian/Croatian dancing with
Richard Balazs, Rick Vukmanic & Gypsy Stringz

Peeping



Photo: Steve Prue, Team Rockstar Images

The wacky burlesque/sideshow troupe, Pretty Little Things Peep Show, returns to HMAC Stage on Herr on Jan. 27 and 28.

From John Traynor and Gary Bartlett:

We wish everyone a Happy New Year and thank all those who have supported Stage on Herr and Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center the past year.

We look forward to another stellar year and the completion of HMAC in 2012.

For Stage on Herr's January line up, visit www.harrisburgarts.com, but be sure to catch Pretty Little Things Peep Show featuring GoGo Amy on January 27 & 28.

Every Week:
Monday Nights: Karaoke hosted by Giovanni Traino
Tuesday Nights: Board Game Night!!!
Wednesday Nights: Open Mic Night with Mike Banks – Sign up online.

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

HMAC
stage on herr

harrisburg midtown arts center
268 Herr Street
www.harrisburgarts.com



Top 10 Time

Kevyn runs down his annual best films list.

Kevyn Knox

Another year ended and a new one just begun. That means it's time for this film critic's most anticipated annual obligation—the top 10 list. So without further ado, I give you my top 10 for 2011.



1. **The Tree of Life.** Easily one of the best films of the past 20 years, and one of the most visually stunning films of all-time, this latest effort from the great Terrence Malick is nothing short of a masterpiece. Sadly, though, it is also one of the most misunderstood films of this past year, and it is quite sad

indeed that so many could not fall in love with this gorgeous, brilliant work of cinematic art.



2. **Hugo.** This is the first time I have ever loved a 3D movie, let alone called it one of the best of the year. Martin Scorsese's ode to the birth of cinema is a delicious-looking

film for audiences of all ages, as well as a loving tribute to all those cinephiles out there and a plea for film preservation, all rolled into a rollicking, 3-dimensional holiday hit.

3. **Melancholia.** Danish auteur Lars von Trier is certainly an acquired taste, and this film, though probably the director's most accessible work to date, is certainly not for all audiences. Those who know and love von Trier, though, will not be disappointed by this work of stunning beauty and harrowing tragedy. The end of the world has never looked so artistic.

4. **Super 8.** An ode to the kind of films put out by Steven Spielberg in the 1970s and early '80s, J.J. Abrams' retro monster movie and vivid cinematic wonder is an adventure tale that can be adored by children of today, as well as those former children of yesterday.

5. **Drive.** Ryan Gosling stars as a stunt man who works as a driver-for-hire for any criminal who may need his services. Aloof and hardened, Gosling's unnamed anti-hero is the subtly bravura performance at the center of one of the finest genre pieces to come down the pike in a long, long time.

6. **Moneyball.** A baseball movie for those nerds, myself being one of them, who love the statistical side of the game, as well as the romantic. Telling the story of how the game was changed through the use of sabermetrics, this film is punctuated with the most charming of performances by Brad Pitt.

7. **Midnight in Paris.** Woody Allen has created a magical world of make-believe that also can be seen as a homage and/or wish-fulfillment toward all those literary influences that have shaped the director and his films oh so much over the past 50-some years.

8. **Kaboom.** With a blend of sex romp (both gay and straight), thriller and, ultimately, sci-fi, Araki's new film is an exciting tale of the sexual goings-on of a group of beautiful SoCal college students who become involved in a mysterious cult-like atmosphere of fear and impending danger.

9. **Meek's Cutoff.** Playing with a sense of deliberate pacing that has come to represent the director's auteurial signature, Reichardt's subtly remarkable film has something that

grabs hold of the viewer tightly and refuses to let go well after the movie has ended.

10. **Source Code.** Taking a riff from Chris Marker's *La Jetee* (and even more from that film's Terry Gilliam-directed quasi-remake "12 Monkeys"), Duncan Jones fashions an intense story of a man who must keep leaping into the past in order to save the future.



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

Civil War Museum to Open "1862"

The National Civil War Museum will open "1862," the second exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, on Jan. 19.

The exhibit will discuss the defining events of that year including the rise of Robert E. Lee, the strained relationship of President Lincoln and Gen. McClellan, and costly battles such as Shiloh, Antietam and Fredericksburg.

A wine and cheese reception to preview "1862" is 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Jan. 18. Civil War Times editor Dana Shoaf will lecture on how critical 1862 had been to the war.

Admission is \$10 per person, complimentary for museum members. Reservations required. Contact Lynn Smolizer, 717-260-1861 x1108 or lsmolizer@nationalcivilwarmuseum.org by Jan. 16.

In Memory

Local historic preservation lost a devoted son on Dec. 8 when Warren W. Wirebach died at age 95 at Middletown Manor. Until retiring in 2005, Wirebach had been librarian at the Dauphin County Historical Society for 21 years. He also, as co-founder, served 36 years as president of the Weyerbacher Family Reunion of Bucks County.

<p>Keller Williams</p> <p>JANUARY 13</p>	<p>STEVE EARLE</p> <p>JANUARY 22 wxpn</p>
<p>Marco Benevento Trio</p> <p>FEBRUARY 26</p>	<p>Robert Earl Keen</p> <p>JANUARY 26 wxpn</p>
<p>THE ABBEY BAR AT ABC</p> <p>50 N. CAMERON ST. HARRISBURG</p>	<p>Whitaker CENTER For Science and the Arts</p> <p>Sunoco Performance Theater</p> <p>222 MARKET ST. HARRISBURG</p>

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Winterizing Fluffy

Like your car, your pet needs seasonal attention.

Laura Maynard

Winter is here, and we all know it's time to stock up on eggs, bread and milk, right?

But as the temperature falls, we cannot forget about our four-legged friends. Pets need extra care and attention in winter time despite the fact that they have a built-in fur coat. The following is a guideline for how to combat winter weather and keep your furry companion safe and happy.

- **Prior Planning** (food, supplies and medications): Before the first flake falls, it is important to plan for snow days. Make sure you have at least one week's worth of food and supplies for your pet in case you are unable to leave the house. Is your pet on medication or a special diet? It is imperative that you have enough on hand so that your pet's health doesn't suffer because of some winter weather. Likewise, if you are traveling by car with your dog, make sure you have packed extra food, water, blankets and anything else your dog needs in case you experience travel delays. Always keep a copy of your dog's current vaccination records (ie, rabies, distemper and bordetella) with you in case you have to board your pup unexpectedly.

- **Fur and Skin Care:** As the days get shorter and the temperature drops, a dog tends to shed its light summer undercoat and, in its place, grows the heavier winter undercoat. This thicker undercoat helps trap warm air generated by the body close to the skin and keeps the dog warm. So, what does this mean for you as the pet owner? More brushing!

Tangles and mats are more likely to occur with the thicker undercoat, so it requires more time on your part to brush your dog more often. Can you still have your dog trimmed during winter months? Absolutely! Indoor dogs don't require the extra undercoat as much as an outdoor pet does, but that doesn't mean it is OK to have them completely shaved.

For smaller dogs or dogs with short coats, a sweater or coat can help give that extra insulation as long as he or she will let you put one on! However, if you have a longer-coated

dog and he/she does wear a coat, just keep an eye on matting in the underarm area. Regular combing will help avoid mats.

Also, colder weather means dry, itchy skin. So, if you bathe your dog, make sure you use a moisturizing shampoo and conditioner. If you have your dog groomed regularly by a professional, it is a good idea to make sure your dog has received the bordetella vaccination to help prevent the fatal strain of canine cough (aka, kennel cough). If you board your dog, this vaccine is a must, but most people don't think about it in terms of grooming. However, it makes perfect sense. Your dog will be in contact with several dogs in a small, confined space. This nasty virus is airborne so better to be safe than sorry.

- **Paw Care:** Freezing temperatures mean icy conditions. Salt on the roadways and sidewalks is corrosive, so imagine what that means for your dog's paws.

If your budget allows, I suggest investing in pet-friendly de-icers for your driveways and sidewalks. These products are non-toxic, biodegradable and can be purchased at local pet stores. However, if your dog does come in contact with standard de-icers, make sure your dog either wears boots or you do a thorough job of wiping its paws every time you come in from a walk. Organic coconut oil is another fantastic product for paw care. Rub it directly on your dog's paws. It helps lock in moisture and creates a natural barrier against the elements.

Pet care in the winter months is all about planning for the unexpected. Man's best friend depends on us for everything—so be prepared. Thinking ahead will ensure that tails will be wagging come spring!



Laura Maynard of Mechanicsburg has worked in the pet care industry and is a pet management consultant with Pet Solutions/Invisible Fence. Pictured with Laura is Honey, her 3-year-old rescue pit bull.

HHA Receives Grant for Building Rehab

The Historic Harrisburg Association last month was awarded \$10,000 from the Josiah W. and Bessie H. Kline Foundation for the renovation of the Historic Harrisburg Resource Center.

Historic Harrisburg continues to raise money for the renovation of the building. To date, the organization has raised more than \$80,000 in pledges and contributions. In addition to money raised, Historic Harrisburg obtained 50 gallons of donated paint from Sherwin Williams.

For more information on the restoration project, visit www.HistoricHarrisburg.com.

Habitat Recipient of Two Donations

Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area received two considerable corporate donations last month.

The local branch of Erie Insurance made a donation of \$1,000 to Habitat's operating funds. Erie Insurance has been a longstanding supporter of Habitat for Humanity.

Separately, Harrisburg-based HomeRite Windows and Doors contributed \$500 to the local Habitat affiliate. That money will be used, in part, for "critical repairs" to homes in Uptown Harrisburg, said Habitat Executive Director Eve Wachhaus.

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At the Museum

One Big Dino

State Museum houses bones of Alamosaurus.

T.W. Burger

Robert Sullivan spends a lot of his time laboring away in the depths of the State Museum of Pennsylvania, researching and studying bits of stone that were once living creatures, from tiny sea creatures to the remains of shaggy mammoths.

Now and then, some of the bits are not so little, and neither are the animals they once belonged to.

Enter *Alamosaurus sanjuanensis*, a member of a cluster of species of long-necked plant eaters that wandered what is now New Mexico and Mexico 69 million years ago.

Sullivan was part of a research team that included folks from the Pennsylvania State Museum and Montana State University's Museum of the Rockies that found and recovered the remains, which had to be carried more than a mile by backpack and stretcher in 100-degree heat.

The three largest fossil bones Sullivan hauled back to Harrisburg are not the whole package.

"We have much more material, though it's not all from the same individual," he said. "We've probably got the largest collection of *Alamosaurus* fossils anywhere."

Alamosaurus was first described in 1922 in the Naashoibito fossil beds in New Mexico. According to published reports, more fossilized bones from the plant-eater have been found in Utah, Texas and Mexico.

The size of the two vertebrae and partial femur indicated that this *Alamosaurus* was big. How big? "BIG," Sullivan said.

Without more complete skeletons, he said he couldn't speculate on the exact length and weight of the creature he and other scientists on the team hauled out of the New Mexican desert. That is because, while the general dimensions found in dinosaurs of this "model" are known generally, there are enough variations within the species that any guess about size and weight would be just that—a guess.

According to a published report from the University of Montana, a



Big-boned: Paleontologist Robert Sullivan stands next to the fossilized femur, or thighbone, of an *Alamosaurus*. Photo: T.W. Burger.

South American specimen measured around 60 feet long and weighed about 30 tons. But further studies by MSU researcher Dr. Holly Woodward in 2009 revealed that the South American specimen was still growing.

"The enormity of the new bones puts *Alamosaurus* in the same size league as other giant sauropods from South America, including *Argentinosaurus*, which weighed about 70 tons, and is widely considered to be the biggest dinosaur of all," according to an MSU statement.

One of the reasons that detailed knowledge about the biology of the *Alamosaurus* is lacking is that nobody has ever found a skull for one of them. Skulls provide a lot of information about the kind of food an animal ate during its lifetime.

The kind of conditions that cause an animal's bone tissue to be replaced by minerals—the process of fossilization—is rare enough, said Sullivan. Finding all of a creature's bones together is even more so. Nobody has ever found a full skeleton of an *Alamosaurus*.

So, people like Sullivan keep going out into some of the world's least hospitable places, looking for just one more piece of a puzzle that is millions of years old.

"We're looking for more and more material," he said.

For all that, the *Alamosaurus* will likely never be found standing on display at the museum in Harrisburg. For one thing, the size would be a major problem. For another, well, maybe if they found a head

A Canopy for the City

Thanks to Rotary, Harrisburg is 100 trees greener.

Ruth Hoover Seitz



Mission accomplished: Rotary Club volunteers plant the 100th tree in Riverfront Park in Shipoke in November.

To celebrate its 100th birthday, the Rotary Club of Harrisburg recently finished a year-long project of planting 100 trees along the city's riverfront, a more lasting commemoration than lighting candles.

For guidance on which species to plant and where, Rotary turned to The Harrisburg Tree Restoration Task Force, which had been assessing the current tree stock and clearing diseased and rotting trees that had been planted at the end of the City Beautiful movement about 70 years ago.

When destructive weather downed hundreds of trees during several storms last year, the city's need for replacement trees soared. So, the Rotary's tree-planting parties that took place in May and November were welcomed events. Throughout 2011, their centennial year, Rotarians donated funds—\$250 per tree—to realize the project.

"Rotary is all about service," said Bob Saline, Rotary Club of Harrisburg's president, who is also CEO of PRWorks, Inc. "All 29 of our committees deal with service."

With more than 185 members, the club meets Mondays at noon at the Harrisburg Hilton. Members are entrepreneurs as well as corporate, government and non-profit employees.

For the Centennial Trees project, the Club partnered with the City of Harrisburg and local business people, bringing together collaborative expertise. Task Force Chair Josh First said that ideal tree

stock would offer "spring blossoms, summer shade and fall beauty. We worked to get two of those qualities in most of our choices." There were other considerations. "We aimed for the right canopy at the right place."

Mike Lehman, owner of Garden Design and Sculpture, helped to select "varieties for hardiness, disease resistance and

growth habit."

Cone-shaped conifers would block river views. Scarlet Red Oaks and Bur Oaks were planted in Uptown, where there was space for a large canopy. In Shipoke, Red Sunset Maple, Green Mountain Sugar Maple and Snowgoose Flowering Cherry trees replaced the Norway maples so susceptible to rot.

"All of these species are familiar to central Pennsylvania," Lehman said.

Each sapling was 10- to 15-feet tall with root balls that needed a 24- to 30-inch hole. Each tree's placement had to be cleared. Rotary flagged a location and then UGI tagged its approval. Using commercial equipment, the long process finally concluded with a planted tree rooting into the earth. Yes, all 100 of them.

Rotary Club of Harrisburg was the 23rd such club to be established. The first was formed in Chicago in 1905 by Paul P. Harris, an attorney who wanted to embody in a professional club the friendly spirit of the small towns of his youth. "Rotary" came about because early meetings rotated among members' offices.

The idea of members pooling their resources to benefit the community spread. By 1921, clubs had started on six continents—and members were contributing towards solving worldwide problems. At present, the focus is on eradicating polio. That effort parallels local service projects. For Harrisburg Rotary's 100th birthday, it was planting trees, a brain-child of Dr. John Judson, former club president.

"The core mission of Rotary is supporting the community," said Ernie Hoch, director

of the city's Department of Public Works. "Government works best when people get involved."

The new trees planted along the riverfront will add to this community's beauty for most of the next 100 years.

For more, visit www.hbgrotary.org.

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Sleeping in Safety

Caution should reduce incidence of SIDS.

Dr. Deepa Sekhar

Seeing newborns in the office is one of the best parts of my job.

Besides admiring a tiny, adorable patient, it is a great joy to talk to new parents and to guide and reassure them. One of the key topics we cover is putting babies to sleep. In 1992, the American Academy of Pediatrics made the recommendation that infants be placed to sleep on their backs to reduce the incidence of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). I have had more than a few grandmothers chime in, "but the baby will sleep better on her stomach." In fact, they are correct, and this may be part of the problem.

SIDS is defined as the sudden death of an infant under 1 year old, which remains unexplained despite a thorough investigation. SIDS reaches its peak during 2 to 4 months of life

and then gradually declines. Though numerous SIDS risk factors have been identified, the cause remains unclear.

In the United States, placing infants to sleep on their backs has proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce SIDS risk. Since the national "back to sleep" campaign began here in the mid-1990s, the SIDS rate has dropped by more than 50 percent. One theory is that babies placed on their stomachs may be less likely to arouse as a protective mechanism when in danger—meaning grandma is correct, they do sleep better, but for certain babies this may be dangerous.

Another theory is that babies sleeping on their stomachs may get less oxygen and get rid of less carbon dioxide when a small pocket

of bedding pulls up around the nose and the baby "re-breathes" the air in this pocket. Side sleeping has been studied and is still not as safe as sleeping on the back. Babies sleeping on their backs are not at increased risk of choking when spitting up.

Other risk factors for SIDS include soft sleep surfaces, loose bedding, family members smoking, overheating and co-bedding (sleeping with your baby). In fact, a baby sleeping on a couch, a waterbed or any other "non-standard" sleeping surface—with or without an adult—is not safe. The safest place for a baby to sleep is on a crib mattress in a modern crib in good repair.

Premature and low birth weight infants are at increased risk for SIDS. Despite these findings, there is no evidence to suggest that the use of home monitors or baby alarms is protective against SIDS. However, there is data to suggest that breastfeeding your infant and pacifier use at bedtime may have some protective effect against SIDS.

What I recommend to my patients' parents is that the baby be placed to sleep in a standard crib or bassinet. Especially for breastfeeding mothers, the use of a bassinet, which can be placed close to the bed to facilitate breastfeeding at night, may be preferred. The baby should be placed on her back to sleep. The mattress should be firm and fit snugly against the edges of the crib or bassinet. The infant may be placed in sleep clothing (sleep sack) without additional covering.

Alternatively, the baby may be placed with her feet against the foot of the crib/bassinet with a non-fluffy blanket tucked around the baby and the mattress reaching only the level of the infant's chest. This reduces the chance that bedding will cover the baby's face. No additional blankets or stuffed toys should be placed into the crib. Sleep positioners are not well studied and cannot be recommended.

I encourage tummy time when the infant is awake and supervised to help develop upper arm/body strength and prevent flattening of the back of the head. Though tummy

time can technically be started in the first few days of life, parents are often overwhelmed enough focusing on the basics of infant care, so I usually suggest starting tummy time once they have settled into more of a routine with the new baby.

There is so much pressure to get things "right" as a new parent. Yet, I know, as they walk out of the office, that most of my nervous, over-tired parents are loving, skilled mothers and fathers who prove their parenting skills every day. Putting baby "back to sleep" is a simple, yet important safety measure that quickly becomes part of the routine parents eventually develop with their new arrival.

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

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New Management

PinnacleHealth System folded its home care service into VNA Community Care Services, an agency jointly owned by Lancaster General Health and Reading Hospital.

PinnacleHealth Home Care will continue to use its name, but its management will now be led by the VNA, a non-profit, Medicare-certified home healthcare agency.

Changes at KeyMed

KeyMed Partners, a medical billing and accounts receivable management services company in Camp Hill, recently named Tom Callahan as director of practice management and Leslie Fine as physician special projects manager. Cathy Archuleta was promoted to chief compliance officer and EMR integration manager.

New Firm for Archer

Mette, Evans & Woodside recently announced that Thomas A. Archer has joined the Harrisburg law firm as a shareholder. Archer will focus on the litigation, business law and employment practice areas. Prior to joining the firm, Archer was a principal of Archer & Archer.

Unsticking Yourself

Get a start with National Go Red for Women Day.

Joe Green

I don't know how old you are, but I do know this. The past year went by faster than any other in your life, and the next year will go by even faster. Your life is accelerating. There's no way to slow it down.

And as you age, you evolve. You get smarter and more efficient. It's called "wisdom." But is the evolution of your health and fitness accelerating too? Or is it stagnant? Stuck!

If you're like most, the more you try to get into better shape, the more discouraged you become, which makes it all the HARDER to get motivated, to improve, to evolve.

You're just kind of spinning your wheels. And every attempt in the long run ends up repeating the same drudgery and worry over your most precious possession, your health.

I'll say it again: There are no quick fixes and nor should we be looking for any. A real lifestyle change is for life not just for the here and now. It's a new way of living the rest of your life.

So what's it take, what is the key to real, long-lasting results that do more than just address what we see in the mirror? How do we get healthy once and for all? It takes the right approach. It takes a custom-designed program that motivates, educates and empowers you. It's all about getting healthy from the inside out and making the healthy changes that you know deep down inside need to be made. Both exercise and nutrition are emotional experiences.

This year we are sharing our success in getting women healthy and fit by donating our expert coaching and customized approach to fitness and nutrition to benefit women in the greater Harrisburg area as we are gear up for the "Go Red For Women Burn 60 Fitness Charity Challenge."

During this 60-day event, participants will gain the

knowledge, confidence, coaching and support necessary to have success at reaching their health and fitness goals once and for all. It all begins on Feb. 3. Participants will get instant access to our fitness classes, professional personal training and healthy supportive eating programs, all the while reducing their risk of prematurely dying from heart disease. What a great way to make 2012 your best year ever!

The goal is to raise awareness and money to help fight against the number one killer of women, heart disease. Women of all ages and

backgrounds are welcome. For details on how you can join or to become a sponsor, call me at 717-579-8257. To make it fun, the challenge will run for 60 days and feature prizes and giveaways from local area sponsors.

Remember: National Go Red for Women Day starts on Feb. 3. All proceeds go directly to the American Heart Association.



Joe Green is a fitness instructor and owner of Fit For You, 3301 Schoolhouse Lane, Harrisburg; 717-579-8257 or visit www.phyt4u.com.

Weight Loss Program

Vowing to lose weight in the new year?

Absolute Wellness, a studio at 1519 N. 3rd St. in Midtown Harrisburg, is offering free overviews of its 12-week fat burning programs.

The free previews will take place Jan. 3 and 17 at 9 a.m.; Jan. 4, 11 and 18 at 5:30 p.m.; and Jan. 5, 12 and 19 at 12:15 p.m.

To reserve a spot, email brenda@absolutewellness.com or call 717-525-7037.

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One More Thing ...

Time to Change the Channel

The moment is right to reform TV 20.

Brooks Mountcastle

At a time when Harrisburg is in a financial meltdown, can we really afford a community cable television station? I used to think not. Now, I think differently. Since the state is poised to sell any city asset that is not nailed down, the need for more illumination of the issues could not be greater. TV 20 has a major role to play by informing and educating residents about the next chapter of Harrisburg's financial saga. But, it needs to be reformed.

Supported by the Bureau of Economic Development, TV 20 was on schedule to receive \$545,000 in franchise license fees from Comcast of Southeastern PA in 2011. The franchise fee is in exchange for Comcast's use of the public rights-of-way and properties within the city's jurisdiction. Applied to the Harrisburg city's general budget, it covers annual compensation of \$94,000 for two TV 20 employees. As of November 2011, the station's annual generation from the sale of ads and programs amounted to \$7,775.

Even though the station has a "Wayne's World" quality, it could be so much more. It could be a platform for debate and discussion, and a source of relevant and newsworthy information. It could be a station

that serves Harrisburg residents and generates significant revenue. Now is the opportunity for TV 20 to emerge from the shadows and become a full-fledged community cable television station rather than a broadcast of a handful of recycled programs and self-promoting videos of state legislators made courtesy of the taxpayers.

If the city is going to divert much-needed funds from the franchise fees to support TV 20, Harrisburg residents should get their money's worth. And the next director should have more than the mayor in the video camera lens and be given the freedom to think boldly and beyond photo-op programming.

A model of what is possible in community television exists just south of Harrisburg. The White Rose Community Television Station in York covers nearly all of its expenses by encouraging corporations, county governments and individuals to donate, buy or underwrite programming. Part of the station's program diversity are call-in shows, which engage viewers with opposing political and religious views.

The next TV 20 director could consider the following recommendations to reform TV 20:

1. Develop a plan for enhanced revenue generation, including lowering ad fees to entice participation.
2. Create communication methods to quickly inform Harrisburg residents and others during emergencies, rather than expecting viewers to wait for the next press conference.
3. Require Comcast to provide live web streaming video of City Council meetings and archive the sessions.
4. Encourage City Council's participation in operation and programming decisions.
5. Create a citizen's advisory board.
6. Ensure that Comcast fulfills its new franchise agreement.

If Harrisburg truly wants to serve residents and create confidence in its leadership, now is the time to reform TV 20 and showcase what is truly meaningful and of value to the residents. If you support reforming TV 20, call 717-255-3060 or email kpetroski@cityofhbg.com.

Brooks Mountcastle is a concerned resident of Harrisburg with more than 20 years experience working on environmental issues and campaigns at the local, state and national level. The views expressed are his own.

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Letters

I really care about Harrisburg, as it is where I spent early years of my life growing up and later working. I love the city. I'm constantly checking out new restaurants and other small businesses in the area. I feel like it has so much potential, and it's where my fiancé and I have always envisioned buying a home and living in the future.

I was at Little Amps Coffee Roasters and picked up a copy of TheBurg, which I'm just learning of. It's a great paper. I read your article, "City Muddled" (Dec. 2011, p. 5), and it really resonated with me. I try to stay educated in political matters, but in the past it's been more of a national interest, and less local. I'm learning that local government matters are so important. I'll of course be a regular reader of TheBurg from this point on. I really appreciate what you're doing.

Kenneth Limppo Jr.
Duncannon

TheBurg welcomes reader letters. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, style and length.

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Little Amps Coffee Roasters • 1836 Green St • littleampscoffee.com • LIVE BAND or AMAZING ARTIST guaranteed. So please stop by 1836 Green St. for a flier during January to learn about what's happening at Little Amps for 3rd in The Burg. Free, 5-9p.



Gallery@Second • 608 N 2nd St • 233-2498 • galleryatsecond.com • Last chance to see the artwork of featured artists Roger Shipley and Jonathan Frazier. Plus visit "The Upstairs Gallery" featuring more than 250 pieces of artwork by local artists. 3rd in The Burg Special—10% discount on all purchases made during the event. Along with the great artwork, enjoy music and refreshments, 6-9p. Visit us on Facebook: [GalleryAtSecond](https://www.facebook.com/GalleryAtSecond).



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



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The State Museum of Pennsylvania • N. 3rd St between North and Forster • 787-4980 • statemuseumpa.org • Book-signing and reception in honor of Franklin L. Kury, author of the new book "Clean Politics, Clean Streams: A Legislative Autobiography and Reflections." Mr. Kury is a former Pennsylvania state legislator and deputy state attorney general. The event is free, open to the public and is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Heritage Society, 5-7p.

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