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Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

July 2010



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- 1st: Mike Banks w/Special Guests
- 2nd: Cracker w/Adam Taylor
- 3rd: MiZ w/Sarah Blacker
- 6th: Board Game Night
- 7th: Open Mic w/ Mike Banks
- 8th–11th: Reefer Madness—The Musical!
- 13th: Board Game Night & Geri X (free show!)
- 14th: Open Mic w/ Mike Banks
- 15th: Nora Jane Struthers
- 17th: Darcie Miner Band
- 19th: Chatham County Line w/Colebrook Road
- 20th: Board Game Night
- 21st: Open Mic w/ Mike Banks
- 22nd: John Jorgenson Quintet
- 23rd: Dan Smith CD Release Party
- 24th: Puffer Fish
- 25th: My Rural Radio featuring Jarrod Dickenson
- 26th: The Shake Up's
- 27th: Board Game Night
- 28th: Open Mic w/ Mike Banks
- 29th: Asylum Street Spankers
- 30th: Dimestore
- 31st: IndieBarn.com SummerFest 2010

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This month's cover:

The Statue of Liberty replica in Dauphin Narrows, Susquehanna River



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TheBurg

Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

General & Letters

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Harrisburg Authority Once Again in Flux

The Harrisburg Authority is again in a state of disarray after the state Supreme Court ruled that the mayor—not the City Council—has the right to appoint members.

After the ruling, sitting authority members lost their seats, and Mayor Linda Thompson nominated four new members, who still must be approved by the council.

Several council members expressed disappointment over Thompson's picks, which include law professor Harry L. Witte, civil rights activist Barton A. Fields, former member Cathy M. Hall and J. Marc Kurowski, the only nomination from the previous board. Long-time authority critic, William Cluck, was not re-nominated.

In April, the council appointed what was viewed as a reformist slate to the authority, which operates the city's waste and water utilities. The new members began an audit of past practices, focusing on a series of botched upgrades to the city incinerator and the resulting \$288 million debt load that has plunged Harrisburg into fiscal crisis.

In late May, though, the state Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the council lacked the right to appoint members to the authority.

That ruling was made in a case originally brought by former Mayor Stephen Reed in 2006, when the council stripped Reed of the ability to appoint authority members, giving that power to itself. The council acted after revelations that Reed used some authority funds in ways it deemed inappropriate.

Now, some council members are concerned that, absent their choices on the authority, they may never learn if rules were skirted to fund improvements to the incinerator.

—Lawrance Binda

City Controller Paints Dire Financial Picture

Harrisburg Controller Dan Miller offered a grim assessment of the city's finances while appearing last month before a City Council committee.

Miller told members of the Budget and Finance Committee that he expects Harrisburg to be \$7.3 million in the red by year-end.

"The point of this cash flow analysis was to see our obligations going forward," he said. "When we saw the seriousness of it, we felt we needed to share it with the council."

He made his assessment based upon current revenue and spending projections for the rest of the year. His projections do not include the \$68 million in incinerator debt that the city has guaranteed that comes due this year.

Miller blamed the dire forecast on several factors, including a very weak cash position going into the year, large debt payments from past spending and generous pensions and benefits for retired municipal workers.

The greatest budget hole, however, was because the city will not receive \$5.2 million in revenue in Water Fund service charges. That money was used to help balance the Water Fund budget.

"This situation is really alarming," said committee Chair Susan Brown Wilson.

Miller provided several courses of action that the city could take in the short term to stem the flow of red ink, such as cutting discretionary expenses, instituting a hiring freeze, searching for uncollected revenue and furloughing and laying off staff.

Both the administration and council have said they will consider ways to cut spending this year, including possible layoffs.

—Lawrance Binda

Indictment Secured in Capitol View Fiasco

The developer behind the failed Capitol View Commerce Center was indicted on 11 counts by a federal grand jury last month.

The indictment accuses David R. Dodd II of Mechanicsburg of fraud, theft and money laundering, including allegedly funneling \$1 million of federal funds intended for the project into a personal investment account.

Construction stopped on the project at N. Cameron and Herr streets more than two years ago after workers claimed non-payment and walked off the site. The building was supposed to house Dodd's printing business, as well as retail and office space.

The project chewed through about \$8 million in city, county, state and federal funds. Promoted as key to reviving the Cameron Street corridor, it now sits as an unfinished, deteriorating shell.

The city estimates that, if built, the project would have yielded \$800,000 in annual tax revenue.

Police Bureau Names Officers, Captains

Michael Umipig, a 22-year veteran of the Harrisburg Bureau of Police, last month was named captain of the uniformed patrol division.

He steps into the slot left vacant by the promotion of Chief Pierre Ritter, who had served in that post. In addition, 17-year veteran Colin Cleary was named captain of the bureau's technical services division.

The force last month also swore in six new officers, the positions funded with federal grant money. Harrisburg now has 172 sworn officers.



New Hope for Midtown Landmark

Moose Lodge, nearby buildings sold; restoration planned.

Lawrance Binda

The prospect of a vibrant, revitalized 3rd Street corridor in Midtown took a huge step forward last month, as an entire blighted block was bought at a tax sale by a Harrisburg resident known for rehabilitating historic buildings.

Philip Dobson, owner of the landmark J. Donald Cameron Mansion on Front and State streets, purchased the former Ronald H. Brown Charter School at N. 3rd and Boas streets, as well as three dilapidated rowhouses next door, also once owned by the school.

In an astonishing deal, Dobson bought the entire property group, constituting almost 50,000 square feet of space and about 60 parking spaces, for about \$188,000, including transfer taxes. The stately school building itself, which started life in 1924 as a Moose Temple lodge, was had for just \$18,000, plus another \$30,000 in transfer tax. It was designed in the Beaux Arts style by renowned Harrisburg architect Clayton J. Lappley.

Dobson said he expects to take title to the properties within 60 days and then plans to restore them. The Moose lodge could become offices or another charter school, he said.

“It’s such a great location,” he said. “I love Midtown, and this should be a big boon to the area.”

Businesses nearby welcomed news of the purchase, as the empty properties have marred the 900-block of N. 3rd Street since the charter school closed.

Randy Straub, owner of The Soup Spot a few doors down, said that the vacant block hasn’t attracted much trouble, but that it is an eyesore and an impediment to greater progress along the street.

“This is an entire block that can be converted into something truly special,” said Straub. “So much can be done with it.”

Citing many deficiencies, the city’s Board of Control refused to renew the school’s charter after the 2004–05 school year. Owed about \$2.5 million, the receiving bank took

control of the properties, but could not sell them, leading to the tax sale.

Dobson would seem to be a good candidate to place the properties back into use. Over the years, he has bought numerous properties at tax sales and mounted many restorations. He has been painstakingly restoring the Donald Cameron mansion since buying it in January 2008.

“I’m a big believer in the city, and a strong advocate of preservation,” he said.



The Moose lodge may soon find new life and add to the revival of Midtown.

Old Seaplane Base Lands on the Market

About 1½ acres of riverfront land that includes the old Harrisburg Seaplane Base—now a retail center for Tracker Boats and Black Dog Motorcycles—is up for sale in Wormleysburg.

The owner, Mike Bowers, is looking to move the two businesses to other locations. He’s considering the north end of the borough for the motorcycle shop and possibly somewhere along Harrisburg’s Cameron Street for the boats.

“We need more room,” said Bowers, who owns two other boat stores. “The boat store in particular needs more room.”

The two businesses have access to a large stretch of riverfront that Bowers said would work well for a boat rental business.

The property has an apartment house, the motorcycle shop—which is in a building that once served as a hangar for seaplanes that landed on the Susquehanna River there in the 1940s and ‘50s—and the boat store, a building with 10,500-square-feet of space that once housed the seaplane base offices.

Bowers put the property up for sale in May and said he has had some inquiries.

“It’s just a unique property with the waterfront,” he said.



The historic seaplane base, spanning both sides of the bridge, is up for sale.

Changing Hands: May Property Sales

Benton St., 628: K. & L. Mitchell to C. Hoffman, \$88,900	Market St., 1642: Prfct. Little Angels Inv. to Milestone Bank, \$69,000	Penn St., 2327: Deutsche Bank Natl. Trust to A. Wilhelm, \$31,500
Brookwood St., 2466: Deja Investmts. to Carrodo LLC, \$63,500	Muench St., 212: WCI Partners LP to K. & K. Warner, \$149,900	Pennwood Rd., 3210: D. Baxter to J. Clark, \$127,000
Chestnut St., 1840: Sell Hse. Anywhr. to Silver Lining Holdings, \$31,000	Mulberry St., 1819: PA Deals to DJ Real Estate Investments, \$41,750	Rudy Rd., 2453: Fannie Mae to C. Tram and V. Kiem, \$44,900
Chestnut St., 2028: S. Eden to G. Pierre, \$99,900	North St., 1841: 1st Choice Props. to G. & K. Mannix, \$31,000	S. 12th St., 1509: Wells Fargo Bank to Fannie Mae, \$43,200
Chestnut St., 2201: C. Brownlee to A. Carlson and K. Garcia, \$220,000	N. 2nd St., 1617: M. Tanzani to A. & S. Perry, \$195,000	S. 14th St., 312: ARV Investment Props. to VHS Props. LLC, \$36,000
Chestnut St., 2408: J. Quimby to P. Martz, \$125,000	N. 2nd St., 3003: Helen G. Kiely Trust to Thomas Holding Group, \$60,000	S. 25th St., 726: A. & M. Roldan to L. Scott, \$79,800
Chestnut St., 2412: Horizon Res. Loan Servicing to K. Hitt, \$111,500	N. 3rd St., 1101: J. Karwoski to A. Pastorak and T. Spangler, \$132,000	State St., 1620: D. Johns to Sell House Anywhere LLC, \$47,000
Fulton St., 1711: D. & A. Davies to T. Watkins, \$154,900	N. 3rd St., 1709: Bank of New York Mellon Trust to B. Albert, \$110,000	Susquehanna St., 1839: L. Nussbaum to J. Cremona, \$92,500
Green St., 2410: Wells Fargo Bank NA to KTT Properties LLC, \$80,000	N. 4th St., 2731: R. Splawn to R. Rickabaugh, \$79,900	Swatara St., 1613: I. Delic to M. Ledesma Contreras, \$42,000
Harris Terr., 2449: Secretary of HUD to S. Toomey, \$40,100	N. 5th St., 1717: L. Horst to E. Veronikis, \$100,000	Verbeke St., 222: L. & K. Martin to A. DiSilvestro, \$152,000
Harris St., 342: F. Alfred & J. Bradford to PA Deals LLC, \$40,000	Penn St., 904: Urban Equity Invmtms. of PA to J. Santarsiero, \$125,000	Verbeke St., 307: R. Katzman to J. Horne, \$122,000
Kensington St., 2340: Deutsche Bank Natl. Trust to R. & T. Travitz, \$39,000	Penn St., 906: Urban Equity Invmtms. of PA to K.A. Holtzinger, \$130,000	Source: Dauphin County, City of Harrisburg, property sales greater than \$30,000. Data is deemed to be accurate.
Lexington St., 2642: Mark 836 Props. LLC to S. Alexander, \$81,900	Penn St., 1914: WCI Partners LP to L. Mills, \$151,120	

Eat and Be Healthy



Deborah Bell of Mechanicsburg (right) samples a selection of nutritious, gourmet dishes prepared by Leslie Bures (left) of B Healthy Meals. Bures offers several days of fully prepared meals each week (one example: baked talapia with sun-dried tomato pesto) at a fixed price. She just expanded to Harrisburg, where meals can be picked up every Tuesday at the new Absolute Wellness studio at 1519 N. 3rd St. For details, visit www.bhealthymeals.com.

And the Award Goes to: After 5 Decades Trophy House Handed to New Owner

After more than a half century providing trophies and plaques to sports teams, schools and businesses of greater Harrisburg, the Trophy House has been passed to a new owner who plans to build on its success.

Mary Jane "MJ" Wertz, who spent 30 years in textiles before deciding to venture out on her own, purchased the business from Lynne and Frank DiNatale in May.

"I was just a little disheartened by corporate America and I wanted to be my own boss," Wertz said, taking a break one afternoon.

The small shop, with its bigger-than-life trophy sign hanging over the door outside, has been family-run since the mid-1950s, and a fixture on Chestnut Street since it opened.

"I'll miss the customers, but it's time to step aside and let some young, fresh blood in here," said Lynne DiNatale, who has been helping Wertz in the transition.

Having left a job that required commuting 45 minutes one-way, Wertz, a native of Newport, Perry County, said she

often walks to work from her home in Lemoyne.

Standing in the showroom, where corporate awards, recognition plaques, trophies, promotional items, bronze plates and other merchandise are on display, Wertz said customers can expect the same quality goods and service, and more.

She said she intends to maintain "the community presence and the fair business practices expected from the Trophy House."

"I'd just like to grow the business," Wertz said. "And the good will Lynne and her family have established is a good start for now."

—Peter Durantine

Trophy House, 308 Chestnut St.,
717-238-2838,
TrophyHouseHarrisburg.com



Applause please: Mary Jane Wertz has become the new owner of the Trophy House, a local institution.

Ray's Top 10 Homebuyer Tips: Don't House Hunt Without Them

Thinking of buying a home? It should be a fun experience! Here are 10 basic tips to aid you in a smooth transaction.

1. Get pre-approved for financing with a local, reputable lender. House hunting without financing is like shopping without money.

2. Hire a realtor to represent you as a buyer's agent. Ask friends and family for a referral. Talk to a few agents if necessary and be sure you are comfortable with how you and the agent interact.

3. Prioritize your must-haves and wish list. Begin with location. Keep your expectations realistic for the price range you are in.

4. Shop within your budget. Looking at homes more expensive than you can afford will only lead to disappointment.

5. When you find the home, make your offer based on an informed decision with the advice of your professional agent.

6. Hire a qualified home inspector and remember, no home is perfect. Be prepared for some items needing attention, but stay focused on major defects, if any. If you are not comfortable with the house, this is the time to talk with your agent and decide if you will proceed.

7. "Buyer's remorse" is a common emotion after the transaction is final, especially for first-time homebuyers. Be prepared and don't get cold feet.

8. Be patient. The 45–90 days until closing can seem like an eternity. Keep in touch with your lender and agent and provide any information requested in a timely manner to avoid delays.

9. Be prepared for closing. Your realtor and closing agent will tell you what you need to bring for a speedy, efficient settlement. Delays do occur in today's market—don't worry.

10. Enjoy your new home!



Ray Davis is a real estate salesperson with RE/MAX Realty Associates Inc. He has been a realtor for 17 years. Contact 717-441-5608 or rdavis@capitalareahomes.com

Metz Named Chair for Light the Night



Adam Metz, Harrisburg regional vice president of Metro Bank, has signed on as corporate chair of the 2010 Harrisburg Light the Night Walk, for the

Central PA Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Light the Night is a nationwide annual fundraising event held each fall to raise money for blood cancer research and patient services. The Harrisburg event is scheduled for Sept. 16 at City Island.

Nice Throw!



Via Roma owner Lassad Razouane enjoys a good pizza dough toss by co-owner Mokhtar Ben, who worked in Italy for many years, at their restaurant at the corner of 3rd and Seneca streets in Harrisburg. Via Roma is open Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call 717-695-6677.

<p>JUNE 9 - JULY 11</p>  <p>DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS</p> <p>This delightful musical comedy follows two con-artists as they take on the lifestyle of the rich and shameless!</p>  <p>Allenberry RESORT INN AND PLAYHOUSE</p>	<p>JULY 14 - AUGUST 15</p>  <p>My Fair Lady</p> <p>A timeless classic by the brilliant team of Lerner & Loewe. It has captivated audiences for decades.</p> <p>Dining - Theatre Lodging - Weddings Murder Mystery Weekends Romantic Getaways Picnics - Meetings</p> <p>Reservations (717) 258-3211 allenberry.com</p> <p>1559 Boiling Springs Rd Boiling Springs, PA</p>
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Live, Work, Play, Learn

GreenWorks builds upon a holistic vision of city living.

Peter Durantine



CEO Doug Neidich stands near 3rd and Reily, the heart of GreenWorks' plan for an integrated urban environment in Midtown.

For a city that's 11.4 square miles, the development of 4½ acres would not seem to mean much, unless that acreage exists in Midtown.

"A million square feet of space in an urban area is enough to change the character of that area," said Doug Neidich, chief executive officer of GreenWorks Development.

Neidich, a 52-year-old Steelton native, started out as a mechanical engineer and later built a successful electronics company. He turned to urban development because of a desire to see change in Harrisburg—he grew up during its zenith and sees its potential to become a great modern city once again.

"It's responsible planning," Neidich said. "Harrisburg has some powerful problems, but it also has some significant potential."

GreenWorks, through its development and property acquisitions, has become a force in the city's renewal. Its philosophy: "To rebuild live-work-play-and-learn integrated communities on brownfield sites using

innovative alternative-energy technologies and sustainable materials and design."

"What we're trying to do in Midtown Harrisburg is incorporate all the elements of our charter," Neidich said. "You can change the character of an area through real estate development."

One way to build and sustain the quality-of-life urban communities GreenWorks seeks is by creating an environment in which neighbors move more on foot to get around than in vehicles. That way, said Neidich, "you get to know the people you live with."

Another way is to make every new building GreenWorks erects almost entirely self-sustaining by incorporating the latest in sustainable, energy-saving technology.

GreenWorks chose Midtown to start developing the integrated community, and the first building it selected was the 130,000-square-foot Evangelical Press Building at N. 3rd and Reily, built in 1917.

Harrisburg Area Community College took the building in 2007 for its Midtown campus, which has 1,500 students enrolled this fall. HACC has since moved its central administration into GreenWorks' newly built Campus Square, the solar-powered four-story office and retail structure across the street.

Neidich said several four-year colleges also are eyeing the area. Academic institutions are part of the mix the developer has in mind for Midtown.

GreenWorks' efforts have been remarkable. In addition to the two aforementioned buildings, it restored two historic buildings for Fulton Bank at the corner of N. 3rd and Reily, the epicenter of its urban redevelopment, and another historic structure a few doors down that houses the café, breads 'n spreads.

Meanwhile, Campus Square is attracting retail tenants. Sprint and Brothers Pizzeria are the latest to open in the building.

The area, as well as most of GreenWorks' footprint, is in a Keystone Opportunity Zone, where state and local taxes, including property taxes, are waived for a certain number of years to re-energize under-developed and blighted neighborhoods.

Earlier this year, GreenWorks purchased the 58,000-square-foot Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance data building at 1001 N. Sixth St., which will provide income from tenants and put the building back on the city's tax rolls to the tune of \$120,000 a year.

Residents generally support GreenWorks' efforts, but some were distressed recently because the developer had not consulted with them about leasing part of Midtown Cinema's building for a district justice office and paving an adjoining lot for parking. They wanted to offer input, said Tara Leo Auchey, who lives on N. 3rd Street.

"It's really stressing the idea that this is a neighborhood," she said.

GreenWorks has always kept neighbors informed about its efforts, said Neidich, except in this one case.

"That was a mistake," he said, noting it had not occurred to him that a DJ office would raise safety concerns. GreenWorks will keep residents informed on its future building and development, he said. "That's responsible development."

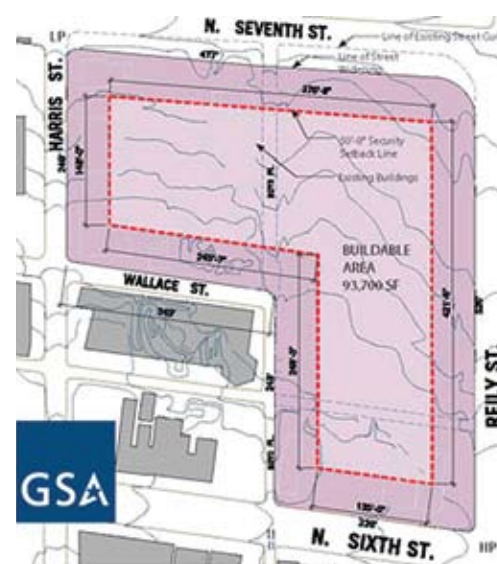
Midtown is expected to only get busier as the economy improves, and GreenWorks is considering a partnership with Riverview Manor developer Dan Deitchman to restore the 1908 Furlow Building on N. 3rd Street across from the Broad Street Market. It's expected to take a large amount of money and work.

Nonetheless, said GreenWorks Vice President Matt Tunnel, "if there is a time to get the Furlow Building done, now is the time to do it."

Whether they can secure financing remains uncertain, but with a new federal courthouse to rise at 6th and Reily and more businesses coming to Midtown, expect GreenWorks to continue developing on the 4½ acres it owns.

GreenWorks Development's website is www.greenworksdev.com.

New Courthouse: A First Look



Last month, the General Services Administration released this map of the new federal courthouse site (left). As is evident, the footprint goes far beyond the immediate area at N. 6th and Reily streets, reaching east to N. 7th Street and north to Harris Street. Most of the 5-acre area is vacant, but a small number of the 26 parcels still have structures on them, including a few houses and the Bethesda Mission donation center. The courthouse will have a considerable setback (dark purple), meaning the 263,000-square-foot building will occupy only about two-thirds of the total site. The buildable area, outlined in a dotted red line, is 93,700 square feet.

Radius Departs State Museum

Museum shop to open in its place.

TheBurg Staff



The colorful, rounded windows of the State Museum soon will feature offerings from a new museum shop.

After five years offering an array of hand-made crafts by artists locally and across Pennsylvania from its shop in the State Museum, Harrisburg Area Community College has closed Radius Gallery, opening the way for a new museum store.

The new store is still under planning, but Howard Pollman, marketing director for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, said it will operate in partnership with the State Bookstore.

"It will feature books along with the gifts/souvenirs one would find in a museum shop," Pollman said, noting the crafts selection would be much smaller than what Radius had offered.

Some of Radius' novelty merchandise will be on sale in the new store, said Patrick Early, HACC vice president for public relations, in a press release.

When the shop's five-year contract with the State Museum came up for renewal, HACC conducted an analysis of its needs and decided "the museum store no longer fits our long-term strategy," Early said.

The decision to close the store at the end of June was also based on what Early said are "increased opportunities" for opening something similar elsewhere, possibly on HACC's Midtown campus. A spokeswoman said nothing has been decided yet.

Radius officially closed on June 30, following a clearance sale of merchandise. Unsold consignment items are due to be returned to the consignors.

USPS Seeks Input on New Location

Do you have an opinion where the U.S. Postal Service should put its new Harrisburg facility? Then let your voice be heard.

Until July 15, USPS is taking public comments on where to locate its retail and processing operations once it moves out of its current location at 813 Market St. Eight sites are being considered:

- 1800 N. 2nd St. (office building)
- 6th and Hamilton streets (new construction)
- 2103 N. 7th St. (warehouse)
- 116 Pine St. (office building)
- 215 Pine St (office building)
- 1801 Derry St. (new construction)
- 200 N. 2nd St. (new construction)
- 112 S. Cameron St. (new construction)
- 420 S. 13th St. (new construction)
- 915 S. Front St. (lease)
- 1500 S. Paxton St. (lease)
- 415 Market St. (Amtrak building)

Send your input to the USPS vice president of facilities, P.O. Box 27497, Greensboro, NC 27498-1103.

New Bishop Named to Harrisburg Diocese

The new bishop of Harrisburg, the most Rev. Joseph McFadden, marked his day of installation last month by celebrating Mass in St. Patrick Cathedral on State Street.

Pope Benedict XVI named the 63-year-old McFadden, formerly Philadelphia's auxiliary bishop, to succeed Kevin Rhoades, now bishop of Ft. Wayne-South Bend, Ind.

"I'm very fortunate to take over as the shepherd of this diocese," McFadden said. "I want people to understand, this is not my ship. We journey together."

McFadden was born in Philadelphia, attended St. Joseph University and St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. He was ordained a priest for the Philadelphia Archdiocese in 1981 and named an auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia in 2004.

As a member of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Bishop McFadden has served on the Committee on Catholic Education and the Task Force on Faith Formation and Sacramental Practice.

McFadden, who has visited Harrisburg many times before his appointment, described the diocese as strongly devout.

"Its strength is the faith of its people," he said.



Bishop Joseph McFadden celebrates Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral.

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- Wraps
- Gyros



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Midtown - Reily St and Fulton St



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Reading, Writing & Community

Big crowds, superb weather greet 1st Midtown Book, Artsfest.

TheBurg Staff



The 1st Annual Harrisburg Book Festival and Midtown Artsfest attracted large numbers of buyers, browsers, book-lovers and autograph-seekers last month. Clockwise from top left: books, books everywhere; some folks bought them by the armload; Ava Berg and Susan Wayne sold their jewelry at The HodgePodgery table; paintings by artist William Ortiz were on display; dozens of authors sold and signed books inside Midtown Scholar Bookstore; and, before an enormous crowd, writer Jackson Taylor, along with Midtown Scholar owner Eric Papenfuse, discussed Taylor's acclaimed novel, "The Blue Orchard," set in Harrisburg and based upon real events and real people—they also touched upon the often-troubled history of Harrisburg since World War II.

Fund Chair Named



The Cultural Enrichment Fund, the capital region's united arts fund, has named Dave Skerpon, vice president, corporate communications and

advertising of Capital BlueCross, chairman of its 2010-11 campaign.

Skerpon will lead a team of more than 75 volunteers in an effort to surpass last year's campaign total of \$530,000 in community support for the arts. The campaign began April 1 and runs through March 31.

Midtown Sews Up a New Crafts Market

On July 16, a monthly art and crafts market will land in Midtown, thanks to The HodgePodgery, a boutique and crafts shop on N. 3rd St.

The "HoPo Road Show" will take place on 3rd in The Burg Fridays (third Friday of each month), 12-7 p.m. and Saturday, 8-4 p.m.

The market will be held at 3rd and Verbeke streets at the Broad Street Market or inside the Historic Harrisburg building across the street, depending on the weather. Vending spots begin at \$25 per day.

More details can be found at www.TheHodgePodgery.com.

Summer Cleanup Set for Parts of Midtown

Friends of Midtown's summer cleanup is scheduled for 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on July 10. The cleanup will focus on the area between Kelker and Maclay streets from Front to N. 7th streets and N. 3rd from Forster to Maclay streets. Meet at the Neighborhood Center of the United Methodist Church.

Also, Friends of Midtown has received a \$500 gift from the Auchincloss Family Fund of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities. The money will be used for neighborhood beautification, said FOM.

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Bellweather of the City

From the ashes of old Harrisburg rose the Pa. Fire Museum.

John Sludden

A bronze bell four stories high holds the skyline on N. 4th Street between Muench and Kelker, overlooking the neighboring playground, senior center, church, vacant lots and row homes. The bell was hoisted in 1899 to serve Reily Hose Company No. 10, the 10th fire company accepted by the Harrisburg City Council. At the time, volunteers pulled hand carts and used horse-drawn carriages.

The building remained in service until 1978, when it was condemned rather than re-roofed after a hard snow. It was abandoned, bought but never paid for, so it returned to the city. In 1995, a group pushed an idea to transform the building, placing new bricks around the old to honor the heritage.

"There were a couple of us, fire buffs, historians," said Dave Houseal. "We asked Mayor [Stephen] Reed if he would look into making this into a fire museum. He took the reins."

Houseal estimated the city invested \$3 million to create the Pennsylvania National Fire Museum. A 1996 Historic Preservation Award speaks to its quality.

The museum is self-guided. Its first room is brightened marginally by a few track lights and two stained-glass eyes as windows. The exhibits are chronological: a wooden, hand-pulled fire cart built from 1792, a hand-pulled carriage with four pulling, plaster townsfolk from 1885, a horse-drawn steam pumper and its two giant gray horses, bought for \$400 in 1900.

Artifacts and tributes line the walls: parade trumpets, old uniforms and the building's coal furnace, beside it a block of coal. There are placards identifying fire service in Harrisburg during the Civil War, the history of Reily No. 10 and the firehouse's namesake, Dr. George Reily. The front wall names Pennsylvania's fallen firefighters.

On the second floor, where the haystacks once rested, a restored alarm system from Johnstown spans the length of a wall. In the extended garage, there are two fire engines.

The gift shop is on the ground floor between the entrance and garage. It formerly served as a stable for the No. 10 horses. Houseal, seated, gave the history of fire service, from hands to steam to horses to motors to radios and computers. The museum was empty on this day except for maintenance men and a volunteer.

Houseal volunteers Fridays, but he is tied to the place. It is a part of his engaged personality, as is a thick, handlebar mustache, electrified like Einstein's hair.

"I'm third generation firefighter with the city," he said, arms crossed, covering a fading purple t-shirt that read Handlebar Saloon. "I retired 7½ years ago. My grandfather served as chief here in the '40s, '50s, '60s."

He talked about the 1960s and '70s. "The city was in dire financial straits at that time, but it was different than what it is now. They rolled the sidewalks up and people bailed out of here at 5 o'clock. It



David Houseal in the Pa. National Fire Museum's alarm headquarters.

was dead ... arson was rampant. Vandalism. There were many vacant buildings in this town."

A fireman was shot in 1969 as a truck pulled from the Reily building.

"Crime was high," he said. "Arson and vandalism. It was the greatest time in the world to be a fireman in the city. I came on the job in 1975, and I wanted to fight fire and that's what we did. We fought fire."

Houseal credited Reed for clearing vacant properties and thus the tinder. From 1982 to 2008, fires in Harrisburg declined 76 percent. Midtown blocks have changed dramatically. Pennsylvania's National Fire Museum has been witness.

"Since it's opened, we've gotten along with the neighbors," he said.

The bell, like its surroundings, now is mostly quiet. The area is silently transformed.

Pennsylvania National Fire Museum, 1820 N. 4th St., Harrisburg, 717-232-8915, www.pnfm.org. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.



Lawrance Binda

Summer's here, and that means that lots of folks have taken off to the beach and mountains. Still, there were several notable developments in the neighborhood last month.

Most significantly, the Ron Brown Charter School property was purchased at tax sale by property developer and speculator Phil Dobson (story, p. 6).

One block over, work continues on the old Nick's 1014, though only upstairs, which is being completely rehabbed as apartments. The owners also plan to renovate the dilapidated storefront and lease that space, but there's no firm timeframe.

If you're in that area, stop by The HodgePodgery this month to congratulate Dawn and Jessica on their first year in business. During that short time, their funky shop has become a staple (and something of a social center) of Midtown. And, now, more good news, the mother/daughter duo is organizing a crafts market the third weekend of each month at the Broad Street Market/Historic Harrisburg (story, p. 9).

Speaking of the Broad Street Market: Looking for the new stand, The Flower Place? It's moved to the back of the brick building. A seating area has been set up where the shop was. Word is that the market would like to fill that space with something upscale and unique, such as a gourmet cheese vendor.

Just across the aisle, a favorite of pet owners, Begging Dog Bakery, has run away. For customers, all is not lost. The doggie treats can be ordered online at www.beggingdogbakery.com.

Back outside, the new organic grocery at N. 3rd and Verbeke streets now has a name—Robinson's Natural Market and Deli. Look for a grand opening in late August/early September.

Lastly, a few doors down, the cell phone company, Boost Mobile, soon will open in the old Jackson Hewitt storefront at 1312 N. 3rd St.

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... a Month in Pictures



May 30: Daniel Jenson and other artists held demos at The HodgePodgery tent at Artsfest.



May 31: Artsfest 2010 concludes. Many bands played over three days at the HMAC stage.



June 5: Absolute Wellness Group has its grand opening. Co-owner Karen Verlin leads a fitness class at the new studio at 1519 N. 3rd St.



June 5: "SuperReader" Floyd Stokes (top right) reads to children during the OIS Summer Reading Club kickoff.



June 6: Becky Thoroughgood of Harrisburg directs riders in Riverfront Park during this year's Tour de Belt.



June 10: Andy Mowatt plays to a packed dining room at Arepa City during Jazz Walk.



June 10: A beautiful evening greeted the Central PA Youth Band as they played Jazz Walk at Gallery Blu.



June 17: Mayor Linda Thompson and local children cut the ribbon re-opening a police substation at 6th and Pepper streets.



June 19: Matt Murray of Camp Hill belts out a tune during the EngleDay, a block party in Engleton on the 1600-block of N. 3rd St.



June 20: Artist Ophelia Chambliss (left) moderates a panel discussion entitled "Defining Black Art: Black, Because I Am, or Black, Because It Is?" at Midtown Scholar Bookstore. The event was part of a weekend-long celebration of Juneteenth at locations throughout Harrisburg.



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Doing Good

"Pay It Forward!"

Leadership Harrisburg makes the motto a mission.

Una Martone

The concept of "pay it forward" has been around for centuries and, in fact, has been traced back to ancient Athens as early as 317 BC. Benjamin Franklin described his version of "paying it forward" in a letter dated April 22, 1784:

I do not pretend to give such a sum; I only lend it to you. When you meet with another honest man in similar distress, you must pay me by lending this sum to him; enjoining him to discharge the debt by a like operation, when he shall be able and shall meet with another opportunity. I hope it may thus go thro' many hands, before it meets with a knave that will stop its progress. This is a trick of mine for doing a deal of good with a little money.

In her novel, "Pay it Forward," Catherine Ryan Hyde told the story of a young boy who is given a school assignment to think of something that will change the world and put it into action. After the success of the movie of the same name, many colleges and universities launched similar social experiments. In 2006, Oprah gave 300 audience members \$1,000 and a challenge to pay it forward. While some try to measure the results of these acts of kindness and reciprocity, the impacts may be immeasurable as new good deeds are multiplied.

Leadership Harrisburg Area's Community Leadership Series

(CLS) Class of 2010 has a pay it forward success story with potential impacts beyond categorization. The CLS program is a nine-month exploration and study of the Capital Region. CLS includes monthly sessions that highlight the issues and challenges of local systems such as government, education, healthcare, arts and culture, public safety and economic development. Five of the 34 class members who started their program on September 5, 2009, received scholarships to participate and offset the \$2,500 tuition. Scholarships were awarded to individuals representing nonprofit organizations and community groups. It was their appreciation for the financial support that inspired the whole class to pay it forward.

Class members made donations throughout the year and dedicated the funding to provide scholarships for the next class to follow them. With 100 percent participation, the Class of 2010 presented Leadership Harrisburg Area with a check for \$2,700 at the graduation event held on May 19 and has subsequently raised \$1,600 more.

"The forming of friendships with fellow classmates in varied fields has been invaluable," said Dwayne Milbrand, a class member from YWCA of Greater Harrisburg. "I have grown tremendously through this process."

Melba Twitty of Harrisburg Young Professionals said, "By taking part in my class' pay it forward project, I was doing just that—paying it forward because I was lucky enough to be a recipient of a scholarship through Leadership Harrisburg Area."

Paying it forward didn't stop with scholarship fundraising. Each member of the Class of 2010 helped a nonprofit organization by participating in a team project. Team projects served The ARC of Dauphin & Lebanon Counties, CONTACT Helpline, MS Society of Central PA, PinnacleHealth Foundation and Volunteers of America.

The class members' efforts supplemented the nonprofits' limited budgets and resources and produced significant outcomes that they otherwise would not have the means to accomplish.

Development of an emergency continuity of operations plan was the project for CONTACT Helpline, a 24/7 information and referrals service for area counties that serves nearly 2,000 callers a month. "I can't over-emphasize how critical this project was," said Kelly Gollick, the executive director. "It was a make or break for CONTACT Helpline, and I couldn't have done it on my own. I am eternally grateful."

Through their comprehensive acts of service, the 2010 CLS Class

continues to pay it forward in each person touched by the services of the aforementioned nonprofits. In fact, more than 40 nonprofit groups have benefited from Leadership Harrisburg Area's Team Projects since 2002. Countless lives have benefited as a result.

With a total of 917 Leadership Harrisburg Area graduates paying it forward every day by serving on nonprofit boards of directors, serving in public office, on school boards, as volunteers, donors and founders of community service groups and organizations, the impact is exponential.

The 25th Anniversary Class of the Community Leadership Series will begin on Sept. 11.

Leadership Harrisburg Area (LHA) is a nonprofit organization serving Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties to increase volunteer involvement and board service to nonprofit organizations. For more information, visit www.leadershipharrisburg.org or call 717-213-5022. You can also "like" LHA on Facebook and will be included in announcements and current events.



Una Martone is president of Leadership Harrisburg Area.

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Enter a New Type of Diner

Food, decor, service set City Line apart.

Peter Durantine

What's it take to go from agricultural engineer in arid Egypt to successful restaurateur in verdant Pennsylvania?

For Tefa Ghatas, it's a passion for quality food at affordable prices, professional table service, faith in God and 30 years of hard work.

"You have to love this business and you have to love your customers," said Ghatas, who greets all diners with a smile.

Ghatas, who 17 years ago bought the Colonial Park Diner on Jonestown Road, opened City Line Diner in Paxtang in the spring in the building that formerly housed the Paxtang Diner. He gutted the interior and put in a sparkling new dining room.

"The people here are superb," said Evelyn Garber, having lunch with her friend Jean Bender. "We know them from the Colonial Park Diner."

The women, Camp Hill residents, raved about City Line's dining room. "It's beautiful—never looked so good," Bender said. They praised the varied menu of cuisines ranging from American, Italian,

Greek and more. "He's going to do terrific here," Garber said of Ghatas. "I hope he stays here."

Ghatas wants to assure his neighbors in this tree-shaded borough, which borders Harrisburg's east side, that he is here for the long haul.

"We pledge to them that we are here to stay, and the good quality food and service will stay as long as we are here," he said, noting the neighbors "are so appreciative. I am shocked by their kindness. They come to me and say, 'Thank you for opening this.' I say to them, 'Thank you for coming to my place.'"

More than 30 years ago, opportunity called Ghatas from his government job in Cairo to New York City, where he went to work as a busboy in a Manhattan restaurant to make a living until he could find a better job, a search that did not take long.

"The day I started working in that restaurant, I loved the atmosphere," he said, recalling how the manager's professional approach impressed him enough that he wanted to own a restaurant

one day. Four years later, he bought the place.

Years later, when the lease came up, he decided to sell and open a restaurant in Pennsylvania, where friends told him he would find better opportunities. He was resistant to Harrisburg, preferring somewhere closer to New Jersey, where he lived.

But a friend convinced him to consider the Colonial Park Diner. He agreed to partner with his brothers, George and Sammy, and two other business partners. City Line Diner, though, is owned solely by Ghatas and his brothers.

Ghatas owes his success to a loyal and professional staff, which includes his chef, Ehab, whose specialty is soups, and family, who help him run the two diners. His wife, Fifi, decorated City Line, and a fine eye for design shows,



Tefa Ghatas, owner of the City Line Diner (standing), puts his arm around his chef, Ehab, in their completely refurbished, well-appointed new dining room.

as the quality of the restaurant's interior—marble tabletops, high-quality lighting and lovely wall decor—far exceeds what one expects at most diners. Ghatas' friend, Gerges, worked tirelessly during construction.

"There is a big bond between us," Ghatas said. "When you work for us, we tell you, 'this is a big family.'"

City Line Diner, 3302 Derry St., Paxtang, open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, 717-565-1171.

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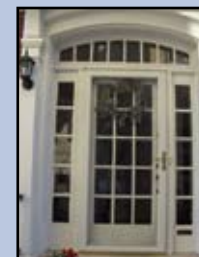
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Chef's Kitchen

A Lunch Hour Vacation

At Anne's Caribbean, a trip to the islands is just up the block.

Sylvia Grove

Although tucked in a corner of the Broad Street Market, Anne's Caribbean Cuisine is an island—a place where those who greet you are instant friends, a place where the aromas of roasted meats transport you to blue water and bluer sky.

Offering Trini (short for Trinidadian) style cooking, Anne's Caribbean opened in October 2009 due to one woman's lifelong dream.

"I have wanted to own a restaurant since always," said Anne Timothy, owner. "I love to cook, to watch people eat."

Anne is originally from Claxton Bay, Trinidad, a country of 1.2 million people that is closer to South America than to other Caribbean nations. Coupled with island sister, Tobago, Trinidad is defined by its oil and petroleum refineries, its open spirit and its history. Like most islands of the West Indies, Trinidad was first discovered by Christopher Columbus and then colonized, resulting in an enormous melting pot of culture, identity and food.

Today, Trinidad can trace its ethnic roots to the African slaves brought by Spanish rule, Indian laborers contracted during British rule and a variety of other European or Asian nationalities. "Trinidad is

made of Lebanese, English, German, everyone," Anne said. "We live, intermix and intercook."

The flavors of Anne's Caribbean display this "melting pot" spirit. For example, Anne serves roti, an unleavened flatbread similar to Indian naan bread except without leavening, at every meal. She also uses many root vegetables and leaves, such as cassava and dasheen, which are prevalent in African cooking. Seasoning the food with spices and herbs and rejecting the European use of marinades and stocks, Anne insisted: "Trinidad has come together with a whole different way of cooking."

Anne's first taste of America began with a visit to Miami in 2000. While staying with a distant relative, she ran into an unexpected surprise—an acquaintance from her Trini hometown who had been living and working in Steelton for more than 20 years. In 2001, they married, and she moved with him to Harrisburg.

"He loved the cooking," Anne said. "He used to tell his friends at the Steelton plant, 'my wife makes the best roti,' and then he would take the food down for them to eat."

When asked about the secrets of the restaurant's recipes, Anne

holds back. "In Trinidad, we don't cook by recipe," she said.

Dishes from her home island, including the ones she features at the restaurant, are simply based on how she had learned to cook from her mother. "All the children believe that their mom cooked better than anyone else," she said.

In addition to roti served with curry or stewed chicken, other traditional Trini dishes include peleau (pronounced peh-LOAW), which is rice, cooked pigeon peas, carrots, meat and seasonings. Calallo (pronounced cal-la-LOH) is also popular, made from the dasheen leaf, onions, garlic, pumpkin and salt meat cooked with coconut milk. Some of the many items in Anne's rotating menu include these and oxtail stew, coconut bread, stewed cabbage and fried chicken. For the summer months, Anne has introduced refreshing Trini punches made of puréed vegetables, such as carrot or sorrel, and doused with cinnamon, milk and cane sugar.

"These are the dishes we cook at home," she said.

Anne is already dreaming of opening a larger restaurant in Midtown. "In Trinidad, you learn that



Island eats: Anne Timothy gives Harrisburg a taste of Trini cuisine.

you don't deserve to just get, you work for what you get," she said. "In running my restaurant, I believe that you must care about the job itself. If you give it your all, that will transcend everything."

Anne's Caribbean Cuisine 1233 N. 3rd St., 717-234-5690. Open Thurs.-Fri., 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sat., 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sylvia Grove is co-author of the blog, Harrisburg Restaurant Examiner, www.examiner.com/x-36460-Harrisburg-Restaurant-Examiner.

Paint Your Can



Children paint a sea scene as part of the "Trash Can Transformers Project." The program, sponsored by the city and the non-profit BARAK Inc., aims to give youth an artistic outlet and to beautify the 55-gallon, drab green receptacles. You can see the newly painted steel trash cans in parks in the city.

Then and Now



For many years, a boat house was a fixture on the Harrisburg side of the Susquehanna River across from City Island (left). The perspective today (right) is quite different, as the riverfront steps and the Walnut Street Bridge, barely visible in the circa-1940s photo, are prominent features.

Many Memories, Many Meals

She leaves for Sicily, returns with swordfish.

Rosemary Ruggieri Baer

For me, it was a dream come true: a week in Sicily this past May.

Despite my 100 percent Italian ancestry, I had never before had the opportunity to travel to Italy. Sicily, a beautiful island off the "toe" of Italy's "boot" is the place my maternal grandparents were born. And although I long to visit Vieste, a little fishing village on the Adriatic Sea where my father was born, for some reason, Sicily was a place that always called to my heart.

And now, after a few weeks of settling in at home, memories of this lovely island almost haunt me: mountains that melt into a turquoise-blue Mediterranean Sea; bright sunshine undimmed by clouds or haze; pink and purple bougainvillea growing in abundance alongside sweet jasmine and wild poppies that dot the fields. In Sicily, orange and lemon trees are everywhere and strongly influence the cuisine of the island. I still see images of miles of vineyards and silvery olive trees as we sped along the highway in our small tour bus.

Our first destination was Taormina, an ancient but bustling coastal town on the eastern side of the island. For several days, we walked the narrow cobblestone streets drinking in the sights and sounds: flowers in window boxes draped over wrought iron railings high above us; pastry shops filled with almond delights such as macaroons and marzipan; stores with endless varieties of limoncello and pistachio liquors; and churches everywhere. One evening, we came across a procession, children and adults carrying a flower-laden Madonna down the street to honor their parish patron saint. I knew I was certainly in Europe.

We were fortunate to be joined for a few days by our friends, Cindy and Ron, who lived in Italy almost seven years. Ronnie's

driving in a little rented Fiat Punta, navigating hairpin turns on steep, mountainous roads, was heart-stopping at times. But their fluent Italian opened doors for us, enabling us to meet and interact with many local Sicilians.

One lovely evening, we came across a side-street trattoria called Gambero Rosso. We were looking for dinner in a place with simple Sicilian food. We found it there, and it quickly became our favorite. It's a tiny restaurant with a courtyard in back. In front, the owner places a cart laden with seafood that was caught that day. Inside the front door are platters of traditional antipasti such as tomatoes and mozzarella, caponata or eggplant salad, fresh sardines, artichokes and roasted red peppers. Like the seafood outside, these offerings also change daily.

Our last evening in Taormina and at Gambero Rosso was one I will always remember. We sat outside in the courtyard under a starry and moonlit sky and ordered more things than we could possibly eat.

Our servers, Francesco and his lovely wife Adriana, who after only a few days seemed like family, brought us even more we didn't order! After a wonderful seafood



John and Rosemary Baer, atop a hillside in Sicily.

antipasti and cannelloni filled with ricotta and spinach, I had swordfish cooked Sicilian style. We learned that swordfish swim in abundance in Sicilian waters and are used in many dishes there, including pasta.

The fish was cut into thin slices rather than large chunks and was simmered with sweet tomatoes, olives and capers. It was wonderful. With Italian minstrels playing in the background and Francesco and Adriana kissing us with pleas for us to return, I knew that somewhere, my mother Rose was smiling.

What follows is a recipe for Sicilian swordfish. It serves six, but you can easily cut it in half. Try to get the freshest fish you can find and use good quality Italian tomatoes. I hope you like it as much as we did.

Sicilian Swordfish

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Rinse 6 swordfish steaks and dry them with paper towels.

Oil a baking dish large enough to hold the fish steaks in a single layer.

Place the fish in the baking dish and sprinkle it with 1 cup of Italian parsley, chopped, and 1 teaspoon of Italian herb seasoning.

In a large skillet or sauté pan, sauté the following in 2 tablespoons green olive oil for 3 to 4 minutes:

- 2 cups chopped onion
- 4 cloves of crushed garlic
- ¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper

Add the following to the skillet and cook for 5 to 8 minutes more:


- 1 16-ounce can chopped Italian tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon small capers, rinsed
- ½ cup raisins
- ¼ cup toasted pignoli (pine) nuts
- ¼ cup diced black Italian olives

Pour the sauce over the fish and bake for 6 minutes. Don't overcook the fish.

Serve immediately with rice or pasta and a green salad and perhaps a good Sicilian white wine.



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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Art for Community's Sake

Nataki Bhatti takes a creative spirit to the people.

Lawrance Binda

Over a recent weekend, Nataki McNeal Bhatti set up a collection of her art—paintings, clothes, crafts—outside the New York Deli and Convenience Store downtown, which her family owns.

She was doing a brisk business, some people buying, most people just stopping by to browse and chat with the engaging 39-year-old Uptown resident.

"I like being where the people are," she said, during a break in the action. "Interacting with the community is the essence of my art."

So, what is community art? For Bhatti, it's taking art out of the galleries and onto the streets, the stores, the classrooms, where people live and learn and do business.

Not that Bhatti has anything against galleries. In fact, she's a featured artist with the Vivant Art Collection in Philadelphia, where she shows and sells her fine art.

It's just that art, she believes, should not just be confined to museums and galleries. It needs to be part of the every day, a piece of people's daily existence as they move from home to school to work. In addition, it should be part of the daily conversation, integrated with a community's political, social and cultural fabric.

"Where does culture and art separate, and where does art, culture and spirit separate?" asked Bhatti rhetorically. "The answer is that there is no separation."

There certainly has been

no separation between art and existence throughout her life. She was born into an artistic world, her late mother, F. Diane McNeal, a well-known textile artist and weaver in Philadelphia; her father, the artist and classical musician, Clif Anderson.

She grew up in Philly, migrating to Harrisburg after studying visual arts and African American Studies at Penn State. Here, she has made art her method and her cause. At every opportunity, she teaches and promotes how art can help lead to self-awareness, community advancement and social justice. She has taught at places as diverse as Central Penn College, the Art Association of Harrisburg and the Imani African Christian Church, among many others. Currently, she is a project director with Town and Country Day School and an artist-in-residence at the Institute for Cultural Partnerships, both in Harrisburg.

"I teach that art is a verb," she said. "That philosophy says that art is not so much a product, but a process through which we learn more about our inner selves."

Bhatti stresses that artists have an economic role to assume in society, in addition to their roles as creators, educators and truth-tellers. She bristles at the cliché of the "starving artist," maintaining that artists can be entrepreneurial, while not compromising their vision.

She demonstrates a fondness for both creating and selling, as

she enjoys meeting with people and telling them about her work. She also is a consignor at The HodgePodgery in Midtown, where her clothing—hand-painted and tie-dyed skirts and T-shirts—sell especially well.

"I simply love her things," said Dawn Rettinger, co-owner of The HodgePodgery. "She's an artist through and through."

Bhatti was introduced to the concept of clothing as wearable art at a young age. As a little girl, she would paint on fabric, and her mother would make and sell clothing from those creations. She credits her mother with teaching her the value of art—social, cultural, economic, political—within society.

"I would equate being a community artist with any other level of service," she said. "I see my role as a bridge between art and the community."

For more about Nataki Bhatti and her art, go to www.paintedmother.com. You also can visit www.myspace.com/natakimcnealbhatti and www.vivantartcollection.com/artist/59.

You can view and buy her work locally at The HodgePodgery, 1100 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. thehodgepodgery.com



Nataki McNeal Bhatti shows—and wears—some of her art outside Midtown's The HodgePodgery, where she also sells.

Cover Art Selected from "Burg" Exhibit

Congratulations to four local artists, who have had their works selected as cover art for future issues of TheBurg.

Works were selected from "The Burg" group exhibit at Gallery@Second. The art and artists are:

- "Spice Awaits" by Cecelia Lyden
- "Lying on the Green Blanket Relaxes My Soul" by Stacey Martin
- "Walnut Street Sign" by Bryan Molloy
- "Harrisburg Bike Race" by Gene A. Suchma

These works will adorn covers of TheBurg over the next year. "The Burg," a Harrisburg-themed group exhibit, continues at Gallery@Second through July 17.

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The English Rose

Mr. Open Mic Night

For 20 years, Mike Banks has lined them up, moved them out.

Lawrance Binda



At the controls: Mike Banks gives instructions to a band during Stage on Herr's open mic night.

Some people claim to enjoy open mic nights. I can't say I've been among them.

The bad singing. The worse playing. The sparse, distracted crowd. Long set-ups between bands. Not for me.

Then, on one lucky Wednesday, I poked my head into Stage on Herr in Midtown Harrisburg. The music was good. Very good. The place was crowded. The large audience was attentive and respectful.

"What gives?" I asked owner John Traynor.

Over the music, he directed me to a guy whose long, braided ponytail hung low from the opening in back of his baseball cap. The credit, he said, belongs to him.

On open mic Wednesdays, Mike Banks is unquestionably in charge. At the back of the room, he stands behind his notebook computer with all the purpose and focus of an air traffic controller guiding jets in and out of LaGuardia.

He runs a tight ship. Bands are listed in order and scheduled. Each one gets three songs. Set changes are quick. Okay, you're done. Next.

When the final note of a set is played, Banks jumps on stage, helps a band break down and the next one set up. He offers a quick introduction, and off we go again. Down time between bands: usually

less than five minutes.

"We're amazed," said Aaron Spangler, who, along with Vulcans bandmate, John Thomas, were playing Stage on Herr's open mic for the first time recently. "It's such a professional atmosphere. Look, it's a Wednesday—and it's packed."

The high quality and tight organization can be attributed to simple experience, getting better at something the longer you've done it. Banks hosted his first open mic two decades ago and has been at it, practically non-stop, ever since. In Harrisburg, his name has become almost synonymous with open mic (the fact that his first name is Mike appears to be purely coincidental).

"It certainly never crossed my mind I'd still be doing it after all these years," he said.

Banks got his start at the old Toots in Hummelstown, which for years held open mic Tuesdays. He played guitar and sang a little, so showed up one night to give performing a go. It wasn't horrible. So he went back. Before long, he

got to know the person who ran the event, who just happened to be looking to get out. For \$1,000, he offered to sell his gear, and Banks jumped at the opportunity. Just like that, a career was born.

For the next 20 years, Banks has hosted open mics all over the area: the Villa Courtyard in Camp Hill, the Sunray Café in Riverside, Nick's 1014 Café in Midtown, all now gone. He took the reins of the five-hour weekly marathon at HMac Stage on Herr last year.

Banks credits his longevity in this typically unstable field to two main factors: organization and respect. Over the years, he's honed his craft to as much of a science as can be expected when dealing with a collection of musicians. Sign ups are exclusively through Facebook. First come, first served. Only acoustic instruments allowed. No drum kits. Everyone gets three songs, no exceptions.

"I try to run the night as impartially as I can," he said. "Everyone is treated the same,

and I try to be as friendly and accommodating as possible."

Respect is more undefined, but just as important. Banks has never forgotten his days as an open mic musician, so has tremendous respect for the courage it takes to get on stage. He encourages first-timers, but, as an established musician and something of a local institution, attracts talented and well-honed veterans, as well. In fact, he's begun to host regular band nights at Stage on Herr—sort of an open mic for professional and near-professional musicians.

Now 46 years old, Banks said he has no intention of quitting. He loves what he does, and it fits in well with his other musical jobs, which include music director for the Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival.

"I've never come across a good reason to stop," he said. "I guess that's the bottom line."

Be part of Stage on Herr's open mic night, held each Wednesday. Sign up at Facebook: Open Mic w/Mike Banks.

Harrisburg Music: History Made Daily

Corey Bealert

In 1922, WBAK became the first officially licensed radio station in Harrisburg, owned by the Pennsylvania State Police. They built a transmitter at 18th and Herr streets, a monumental moment in our audible history.

Today, many stations broadcast from Harrisburg, from Christian to alternative and everything in-between. Aside from radio, music venues throughout the city feature low-level bands, as well as "A-listers," like Dave Matthews Band and Kings of Leon, who are invited to be part of our eclectic music scene.

Classical music composed and performed in the city today is traced back to the 1930s, when the

Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra was founded by a group of dedicated musicians, performing their first concert at William Penn High School on March 19, 1931. The conductor, George King Raudenbush, went on to become the symphony's first music director. By the end of the year, they were playing in the Forum in the Capitol Complex, where they still perform to this day.

Harrisburg's melody added some new notes in that era. You could hear jazz in some bars as the genre grew in Pennsylvania, thanks largely to African-Americans migrating north in search of jobs. Jazz thrives today still in our area. Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz, which has been around since 1980, each year puts on seven concerts, a festival and a kids camp for jazz.

Rock-and-roll came in with a bang. The Rolling Stones played at the Farm Show Complex on their

first American tour in 1964, a great moment for the city.

Over the years, local bands small and big have tested their craft in a range of venues. Many bands came out of central Pennsylvania, such as "Breaking Benjamin," "Fuel," and York-bred alt-rockers "Live," whose early '90s mainstream hits still are heard on the radio. Bret Michaels formed the Harrisburg band "Paris," which eventually changed to "Poison." After taking over the Burg's bar scene, they moved to L.A. and became a huge commercial success.

This is just a glimpse of our hometown's musical past. Harrisburg definitely has music history, and you know what they say about history. It's made every day.



Corey Bealert is the vocalist for "Odd Man In" and an avid music lover and critic. He lives in Midtown with his girlfriend Sam and dog Fender.

Museums & Art Spaces

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

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

"Muscle Car Mania," Detroit's muscle machines from the 1960s and '70s, through Sept. 6.

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

"There's a Song in My Heart," summer membership exhibition, through July 22.

ArtHouse Lounge

217 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
717-236-2550; www.arthouselounge.com

"Catch for Us the Foxes," photography by Corwin Prescott.

Arts at 510

510 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-724-0364; www.artsat510.com

Mixed media by Cheryl Piperberg and Clare Margaret; jewelry by Roxanne Toser. Reception and music by 510 Express, July 16, 5:10–8 p.m.

Café di Luna

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

Featured artist: Anna Novak

Cygnets Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

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

Paintings and mixed media by Candace Luciani and Samantha Davenport, through July 31.

Gallery@Second

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

Surrealist works by Lawrence von Barann and abstract works by James M. Krabel. Opening reception, July 1. "The Burg" group exhibit continues through July 17.

Gallery at Walnut Place

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

Drawings and sculptures by Christian Kcomt. Reception, July 16, 5–9 p.m.

Gallery Blu

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

"Pride," an exhibit featuring art from the LGBT community of Harrisburg and beyond, July 16–Aug. 27. Reception, July 16, 7–9 p.m.

Harrisburg 2010 History Center

Dauphin Deposit Bank Building, Harrisburg
210 Market St.; dauphincountyhistory.org

"Living Legacies," through July 17.

Harsco Science Center

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

"Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition," explores the ill-fated 1912 cruise, through Sept. 5.

The Mantis Collective

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

Paintings and mixed media by Andrew Guth, through July 11.

Mixed media and photography by Garrick Dorsett, July 16–Aug. 15.

Midtown Cinema

250 Reily St., Harrisburg
717-909-6566; www.midtowncinema.com

Art by Liz Larabee, through July.

Midtown Scholar/Yellow Wall Gallery

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

"Eco-Arts," photos by Danzante students, through mid-July.

"Remnant," works by Benjamin Thorpe. Opens July 16, reception, 6–9 p.m.

National Civil War Museum

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

"Spies Among Us," focuses on efforts to form spy networks on both sides, through Sept. 6.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

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

"Moments in Time," art using natural elements by Andy Goldsworthy, June 19–Dec. 31.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

"Desirable Objects," paintings by Casey Lard, July 7–Aug. 12. Reception: July 15, 5 p.m.

SPRAMA.gallery

308 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
717-238-1001; www.sprama.com

"Natalie Lock: Legacy," a retrospective of the work of the renowned Harrisburg-area artist, through Sept. 6.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

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

"Art of the State," a juried exhibition featuring 152 works by artists from 34 Pennsylvania counties, through Sept. 12.

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

Susquehanna Art Museum

301 Market St., Harrisburg
717-233-8668; www.sqart.org

"Down the Rabbit Hole: The Bizarre Worlds of Salvador Dali," works by famed artist/personality Salvador Dali, through Aug. 1.

Dōshi Gallery: "Scenes from the Northwest of Iceland," works by Matt Willen, through July 18; "Noir et Blanc," works by Florence Putterman, July 22–Aug. 22.

The Stage Door

Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse

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

"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," through July 11

"My Fair Lady," July 14–Aug. 15

Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival

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

"The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)," July 8–10, 15–17

Hershey Area Playhouse

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

"Hello Dolly!" July 15–18, 22–25

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

"Reefer Madness—The Musical!" July 8–11

Open Stage of Harrisburg

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

No shows scheduled for July

Oyster Mill Playhouse

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

"Leading Ladies," July 9–25

Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut

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

"Princess and the Pea," July 21–Aug. 21

Theatre Harrisburg

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

No shows scheduled for July

3rd in The Burg: July 16

Photo: Sean Kardon



The work of local artist Natalie Lock fills the walls of SPRAMA. gallery this month for 3rd in The Burg. "Natalie Lock: Legacy" is a retrospective of the work of this well-known Harrisburg-area artist. You can view the exhibit—and visit many more galleries and restaurants—on Friday, July 16 for 3rd in The Burg, the monthly event featuring art, music and more at numerous venues around Harrisburg. For more information on 3rd in The Burg, see our back cover or visit 3rdinTheBurg.com.

Turn On, Drop Out, Sing a Show Tune



The cast of "Reefer Madness—The Musical!" rehearses last month in preparation for a four-day stint at HMAC Stage on Herr, 268 Herr St., Harrisburg. The players will perform July 8–11. For all the freaked out details, visit www.harrisburgarts.com.

Live Music around Harrisburg

Appalachian Brewing Co./Abbey Bar

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

July 1: Misstallica
July 7: Greensky Bluegrass
July 10: Tea Leaf Green w/American Babies
July 15: Cornmeal
July 21: The Wood Brothers
July 22: The Budos Band
July 25: The Low Anthem w/Anais Mitchell
July 29: Hot Buttered Rum

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

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

July 1: Giovanni Traino
July 2: Chris Novak
July 3: Noel Gevers
July 7: Mark Zangrilli
July 8: Anthony Haubert
July 9: Wade Preston
July 10: Noel Gevers
July 14: Chelsea Bowman
July 15: Chris Novak
July 16: Alex Walsh
July 17: Anthony Haubert
July 21: Andrew Bargh
July 22: Anthony Haubert
July 23: Noel Gevers
July 24: Ted Ansel
July 28: Joel Toluba
July 29: Giovanni Traino
July 30: Ted Ansel
July 31: Noel Gevers
Every Tuesday, Open Mic Night

Char's Bella Mundo

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

"Jazz Wednesdays," with special wine menu

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market Street, Camp Hill
www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

July 31: Steven Gellman

Cygnets Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

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

July 16: Caleb Murphy
July 24: Sky Like June
Each Thursday: SuperWeaponDance Party

Dragonfly Club/Spy Club

234 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
866-468-7619; www.dragonflyclub.com

July 3: Toby Love
July 4: Freeway, Peedi Crakk
July 10: Dead 50s, Saints of Sorrow
July 17: Backwoods Payback, Nasty Nate & the Sexual Offenders, Knuckleduster
July 24: Killah Priest

H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center

Shippensburg University; 717-477-7469
www.luhrscenter.com

July 8: Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg
July 15: Jean-Yves Thibaudet
July 22: Elisabeth Turchi
July 26: Willie Nelson and Family
July 31: Steve Martin w/The Steep Canyon Rangers

Hilton Harrisburg and Towers

1 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg

Solo jazz piano in the bar Tuesday through Saturday evenings

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

July 1: Mike Banks & Special Guests
July 2: Cracker w/ Adam Taylor
July 3: MiZ w/Sarah Blacker
July 13: Geri X
July 15: Nora Jane Struthers
July 17: Darcie Miner Band
July 19: Chatham Cty. Line w/Colebrook Road
July 22: John Jorgenson Quintet
July 23: Dan Smith CD Release Party
July 24: Puffer Fish
July 25: Jarrod Dickenson
July 26: The Shake Up's
July 29: Asylum Street Spankers
July 30: Dimestore
July 31: IndieBarn.com SummerFest 2010
Every Wednesday: Open Mic Night

Hollywood Casino at Penn National

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

July 2: Luv Gods
July 3: Bunchafunk
July 9: Burning House
July 10: Marmalade featuring Larry Holmes
July 16: Marshall's Highway
July 17: Solid Gold
July 23: Uptown Band
July 24: Satisfaction, Restless
July 30: Category 5
July 31: Escape

Mangia Qui/Suba

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

July 9: Chris Purcell and The Sinners
July 10: Jeff Calvin and The Converse All Stars
July 16: Jeff Falcone
July 17: Reese and Wendy
July 23: Somebody and The Somethings
July 24: Flamenco in The States
July 30: Blue Elephant
July 31: Batida

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

July 16: ellen cherry
July 29: Andrea Carlson
July 31: Richard Shindell

The Midtown Tavern

1101 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg
717-236-7583; themidtowntavern.com

July 3: Along those Lines
July 10: Krypton City
July 17: The Dark Matter
July 24: Mycenea Worley
July 31: Skyla Burrell

Morgan's Place

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

Please contact the venue.

Ski Roundtop

925 Roundtop Rd., Lewisburg
www.skiroundtop.com; 717-432-9631

July 2: Tropical Soul
July 3: RiverRat Jenkins
July 9: Dave Winters Group
July 10: Indian Summer Jars
July 16: Copper Sky
July 17: Hot Wing Jones
July 23: Skyla Burrell
July 24: Autumn Brew
July 30: Dave Winters Group
July 31: Cashtown

Stock's on 2nd

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

July 2: Penny Brown
July 3: Don Johnson Project Band
July 10: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher
July 17: Funktion
July 24: Cruise Control
July 31: Music Through Science

Whitaker Center

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

July 7: Jakob Dylan and Three Legs
July 9: Bruce in the USA
July 13: Katharine McPhee
July 15: G. Love
July 16: Joe Pug and the Hundred Mile Band
July 25: Tommy Emmanuel
July 30: Amy Speace

Other Highlights

July 2: Lancaster First Friday. Lancaster highlights its arts and gallery community in this citywide event. lancasterarts.com

July 3-5: Harrisburg Jazz and Multicultural Festival. The Independence Day weekend celebration will take place with music, food, fireworks and more at Riverfront Park. harrisburgevents.com

July 14: Charles A.B. Heinze Cancer Benefit. Annual event features a silent auction, raffles, buffet and the musical, "My Fair Lady." Tickets are \$70 each. Proceeds go to the Jake Gittlen-Penn State Hershey Cancer Research Center. Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse, Boiling Springs, Pa. Starts at 5 p.m. Reservations: 717-960-5297. allenberry.com

July 24: Pridefest. Pridefest 2010 kicks off with the annual Unity Parade at 11 a.m., marching down Front Street from North to Walnut streets. The festival begins at noon in Riverfront Park, with entertainment and vendors. prideofcentralpa.org

Aug. 1: HGGC Benefit. Harrisburg Guerrilla Garden Club hosts a benefit show and activist showcase at the Appalachian Brewing Co., featuring The Blood Meridian, Paper Tongue, Union Strike, Ben Stewart and others. Open to all ages, the event also features a Punk Rock flea market and local progressive causes. For tickets and information, contact guerrillagardenershbg@gmail.com.

Lectures, Readings & Classes

The HodgePodgery

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

July 15: Book Binding, 6-8 p.m.

July 16: Caricatures for 3rd in The Burg.

July 24: Embroidery w/Becky, 12-3 p.m.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

July 22: Caesar Pink performs acoustic music and celebrates the release of his new novel, "Murder of the Holly King," 7-9 p.m.

July 24: Live taping of Rick Smith's radio talk show, featuring guests discussing the state budget negotiations, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

July 28: Wendy Moffat celebrates her new biography, "A Great Unrecorded History: A New Life of E. M. Forster." Reading & reception, 6-8 p.m.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

July 7: Dr. Hector Ortiz signs copies of his new book, "The Creative Energy of Positive Thinking: A Basic Approach to the Genuine Concept of Happiness." Reception, 5:30 p.m.

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Beyond the Rollercoaster

You can have fun in Hershey without getting dizzy.

Stephanie Kalina-Metzger



Savor the flavor: Visitors learn to appreciate chocolate in a tasting class at "Hershey's University."

So you've decided to take the family to Hershey and—oh no!—the weather isn't cooperating.

Or maybe you've "done the park" countless times and want to consider other family- and wallet-friendly options. Good news! Hershey has fun things to do that don't include getting upside-down.

Hershey's Chocolate World

Most Harrisburg natives are familiar with the free Chocolate World tour—the ride was established in 1973. More than likely they experienced it at least once during their childhood as part of a field trip.

"It attracts approximately 3 million visitors per year from all over the world who love the Hershey brand and want to experience all we have to offer," said Todd Kohr, marketing and publicity manager.

The ride has been updated

throughout the years and is worthy of another visit, if you haven't been there for awhile. Reflecting the times, the full-sized, free chocolate bars offered at the end of the ride have been miniaturized in recent years, but hey, at least the tour's still free!

For those who have yet to take the tour, a funhouse-style car glides riders through

each step of Hershey's chocolate-making process. Beginning in the tropical rain forest where cacao beans grow, it proceeds through the harvesting process, journeys across America and ends by taking observers through the production line in a simulated factory.

For more information, visit: www.hersheys.com/chocolateworld

Hershey's Chocolate Tasting Adventure

Chocolate lovers will be delighted to sink their teeth into a chocolate tasting class at "Hershey's University."

Adults and children alike can attend the lesson led by Dr. Terry Vanderbean, who will teach them about cacao as they are guided through a chocolate "tasting."

Upon arrival, students are led to their seats at a long table where water and several pieces of

chocolate await their discriminating palates. They are encouraged to interact with the instructor and identify flavor notes such as dairy, fruity, earthy, coffee, floral, citrus while cleansing their palates with water in between tastings.

During the presentation, chocolate expert "Dr. Livingston McNib" appears "via satellite" on the big screen as he ventures through the forest, depicting various stages of chocolate harvesting and production.

Students are presented with a certificate granting them a master's degree in chocolate tasting as they proceed down the aisle to the tune of "Pomp and Circumstance" at the end of this half-hour, multi-media educational journey.

Visit: www.hersheys.com/chocolateworld/attractions.shtml

The Hershey Story

Upon exiting Chocolate World, follow the signs directing you to The Hershey Story, which is less than a mile down the road. This museum documents the story of Milton Hershey through artifacts, photos, a film and interactive exhibits.

"This interactive exhibit brings to life the legacy of Milton Hershey, the town he created and the lives he touched," said Amy Bischof, director of The Hershey Story.

Milton Snavely Hershey began work at 14 as a newspaper apprentice, but was fired after

dropping his hat into the printing press. A few months later, he tried his hand as an apprentice to confectioner Joseph Royer in Lancaster, where he worked for four years. He started out serving customers and ended up learning the art of candy-making, thanks to his mother who realized his potential and chipped in extra money for lessons.

At age 18, Milton Hershey opened a shop in Philadelphia and made his first fortune in caramel. He eventually decided to sell the business stating, "Caramel is a fad—chocolate is the future."

Visit: www.HersheyStory.org

Harrisburg Mile Takes to Front Street

The Millers Mutual Harrisburg Mile will race down Front Street this month for the 28th year.

The July 21 race starts at Front and Maclay streets and finishes at Front and Boas streets. There are 13 different mile heats, including a Half Pint Half Mile, Elite Mile, Masters Elite, Corporate Challenge and Just for Fun Mile/Walk. Races begin at 6 p.m. Race day registration starts at 4 p.m. at the East Shore YMCA.

Race proceeds benefit youth and child care programs for the East Shore Branch YMCA.

Visit harrisburgmile.com or call 717-232-9622 for more information.

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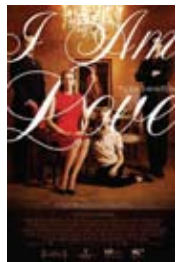
Pick Poignancy over Piffle

Two films, one DVD for your summer pleasure.

Kevyn Knox

Summer is upon us, and as usual, we are bombarded with the ultra-loud, the ultra-hip and the ultra-obnoxious at the suburban multiplexes.

Granted, some surprisingly enjoyable fare sneaks in there from time to time—most notably of late is “Splice”—but more often than not we are handed things like “Marmaduke” and “MacGruber.” This seasonal barrage of bloated bombastic ballyhoo is to be expected, but also to be expected is the alternate fare playing at the nation’s arthouses—including such bulwarks of art cinema as Film Forum in New York and The Ritz in Philadelphia, and of course, Harrisburg’s very own Midtown Cinema. It is at these oases of foreign and indie films that you will find two interesting movies.



First up is the gorgeous “I Am Love” starring the rapturous actress Tilda Swinton. Swinton has a strange sex appeal, the kind of alien life form one would expect to see lying on a bed post-coital, behind

Captain Kirk, as he puts on his boots and goes on with his appointed mission. Swinton brings this strange, unearthly hotness to many of her roles, but never so much as here. It is the perfect match of subject to

medium. A bizarre, otherworldly sexuality blended seamlessly into an equally bizarre and otherworldly motion picture. I can describe it no better than Melissa Anderson in the Village Voice:

“As unrepentantly grandiose and ludicrous as its title, Luca Guadagnino’s visually stunning third narrative feature suggests an epic Visconti and Sirk might have made after they finished watching Vertigo and reading Madame Bovary while gorging themselves on aphrodisiacs.”



Another film making its way through arthouses this summer is “Please Give.” The film stars the always wonderful Catherine Keener as a woman of better-than-

average means who, through a sense of privileged guilt, tries to help all those she deems unfortunate, whether it is by haphazardly handing out \$20 bills to the homeless of Manhattan or volunteering for charity work she has no idea how to perform.

Directed by Nicole Holofcener, who got her start writing for the haute scarecrows of “Sex and the City” before moving on to directing her own films (“Lovely & Amazing,”

also with Keener, being the best of them), “Please Give” may suffer a bit from a sense of its own privileged guilt—or perhaps one should say privileged angst (something that runs rampant in the aforementioned S.A.T.C.)—but lands mostly on all fours.

A lot of this has to do with Keener’s role, but the true highlight of the film for me was Rebecca Hall. Last seen in Woody Allen’s “Vicky Cristina Barcelona,” Hall is quickly becoming the poster child for the neurotic urbane young woman of today. Even with its flaws, “Please Give” pops with the likes of Hall and Keener.

Before I sign off, let me leave you with one note on a recently released DVD—and believe it or not, it is a Hollywood studio picture that I saw in the very multiplex of horrors I so often rail against.

The movie is “Shutter Island,” and the director is the legendary Marty Scorsese. Probably the auteur’s best film in nearly two decades, “Shutter Island” should surely be everyone’s very next DVD purchase—or at the very least, sitting atop your Netflix queue.

Well that’s it for now. See you next time.



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

Community Center Opens on Allison Hill

“Celebrate New Beginnings” is the theme for the July 10 grand opening of the Latino Hispanic American Community Center of Harrisburg at 1319 Derry St.

“We’ll be marking the opening with an outdoor festival in the 1300 block of Derry Street,” said board member Ellen Roberts.

The community center, which actually opens July 1, will serve as a single, convenient location where residents can visit and obtain information on social, educational, health and other services.

“We’ll emphasize cooperation and collaboration with other area service agencies, striving to add value to services already provided in the community,” Roberts said.

The grand opening, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 10, will feature food, music, live entertainment, city officials and a special guest. The ribbon cutting is 11:30 a.m.

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Fido: Eat This, Not That

Dr. Rubey gives the skinny on pet food.

Todd Rubey

One of the most common questions I am asked is "What should I feed my pet?" This is the proverbial \$64,000 question of pet care.

There are numerous types of foods out there for pet owners to choose from. The choices are almost endless. The most important factor to remember is that each pet is an individual. What works for one does not necessarily work for another. There are three basic factors that I take into account when suggesting a food for a client: dietary restrictions, food quality and cost.

I consider pet foods like steak. There are multiple cuts of steak, each with its pros and cons just like pet food. First, there is the rump roast, a cheap cut with lots of extra fat and junk. This is comparable to store-brand pet foods, cheap but with lots of extra filler or junk in it. Then there's the London broil, a better cut of meat with not as much extra stuff, but still a little chewy. This is comparable to the big brand companies like Purina, Pedigree, Alpo, etc. Finally, there is the prime

rib, an almost pure cut of meat—smaller, but just as filling. These are the high-end foods like Science Diet, Iams, Royal Canin, etc. Pets eat less of this food and get all the nutrients they need, but you pay more for the higher quality.

You and I can live on all these cuts of meat, and our pets can live on all these brands of food, but you get what you pay for. Whichever level you choose, it is important to pick one brand and stick with it. Pets do not adapt well to continual changes in food or to owners who buy whichever food they have a coupon for. They get used to eating the same thing for weeks, and then it is suddenly changed. When this occurs a few times, they get sick. We humans are used to eating something different every meal. Pets, however, are accustomed to eating the same thing every meal. Boring repetition is good for them.

Whichever brand of food you choose, it's important to understand your specific pet's dietary needs and restrictions. Cats, for instance, lack a specific amino acid, called taurine,

that is important in their health. Nowadays, all cat food contains taurine, but cats fed only tuna or chicken will lack taurine and could become very sick.

Food allergies and gastrointestinal sensitivities are other factors to consider in choosing foods. Ask your veterinarian if you are concerned with any of these things. Your vet may start a specific food trial designed for your individual pet.

Pets, like people, have flavor and texture likes and dislikes when it comes to their food. Thankfully, the sense of taste in animals is considerably less than in humans, so it is not such a big deal. That said, each animal knows what he or she likes.

The sense of smell probably plays a more important role than taste. I often tell cat owners to watch their cat and notice how almost every cat will smell his or her food before eating it. Most cats wrinkle their noses and walk away from something they don't like without even tasting it. Realizing this, pet

food companies are now paying much closer attention to odor and palatability.

I'm also often asked if it is OK to cook for your pet. Absolutely. It's important, though, to include a vitamin/mineral supplement with your homemade food. There are certain things added to pet foods that are not in human food. You can feed them meats, grains, veggies and fruits. There are numerous websites and books available that contain recipes and ideas.

As far as feeding raw meat to your pet, I don't agree with this. There are reasons we cook our meat—parasites, disease, ease of eating and digestion. If you wouldn't eat a food item raw, neither should your pet.

Bon Appetit!!!!



Todd Rubey, DVM, a veterinarian for 12 years, works for the Colonial Park Animal Clinic.

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Summer Vacation—at the Speed of Life

Lazy summer days? Not so lazy anymore.

Rebecca Mack

The summer months are supposed to be a time to relax with our families and enjoy the slower-paced lifestyle encouraged by the hot weather.

The phrase “lazy summer days” sparks a spirit of nostalgia for a lot of us, with images impressed in our minds of parents lounging in rocking chairs on porches, drinking lemonade and conversing with the neighbors while the children race through sprinklers, chasing after bees.

It would be nice to be able to say those lazy days are how we spend our summers now, but modern reality dictates a faster-paced lifestyle for the entire culture and shorter summer vacations for children. This often forces us to race through summer from activity to activity, trying to soak up as much family time as we can before the even-faster pace of the academic year recommences.

So what do our summer calendars look like?

There are many activities to do during the summer—some requiring a lot of planning, a lot of time (and money) and even packing, like beach vacations or plane trips to Grandma’s. Some are more last minute, fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants types: day trips to a zoo or quick outings to a park down the street. Budgeting plays a key factor in how we spend our vacation, and some of the best times spent with the family are often the ones that are free. Visit www.visithhc.com to find activities to do in our area, including a great list of 31 activities to do at no cost!

Personally, having younger children and our own business allows our family to have a slightly slower-paced life throughout the whole year. With owning a landscape business, we are obviously busier during the landscaping season that runs March to November,

but there is always a way to finagle schedules in order to take a trip to Lake Tobias or spend a day hiking part of the Appalachian Trail. Our favorite activity to do with our children is berry picking. Last year, we picked strawberries and blackberries. We even made our own freezer jam with our treasures! There’s something to be said for searching out the most perfect, plump berries to take home, allowing the children to get in on the hunt and spending quality time with them as we learn a wealth of new information about the fruit—and about each other. Visit www.pickyourown.org to find a participating farm near you.

Older children like to go berry picking, but also might enjoy a trip to the National Aquarium in Baltimore, or even traveling as far as

the National Zoo in D.C (admission is free!). Closer to home, Hershey Park is always a winner as well. And it wouldn’t be summer without some sort of water activity. The local pool or a friend’s backyard sprinkler is often the go-to activity on any hot, sticky day.

Whatever our summer plans entail, it’s always nice to spend some time just basking in the joy that the company of our children delivers before returning to the accelerated speed of our modern lives.



Rebecca Mack is the mother of four children, a freelance writer and the co-owner of New Growth Landscaping. Visit her blog at www.motheringgodschildren.blogspot.com

[motheringgodschildren.blogspot.com](http://www.motheringgodschildren.blogspot.com)

Shipoke to Hold Annual Flea Market

The Shipoke Neighborhood Association will hold its annual flea market and bake sale on Saturday, July 10, starting at 7 a.m.

The event will take place on the 500–800 blocks of S. Front Street in Shipoke alongside Riverfront Park.

The event is open to the public and outside exhibitors are welcome. Spaces will be available on a first-come basis.

Proceeds will be used for the beautification of the Shipoke neighborhood and park, said organizers.

For more information, please contact Bill Renz at 717-731-6543 or wrenz@riteaid.com.

Midstate Is 2nd Best to Raise a Family

Harrisburg/Carlisle has received kudos as the second-best place in the United States to raise a family.

In its ranking, Forbes Magazine lauded the area for its affordability, low crime rate and high rate of education. Only Des Moines, Iowa, placed higher among the country’s largest 100 metro areas.

In April, Forbes cited Harrisburg/Carlisle as one of the country’s “most livable” places. The midstate ranked 12th among top metro areas.

Harrisburg Students Complete Mural Project



At the Downey School, 1313 Monroe St., students this spring completed the mural “Upstander” (left), an artwork depicting the destruction of humanity during the Holocaust and the many ways students can make a positive change within their community.

Educators believe that such classroom studies and projects will encourage students to become community involved and promote justice.

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All the Soccer Ladies

It's time for these women to kick up their cleats.

Pamela Waters

Four years ago, my daughter's soccer coach saw me out for a jog and said, "You should come play on my women's soccer team. We could use some more fast players."

I forgave the blatantly false implication and overlooked the fact that the sum total of my soccer skills came from watching second-graders play.

The "Eastern Strikers," an over-30 team made up largely of other players who were similarly inexperienced, had never won a game. The few women who had played in high school or beyond coached us through one practice before our first game of the season.

It was exhilarating to play. I had no ball skills, no control and few instincts to help me, but I was not afraid to be aggressive, and my clumsiness seemed to confuse the opponent. I fell in love with the game that day. It didn't hurt that I scored a goal or that we racked up the team's first win ever. I know it defies believability on both counts, but it's true.

Our team is one of nine over-30 teams in the Harrisburg Area

Women's Soccer League (HAWSL), which also has an open division of 12 teams. A total of 291 players this spring marks the highest registration in the league's history. In 1992, founding president Ann Breithaupt lined up the fields, referees and teams for the league's first season.

According to current president, Suzy Grim, running the league has gotten much easier over the years. Initially, everything from registration to scheduling was organized on paper, and it was a struggle to find playing fields.

"The workload has subsided," said Grim, crediting both the switch to Internet-based registration and a long-standing relationship with the towns where the fields are located.

Teams in both divisions play Sunday afternoon games in Hampden Township, Camp Hill and Enola. Seven players take the field for each team, where they play with a "no offsides" rule. These arrangements allow a single referee to call a game, which is important for keeping the cost of participation down, as well as for ease of scheduling.

The open division is largely comprised of experienced players, many under 30 and only recent alumni of a college team. But a surprising number are old enough to play on an over-30 team, according to Grim, and there are some who bring no prior experience to the game. The majority of players in the over-30 division are mothers, some in their 40s and 50s.

On a recent Sunday, we took the field against 4 Kicks, a team that had beaten us fairly consistently in the past. Kelly Segura, a 4 Kicks forward, explained that the majority of her teammates were experienced players before joining the team. Eastern Strikers captain, Terry Saad, shook her head after our disappointing 8-0 loss, noting that playing such a capable team shows us how much we can learn.

"I look forward to getting it," she said.

HAWSL welcomes new teams and new players. To register for the fall season, or for more information, visit www.sportsmanager.us/HAWSL.htm.



She shoots: Eastern Strikers captain, Terry Saad of Hummelstown, goes after the ball in a recent over-30 women's soccer game.

Triathlon Casts Off

The seventh annual Catfish Triathlon/Duathlon, to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Central PA Chapter, is scheduled for July 11 on City Island.

The race starts at 7 a.m. Triathletes will run 8/10ths of a mile; duathletes will run 1.5 miles. All then will bike 14.5 miles and run 3.1 miles.

The race is open to nine age groups, from 19 and under to 55 and older, and participants can compete individually or in teams. To register, visit www.active.com or www.tricatsports.com.

New Concert Season

The Greater Harrisburg Concert Band kicks off its 27th season with a concert at 7 p.m., Sunday, July 11 at Schaffner Park in Hummelstown. The theme of this summer's concert series is "Winds of Liberty."

All concerts are free and open to the public. Visit www.ghcb.org for updated information in case of inclement weather, as well as directions to each concert venue.

Sky Goes Boom



The Harrisburg Jazz and Multicultural Festival takes place July 3-5 along the waterfront, highlighted by the annual fireworks display on July 4.



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Steve Oliphant

When you think of wildlife, what comes to mind?

Heated City Council meetings? Frantic, long-overdue budget debates in the halls of the state Capitol building? Perhaps your mind flashes to a thumping dance beat, pulsing lights and simmering summer outfits? Nights on the town for dinner, drinks and live music with friends?

Harrisburg has come alive with the nightlife of Restaurant Row and downtown attractions. We are the epicenter of state, county and municipal decisions and conflict. The city is vibrant with it.

Yet within just a few hundred yards of the Capitol and the frantic fun of the city, there exists a completely different wildlife. The Susquehanna River, once choked with coal dust and poisoned by raw sewage, is now cleaner than it's been for more than a century. An incredible oasis of emerald green grass beds, sandy, secluded islands and wild creatures—from beavers to bald eagles—all thrive within the city limits. Talk about urban revitalization!

Float peacefully in a canoe or kayak through ancient river islands on the warm, clear waters just off the riverfront steps. Stop for an island picnic, fish for feisty small mouth bass or enormous catfish, and then cool off with a swim in a shallow pool with an impressive cityscape as a scenic backdrop.

There's a rhythm here, but it's a different beat than the bustle of downtown. Water willow and marshmallow sway to the current, songbirds sing sweet melodies and wading birds dance patiently along the edges, stalking dinner and mates. Summer outfits blaze orange, red, blue and the pure white, almost tropical plumages of a vibrant natural community.

Construction projects continue (unfunded) as beavers work diligently to build dams in the narrow channels between the



The river wild: A snowy egret (center) shares a muddy bank with a duck blind along one of the many small islands in the Susquehanna River. A wealth of wildlife can be found in the midst of this urban area, including beavers, mink and a wide variety of birds and waterfowl.

islands. Baltimore orioles engineer hanging baskets as artistic as any at the \$5 early season festival on the banks of the river.

Harrisburg is famous for its friendly people. We celebrate diversity. We are strengthened by many colors, many tongues, many cultures. One community. Our river is also famous for diversity. Ducks, turtles, beavers, mink, muskrats, white-tailed deer, bald eagles, herons, egrets and fish as long as your leg. Many colors, many tongues. One community. Many of us just can't afford to continue a pattern of expensive family

vacations, but that just might be a blessing. We have so much right here in our backyard.

With all the bad news that assaults our sensibilities, and all the stresses of life, we need to renew ourselves. Enjoy the wildlife! Live the wild life! Work hard—PLAY HARDER! Find your balance.



Steve Oliphant is a lifetime city resident and co-owner of Susquehanna Outfitters on City Island, www.susquehannaoutfitters.com.

Essay Winners Head to Washington

This year's local winners of the national "Do the Write Thing" essay contest are Mary Ellen Grap of St. Joan of Arc School in Hershey and Jonathan Triquera of Ben Franklin School in Harrisburg.

The two grand prize winners will travel to Washington, D.C., to meet other winners and elected officials as part of a four-day conference.

They will meet their members of Congress, enjoy dinner at the Kuwait Embassy and attend programs with other student winners from across the country. They also will be interviewed on the local television program "Life Esteem."

"Do the Write Thing Challenge" is an initiative of the National Campaign to Stop Violence. Essays focused on personal experiences with youth violence, its causes and how to stop it.

To obtain a copy of the writings, call 717-780-6655. For more information about the contest, visit www.dtw.org or call 202-293-4483.



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Health Innovation Goes Local

Pinchot Plan has new approach to family medicine.

Jeffrey B. Roth

In a small, rural hamlet called Wellsville about a half-hour south of Harrisburg, a doctor has established a general family practice with a unique payment plan that does not require patients to have insurance.

"The reason I wanted to start the plan is that I knew there is a need for basic medical care for people who are uninsured," said Dr. Shawn S. Moyer of Pinchot Family Medicine.

The discounted fee-for-service Pinchot Plan is a membership program for primary health care, the first in the state and based on Health Access, the first such program offered on the east coast that was developed by Michael Fine, a primary care physician in Providence, R.I.

Enrollees of the Pinchot Plan pay an initial one-time fee—\$80 per individual, \$160 for families of five people or less. Then it's \$30 per month and \$15 per visit. Pennsylvania's Insurance Department ruled the plan is not insurance, which, in part, is defined as "indemnification of the insured by the insurer; profit motive on the part of the insurer; an element of risk."

Moyer said he can offer primary care at such a low price through fee-for-service because he does not have to deal with all the red tape involved in the insurance reimbursement process. He actually saves money on administrative expenditures for staff time.

Moyer's plan covers all services that occur in his office, but for anything outside, such as lab tests, X-rays or hospitalization, the patient pays either out-of-pocket or through insurance.

A 1998 graduate of Thomas Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia, Moyer started the practice more than two years ago.

"We are still taking new patients. We are not quite up to where we would like to be—seeing about 11 patients per day," he said.

The York County practice has caught the attention of physicians in western Pennsylvania, Moyer said. They have inquired about how the plan operates. Several similar plans exist in Maryland, too, he said.

The plan covers physical and mental wellness through annual physicals, gynecological and well-child exams; vaccinations and cancer screening; treatment of immediate

problems—sore throats, coughs and colds, suturing



Dr. Moyer of Pinchot Family Medicine.

lacerations, removing earwax, etc.; management of long-term medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes and high blood pressure; and various tests like glucose, urine, pregnancy, etc. It also coordinates care that involves organizing and forwarding pertinent information from primary exams, lab tests and X-rays, to specialists.

Prescriptions are not covered under the plan, but Moyer offers serums and vaccines at the same price he pays for them.

Moyer, some of whose patients live in the Harrisburg area, said one in 10 state residents have no health insurance and many insurance plans have deductibles that begin at

\$1,000, making it too costly for some people.

"We believe that 85 to 90 percent of care is provided in outpatient primary care offices," he said. "Primary care doesn't have to be expensive."

Pinchot Family Medicine is located at 7489 Carlisle Rd., Wellsville. For more information, call 717-502-4149 or visit www.PinchotFamilyMed.com.

Street Snap



At play, on Buttonwood Street.

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Friday July 16, 2010 - Pride Shabbat ~ Temple Beth Shalom
7:15 PM ~ 913 Allendale Road Mechanicsburg

Friday July 23, 2010 - Voices United Concert ~ Market Street Presbyterian Church
8 PM \$ 15.00 Admission

Friday July 23, 2010 - Pre-Pride Party ~ Liquid 891
Harrisburg Featuring The "DC COWBOYS THE DANCE COMPANY"

Saturday July 24, 2010 - PrideFest Unity Parade
"PRESENTED BY HIGHMARK BLUE SHIELD" 11 AM Front Street Harrisburg

Saturday July 24, 2010 - PrideFest ~ River Front Park
Harrisburg \$ 8.00 Admission 12 Noon - 5 PM

Saturday July 24, 2010 - Post-Pride Party ~ Club XS York

Sunday July 25, 2010 - Capital Region Stonewall Democrats
Pride Forum Harrisburg Area Community College
Midtown Campus 2 PM - 3:30 PM

Sunday July 25, 2010 - Spirits United Interfaith Service
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EVERY 3RD FRIDAY IN HARRISBURG: JULY 16

Gallery Blu (1633 N 3rd St • 717.234.3009 • www.galleryblu.org • Hours: 11 am-9 pm) "Pride" featuring artists from the LGBT Community. Artists Reception 7-9 pm. Poetry reading by Leah B.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore (1302 N 3rd St • 717.236.1680 • www.midtownscholar.com • Hours: 9 am-9 pm)
Coffee cupping at Noon. Reception for "Remnant," artwork by Benjamin Thorpe: 6-9 pm. Music by Ellen Cherry: 7-9 pm.

The HodgePodgery (1100 N 3rd St • 717.236.0150 • www.thehodgepodgery.com • Hours: 11 am-10 pm)
"You're such a Character!" Happyasarobot by Melanie Walters and SadDevilKetchup by Daniel Jenson. Caricatures for whatever your mood; starting at \$10. Call for appt.

Midtown Cinema (250 Reily St • 717.909.6566 • www.midtowncinema.com) Independent & foreign films. Artist: Liz Larabee.

Arts at 510 (510 North 3rd St • 717.724.0364 • www.artsat510.com • Hours: 11 am- 8 pm)
Mixed Media by Cheryl Piperberg and Clare Margaret; jewelry by Roxanne Toser. Reception and music by 510 Express 5:10-8 pm.

Mangia Qui (272 North St • 717.233.7358 • www.mangiaqui.com) Artist: Joanne Landis & drink: Strawberry Lemon Mojito \$6.

Gallery at Walnut Place (413 Walnut St • 717-233-0487) Drawings & sculptures by Christian Kcomt, MD. Reception 5-9 pm.

SPRAMA.design. (308 N. Second St • 717.238.1001 • www.sprama.com) "Natalie Lock: Legacy." A celebration of the late Natalie Lock's abstracts and collages. Exclusive solo exhibit brought to you by the Lock Family.

ArtHouse Lounge. (217 N. Second St • 717.236.2550 • www.arthouselounge.com) Catch For Us The Foxes: Solo Photography exhibit by Harrisburg Native Corwin Prescott. Piper photography featured in Upper Lounge. 6-10 pm.

Nonna's Deli-Sioso (263 Reily St • 717.232.6150) South Central PA's only authentic Italian Delicatessen.

Gallery@Second (608 North Second St • www.galleryatsecond.com)
Featured artists: Lawrence von Barann and James M. Krabel, plus "The Burg" group exhibition. Reception 6-9 pm.

Historic Hbg Association (1230 North 3rd St • 717.236.4646 • www.historicharrisburg.com)
Live music & art exhibits from local galleries and artists. 5-9 pm.

Broad Street Market (1233 North Third St • 717.236.7923 • www.broadstreetmarket.org)
Vendors are open late! Live music, great atmosphere, community experience! 5-9 pm.
Introducing the HoPo Road Show Art & Craft Market: 12-7 pm & 8 am-4 pm (Sat. July 17).

"Chevy Courtesy Shuttle" Look for a specially marked 2010 Traverse or Equinox. Departing on the half hour from the Broad St. Market & stopping at all participating galleries & restaurants. "Win prizes just for riding!" Call: 717.798.7128 for a ride.

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