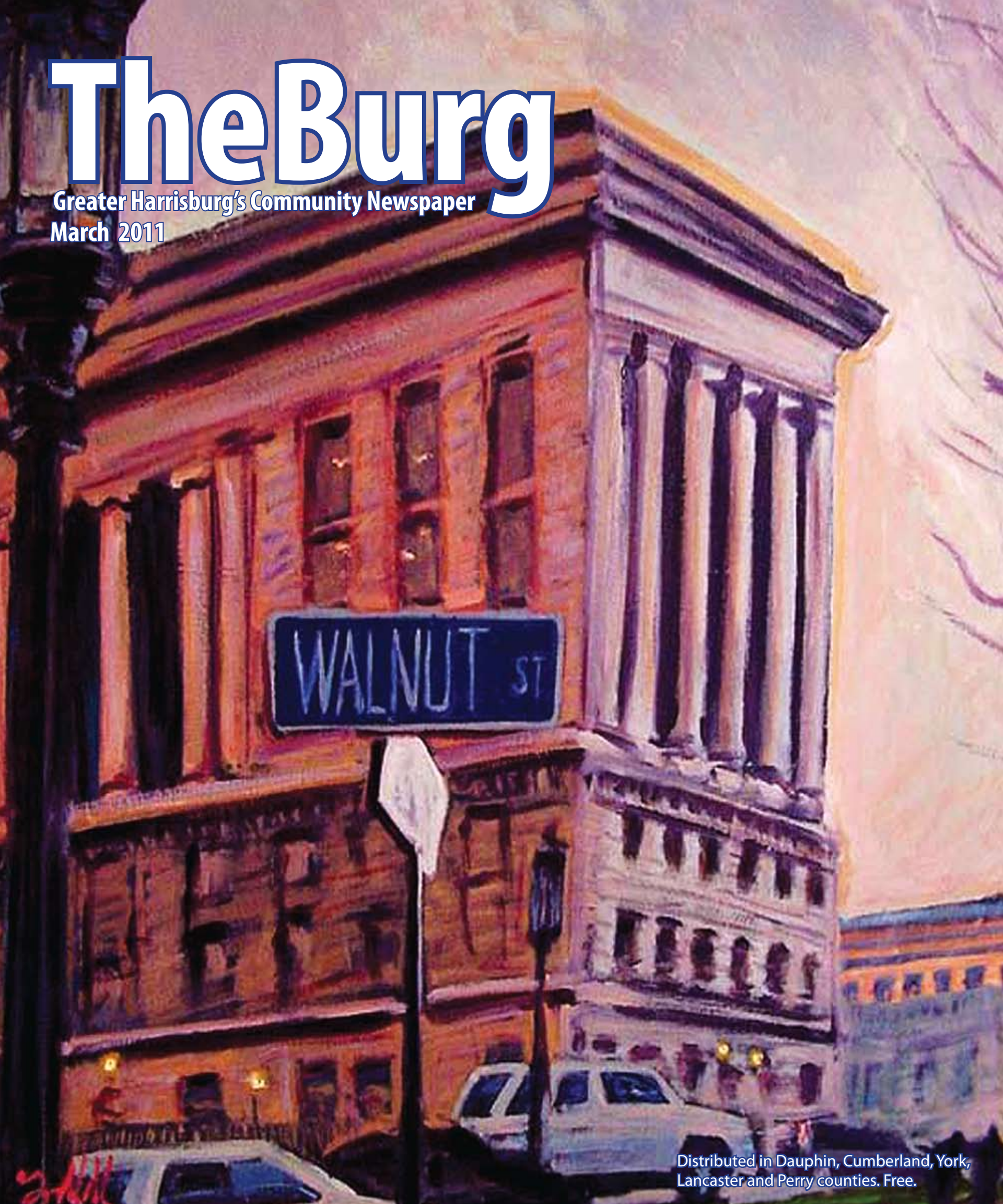


# TheBurg

Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

March 2011



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*This month's cover:  
"Walnut Street Sign"  
by Bryan Thomas Molloy.  
For more on the artist and his  
painting, flip to p.17.*



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## Act 47 Team Says Slash Costs Now

Harrisburg must consider “drastic” steps to stem spending, as expenditures could exceed revenues as early as this month, according to the state-appointed financial recovery team.

In a letter last month to city officials, the Act 47 team said that a preliminary analysis revealed a dire situation in the city’s operational budget that may lead to cash flow insolvency in the near-term.

“Only expenditures that are essential to the health, safety and welfare of city residents should be approved,” stated the letter.

The letter urged the mayor and City Council to take the following measures:

- Mandate a spending freeze for discretionary purchases.
- Institute a hiring freeze and overtime restrictions.
- Prepare financial contingency plans for each department.
- Limit capital project outlays.
- Review grant and third-party funds that require matches.
- Maintain flexibility so that other workforce and operational measures can be taken.

The Act 47 team based its recommendations on an initial review of the city’s finances, which showed a high risk of repeating last year’s payroll and bond crises.

## Thompson Loses Two Top Staffers

Two key city staff members resigned unexpectedly last month, both citing irreconcilable differences with Mayor Linda Thompson.

Chuck Ardo left as spokesman, the third person to exit that position in a year. Phil Harper resigned as city solicitor, Harrisburg’s top lawyer.

Ardo, who previously served as spokesman for former Gov. Ed Rendell, said he had differences with Thompson over how to handle the media and discomfort with her personal style, including charges that she repeatedly made homophobic remarks.

He had served as director of communications since August after brief tenures by Joyce Davis, who left after a falling out with Thompson, and her replacement, James Penna, who departed to take a job as a congressional aide.

At press time, the city was searching for a new spokesperson, a position advertised as paying \$74,000 to \$77,000. Aide Brenda Alton was acting in that capacity for the time being.

Upon submitting his resignation, Harper said he had differences with Thompson over how to handle certain legal issues. Assistant Solicitor Jason Hess stepped into the position until a replacement could be named.

## Timeline Adjusted for Recovery Plan

A comprehensive plan intended to lift Harrisburg out of financial ruin should be completed in late May or early June, according to the latest timeframe.

The state-sponsored Act 47 team got to work last month on discovery—sifting through mountains of information regarding bond deals, financial statements and other information on the city’s \$282 million debt load.

“We are in the early stages of gathering information,” said Fred Reddig, director of the state’s Center for Local Government Services.

Reddig said he expects the Act 47 team, which consists of four separate law and consultant firms, to finalize a comprehensive financial rescue plan for the city in late spring or early summer.

The report will focus on how to free the city from its massive debt burden, the result of backing bonds issued by the Harrisburg Authority over many years to upgrade the city’s incinerator. It also will address structural problems that have led to repeated shortfalls in the city’s operational budget and recurrent payroll crises.

After public hearings and possible changes, the City Council would vote on a comprehensive financial rescue plan for the city about two months later.

Meanwhile, the council’s own team of lawyers expects to issue a separate report by the end of this month.

Attorney Richard Levin said his firm, New York-based Cravath, Swaine & Moore, also was deep in the discovery process and would meet a March 31 deadline to set forth opinions and recommendations on the financial crisis, options that may include declaring municipal bankruptcy.

Levin also informed the council that he had brought on Alvarez & Marsal, a New York-based financial consultant and turnaround specialist, to assist the firm with issues unique to municipal finance. Both firms are providing their services to the council at no cost.

# TheBurg

Greater Harrisburg’s Community Newspaper

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## Gaining a Toehold

Broad Street Market has let many locals step into business.

Tara Leo Auchey



From worker to owner: Maricruz Alvarez is starting in business at the Broad Street Market.

Farm fresh vegetables, milk, cream and eggs, organic options to boot. Knowledgeable butchers and goods baked from scratch. Not to mention, those hard to find spices and old-fashioned favorites. An array of flowers, too.

Add to that a rich selection of things to eat—from sushi to buttered greens. Curried chicken, fried fish, a hand-rolled Amish soft pretzel, a cup of coffee. Plus, an element of the flea market with a treasure trove of trinkets, jewelry and aromatherapy oils.

All this in one place provided by a cluster of about 40 vendors. Entrepreneurs. Enterprising members of the community fulfilling a time-honored weekly ritual of selling goods and forging relationships—business and personal—under the canopy of one of the oldest business incubators known to humankind: the market.

Harrisburg's Broad Street Market has come a long way since the Verbeke family started it in 1860 at the end of what was known, at that time, as Broad Street.

The Market then was a bustle of activity—a meeting place of county rural life and city zest, a hotbed of commerce and diversity. While there may no longer be hundreds of vendors, inside and out, like the Broad Street Market of days gone by, it still offers enterprising people the opportunity to try a hand at owning

their own businesses.

This was precisely the goal of Nora and Ed Proctor, owners of P&R Baked Goods in the stone building (photo, p. 3). Always a baker, Nora knew a bakery would be her business. So five years ago this June, the Proctors took the next step.

"We wanted to have an avenue to step out on our own," Nora said about making

the decision to set up shop in the Broad Street Market. "We knew it was enough foot traffic to sustain us, plus, it's captivating, all the different people that come through here."

Another advantage of having a part-time retail bakery in the Market is that they can focus on marketing P&R's specialty pound cakes and home-style cookies to local coffeehouses and restaurants.

"Right now we're supplying the Midtown Scholar with our cookies," Nora explained. "We'd like to do more of that."

She added, "It would be very challenging to try to operate a free-

standing bakery, open six days a week and do all of this at once."

The model works. Broad Street alumni include Auntie Anne Pretzels, Neato Burrito, Sophia's on Market in Camp Hill and Nonna's Deli-Sioso, which left the Market in 2007 to move to its current location a few blocks away on Reily Street across from the Midtown Cinema.

One of the latest entrepreneurs to leave behind the incubation of the Market is Justin Peterson. In November, he sold the well-known Market stand, Shady Nook Farm, and opened Garden Fresh Market & Deli across the street, the city's first organic grocery store and deli.

It's a perfect example of the potential and propulsion of setting up business in the Broad Street Market. Located on the N. 6th Street end of the brick building, Shady Nook Farm had been owned and operated by Earl Stauffer and his family for 22 years. In 2008, Stauffer retired and proudly sold it to Peterson. For two years, Peterson ran the stand, primarily to learn more about the business as he worked on the next step of his plan—opening an organic grocery store.

Now, after a slight name

change, Shady Nook Produce Co. is owned by Maricruz Alvarez.

Originally from Sonora, Mexico, she's used her experience in finance and marketing to introduce a few fresh and clever changes to the produce stand.

"Of course, we changed things. We're always thinking of ways to attract and provide products to our customers," she said. "Being at the Market, you can do that, you know, make deliberate decisions about how to make adjustments and improvements. It's an advantage."

Alvarez was delighted when Stauffer recently came back to visit his old workplace.

"He looked around and said to me, 'This place looks great! Seriously, you've done a really good job. I'm impressed.' That made me feel good knowing that it was once his and now it's mine. He was happy, too."

*Burg Note: The Broad Street Market will hold a day of "spring revitalization" on Sunday, March 13, noon to 5 p.m. Afterwards, a community forum will be held to discuss the Market and how to improve it. To volunteer to help clean up/spruce up the Market, please contact Jennifer Sim at manager@broadstreetmarket.org or 717-236-7923.*

A promotional graphic for Schulz Entertainment. At the top, the text "SCHULZ ENTERTAINMENT" is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below it, "Chuck Schulz" is written in a stylized font, followed by "Mobile Disk Jockey and Entertainer" and the phone number "(717) 234-9336". A list of services includes Birthdays, Anniversaries, Weddings, Commitment Celebrations, "This Is Your Life" Shows, Fund Raisers, and Specialty Theme Parties. A photo of Chuck Schulz, a man in a tuxedo, is on the right. The website "www.schulzentertainment.com" is at the bottom.



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## Beyond the Circus

Zembo Shrine offers history, beauty, fraternity—and clowns.

Peter Durantine



The Zembo shrine is abundant with magnificent, ornate architecture and decor, including this entryway.

Built in 1929, the Zembo Temple, an imposing granite-like building at 3rd and Division streets, evokes the citadels of the Arabian peninsula and is considered by many to be Uptown's architectural jewel.

Inside, a warren of rooms, some palatial in size, each spectacular—the 3rd Street entrance lobby, ornate with fresco-painted walls and mosaic-style floors; tiled staircases set ablaze by baseboard lighting; the Tile Room, ornate and appropriately named.

Across an elaborately decorated hall lined with the portraits of Temple potentates dating back to 1904 is an enormous auditorium with arena seating for more than 1,600 people. This is where concerts, boxing matches and other events are held.

It is one of the finest architectural achievements in the city, designed by Charles Howard Lloyd, who “dipped deeply into the spirit of the North African styles,” exemplified by the Moroccan-influenced arches, chandeliers and hand-painted motifs, according to a history of the building.

Maintaining the Temple, and the acres of parking lots around it, costs hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. This is what the Zembo Shrine Circus, now in its 64th year, helps fund. “It keeps the lights on,

the doors open,” said Terry Fabian, circus chairman.

On a tour of the building, Fabian pointed out its many artistic flourishes, all well preserved. “Today, you couldn’t replicate it; you couldn’t afford it.”

No longer at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, where it was for years, the circus now performs in the Temple’s auditorium. The Farm Show controlled, and thus profited from, concession sales, and its arena became too expensive to rent.

Moving the circus to the Temple has benefited circus goers. Parking is free, ticket prices are a reasonable \$12 for general admission (there is limited reserved seating at \$20 per person), and concession prices range from \$1 for drinks to \$3 for a chicken sandwich.

“We wanted a whole night of family entertainment—and yes, we want to make some money—but we don’t want to break the family bank,” Fabian said.

Doors to the auditorium are not large enough for big animals like elephants, but this year’s circus, which runs March 16–20, will feature pigs, Dobermans and a famous high-wire act, The Flying Wallendas.

Keeping the Temple is important because of its history—noted figures like Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy have spoken there—and because other Masonic Temple marvels around the country have been sold and demolished.

Like most longstanding institutions today, the Masons struggle with declining enrollment because younger generations show little interest. Zembo Temple has seen its membership drop from 12,000 in the late 1970s to just below 3,000 today.

“The World War II generation was the last of the great joiners,” Fabian said, though he noted, “We’re starting to see the younger men come into the Masonic fraternity.”

Keith Schrum, 44, who joined about 10 years ago, was attracted to the Shriner’s longstanding core mission—philanthropy through fundraising and dedicated service to sick and disabled children at the 22 Shriner’s Hospitals for Children.

“I wanted to join a nonprofit organization that helped people,” Schrum said. “I feel good that I’m part of an organization that gets these kids back on the healthy path.”

It is keeping to this mission that began nearly a century ago—and building the membership to carry it on—that is of utmost concern, Fabian said.

“The history of this is important,” he said. “But the future is important, too.”

Zembo Shrine Circus is in the Zembo Temple, 2081 N. 3rd St. It runs March 16–20, evenings at 7 p.m. with matinees Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and Sunday, 1 and 5 p.m. 717-236-7241 and [www.zembo.org](http://www.zembo.org).

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# Around Town

## Engaging Harrisburg Youth

YCDT shows young can be leaders, too.

Una Martone

Thirty five students from Harrisburg High, Sci Tech High and Bishop McDevitt are convened in the 7th annual Youth Community Development Team.

Their purpose is to identify the single most important community need that affects their peer groups and then work toward common solutions through grant-making and volunteer service.

If it sounds impossible for 35 teenagers to agree on ANYTHING, then you can imagine the challenges faced by Leadership Harrisburg Area and the Harrisburg Rotary Club in facilitating this program as a community partnership. But, after years of experience and with dedication and perseverance, it can be done! Since 2004, the Youth Community Development Team has supported The Silence of Mary, The Joshua House, Drug Free PA and Channels Food Rescue.

This year, the students were introduced to the "needs assessment" process, in which they honestly shared concerns about the lack of opportunity for success in the Harrisburg schools, racial discourse, lack of role models, falling moral values, lack of leadership in their communities, limited opportunities for recreation and safe gathering places. They worried over violence and slow response times when they've called for police help in their neighborhoods. Through a guided dialogue and lots of compromise,

the students agreed that public safety, recreational activities, community welfare and education were the highest priorities in their community and, ultimately, agreed to focus all of their grant making and volunteer efforts toward education.

Specifically, the YCDT Class of 2011 will award \$5,000 to a local nonprofit that provides services in Harrisburg for K-12 students in one of the following areas: peer mediation, academic tutoring, academic support programming, mentoring, school supplies, recreational programming and diversity programming.

Students have embarked on a fundraising process to raise \$5,000 for the grant award and have already raised more than \$2,000. They have issued an RFP asking for grant applications by March 8 and will interview finalists in April and make their grant award in May.

Youth Community Development Team is a win-win. Leadership Harrisburg Area and the Rotary Club of Harrisburg are able to achieve their service missions and provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for their members; a local nonprofit organization benefits from the \$5,000 grant award and new student volunteers; and the students gain a voice in their communities, preparing them for leadership.

For more information, please contact Una Martone at [lha@leadershipharrisburg.org](mailto:lha@leadershipharrisburg.org) or visit [www.hbgrotary.org](http://www.hbgrotary.org).

## Welcome Home

Harsco Corp. is injecting new life into its 21-acre site off Herr Street, turning it into a regional center for storing and distributing infrastructure used in large-scale construction. About 20 jobs are being created as a result. Harsco is in the midst of a \$2 million site upgrade, slated for completion in April. Camp Hill-based Harsco began life in Harrisburg in 1853 and long has occupied this neglected site, where it once operated as the Harrisburg Steel Corp.



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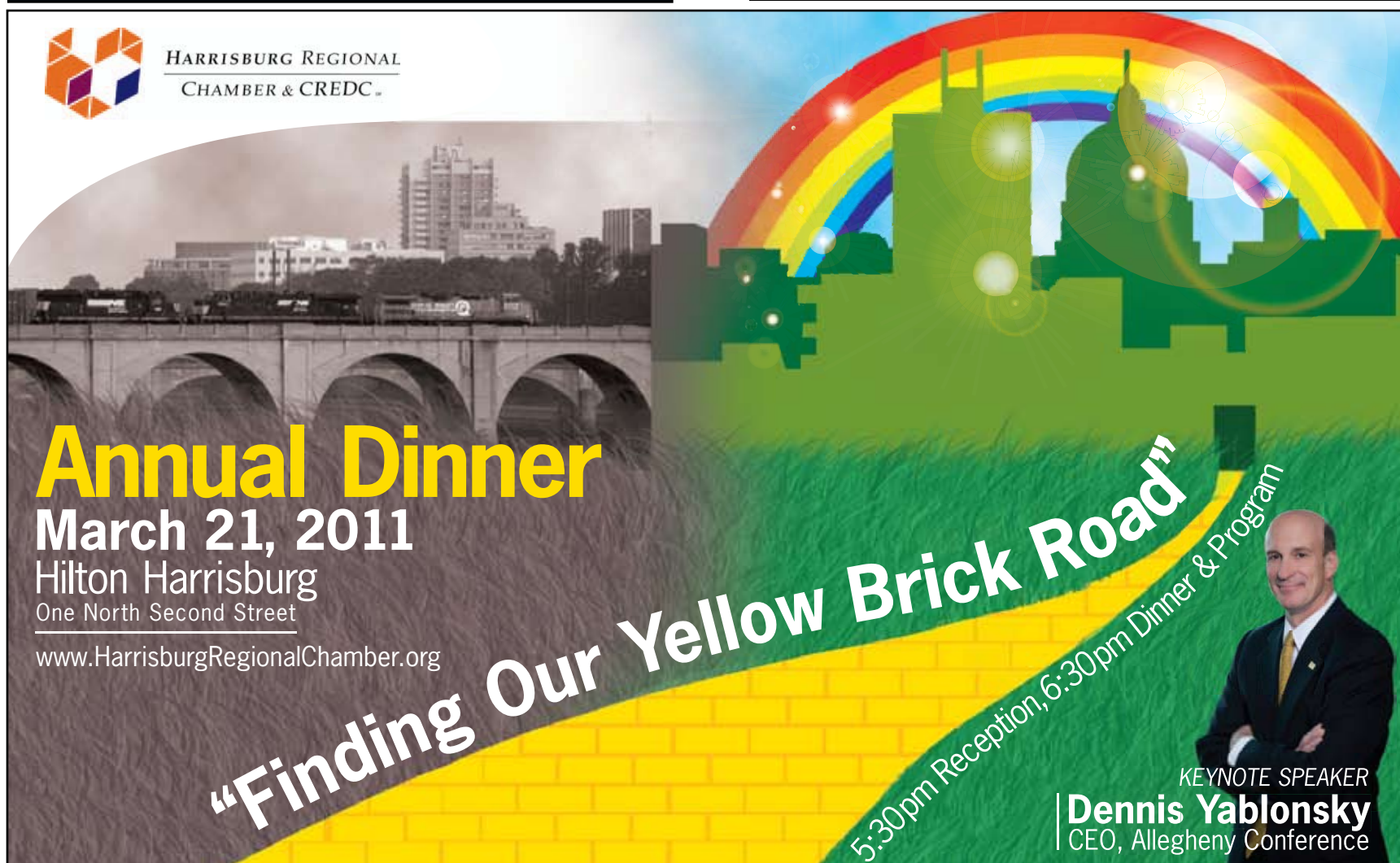
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- Mar. 1: The Extraordinaires
- Mar. 4: Aortic Value Dance Event
- Mar. 5-7: **Pretty Things Peepshow**
- Mar. 6: Go Go Amy's Pin-up Class
- Mar. 10: Yarn
- Mar. 11: **Colebrook Road**
- Mar. 12: JT & the Mildheat  
w/The Swaines & J.O.D.
- Mar. 13: Soul Comedy Café
- Mar. 17: **St. Patty's Day Beach Party**  
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- Mar. 18: Doug & Telisha Williams Band
- Mar. 19: Boro Boogie Pickers
- Mar. 20: The Reese Project
- Mar. 24: **The Vagina Monologues**  
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# Young? Nonprofit? Need Guidance?

YNPN Harrisburg can step in and help.

Nathan Smoyer

Imagine this: you are recently hired as program coordinator for an after-school, at-risk youth program.

The salary is slightly lower than what you had hoped to earn out of college, but the benefits are great, and you are feeling positive about what you will be doing for young boys and girls. You get off to an excellent start, designing a new sports league and coordinating volunteers to run it.

The first week flies by as you make great progress, learning more about the organization and your co-workers. Your excitement builds daily with anticipation to start the program you have designed. There are just a few items that have to be

tied together to make your program whole. Then you hit a roadblock.

It starts when you are asked to work one day a week solely on development as recent funding to the organization has dropped. You get asked to assist the accountant in collecting records to balance the books. Then, just when you are ready to jump back on your program, the only office administrator leaves for another job, placing you in charge of answering the phone and other administrative duties.

Welcome to the situation many professionals face, especially young professionals in the nonprofit world.

Certainly, the nonprofit community is often accustomed to

maximizing its limited resources. Often, though, this does not leave room for professional development and the sharpening of skills and talents of those working in these organizations. Too often, those running nonprofits are too busy with their duties to find time to improve their own skills and talents. This extends from entry-level positions to the executive director. And if they are unable to focus on improving themselves, the organization is often unlikely to improve.

This is where the Harrisburg Young Nonprofit Professionals Network, or YNPN, can help. YNPN is a national organization with chapters nationwide. Each chapter is individually operated as a separate 501c3. With YNPN providing events and hosting roundtable-style discussions, nonprofit professionals have the opportunity to improve their skills. In turn, they then can use these sharpened skills to improve the function and performance of their respective organizations.

YNPN Harrisburg, which opened its chapter a year ago, has already

hosted several events, such as "Intergenerational Communication" and "How to Lose a Donor in 10 Days." Topics such as donor cultivation, the generation gap and fundraising are just a few that YNPN Harrisburg plans to address.

If you have an interest in learning more about YNPN, or would like to get involved, a representative can be reached by email at: YNPNHarrisburg@gmail.com. You can also find the group on Facebook.com/YNPNHarrisburg or Twitter at @YNPNHarrisburg.



Nathan Smoyer, a recent graduate of Central Pennsylvania College, is a board member of YNPN Harrisburg. A self-described social entrepreneur, he's founder and partner of Chatterbox Marketing, a

New Cumberland-based social media and Web design firm specializing in restaurant and event marketing. He promotes and assists grassroot organizations that can positively influence the youth and those in need.

# A Race against Leukemia

Pledge today for Man, Woman of the Year

TheBurg Staff

Each year, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Central Pennsylvania Chapter, holds what may be the most competitive fundraiser in the midstate—the Man & Woman of the Year campaign.

This year is no exception. A dozen civic-minded individuals, representing local businesses and community organizations, kicked off the eight-week fundraising drive on Feb. 24.

They're all vying for the title based upon the amount of money they raise. Each dollar counts as a vote. The man and woman who raise the most will be honored at the Society's Grand Finale Celebration, April 21, at the Radisson Penn Harris Convention Center in Camp Hill.

You can support your favorite candidate online by making a donation at [www.mwoy.org/cpa](http://www.mwoy.org/cpa). For additional details on this year's campaign, contact Debbie Farver,

campaign coordinator, at 717-652-6520 or at [debbie.farver@lls.org](mailto:debbie.farver@lls.org).

Also, congratulations to the 2011 Boy & Girl of the year, local children who are battling blood cancers. They are Tyler Derr of Etters and Claire Brobson of Harrisburg.

Candidates for Woman of the Year are:



**Tammy Golden**  
The Bistro at  
Penn State York



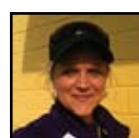
**Dawn Rettinger**  
HodgePodgery



**Abeer Srouji**  
Eye Candy  
Accessories



**Desiree Woof**  
Sass Salon  
& Day Spa



**Teague Wright**  
Momentum Fitness Center

Candidates for Man of the Year are:



**Todd Bear**  
Simply Turkey  
& More



**Ray Davis**  
RE/MAX Realty  
Associates



**Nick Ferraro**  
AFLAC



**Brian Johnson**  
Carrabba's  
Italian Grill



**Sam Lindenberg**  
Team Financial



**Tom Russell**  
CBS21



**Mark Vickrey**  
Blooms by Vickrey

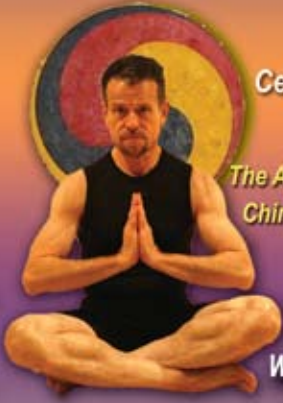


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# ShutterBurg

## ... a Month in Pictures



Feb. 5: The Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show made its annual, week-long visit to the state Farm Show Building in Harrisburg. In this photo, man and beast meet eye to eye.



Feb. 11: Workers "topped off" the new Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital by placing the final steel beam atop the five-story structure, slated for completion in late 2012.



Feb. 13: Jessica Mathis of the Pa. Department of State instructed a crowd at Midtown Scholar how to circulate nomination petitions, which are due March 8 for the May 17 primary.



Feb. 14: Protesters and gawkers gathered in front of the Harrisburg Government Center to demand the resignation of Mayor Linda Thompson, who gave the crowd a well-publicized thumbs down.



Feb. 17: The Vartan Group razed a row of buildings at 6th and Pepper streets, including a defunct bar and the old Todd and Pat's Hotel. Vartan has no immediate plans for the site, but said the dilapidated structures posed a danger to the area.



Feb. 18: Artist Joyce Braxton Coley showed her eclectic art at 3rd Street Studio during 3rd in The Burg. Her show continues through March.



Feb. 18: The Klezwoods from Boston blew into town at HMAC Stage on Herr (above), while the Millennium Music Conference featured acts like Curtis Prince on the stage at Midtown Scholar (right).





## When Trains Collide

Lochiel wreck was Harrisburg's worst rail accident.

Jason Wilson



The remains of the Lochiel collision were scattered over a wide area.

Harrisburg, as a transportation center, has seen its share of disasters involving railroads. Perhaps one of the most horrific occurred on May 11, 1905, in what was known as the Lochiel neighborhood, about a mile south of Harrisburg.

Around 1:10 a.m., an eastbound freight train was forced to brake to avoid a collision with a switching engine on the same tracks ahead. When the train quickly slammed its brakes, several cars buckled and derailed onto the passenger tracks.

Before any warning could be sent, a westbound passenger express, traveling at speed, sideswiped the derailed cars and came to an abrupt halt.

Several seconds later, a massive explosion ripped through the trains, sending cars, wood, metal and, unfortunately, passengers flying into the Susquehanna River. Two of the freight cars had been filled with dynamite, which exploded after being struck by the express.

Immediately, survivors, residents and crewmen tried to get close, but were cautious of the fire, not yet knowing whether the entire train was full of dynamite. Doctors and medical personnel from Harrisburg quickly made their way to the wreck and tried to evacuate the wounded to Harrisburg Hospital, while firefighters tried to extinguish the burning cars. A special train brought wounded to Harrisburg's

railroad station, and the traction company also ran emergency trolleys to aid in the rescue.

The New York Times initially reported 163 people were killed. This was later found to be false, and the deaths were listed as 22 with 136 injured, several of whom later died. The most famous person killed in the disaster was a 26-year-old theater promoter and producer

named Sam Schubert, who was traveling from New York to Pittsburgh on business. In 1913, his brothers purchased a theater in New York City and named it in his honor. The Sam S. Shubert Theater remains a famous Broadway landmark—the namesake of a young producer killed in the Lochiel train wreck just south of Harrisburg.



Onlookers posed amid the wreckage.

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## Need a Treat, a Dress, a Massage?

Many new local businesses await your arrival.

### TheBurg Staff



**Red Door Consignment Gallery:** Sam Levine, Jessica Berman (holding Cotton) and Irene Berman-Levine have opened a consignment shop at 2635 Paxton St., offering upper-end furniture and art, ranging from contemporary to antiques to retro. It's geared to those who prefer to recycle or "up-cycle." Hours: Mon.-Wed., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs. until 7 p.m.; and Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 717-233-5111 or [www.RedDoorConsignmentGallery.com](http://www.RedDoorConsignmentGallery.com)



**Intuitive Bodywork Massage Therapy:** A massage therapist for 25 years, Alan Jordan has opened Intuitive Bodywork Massage Therapy at 337 Bridge St., New Cumberland. Nationally certified, Jordan offers stress and pain relief and pre-natal massage. He specializes in bridal and wedding massages for nervous brides and grooms and bridal party. Open Tues.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sat., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 717-884-9568 and [www.intuitivebodywork.net](http://www.intuitivebodywork.net).

**Allure Apparel:** Allure Apparel, 308 N. 2nd St., opened in early February offering trendy New York and London fashions for women and men. Jamie Snyder, who owns the shop with Darryl Jennings, said, "We're trying to bring the Soho feeling to Harrisburg." The shop is open Mon.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Fri.-Sat., 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Call 717-525-7701 or visit [www.TheAllureApparel.com](http://www.TheAllureApparel.com).



**Clear:** Bill and Rosie Heilig are the sales team at Clear's latest store at the Harrisburg Mall on Paxton Street, which opened in mid-January. Along with partner Steve Lam, they offer high-speed wireless Internet service, Internet/voice bundles and DirecTV satellite service. Located next to the food court, Clear operates during regular mall hours. Call 717-585-6195.



**L&M Sweets and Treats Café:** Lura Sawyer and Megan Ulrich have opened a sweet shop/café at 19½ N. 4th St. in Harrisburg. They serve sandwiches, salads, baked goods, candy, fudge and more, all homemade and fresh. They also sell popular candy bouquets. "If you have a party, this is the place to come," Ulrich said. Open Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Contact information is 717-901-7755 and [www.lmstcafe.com](http://www.lmstcafe.com).



**JJ Nails:** Owner Cuc Le opened her nail salon in the old florist shop at 404A N. 2nd St., Harrisburg, in January. She offers manicures and pedicures, as well as silk wraps, nail repair and design and more. Hours are Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 717-238-1771.



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## From Africa to America

Apparel, art, history mix at Omari's Place.

Peter Durantine



A world of culture: Richard James in his colorful shop on N. 3rd Street in Harrisburg.

Omari's Place in Midtown Harrisburg is a unique enterprise: part women's boutique, part African art and clothes shop, part world African museum.

The businesses—each separate but housed at 923 N. 3rd St.—are operated by Richard James and Kumba Saho, who runs the women's shop, filled with the latest western clothing. James is the inspiration behind the art shop and museum.

"We share space, and we share costs," he said, noting the irony in his and Saho's partnership. "It's interesting that I'm American and she's African; I do the African and she does the American."

James' shop/museum, which moved last fall from Middletown, where it had been for several years, is at the back of the building. Enter the shop and find authentic African artwork—from musical instruments to wood carvings—and African clothing, brightly colored robes, shirts and dresses.

A bamboo entryway at the back of the shop invites customers to visit the museum, which James expects to open officially this month. It offers artifacts from Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Egypt and other countries on the continent and elsewhere.

"We're going to have India," he said. "It has 102 million people of African descent."

James carries a wealth of knowledge about African culture

and history, facts that support what he wants people to come away with—another picture of Africa than the turbulent or famine-stricken views commonly held.

"The museum is not for Africans," he said. "It's for all people."

The 69-year-old former state worker said he has had a life-long interest in his heritage, thanks to his mother, who had an abiding interest in Africa.

"She instilled that passion in her children, particularly me," said James.

James' museum includes maps, photographs and information from historian Harold G. Lawrence, who claims Africans had explored America before Christopher Columbus. James named the museum for another historian, the late John Weldon Scott, a Harrisburg native who wrote a book about the city's African-American community.

James was inspired to start the museum when he was involved several years ago with local historians in a now-defunct African-American museum "without walls," in which, every so often, an exhibit was set up at a selected site.

Harrisburg historian Calobe Jackson, who worked with James on that project, said James' interest goes back many decades.

"He's been wearing the African garb for quite awhile," Jackson said, noting James also was active in the Civil Rights movement. "He was involved in some of the marches."

When his museum opens, James looks forward to meeting and enlightening the people who visit.

"I have a singular passion for people," he said. "I think that every culture, every people have contributed to civilization."

Omari's Place, 923 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg; open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., 236-2475.

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## Opponents: No Way to Halfway House

Zoning Board to hear case this month.

Peter Durantine



Hudson Building, at 6th and Maclay.

A Philadelphia-based developer is meeting with stiff community resistance in its bid to turn a historic Uptown building into a 221-bed facility for pre- and post-release female inmates.

Last month, the Harrisburg Planning Commission voted 4–1 against approval of the proposal by Philadelphia Suburban Development Corp., which wants to remake the circa-1923 Hudson Building, located at N. 6th and Maclay streets, into a residential institutional facility for non-violent women inmates and parolees.

The commission's vote serves as a recommendation to the city's Zoning Hearing Board, which is to

take up the matter on March 14.

Mark Nicoletti, vice president of Philadelphia Suburban, said his company has a tradition of buying old properties in neighborhoods other developers scorn, renovating the buildings and leasing them to states and municipalities for such services as the post-release facility it proposes for the Hudson Building.

"We don't ask for tax credits," he said. "We pay real estate taxes."

Nicoletti argued that the long-empty facility would be a training and educational center for non-violent offenders, where the women could transition back into society.

He also promised to provide a large commercial kitchen and dining room for Harrisburg Area Community College to expand its culinary program and a large community room for the neighborhood—all free of charge.

But the proposed facility would locate next door to the Camp Curtin YMCA and the Nativity School, which is located inside the YMCA, drawing opposition from both, as

well as from neighbors, due to safety concerns.

Opponents complained that the city already has several post-release facilities—two near the site.

"I don't want this in my community," said Angela Johnson, a homeowner on Green Street. "I've had enough."

Despite seeming support from the Thompson administration—City Council President Gloria Martin-Roberts and Brenda Alton, Mayor Linda Thompson's ombudsman and administrative assistant, both spoke in favor of the project at the hearing—the planning commission rejected it because of its proximity to the school and because the developer had failed to meet first with the community.

"I was sort of upset with the applicant for not getting with the community with a project of this magnitude," said Joseph Alsberry, chairman of the commission.

Nicoletti appears to have a spotty record in working with communities.

According to a 2001 Philadelphia City Paper article and a 2000 Philadelphia Inquirer report, he had submitted a proposal to the Department of Corrections indicating he had support for a Germantown halfway house the community, in fact, opposed and was successful in stopping.

## Linden Terrace Sells

Linden Terrace, a Midtown high-rise apartment building (pictured below), has sold for \$5.6 million.

Dauphin County lists the buyers as two companies, PMB PM and D1 LP of Mechanicsburg. The seller was Harrisburg Properties Ltd.

Linden Terrace, at 1201 N. Front St., houses low-income seniors and disabled people, who usually qualify for subsidized rents. The 40-year-old, 94,000-square-foot building has 123 units on 11 floors.

Harrisburg has seen several significant sales in recent months of large apartment buildings.

The historic Governor Hotel, 335 Market St., which also houses low-income seniors, sold in November for \$1.6 million to Riverview Manor Associates. Old City Hall, an iconic building at 423 Walnut St., sold in December for \$7 million to a Boston-based group led by Beacon Communities, which owns many residential buildings in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic.



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## Changing Hands: January Property Sales

Alricks St., 650: S. Scheib to K. Gautsch, \$117,500

Bigelow Dr., 29: B. Higgins to J. Neff, \$44,000

Brookwood St., 2320: G. Neff to K. Connor, \$62,900

Chestnut St., 1936: PA Deals LLC to M. Chapman, \$47,250

Chestnut St., 2032: Integrity Bank to W. Noss, \$110,000

Chestnut St., 2402: A. & J. Decima to D. Decima, \$81,000

Croyden Rd., 2945: G. True to D. Velez Soto, \$89,500

Emerald St., 328: Anthony P. Mino Trust to D. Warren, \$68,900

Hamilton St., 220: D. & T. Subarton to G. Murray, \$140,000

Hamilton St., 631: L. Couch to Dobson Family Partnership, \$70,000

Kensington St., 2438: J. Shearer to J. Holmes, \$71,500

Lexington St., 2746: J. Blackwell to M. Bratcher, \$65,000

Market St., 2428: St. Paul's Baptist Church of Harrisburg to L. Thomas, \$69,000

N. 3rd St., 1806: G. Biggs to R. Peters, \$40,000

N. 3rd St., 2231: Freddie Mac to S. Bowman, \$52,900

N. 5th St., 2605: Bank of New York Mellon Trustee to 42 5th St. LLC, \$41,900

N. 15th St., 214: PA Deals LLC to M. Chapman, \$39,900

Peffer St., 427: J. Kim to L. Blanton, \$69,900

Rudy Rd., 2458: K. & J. Cooper to H. Dieu, \$62,000

Susquehanna St., 2246: Mid Penn Bank to Thompson LLP, \$30,000

Verbeke St., 1716: L. Walker to L. Brown, \$73,000

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



## Station Plan Fuels Debate

Sunoco to expand, redesign station/store.

*TheBurg Staff*

Sunoco wants to raze its gas station and convenience store at the corner of N. 2nd and Maclay streets to build a larger, modern store with a canopy that is almost three times the size of the one that currently stands over the pumps.

Harrisburg Zoning Hearing Board officials last month expressed concern over the new structure's conformity to the neighborhood's historic architecture, which includes the Governor's Residence directly across N. 2nd Street.

"You're doing nothing to customize to the neighborhood," said James Cowden, the board's solicitor.

Jeff Bauer, Sunoco's senior construction engineer, said the 3,000-square-foot, mostly glass, block-style store would have a faux brick façade to echo the nearby brick homes and the Residence.

The board also expressed concerns with the canopy size and the amount of bright light it would produce and questioned whether the property could be reconfigured.

"This is a pretty important intersection in our city," said Dan Deibler, a board member.

The current "A Plus" store, which faces the Governor's Residence, has served as a gas station since it was built in 1956 (construction of the Residence began in 1966 and was completed two years later).

Sunoco wants to keep this configuration with the storefront and gas pumps facing 2nd Street to ensure a steady flow of customers, most of whom stop at convenience stores impulsively, said Bauer, though he argued the A Plus also was a neighborhood store.

The board asked if the store and pumps could face Maclay Street, but Bauer and another Sunoco

representative, Robert Switala of Bergmann Associates, resisted, citing safety concerns for fuel trucks and higher design costs.

The board granted Sunoco's request to enlarge its building and canopy with conditions that it restrict access to Maclay Street from the property, secure flood-protection certification from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and have studies conducted for traffic and light to determine the proposed canopy's light intensity.

A final condition is approval from the Harrisburg Architectural Review Board.

## Convent Conversion Remains in Limbo

Skynet Property Management made little progress last month in its bid to turn a downtown Catholic convent into a 39-unit rooming house.

For a second time, the company appeared before Harrisburg's Zoning Hearing Board, seeking a special exception for 603-605 N. 2nd St., a building not zoned for that use.

The biggest issue for the board and neighbors is density—Skynet's proposal would place too many people in a building that for decades has been used by a handful of nuns in a communal setting, they argued.

"You're going from communal-type, contemplative people who use property quietly," said neighbor Kathy Speaker MacNett.

Skynet proposes a mix of one-bedroom and efficiency apartments, as well as rooms with shared kitchens and baths, at rents of \$90 to \$150 per week. To address concerns, Skynet proposed fewer units—31—though not necessarily fewer occupants. The board rejected it.

"The density makes a difference to us," said Marian Frankston, board chair.

Skynet is expected to return with a revised proposal at the March 14 hearing.

## New Training Center

Harrisburg Area Community College plans to break ground this month on a new law enforcement training center at its main campus off N. Cameron Street.

The City Council last month approved the land development plan for the center, a single-story, 49,600-square-foot building that will contain classrooms, offices and an indoor firing range.

The \$15 million project is expected to be completed in June 2012. It includes substantial improvements to the existing Shumaker Public Safety Center.

## Café Gets the OK

WCI Partners received city approval last month to convert a dilapidated corner grocery store in Olde Uptown into a neighborhood café and lunch spot.

The Zoning Hearing Board unanimously approved a variance for the building at 1836 Green St.

The decision allows WCI to begin renovations, which should start this month or next, said WCI President David Butcher, who expects the café to open in the summer.

The project will include the renovation of a one-bedroom apartment on the second floor.



Artist's rendering of the new station.

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## Taste the Waters

*Pasta alle vongole* will make you happy as a clam.

Rosemary Ruggieri Baer

My father was born in and spent the first 12 years of his life in a little seaside town on Italy's Adriatic Sea called Vieste. Vieste is on the Gargano coast in the region of Apulia. When he was born, in 1908, Vieste was a poor and rather isolated fishing village.

Today, however, it is becoming a vacation spot for tourists who come to see the spectacular sight of towering cliffs rising from the sea. The elements have honed the rocks into numerous grottoes and arches punctuated with small, sandy beaches. Vieste's once hidden beauty is becoming known.

I have not been to Vieste, though I pray I will one day be able to visit this beautiful place where the Ruggieris lived. My father often told me how he and his friends would jump off the rocks and dive underwater to pry shiny blue-black mussels off their slippery surface. Perhaps they ended up in my Grandmother Victoria's *zuppa di pesce*, or fish soup. I know his love of shellfish was born here.

My father adored eating all manner of saltwater creatures, including eel, calamari, octopus, smelts, crabs, oysters and mussels. But clams were, by far, his favorite. When he was very old, we often would take him out to an Italian restaurant for a treat. Sometimes, we traveled a distance. He always asked the same question: "Do they have clams there?" Well, of course they did. That's why we were going!

*Pasta alle vongole*, or pasta with clam sauce, can be made in a variety of ways. Some prefer the clams to be bathed in a spicy red sauce or perhaps even an Alfredo sauce. But we prefer the classic preparation of a sauce containing no more than oil, garlic and briny juices from the clams.

Finding fresh clams can be a little tricky in central PA. I once asked a worker at my local supermarket if the bag of clams I was ready to buy was "pretty fresh." She suggested I try something else. Nevertheless, they can be had. Wegmans gets fresh seafood almost daily and Keplers at the West Shore Farmers Market brings in a variety of fish and shellfish for Friday and Saturday shopping. Ask for littlenecks or cherrystones. Large clams tend to be rather tough, so choose small or medium ones. Before cooking, soak the clams in cold water for 30

minutes and then scrub them with a clean brush to remove any sand. Discard any clams that fail to close when touched.

What follows is a simple recipe for pasta with fresh clams, laced with wine and spiked with red chili peppers. It's perfect for a brisk March night. (Pop, this one is for you.)

### *Pasta alle Vongole*

In a large saucepan, Dutch oven or a deep sauté pan, warm 2 large, finely chopped garlic cloves and a pinch of dried red pepper flakes in 1/3 cup olive oil until the garlic is golden, about 1 minute. Stir in 1/4 cup chopped flat leaf parsley. I like a lot of hot pepper, but you can adjust to your taste.

Add 3 pounds scrubbed hard-shell clams and 1/2 cup dry white wine and cook over medium heat for about 5 minutes or until the clams open. Shake the pan occasionally and discard any clams that fail to open.

Meanwhile, cook a pound of good Italian linguine or spaghetti in a pot of rapidly boiling salted water until *al dente*. Reserve a cup of the pasta cooking water and drain the pasta when done.

Transfer the pasta to a warmed serving bowl and add the cooked clams and their juices. Toss to mix well and add some of the pasta cooking water if the mixture seems too dry.

Sprinkle with a little more chopped parsley if you like, but this is one pasta that is best without grated cheese. And that's all it takes for this classic Italian dish that is fit for company and great for Lent. Enjoy!



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

## Gumbo: A Touch of New Orleans, Perfect for Mardi Gras Season

Randy Straub

One of my favorite southern dishes, this classic gumbo can be served as a soup or an entrée, and can be as spicy as you want. Not for beginners, this is a very basic gumbo dish—always made with andouille sausage, okra and rice—but can be modified to fit your taste. Just add shrimp,

crab or even alligator, which is a crowd pleaser at The Soup Spot. Top the dish with gumbo file powder, a necessity for cooking authentic Creole or Cajun cuisine,

if you can find it at a local farmers market.

1 whole chicken  
salt and pepper to taste  
1 lb. andouille sausage, cut in 1/4 in. thick slices  
1 large onion, diced  
1 large green pepper, diced  
1 stalk of celery, finely chopped  
2 Tbsp. chopped garlic  
3 Tbsp. Tony Chachere's Original Creole Seasoning  
1/2 lb. okra  
1/3 cup vegetable oil  
1 cup flour  
hot sauce to taste  
gumbo file powder, small pinch  
1/4 cup rice for soup version per person  
1/2 cup rice for entrée version per person

Place chicken in a large pot, cover in water and add salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer about

1 hour until chicken is fully cooked. Remove chicken from water and set aside to cool. Keep water as broth.

While chicken is cooking, sauté sausage, onion, green pepper, celery and garlic (and alligator if you like) in a pot until vegetables are tender and add the strained broth (and shrimp if you like).

After chicken is cooled, pick the meat off the bone and add to broth, as well as the Creole seasoning and okra. Bring to a boil.

In a sauté pan, heat oil, add flour and mix until smooth, and cook on low heat, stirring consistently, until mixture turns a caramel color and starts to smell like buttered popcorn (about 20 minutes).

Add roux mixture to boiling broth mixture, whisking vigorously. Add hot sauce to taste (and crab if you like). Remove from heat and serve with or over rice. Recipe serves six to 10.



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

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## A Place Where Art Calls Home

West Shore Gallery: Beauty on the walls, out the windows.

Peter Durantine



From artists to owners: Lawrence and Tammi Knorr in the West Shore Gallery.

Outside the West Shore Gallery's windows, the Susquehanna River flows by lazily and Harrisburg's skyline rises in jagged fashion, while, inside, the static scenes range from Italian cities to rural Pennsylvania farmhouses.

The Wormleysburg gallery is a room with many views, offering local fine art and photography, but also Sunbury Press, a publishing firm that already has had success with its fiction titles, one of which, "The 100th Human," has been an Amazon.com bestseller.

Owners Tammi and Lawrence Knorr opened the gallery late last summer, although Lawrence started Sunbury Press in 2004 after writing a book and deciding to become his own publisher instead of going the painstaking route of finding one.

Sunbury publishes trade paperback and digital books, fiction and non-fiction titles, including an art book line for individual artists and art competitions.

The husband and wife team were information technology professionals—Lawrence still works in the field for Giant Food—before deciding to open their gallery. They feature artists who are emerging,

avant-garde and established.

Art is a passion for the Knorrs. They also are commercial photographers. Tammi shoots portraits—from holidays to kids to pets—and weddings. Her style in wedding photography is non-traditional, capturing people in moments, though she sprinkles regular posed shots into the mix too.

Lawrence's talent is digital fine art, manipulating photographic images using the latest software technology to produce painting-quality pictures.

It was Tammi's growing wedding photography business and the increasing sales of Lawrence's digital art that prompted the couple to start the gallery.

"We were looking for an occasion to combine our efforts," Lawrence said.

As the new kids on the art block, the Knorrs are staking ground, last

year starting the Susquehanna International Fine Art Competition. Its theme was "River Art," for which they received 438 entries from 171 artists from around the world.

Most entries included a river, real or imagined, in the work, such as Joel Le Bow's "3049 Crossing" and Jing Chung's "Fishing Village." Others used the theme metaphorically. Most of the artists' works will be on display through March 10.

With another art competition planned for later this year (keep an eye on their website for updates), the Knorrs are expecting to leave their imprint on the local art scene, as they take in the view from their gallery.

West Shore Gallery, 100 S. Front St., Wormleysburg. Hours are Mon.–Wed. by appointment and Thurs.–Sat., 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Contact 717-713-5635 and visit [www.westshoregallery.com](http://www.westshoregallery.com).

## Our Cover: Walnut Street Sign

Our cover this month is "Walnut Street Sign" by artist Bryan Thomas Molloy. It's the third work we've featured from "The Burg," a group exhibit held last year at Gallery@Second in Harrisburg.

You may be familiar with Bryan's work. He has exhibited throughout the area, including at the Art Association of Harrisburg, the Forum and the state Capitol.

We asked Bryan what inspired him to paint this subject: "This building always stood out to me, and is one of the buildings in the Capitol complex, which houses some facet of bureaucracy, with some unknown function, essential to the commonwealth. I thought the sign might be an interesting aspect to add to a painting of a landmark structure.

"As well as being a landmark itself, the sign is an unusual element to my painting, as I seldom use any printing or legible lettering in my work. As a painting, I am very pleased with this in an academic sense. I feel that it has a very classically modern, contemporary-painting feel. It makes me feel a part of modern painting tradition. In that sense, it is a success to me.

The constant nagging stress to forge new traditions and styles in modern painting is not accomplished or even attempted in this piece. My reactionary stylistic process, in this case, I satisfied by conforming to my idea of the norm. In other words, I like that, in this painting, I was able to just paint and produce my idea of a typical American scene, in a common fashion, and feel confident that I succeeded in doing so."

For more on Bryan, visit Molloy Studios at [bryanmolloyart.com](http://bryanmolloyart.com).



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## Middle East Meets the Midstate

Sample Arab culture, food this month.

Laura Weis

When you hear the word "Arab," what comes to mind?

According to musician Karim Nagi, being Arab is not just what you read in the news.

"Religion and politics do not constitute a culture," Nagi said. "Two people can be from the same culture but have different religions and divergent political views. However, when someone in America reads the newspaper, watches television or surfs the Internet and is presented with information on the Arab and Muslim world, it is always about religion or politics."

On March 4 and 5, Nagi will help define what it means to be Arab and Arab-American in today's world by hosting three workshops on Arab music, culture and dance in Harrisburg. These workshops are presented by the Susquehanna Folk Music Society and partially funded by the Foundation for Enhancing Communities.

Nagi is a native Egyptian with expertise in many aspects of Arab music and dance. He is the leader of Sharq Arabic Music Ensemble, which plays traditional Arabic music,

and is the founder of Turbo Tabla, a contemporary Arabic fusion band using acoustic instruments. For the past five years, he has taught at the New England Conservatory of Music and has lectured and presented at Harvard, MIT, Yale and Princeton, among other schools. He has also performed at the Smithsonian, the National Gallery of Art, Berklee Center for the Performing Arts and Egyptian National Television.

Language and the arts, Nagi said, define Arab and Islamic culture. "My agenda is to demonstrate the depth of Arab art as exemplified in music and dance. Arab culture, through the universal language of music, becomes demystified and humanized."

Nagi's first workshop is 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 4 at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, 1280 Clover Lane. The evening, "Introduction to Arab Music and Culture from Arab-American Eyes," is a combination performance and interactive lecture, co-sponsored by the Unitarian Church's Clover Lane Coffee House and the Susquehanna Folk Music Society.

Nagi will give a demonstration of various Arab instruments and a three-sound clapping system that allows audience members to perform the Arabic rhythms without an instrument. He also will give demonstrations of the Lebanese dabka line dance and the Egyptian tahteeb cane dance.

Refreshments for the event will be provided by Sphinx of PA Egyptian Restaurant. During intermission, the owner, Hanan Awadalla, will discuss Egyptian cuisine and provide samples of Egyptian specialties.

On Saturday, March 5, Nagi will hold two workshops at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg's city campus at 16th and Market streets. "Introduction to Arab Dance" will be at 10 a.m. The class, designed for people with no experience in Middle Eastern dance, begins with the dabka, which means "stomp" in Arabic. The dabka is a group dance done at weddings and parties in Lebanese, Syrian, Jordanian and Palestinian communities. The dabka also has been used as a form of non-



Karim Nagi brings Arab music and culture to Harrisburg this month.

violent social protest during wars and conflicts.

Nagi's third workshop, "Arab Rhythm for Djembe Players," will be at noon. This drumming workshop for djembe musicians will focus on Arabic repertoire and rhythms. Nagi also will offer instruction on the Arabic tabla, a goblet-shaped hand drum used across the Middle East.

Tickets for each workshop range from \$10 to \$16. For more information, visit [www.sfms.org](http://www.sfms.org).

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#### PASZEK ANNOUNCES FOR MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE 12-1-03

Lynette Paszek, from 1525 North Front St., has announced her candidacy for MDJ, 12-1-03. Mrs. Paszek formerly served the magisterial district court as a legal clerk. She is currently completing her Masters degree in Psychology with an emphasis on Mediation and Arbitration.

Mrs. Paszek has over 30 years experience providing professional services to families and youths.  
[paszek4mdj@comcast.net](mailto:paszek4mdj@comcast.net)



## Spring Thaw in the Cinema

When both weather & film begin to warm up.

Kervyn Knox

In an onslaught of the cinematic winter doldrums, where the studios dump their trash, willy-nilly all about the nation's multiplexes (caring only for their Oscar hopefuls until spring), the disgruntled exclamation that everything out there is utter crap could not be more accurate.

But, as they say, March goes in like a lion and comes out like a lamb (whoever it is that says such things), so the prospects, just like the weather, are about to heat up.

First up is the most notable entry in this year's Best Foreign Language Oscar race, "Biutiful." Directed by Mexican New Wave headmaster Alejandro González Iñárritu ("Amores Perros," "21 Grams," "Babel") and starring Javier Bardem, the man who pretty much personified evil in his Academy Award-winning performance in "No Country for Old Men," "Biutiful" is a gritty, intensely drawn look at the Barcelona underworld. Sort of an urban decay version of the Passion Play with Bardem in the ostensibly Christ-like role, "Biutiful" is set as one man's downward spiral into metaphoric, and, possibly, actual hell.

Perhaps, with González Iñárritu's jarring visual style and coarse storytelling, the film is a bit too intense for Oscar voters, possibly opting for one of the lighter fare nominees instead (the answer to such questions will already have been answered by the time you are reading this), and perhaps, too, it falls prey to convention at times. "Biutiful" is nonetheless a film to watch for when it soon comes to Harrisburg theaters.

Also coming to the midstate area is Kevin Spacey in "Casino Jack." Taking on the role of scum-sucking DC lobbyist Jack Abramoff, this little-known movie, directed by George Hickenlooper, may be riddled with stereotype and plundered down with middle-of-the-road directing, but to watch Spacey hold court is well worth the price of admission. At his serpent-tongued best, the role of such a hated figure is perfect for an actor like Spacey.

There is one other film I would like to talk about, and it's called "Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives." It is an obscure Thai film directed by Apichatpong Weerasethakul and, even though it will not make it to Harrisburg any time soon, one should make the trek to New York to catch it at the cinephile's best friend, Film Forum.

If that's out of reach, get the DVD, which is available in a region-free disc as we speak. A sublime film of lyrical beauty that blends the succulent mythology of Thailand with a modern-day urban malaise, "Uncle Boonmee" is an art-house delight well worth the aforementioned trip to the Big Apple.

Well, that's it for this time around, but while you are anxiously awaiting my next column (and you know you are right about now), perhaps you want to go out and catch something good on DVD. If so, I would highly recommend two movies.

The first, one of the best films of 2010 (and an Oscar nominee) is "Winter's Bone," directed by Debra Granik. The second is Luchino Visconti's gorgeous masterpiece, "Senso." Until next time, enjoy. Now go see some movies.

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Readers' Choice  
2010



# Happenings

## Museums & Art Spaces

### 3rd Street Studio

1725 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
717-385-3315; [www.3rdstreetstudio.org](http://www.3rdstreetstudio.org)

"Pieces of My Passion," quilting, drawing, poetry, beading by Joyce Braxton; artist reception, Mar. 18, 6-9 p.m.

### Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

161 Museum Dr., Hershey  
717-566-7100; [www.aacmuseum.org](http://www.aacmuseum.org)

"Shelby: A Retrospective," the career and cars of Carroll Shelby, through April 24.

"Herbie the Love Bug," the adorable VW from the Disney movies, through April 24.

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

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

### Art Association of Harrisburg

21 N. Front St., Harrisburg  
717-236-1432; [www.artassocofhbg.com](http://www.artassocofhbg.com)

"4 Artist Invitational," through Mar. 24.

### Café di Luna

1004 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
717-695-9449; [cafediluna.com](http://cafediluna.com)

Photographs by local artists, through March.

### Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market St., Camp Hill  
[www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com](http://www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com)

Meredith Lewis, photography, through March.

### Cygnets Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

336 S. Market St., Elizabethtown  
717-367-6140; [conewagocoffee.com](http://conewagocoffee.com)

Jeffrey Barron, paintings, through March.

### Gallerie Thirteen

13 E. Main St., Mechanicsburg  
717-591-6940; [www.gallerie13.com](http://www.gallerie13.com)

The artwork of Fritz Steven Weiss and friends, through March.

### Gallery@Second

608 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg  
[galleryatsecond.com](http://galleryatsecond.com)

Artwork by Piety Choi and Kristin Kest, through Mar. 12.

The artwork of Tara Chickey and Chet Davis, Mar. 18-Apr. 23; artists' reception, Mar. 18, 6-9 p.m.

### Gallery at Walnut Place

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

Works by Maryland artist William Spencer, through March 30; artist reception, Mar. 18, 5-8 p.m.

### Garden Fresh Market & Deli

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

Paintings by Steve Shaw and photographs by Robert Turner, through March.

### HMAC/Stage on Herr

1110 N. 3rd St./268 Herr St., Harrisburg  
717-441-7506; [www.harrisburgarts.com](http://www.harrisburgarts.com)

Works by various local and regional artists.

### The Mantis Collective

1306 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
[themantiscollective@yahoo.com](mailto:themantiscollective@yahoo.com)

Printmaking by Ben Sperry, through Mar. 13.

"FIVEbySEVEN," an art charity event for Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Central Pa. Chapter, Mar. 18-27; reception for the event, Mar. 18, 8-10 p.m.

### Midtown Scholar/Yellow Wall Gallery

1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
717-236-1680; [www.midtownscholar.com](http://www.midtownscholar.com)

Photographs of Chris Bavaria, a series of people at work vs. home, through Mar. 13.

Screen printings by John Maneval, opens Mar. 18; reception, Mar. 18, 6-9 p.m.

### National Civil War Museum

One Lincoln Circle at Reservoir, Harrisburg  
717-260-1861; [nationalcivilwarmuseum.org](http://nationalcivilwarmuseum.org)

"War on the Homefront," through Mar. 13.

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

### Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg  
717-692-3699; [www.nedsmithcenter.org](http://www.nedsmithcenter.org)

"Gone for the Day: Ned Smith and the PA Game Commission," through Aug. 13.

### Rose Lehrman Arts Center

One HACC Drive, Harrisburg  
[www.hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter](http://www.hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter)

"Portraits from Life," paintings by Scott Noel, through Mar. 4.

"Unnatural Disorder," prints by Sue Coe, Mar. 14-Apr. 7.

### The State Museum of Pennsylvania

300 North St., Harrisburg  
717-787-4980; [www.statemuseumpa.org](http://www.statemuseumpa.org)

"Voices of the Revolution," an exhibit commemorating the Civil Rights movement.

"Wood on Glass: The Lumber Industry Photos of William T. Clarke," through May 1.

### The Susquehanna Art Museum

717-233-8668; [www.sqart.org](http://www.sqart.org)

Doshi Gallery: "38 Works by 35 Artists" juried exhibit, held at The State Museum of Pennsylvania, through June 20.

### West Shore Gallery

100 S. Front St., Wormleysburg  
717-713-5635; [www.westshoregallery.com](http://www.westshoregallery.com)

"River Art," Susquehanna International Fine Art Competition, through Mar. 10.

The artwork of Rocky Woodling, opens Mar. 11; reception, Mar. 11, 6 p.m.

## At the Cinema

### Movie Film Co-Op

1106 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
[www.moviefilmco-op.org](http://www.moviefilmco-op.org)

Mar. 2: "The Exterminating Angel" by Luis Bunuel, feature film on 16mm, 8 p.m.

Mar. 9: Avant-garde films by Deren, Leger and more, on 16mm film, 8 p.m.

Mar. 16: Robert Altman's "Images," with an Altman-directed music film intro, 8 p.m.

Mar. 25-27: Cinatura Film Festival at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art, including "Dreamland," an Icelandic film presented by Director Thorfinnur Gudnason, in-person, plus live music created by local filmmakers.

## The Stage Door

### Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse

1559 Boiling Springs Rd., Boiling Springs  
717-258-3211; [allenberry.com](http://allenberry.com)

No shows scheduled for March.

### Broadway Classics Productions

Harrisburg Mall, 3501 Paxton St., Harrisburg  
877-717-7969; [broadwayclassicspa.com](http://broadwayclassicspa.com)

"Godspell," Mar. 18-Apr. 23

### Fishing Creek Playhouse & Dinner Theatre

450 Fishing Creek Rd., Etters  
877-998-7469; [fishingcreekplayhouse.com](http://fishingcreekplayhouse.com)

"Beehive," Mar. 4-Apr. 10

### Harrisburg Comedy Zone

110 Limekiln Rd., New Cumberland  
717-920-3627; [harrisburgcomedyzone.com](http://harrisburgcomedyzone.com)

Jim Holder, Mar. 4-5; Matt Davis, Mar. 11-12; Ron Feingold, Mar. 18-19; Bob "The Polish Madman" Golub, Mar. 25-26

### Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival

3rd Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg  
717-238-4111; [www.gamutplays.org](http://www.gamutplays.org)

"A Year with Frog and Toad," through Mar. 12  
"Hamlet," Mar. 24-26

### Hershey Area Playhouse

Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive, Hershey  
717-838-8164; [hersheyareaplayhouse.com](http://hersheyareaplayhouse.com)

No shows scheduled for March.

### Hershey Theatre

15 E. Caracas Ave., Hershey  
717-534-3405; [www.hersheytheatre.com](http://www.hersheytheatre.com)

"In the Heights," Mar. 1-6

### HMAC/Stage on Herr

1110 N. 3rd St./268 Herr St., Harrisburg  
717-441-7506; [www.harrisburgarts.com](http://www.harrisburgarts.com)

"Pretty Things Peepshow," Mar. 5-7

"Soul Comedy Café," Mar. 13

"Vagina Monologues," Mar. 24 & Mar. 26

### Open Stage of Harrisburg

223 Walnut St., Harrisburg  
717-214-ARTS; [www.openstagehbg.com](http://www.openstagehbg.com)

"The Diary of Anne Frank," Mar. 12-13

### Oyster Mill Playhouse

1001 Oyster Mill Road, Camp Hill  
717-737-6768; [www.oystermill.com](http://www.oystermill.com)

"There's a Girl in My Soup," through Mar. 13

### Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut

3rd Floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg  
717-238-4111; [www.gamutplays.org](http://www.gamutplays.org)

"The Elves and the Shoemaker," Mar. 16-Apr. 2

### Rose Lehrman Arts Center

One HACC Drive, Harrisburg  
[www.hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter](http://www.hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter)

"Diva Nation (Girls Night Out)," Mar. 26

### Theatre Harrisburg

Whitaker Center, Harrisburg  
717-214-ARTS; [www.theatreharrisburg.com](http://www.theatreharrisburg.com)

No shows scheduled for March.

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## Live Music around Harrisburg

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50 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg  
717-221-1083; [www.abcbrew.com](http://www.abcbrew.com)

Mar. 3: Eugene Mirman & Pretty Good Friends  
Mar. 4: Carolina Chocolate Drops & Wyndfall  
Mar. 8: J. Roddy Walston and The Business  
Mar. 10: Icewagon Flu w/TJ Kong and The Atomic Bomb  
Mar. 12: Ceann  
Mar. 17: Barleyjuice  
Mar. 18: Matuto  
Mar. 19: The Bridge w/Mark DeRose Band  
Mar. 26: The Clarks  
Mar. 27: The Wood Brothers

### Broad Street Market/Stone Building

N. 3rd and Verbeke streets, Harrisburg  
[www.broadstreetmarket.org](http://www.broadstreetmarket.org)

Mar. 5: Andrew Bellanca & Friends  
Mar. 12: Chris Gassaway  
Mar. 19: Kevin Neidig  
Mar. 26: Second Look

### Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

204 Locust St., Harrisburg  
717-909-9191; [www.carleysristorante.com](http://www.carleysristorante.com)

Mar. 2, 23: Chelsea Caroline  
Mar. 3, 24: Giovanni Traino  
Mar. 4: Wade Preston  
Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26: Noel Gevers  
Mar. 9, 17, 30: Mark Zangrilli  
Mar. 10, 31: Anthony Haubert  
Mar. 11, 18, 25: Ted Ansel  
Mar. 16: Brandon Parsons  
Every Tuesday, Open Mic Night

### Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz

Hilton Harrisburg, 1 N. 2nd St., 2nd Floor  
717-540-1010; [www.cpfj.org](http://www.cpfj.org)

Mar. 20: The Etienne Charles Quintet

### Char's Bella Mundo

540 Race St., Harrisburg  
717-213-4002; [www.charsbellamundo.com](http://www.charsbellamundo.com)

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### Clover Lane Coffeehouse

1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg  
717-564-4761; [www.harrisburguu.org](http://www.harrisburguu.org)

Mar. 4: Karim Nagi  
Mar. 5: Matthew Graybil  
Mar. 18: Madeline MacNeil

### Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market Street, Camp Hill  
[www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com](http://www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com)

Mar. 4: Mike Sweigard  
Mar. 5: Womack & Lowery  
Mar. 6: JazzMe  
Mar. 11: Jeff Waters  
Mar. 12: Mitch & Lee  
Mar. 13: Ed & Maureen Mashas  
Mar. 18: Kevin Kline  
Mar. 19: J. C. Fisher  
Mar. 20: Andrew Bellanca & Friends  
Mar. 25: Antonio Andrade  
Mar. 26: Lindsay & Lindsey  
Mar. 27: Paul Zavinsky

### Cygnal Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

336 S. Market St., Elizabethtown  
717-367-6140; [conewagocoffee.com](http://conewagocoffee.com)

Mar. 5: Andina & Rich  
Mar. 14: Matt Miller  
Mar. 26: Adia Forry

### Dragonfly Club/Spy Club

234 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg; [dragonflyclub.com](http://dragonflyclub.com)

Mar. 5: Nasty Nate and the Sexual Offenders w/Planeside & Rightstart  
Mar. 11: The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick  
Mar. 20: Off with Their Heads & The Whatleys  
Mar. 25: Holley 750 w/Beergut & Blacklung

### Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra

The Forum (5th and Walnut Sts.), Harrisburg  
717-545-5527; [harrisburgsymphony.org](http://harrisburgsymphony.org)

Mar. 12-13: Dave Bennett  
Mar. 23: Stuart & Friends  
Mar. 26-27: Symphonic Revelations

### Hershey Theatre

15 E. Caracas Ave., Hershey  
717-534-3405; [www.hersheytheatre.com](http://www.hersheytheatre.com)

Mar. 10-11: Rain (Beatles tribute band)  
Mar. 25: Gordon Lightfoot

### Hilton Harrisburg and Towers

1 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg

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

### HMAC/Stage on Herr

1110 N. 3rd St./268 Herr St., Harrisburg  
717-441-7506; [www.harrisburgarts.com](http://www.harrisburgarts.com)

Mar. 1: The Extraordinaires  
Mar. 4: Aortic Value Dance Event  
Mar. 10: Yarn  
Mar. 11: Colebrook Road  
Mar. 12: JT & the Mildheat w/The Swaines & J.O.D.  
Mar. 17: B. Tropical  
Mar. 18: Doug & Telisha Williams Band  
Mar. 19: Boro Boogie Pickers  
Mar. 20: The Reese Project  
Mar. 25: The Jellybricks w/The Chevelles  
Mar. 26: Black Coffee and Miss Tess  
Mar. 27: Peter Case  
Every Wednesday, Open Mic Night

### Hollywood Casino at Penn National

777 Hollywood Blvd., Grantville  
877-565-2112; [www.hcpn.com](http://www.hcpn.com)

Mar. 4: Full Tilt  
Mar. 5: Separate Ways & Escape  
Mar. 11: Luv Gods  
Mar. 12: Dueling Pianos & Cazhmeire  
Mar. 18: Bunchafunk  
Mar. 19: Beautiful Day & Honey Pump  
Mar. 25: Uptown  
Mar. 26: Burning House

### Mangia Qui/Suba

272 North St., Harrisburg  
717-233-7358; [www.mangiaqui.com](http://www.mangiaqui.com)

Mar. 5: Jeff Calvin and The Converse All-Stars  
Mar. 11: Jeff Whetstone  
Mar. 12: Creekside Soul  
Mar. 18: TBA  
Mar. 19: Margy Finnegan (CD release party)  
Mar. 25: Erica Everest  
Mar. 26: Camela Kraemer with The Band

### Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
717-236-1680; [www.midtownscholar.com](http://www.midtownscholar.com)

Mar. 4: Susan Werner  
Mar. 18: Hot Club du Jour

### Stock's on 2nd

211 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg  
717-233-6699; [www.stocksonsecond.com](http://www.stocksonsecond.com)

Mar. 5: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher  
Mar. 12: Don Johnson Project Band  
Mar. 19: Funktion  
Mar. 26: Crusie Control

### The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

[www.sfmfolk.org](http://www.sfmfolk.org) (check website for location)

Mar. 6: De Temps Antan  
Mar. 12: Spring coffeehouse  
Mar. 13: Jam session  
Mar. 19: Lissa Schneckeburger w/Bethany Waickman

### Whitaker Center

222 Market St., Harrisburg  
717-214-ARTS; [www.whitakercenter.org](http://www.whitakercenter.org)

Mar. 1: Al Stewart  
Mar. 17: Henry Rollins

## Other Highlights

**Mar. 5: Zumbathon.** Absolute Wellness Group hosts a Zumbathon to benefit the American Heart Association. 1519 N. 3rd St., 2-5 p.m. [karen@absolutewellnessgroup.com](mailto:karen@absolutewellnessgroup.com) or 717-525-7037

**Mar. 10: Networking Mixer.** Central Pa. Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce holds its monthly mixer. Mitrani at Home, 3535 Walnut St., Harrisburg, 6:30 p.m. [www.cpglcc.org](http://www.cpglcc.org)

**Mar. 19: St. Patrick's Day Parade.** The annual parade steps off from the corner of Walnut Street and Commonwealth Avenue, 2 p.m. [www.harrisburgparade.com](http://www.harrisburgparade.com)

**Mar. 23: Business Expo.** The Small Business/Minority and Women Business Expo returns to Harrisburg. Farm Show Building, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. [www.dgs.state.pa.us/bcabd](http://www.dgs.state.pa.us/bcabd)

## Read, Make, Learn

### Fort Hunter Mansion & Park

Fishing Creek Road, Harrisburg  
[www.forthunter.org](http://www.forthunter.org)

Mar. 6: Maple Sugar Festival. Learn the mysteries of maple sugar-making. Tap a tree and eat real maple syrup on ice cream, noon-4 p.m.

### Heinz-Menaker Senior Center

1824 N. 4th St., Harrisburg

Mar. 7: Act 47 team will hold a public meeting to receive community input and answer questions as it begins to explore solutions to Harrisburg's financial crisis, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

### The HodgePodgery

1100 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
717-236-0150; [www.thehodgepodgery.com](http://www.thehodgepodgery.com)

Mar. 6: "Pinup Girl Photo Sessions," 12-6 p.m. (by appt.)

Mar. 11: "Psychic Healing & Tarot Reading," 5-9 p.m. (by appt.)

Mar. 19: "Szechuan Sock Monkey Saturday," 12-3 p.m.

Mar. 26: "Expressorize Yourself Ring & Pin Workshop," 12-3 p.m.

### Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg  
717-236-1680; [midtownscholar.com](http://midtownscholar.com)

Mar. 10: "Women in the Arts," discussion and reception, 5:30-9 p.m.

Mar. 12: Author Les Schmidt discusses coaching and mentoring, 2-4 p.m.

Mar. 15: "Dealing with Debt, Creating Jobs," a community forum on Harrisburg's future, sponsored by Harrisburg Hope, 5:30 p.m.

Mar. 19: Meet historical novelist Bill Williams, 2-4 p.m.

### The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

[www.sfmfolk.org](http://www.sfmfolk.org) (check website for location)

Mar. 4-5: Arab culture symposium, featuring percussionist Karim Nagi. Workshops will feature Arabic drumming and dance.

Mar. 24: Lee Otterholt teaches Eastern European dances

## 3rd in The Burg: March 18

Abstract works by Harrisburg artist Tara Chickey, including the one at right, and the symbolic figurative paintings by Pennsylvania native Chet Davis will be featured at Gallery@Second, 608 N. 2nd St., during this month's 3rd in The Burg, which takes place on March 18. You can visit many other galleries, restaurants and venues at the monthly celebration of art, music and more at businesses throughout Harrisburg. For additional information on March's event, see our back cover or visit [www.3rdinTheBurg.com](http://www.3rdinTheBurg.com).





## Landing Your Dream School

Sage advice from a college admissions officer.

Alan T. Paynter

Sitting in the Hershey Starbucks a few weeks ago, staring at the snow on the ground and wondering when winter would end, I overheard a discussion about the news from our celebrity groundhog.

Spring was coming early, and for some of those in conversation, they were already planning for the coming season. But these folks were a group of teens who were studying for the upcoming SATs. College planning doesn't wait for the weather to break. It's year round.

Though the Internet has made the college admissions process easier, it's also made it seem ingenious and complex. It is important to know that some of the traditional ways are still necessary. I caution students and parents not to neglect a few simple steps that are often bypassed by families in search of a more innovative approach to landing their dream school.

*Consult your guidance counselor:* Know that your guidance counselors play a very important role in your school. They are not only trained to help you schedule classes, but they also are charged with knowing how to assist you and your family with finding the right fit. They know the trends and requirements for getting into a particular institution. If they don't, then they have contacts who do. As a college admissions officer, I can tell you that, in most cases, guidance counselors are my first point of contact in a high school. Don't make the mistake of devaluing the role of your guidance counselors and their expertise.

*Attend college fairs:* The Pennsylvania Association of College Admissions Counseling (PACAC) hosts regional college fairs all around the state, with more than 100 post-secondary institutions in attendance. These fairs provide a valuable opportunity for students to connect with an

admissions officer and gather more information about the schools they desire. Two regional college nights are hosted right here in this area. Lebanon Valley College will host a fair on March 9 and Harrisburg Area Community College will host one in October.

*Visit campuses:* By far, nothing beats the campus visit. These are places where you will potentially spend four years of your life. I cannot stress enough how important it is that you make every effort to see a campus, take a tour and interview, if possible. Forget about the big name or the success of the football program. All of that doesn't matter if you don't feel a connection with the institution. I also can tell you that an institution must feel a connection with you, as well. Statistically, a student who visits a campus is much more likely to enroll than a student who does not. This is something taken into serious consideration

when colleges admit or deny a student.

While there are many other aspects of the college admissions process to consider, if you follow these few suggestions, your search for the college that is right for you will come easier. Enjoy your spring and continue to work hard!



Alan T. Paynter, M.S. is an Assistant Director of Admissions & Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment for Dickinson College in Carlisle. His work with youth and families spans more than

15 years, and he's spent the past decade in college admissions. He also serves on the executive board for the Pennsylvania Association of College Admissions Counseling as the co-chair for the college fairs committee. He resides in Hershey with his wife Jennifer and their three children, who all attend Derry Township schools. Alan can be reached at [payntera@dickinson.edu](mailto:payntera@dickinson.edu).

## Here, Kitty: Care of Feral/Stray Cats Must Go Beyond a Bowl of Food

Kristen Zellner

Winter's bitter cold drives free-roaming cats to find shelter anywhere. Abandoned homes, sheds, garages, warehouses and barns are all suitable for the animals.

Even though cats reproduce year-round, kittens will begin emerging from their shelters in spring. They can start to reproduce as young as six months and can become pregnant again only a few days after giving birth, with an eight- to nine-week gestation period. Without human intervention, over-population is inevitable.

The term "free-roaming cats" refers to feral and stray cats. Ferals are different from strays, as they are rarely socialized and do not seek human companionship. They

will, however, live near humans if there is a food source. Most are not likely to be domesticated or become adoptable, nor should they be brought indoors. Strays are cats that have been domesticated but abandoned or "strayed" from a home and are likely to befriend and crave attention from humans.

Free-roaming cats can wreak havoc on a community if left unmonitored. Disease and over-population are two main concerns for human beings. Destruction of property, killing of wildlife and noise are also problematic. There are many well-meaning people who choose to feed feral and stray cats and some who even provide shelter. Sadly, the care of these animals often stops there. Feeding and providing

shelter is only a portion of the care that they need to survive. Spaying and neutering, testing for disease, vaccination and veterinary care are necessary to ensure cats will not reproduce or spread disease.

There is no way to put each cat currently living on the streets into an animal shelter. This is why it is up to each person who cares for free-roaming cats to assist in efforts to control populations. Presently, the local rescues are at full capacity with animals, especially cats. Unfortunately, cats are often viewed as "second class citizens" in the pet world. When there is a problem, especially urination outside of the litter pan, they are more likely than dogs to be given up to a rescue, set free on the street, abandoned or pawned off to a relative or friend.

The most humane way is a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program. TNR

programs provide free or low-cost spay/neuter services, vaccinations, disease testing and ear tipping. Ear tipping indicates that the cat has been spayed or neutered and vaccinated. After cats are returned to the community from which they came, volunteers provide them with food, water and monitoring.

If there are free-roaming cats in your neighborhood, visit [www.PAWSoFPA.org](http://www.PAWSoFPA.org) for information and assistance. PAWS is a no-kill animal rescue and spay/neuter group, caring for homeless animals in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry and York Counties.



Kristen Zellner is owner of Abrams & Weakley General Store for Animals in Harrisburg.



## Chiropractic, with Eyes Open

Avoid these red flags when seeking care.

Dr. David A. Carbo

**T**he decision to see any new health care provider can be a daunting experience.

A 2008 survey from the Center for Studying Health System Change showed that among the 17 million adults who found a new primary care physician, 50 percent relied on recommendations from friends and relatives, and more than one in four used such recommendations as their only information source.

Due to some degree of unfamiliarity with chiropractic care, many of our friends, family and doctors are unsure of how to choose a chiropractor. While it is easy to open up the yellow pages and select your doctor based upon size of an advertisement or free services, random selection may end with disappointing results.

When choosing a chiropractor, it is important to be aware of warning signs that may indicate a chiropractor's treatment protocols are inappropriate. I have listed below a few of these signs.

**X-rays:** Avoid chiropractors who insist on shooting X-rays on every patient. If you do not have symptoms, and the practitioner recommends continued chiropractic treatment based on X-ray findings, it would be advisable to seek a second opinion.

**Special Testing:** If a chiropractor advertises a high-tech test, it would be advisable to research the test and determine if it is scientifically valid before agreeing to the test. Many of these special tests are marketing tools to solicit patients and do not hold up to scientific scrutiny.

**Extended Treatment Plans:** Quality chiropractors do everything they can to get patients better quickly—and with as few treatments as possible. Be wary of chiropractors recommending extended treatment plans, for example, three times a week for six to 12 months. You should begin to feel improvement within one to four weeks. Re-evaluation of your complaints should occur within two to four weeks. If improvement of your symptoms occurs, your treatment frequency should be decreased.

**Bold Claims:** Be wary of chiropractors who claim to be able to treat various diseases such as cancer, diabetes or infection with manipulation (adjustments).

**Medical Terminology, Diagnosis and Treatment Options:** After your initial examination, a diagnosis should be made or a list of possible diagnoses should be presented to you. Chiropractors should be able to converse with you, the patient, and your other health care providers using medical terminology, not "unique" chiropractic language, descriptions or jargon. Be wary of chiropractors who do not provide a definitive diagnosis or list of possible diagnoses.

**Refuses to communicate with your primary care physician:** Communication by chiropractors with your family doctor should be emphasized by you, the patient, so that your family doctor is aware of treatments that you are undergoing. If the chiropractor refuses communication, seek a second opinion.

**Treatment should be multi-modal in nature:** That means that more than one type of intervention is utilized during your treatment plan, such as stretching, ultrasound, massage, etc. Treatments should contain passive (manipulation/stretching/massage) as well as progression to active components (exercises/rehabilitation).

There are many chiropractors to choose from and many of them are quality practitioners who safely and successfully treat neck pain, back pain, headaches and extremity complaints. Be proactive, call your prospective chiropractor and discuss your needs and expectations. It is your right as a patient to be treated by a healthcare provider who will address your concerns ethically and will hold your best interests at heart.



David A. Carbo, D.C., C.C.E.P., is a chiropractic physician and director of research at The Hetrick Center, 500 N. Union St., Middletown, 717-944-2225 and [www.hetrickcenter.com](http://www.hetrickcenter.com).

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## Where the Wild Things Meet

Support the outdoors—join a group, get involved.

Kermit Henning

No matter what your focus is on the outdoors, no matter how involved you are in your pursuit, there is always more you can do to support it.

Almost every outdoor interest has an organization behind it. An organization of members that promotes its cause, furthers its agenda or works to preserve and improve the focus of the group. If you are a duck hunter, there is Ducks Unlimited. For the turkey hunters, there is the National Wild Turkey Federation. There's Trout Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, the Ruffed Grouse Society and on and on.

These organizations are comprised of mostly volunteer members who contribute to the cause—either hands-on or

monetarily, or both. Some of the groups are large international associations with enormous memberships on several continents. Others are small groups dedicated to a local effort. In every case, the money needed to fund their projects comes largely from fund-raising banquets. Local chapters hold local dinners with the singular aim of raising money. Live and silent auctions, raffles and games offer everything from fine art and custom merchandise to guns, equipment and guided hunting or fishing trips. In many cases, attending a dinner also gets you a membership in the organization as part of the ticket price. And it makes sense that most of these fund-raising banquets are held in the early spring, when things are slow.

The bulk of the banquets are held in March and April—there is one such banquet almost every weekend. Forget cabin fever. Get out and support your favorite group. You get a good meal, have a good time and do your part for conservation.

The National Wild Turkey

Federation was established in 1973 when there were only a little over 1 million birds in the country. Today, thanks to projects that support both the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting tradition, there are now more than 7 million birds. The NWTF has spent over \$331 million to conserve 14.7 million acres in 49 states. Hunter safety education has also been a major focus of NWTF.

The Pennsylvania State Chapter was founded in 1975 in State College and now has local chapters all across the state. There are several local chapters in the midstate with fund-raising banquets spread throughout the year.

The Ruffed Grouse Society, headquartered in Coraopolis, Pa., is dedicated to protecting, restoring and creating early successive forests that provide habitat for our state bird, the ruffed grouse, as well as woodcock and songbirds. Most habitat work is carried out through judicious logging practices. These habitats must be responsibly and intelligently managed to maintain grouse populations. Left unmanaged, even the best

habitats will soon outgrow themselves and fail in their ability to provide food, cover and protection from predators. The RGS maintains a staff of trained biologists to assist public and private landowners with habitat restoration and management. Your membership and attendance at banquets funds research, education and habitat improvement—more than 500,000 acres so far.

The Susquehanna River Waterfowlers Association is the result of a handful of sportsmen who felt the waterfowl hunter in Pennsylvania should have some say in the creation of waterfowl hunting seasons and bag limits. Since that date in 1980, the SRWA has grown in membership, as well

as recognition and influence. As SRWA grew, so did its purpose—establishing a working relationship with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Atlantic Flyway Council. Statewide projects include habitat projects, erecting more than 1,000 nesting structures, goose banding with the game commission and spring waterfowl counts.

Pheasants Forever is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, education and land management policies and programs. Fund-raising efforts go directly to project developments, and 100 percent of all local monies raised stays in the local area.

Trout Unlimited boasts more than 9,000 members in Pennsylvania, dedicated to preserving and protecting the commonwealth's wild trout resources. Projects have included stream restoration through habitat improvement projects, seminars on water quality and fisheries management. About 85 cents of every dollar raised goes to conservation programs.

The next time you go afield, ask yourself what you have done to promote and protect your favorite pursuit. Join a group, attend a banquet and feel good about doing your part.



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

**Congratulations Kermit!** TheBurg would like to congratulate our outdoors writer, Kermit Henning, who last month received the 2011 Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show Humanitarian Award. The award honors Kermit's lifelong dedication to promoting and fostering an appreciation of the outdoors and for spearheading the annual Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association's Sportsmen's Auction, which, over 27 years, has raised more than \$350,000 for youth educational projects.



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## Escape the Heat

Take steps to protect your family from fire, burns.

Dr. Deepa Sekhar

The local fire department recently visited my child's school. The class was in awe of the big red truck, the lights and sirens.

We are so lucky to have men and women willing to put themselves on the line to rescue our families in the event of a fire. However, there are many steps we can take as parents to prevent fires and burns in the first place. Among the multitude of preventive care topics covered in the pediatrician's office, I confess there is little attention given to this important subject.

Burns are one of the leading causes of death and injury in children. A large number of these fatalities are related to home fires. To give your family the best chance to respond to and escape a home fire, install smoke detectors throughout your house. Smoke detectors should either be mounted on the ceiling or mounted on the wall 6 to 12 inches below the ceiling. Place them in halls next to bedrooms, as well as living rooms and garages. Battery-operated smoke detectors should be checked every six months to ensure the batteries are still fresh.

Hold family fire drills. Everyone should know the best escape routes for fires occurring in various parts of the house, as well as where to meet once outside. Many fires occur at night, so be sure flashlights are working and accessible.

Teach your children to "stop, drop and roll" if their clothing catches fire.

Keep fire extinguishers at home, especially in the kitchen and workroom. Keep in mind, home fire extinguishers should only be utilized for small fires. In the case of a large fire, leave your home and contact the fire department from a neighbor's house or by cell phone. Children at home alone should be instructed not to attempt handling a fire on their own. Instruct them to evacuate the house and call 911 from a neighbor's house.

There are many other types of dangerous household burns that are not related to fires. Scald burns often occur from a child spilling a parent's hot coffee or tea, upsetting a cooking pot or turning the knobs on the bathroom faucet and causing the hot water to come out.

To prevent such situations, keep hot drinks out of the reach of children. Turn cooking pot handles inward on the stove, rather than leaving handles pointing over

the edge where children may reach or inadvertently bang into them. Fill the tub and turn off the water prior to putting children in the bath. Additionally, setting your water heater to 120 degrees will reduce the likelihood of sustaining the most serious burn injuries. Studies on water temperature demonstrated water at 140 degrees caused a third-degree burn within three seconds compared with water at 120 degrees, which took 10 minutes to cause such a serious skin injury. This water heater temperature is still hot enough to supply enough home hot water for your family's needs.

Many families utilize humidifiers and space heaters during the winter. Humidifiers should preferably be cool mist, but, if they are the hot steam type, they should be kept out of a child's reach. Keep portable heaters away from children and flammable materials.

Cover outlets to protect children from electrical burns. Teach your children never to play with matches, candles or cigarette lighters. Parents who are smokers should smoke outside both for fire safety and to reduce smoke inhalation for their children. Many fires are started by adults smoking in bed or on the couch. Dropped ashes smolder for several hours and then burst into flames.

Lastly, home fireworks are responsible for many burn injuries. Every type of legally sold firework has caused injury or death. It is preferable to avoid home fireworks entirely and enjoy them instead at public displays conducted by professionals.

If your child is burned, the best thing to do is cool the burn using cool running water for a few minutes and immediately contact your pediatrician's office or call 911. Ice should not be applied to burns. Also, do not try to use grease (including butter or medical ointments) on a burn. Grease holds heat and may actually worsen the injury.

I am thankful for the firefighters who are willing to put themselves on the line for our families, but I am hopeful that, with some thought to prevention, my contact with the fire department remains limited to an excited recounting of "fire truck day" at school.



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



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Pam Waters

Mary Lou Harris is an avid theater-goer and a long-time runner. Although these facets of her life seem unrelated, she has found a way to combine her two loves, while benefiting both the running and arts communities of Harrisburg.

Last spring, as Harris traveled back home from the Boston Marathon, she was brainstorming fundraising ideas for Open Stage of Harrisburg, where she serves on the board. The theater's events committee had been interested in hosting a unique event in order to raise both funds and community awareness. With running on her mind, Harris realized that, of the many runs Harrisburg offers each

year, it has no 10-mile race.

Now, nearly a year later, the first Capital 10-Miler, "A Run for the Arts," will be held at 9 a.m., Sunday, April 3. Proceeds from registrations and additional fundraising will be shared by Open Stage and the Capital Area School for the Arts (CASA). Open Stage worked with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit to found the school a decade ago, so, "it's natural that CASA was chosen to join us in the inaugural year of the race," said Open Stage's Executive Artistic Director Don Alsedek.

Harris considered the partnership of running and theater to be natural. "The arts community is very energetic, as is the running

community," she said.

Two local clubs, the Harrisburg Area Road Runners Association and the Crispy Balance Running Club, have representatives on the race committee, and both will join the arts organizations in providing substantial volunteer help before and during the race. Harris estimates that more than 100 individuals will work on the race in some capacity—from planning and soliciting sponsors to handing out cups of water along the route.

The route itself is unique, although portions of it will be familiar to local runners. The race begins and ends on City Island, as do a large number of Harrisburg's races. Unlike typical City Island-based events, the race committee carefully designed the 10-Miler's course to avoid traffic crossings and to show off portions of the Capital Area Greenbelt, parkland that may not be familiar to many participants.

Open Stage set a fundraising goal of \$3,000 for the race this year, but Alsedek said raising community awareness is just as important. Harris said that she would consider the race a success if it attracted at least 200 runners, but now that word of the race has spread, she is confident that there will be 250 to 500 participants lined up at the start.

Both she and Alsedek stressed that their plan is for the race to become an annual event that will expand over time. For this year, Harris listed twin goals of giving as many as 500 runners a safe and fun experience and raising money to support the arts.

"We'll see how it goes this year, and then decide whether to include other arts organizations down the road," she said.

Among her contacts in the theater world, Harris counted several who are runners and will take on the 10 miles. Asked whether acquaintances in the running community are becoming theatergoers, she beamed, "I

see that coming, and I think it's a fantastic byproduct."

For more information on running the Capital 10-Miler, readers can visit [www.active.com/running/harrisburg-pa/capital-10miler-2011](http://www.active.com/running/harrisburg-pa/capital-10miler-2011). To volunteer for the race, e-mail [capital10miler@gmail.com](mailto:capital10miler@gmail.com).

## Letters

Thank you for the wonderful article about the Chinese Cultural & Arts Institute and our students that participated in the trip to the Beijing Dance Academy ("A Dance across Continents," January 2011).

**Bill Hubler**  
**Chen-Yu Tsuei**  
**CCAI, Harrisburg**

I read with great interest January's edition featuring the article, "The Fabric of Community," but absent from the article is a mention of the oldest neighborhood organization in Harrisburg—Midtown Square Action Council (MAC). Founded over 30 years ago, MAC makes up the area from Verbeke to Forster Streets, bounded by Front and Third Streets, comprising over 400 residents. MAC's annual program consists of a community pancake breakfast, Holiday dinner (where non-perishable food items are collected for The Salvation Army), yard sale, block party, Candidates' Forum, Crime Watch and National Night Out. And, new for January 2012, there will be a project of service to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.

MAC meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at The Salvation Army building at 1122 Green Street. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, visit [www.midtownsquareactioncouncil.com](http://www.midtownsquareactioncouncil.com).

**Brooks Mountcastle, President**  
**Midtown Square Action Council**

*Letters may be edited for length, grammar and style.*

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**Gallery at Walnut Place** • 413 Walnut St • 233-0487 • The scenic works of Maryland artist William Spencer. Reception, 5–8p.

**Gallery@Second** • 608 N 2nd St • 233-2498 • galleryatsecond.com • Featured artists are Tara Chickey and Chet Davis. Plus, visit the "Upstairs Gallery," showcasing more than 200 pieces of artwork. Food and drink served, 6–9p.



**Nonna's** • 263 Reily St • 232-6150 • nonnasdeli.com • Featuring penne with shrimp in a creamy herb tomato sauce, 5–9p.



**Midtown Scholar Bookstore** • 1302 N 3rd St • 236-1680 • midtownscholar.com • The science of coffee (cupping), noon. Sample organic teas, 2p. Yellow Wall Gallery reception for John Maneval's screen printings, 6–9p. Gypsy jazz by Hot Club du Jour, 7–9p.



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

**3rd Street Studio** • 1725 N 3rd St • 385-3315 • 3rdstreetstudio.org • Featuring Joyce Braxton Coley, "Pieces of My Passion." Quilting, drawing, poetry, beading. Artist reception, 6–9p.



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



**Open Stage of Harrisburg** • 223 Walnut St (street level of Walnut St. Garage) • 232-1505 • openstagehbg.com • COURT STREET CABARET Sneak Peek! Preview some of the favorite songs from the show. Admission \$10 for refreshments and great music, 6:30–7:30p. While there, reserve your tickets for the performance, Saturday, 8p.

**Gallery Blu** • 1633 N 3rd St • 234-3009 • galleryblu.org • Gallery closed temporarily for renovations. See you soon!



## Other Participating Businesses

- **Art Association of Harrisburg**, 21 N Front St
- **Garden Fresh Market & Deli**, 1300 N 3rd St
- **The HodgePodgery**, 1100 N 3rd St
- **Mantis Collective Gallery**, 1306 N 3rd St
- **Whitaker Center**, 222 Market St

FOR MORE INFO & A PRINTABLE MAP: [WWW.3RDINTHEBURG.COM](http://WWW.3RDINTHEBURG.COM)