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Greater Harrisburg's Community Newspaper

May 2010

Free

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MUSIC & EVENTS

May 1: Jess Klein
May 2: My Rural Radio Sunday
May 6: Mike Banks & Friends
May 7: Quagmire Swim Team
May 8: Return of Hank and Cupcakes
May 9: Soul Comedy Café
May 13: Zach Deputy
May 14: The April Skies w/Parallax Project

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May 16: MiZ
May 20: Elizabeth Cook
May 21: Sarah Blacker
May 22: CASE 150
May 23: David La Fleur
May 24: Dudley Saunders
May 27: Peter Rowan w/John Train & Slo Mo
May 28: Barefoot
May 29: Mileunder
May 30: Erica Lyn Jazz Showcase

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Contents

In the Burg

- 4 The First Word
- 5 City Hall

Burg Biz

- 6 From the Ground Up

Street Corners

- 9 Around Town
- 12 Doing Good
- 13 Past Tense

Good Eats

- 14 Taste of the Town
- 15 Home Cooking
- 16 Treats & Sweets

Culture Club

- 17 Creator
- 18 Musical Notes
- 19 Let's Dance
- 20 Happenings
- 22 City Cinema
- 23 Burg Books

Home & Family

- 24 Hall Pass

Sports & Bodies

- 25 Great Outdoors
- 26 Family Health



Gardeners without borders, p. 9



Art, pizza, Harrisburg, p. 17



Rhythm's gonna get you, p.18



Big, big fish, p. 25



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General & Letters

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What It Takes

More businesses have opened in the last month in the city.

There's a new flower shop inside the Broad Street Market, a new art gallery on N. 3rd St., and yet two more galleries poised to open in Midtown.

Meanwhile, some existing places, like 3rd Street Deli, have changed ownership. And big projects like the Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center, after some struggle, are poised for completion.

And all this during the Great Recession, though the economic tide appears to be coming in, giving lift to boats that had been left to wallow in the financial muck.

While government has stepped in with some needed assistance to the economy, the real stimulus to this growth has been initiative—people willing to swim against the current and start something new, knowing things do get better, despite hard times.

Examples can be found throughout our city, several of which we highlight in this month's issue.

Over on N. 2nd Street, a couple has restored an historic building and is ready to open a new art gallery, Gallery@Second. On the other side of Midtown, an artist has taken personal initiative and risk as she revives a creative career. And then there's Elyse Cook, who, faced with an unexpected turn of fate, began a support and education group for mothers with autistic children.

One of my favorite stories from the pages of this month's

issue is about "guerrilla gardening," featuring Harrisburg's own Johnny Appleseed, Ben Ketchum, who is helping to improve empty lots with flowers and vegetables.

Initiative comes from individuals who don't wait for things to happen, but make things happen. That's the story of this country and of this city. It's about taking the lead and not waiting for someone else—another person, a company, the government—to decide who takes the lead.

Initiative is even celebrated in rocker Bon Jovi's latest hit, "We Weren't Born to Follow." At least that's our interpretation.

Initiative also is about joining in a community enterprise and getting involved in such things as charity walks, fundraisers and neighborhood cleanups—lists of which we provide in the pages of TheBurg.

Initiative is what it takes to make a community prosper and grow.

Finally, don't forget about a different kind of initiative. The May 18 primary is almost upon us, so please remember to take the initiative as a citizen. It's your right and responsibility to select who you believe best represents your interests in your government.

—Peter Durantine

Letters

I wanted to send you a quick note to thank you for your coverage of Tri-County Housing and our housing development projects in South Allison Hill. We were very pleased with the article in March's issue ("Old Neighborhood, New Community") and the positive coverage of both our houses and the revitalization of this emerging community. Then, we opened April's issue and saw our rehab featured as "House of the Month." Thank you also for this designation.

Again, thanks for being a positive voice. We really enjoy reading TheBurg.

**Becky L. Vogel, Deputy Director
Tri-County HDC, Ltd., Harrisburg**

Congratulations on your article ("A Park, at a Price," April 2010)! I thoroughly enjoyed it, as well as others you have written.

I'm well aware of J. Horace McFarland's interest in Harrisburg's beautification, but wasn't he aligned with Mira Lloyd Dock as well as other projects?

**Sheldon Munn, Owner
Harrisburg Tours, Talks and Walks**

Thank you for your kind words. I'm glad you enjoy TheBurg and my writing in it.

Mira Lloyd Dock was indeed aligned with J. Horace McFarland in the beautification of Harrisburg efforts. I got the impression that she was a greater influence on the women of the day than the men, but, nevertheless, did make quite an impact on civic leaders at a time when the city was ripe for change.

From my talking with former residents of Hardscrabble, though, it was more McFarland's doing to oust them from their homes along Front Street in order to make gardens to plant the roses he became famous for. I never heard a single good word about him from the residents—most of whom now are sadly departed.

Thanks again for your interest. These type of articles are fun to do, and it is satisfying to know someone enjoys them.

**Kermit Henning
TheBurg**

Letters may have been edited for length, grammar and style.

*This month's cover:
200-block of Cumberland Street,
Harrisburg*



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City Hall

Harrisburg Authority Gets 3 New Members

Substantial changes are afoot for the much-criticized Harrisburg Authority, as the City Council has named three new members to the board of directors.

Last month, the council appointed William J. Cluck, Neil A. Grover and Eric T. Davidson to vacancies on the five-member board, one caused by the resignation of former Chairman James Ellison, a position now filled by J. Marc Kurowski.

The authority has been under fire for the massive \$282 million debt accumulated due to upgrades to the city's trash incinerator. It owes about \$66 million just this year, creating a fiscal crisis for the city, which has guaranteed the debt. Last month, the authority informed the city that it will miss a \$425,000 payment due May 1.

Council members said they hoped the appointees would bring new ideas on how to solve the crisis.

"It's important they realize our backs are against the wall," said member Susan Brown Wilson.

In a related development, the council took initial action on a resolution appointing RSR Appraisers and Analysts to conduct an appraisal of various city-owned properties. The city is considering selling assets to help pay off incinerator-related debt, necessitating an appraisal.

The council moved the resolution to its Administration Committee, the first step towards possible adoption of the measure.

Name Changes Proposed for Two City Agencies

Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson has asked the City Council to approve changes to the names of two city agencies.

Thompson has proposed changing the name of the Mayor's Office of Economic Development to the Mayor's Office of Equal Economic Opportunity. She also has proposed changing the name of the Department of Parks and Recreation to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Enrichment.

At a meeting last month, the council moved the matter to its Administration Committee for further action. Some residents voiced concern, saying money should not be spent on new signs and supplies due to a name change.

New Fire Chief Arrives in Harrisburg

Robert Talloni was sworn in last month as the head of Harrisburg's Fire Bureau. Talloni served for about 28 years in Norwalk, Conn., where he was one of five deputy chiefs.

In addition, Jeff Snyder was promoted from captain to battalion chief; Don Chesbro from lieutenant to captain; and both Steve Miller and Cornell Bradford from firefighter to lieutenant.

Hearings Scheduled for Draft Zoning Code

The Harrisburg Planning Commission has scheduled public hearings on the draft zoning code for 6:30 p.m., May 5, and 6:30 p.m., June 2, in Room 213, the Public Safety Auditorium, at the City Government Center, 10 N. 2nd St.



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Did you know ...

... The Art Association of Harrisburg is housed in a mansion built for Gov. William Findlay, the first Pennsylvania governor to reside in Harrisburg?

... The statue of William Penn in the State Museum stands 18 feet high?

... The Dixon University Center features programs of study from 11 different institutions of higher learning?

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Walk, Gawk and Squawk

HYP House Tour highlights the charm, diversity of Midtown.

Lawrance Binda



On tour: Bob Murray relaxes in his stunning new Riverview Manor condominium.

You could call Bob Murray a home tour veteran. Twice, he's allowed hundreds of strangers to stream into his well-appointed, three-story house on Green Street, where they've oohed and aahed at his stunning renovation and tasteful style. Recently, he moved into a brand new condo in the completely renovated Gothic Revival-style Riverview Manor building and, once again, he's laying out the welcome mat for the annual City Living Home Tour and Block Party, hosted by Harrisburg Young Professionals. "I participate because HYP believes in encouraging people to move into the city and purchase homes in the city," said Murray, looking out his window to a stunning view of the Capitol. "Those are goals that I also believe in."

This year, the tour will take place on Saturday, May 15. More than a dozen very gracious individuals are throwing open their homes in the interest of community and the promotion of city life. Focused on the historic neighborhood of lower Midtown, the tour begins at the hip Lofts@909, a converted school building at Forster and Green streets that now offers fully furnished apartments. It then winds its way through the neighborhood's often narrow, charming streets, making stops at both exquisite renovations and works in progress. Hours later, after plenty of strolling and staring, the tour concludes with a block party at the King Mansion up North Front Street, where food, beer and music will flow. Don Crowl is a home tour newbie. He recently moved to Harrisburg from the Washington, D.C., area, and, like Murray, is eager to help promote the city he now calls home. "I love the community feel here," he said. "People here are so dedicated to building a strong and supportive community." Since arriving just months ago, Crowl has been renovating his 1840s-era farmhouse on Penn Street, which,

while well-maintained, had not been updated much in 40 years. He's refinished some floors, replaced carpeting and painted—and he's ready to show off his handiwork. Crowl compares Harrisburg favorably to some of Washington's neighborhoods, areas replete with great cafés, shops and restaurants. Since coming here, he's been exploring such nearby places as Midtown Scholar Bookstore and Stage on Herr, which, he says, would fit into any large, cosmopolitan city. Murray concurs, adding that a big-city lifestyle can be had here for a fraction of the cost, particularly for the well-built, decorative Victorian-era rowhouses that line the streets of Midtown. A nascent condo market also has emerged, and three separate units and the roof at Riverview Manor will be open. "Harrisburg is such a great place to live," said Murray. "I can walk to theaters, clubs, restaurants—to anything I want." The City Living Home Tour and Block Party starts at 2 p.m. on May 15 at the Lofts@909, 909 Green St. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at the Harrisburg Young Professionals website, www.hyp.org.

Members 1st to Open in Strawberry Square

Members 1st Credit Union is opening a new, 1,000 square-foot branch inside Strawberry Square, according to HBG Realty, which manages more than 500,000-square-feet of office and retail space downtown. This flagship branch is expected to open May 27. A Members 1st spokesman said the credit union expects to hire about six new employees to work in the branch.

Large Portfolio Sells

One of Harrisburg's largest residential property portfolios has sold, with 90 parcels changing hands in two transactions. Two related companies—BHF Partnership and CDF Partnership, both of Lancaster—sold their portfolios for a combined \$770,000 to Harrisburg-based Great Row LLC. Nearly all the properties consisted of individual houses located in the Allison Hill and Uptown neighborhoods, according to Dauphin County property records.

Changing Hands: March Property Sales

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Adrian St., 2433: \$44,000 | Holly St., 1843: \$69,000 | N. 6th St., 2523: \$62,900 |
| Benton St., 702: \$48,000 | Kelker St., 204: \$142,000 | N. 6th St., 3018: \$81,000 |
| Berryhill St., 2408: \$45,000 | Kensington St., 2325: \$69,900 | N. 14th St., 229: \$83,000 |
| Briggs St., 1600: \$54,500 | N. 2nd St., 930: \$41,000 | N. Front St., 1525, #101: \$147,900 |
| Calder St., 205: \$125,000 | N. 2nd St., 1301: \$119,900 | Penn St., 1108: \$130,000 |
| Camp St., 561: \$40,000 | N. 2nd St., 2540: \$75,000 | Penn St., 1624: \$157,500 |
| Chestnut St., 2052: \$235,000 | N. 2nd St., 2918: \$245,000 | Reel St., 2430: \$56,000 |
| Chestnut St., 2412: \$99,900 | N. 2nd St., 3118: \$137,700 | Rumson Dr., 2885: \$59,900 |
| Cumberland St., 258: \$127,000 | N. 3rd St., 702: \$100,000 | S. 12th St., 1509: \$43,200 |
| Edward St., 504: \$114,700 | N. 3rd St., 2317: \$45,000 | S. 14th St., 1446: \$35,000 |
| Green St., 1012: \$62,500 | N. 3rd St., 3117: \$123,900 | S. 25th St., 710: \$36,000 |
| Greenwood St., 2118: \$35,500 | N. 5th St., 1702: \$69,000 | Source: Dauphin County, City of Harrisburg, property sales greater than \$35,000. Data is deemed to be accurate. |
| Hale Ave., 446: \$69,000 | N. 5th St., 2403: \$35,000 | |
| Harris St., 431: \$102,900 | N. 5th St., 2427: \$47,000 | |
| Hoerner St., 107: \$39,500 | N. 5th St., 2740: \$89,000 | |

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Midtown Sited for Federal Courthouse

After years of debate, the gavel comes down on 6th and Reily streets.

Peter Durantine and Lawrance Binda

For years, the northeast corner of N. 6th and Reily streets has been championed by city officials and neighbors as the new location for Harrisburg's federal courthouse, and now they have won their long-fought cause.

On April 26, the U.S. General Services Administration announced the courthouse, which has for more than 40 years stood downtown at 3rd and Walnut streets, will be re-located to Midtown, at the mostly empty lot at 6th and Reily.

"It took a long time, but they finally made the right decision," said Don Barnett of Right Site Harrisburg, a coalition that spearheaded the fight for the Midtown location.

GSA said it plans to construct a 262,970-square-foot U.S. Courthouse to replace downtown's 1960s-style, 12-story black-glass building, which only has four courtrooms. Initially, it was built with just two courtrooms.



Judgment made: A new federal courthouse soon will rise at this empty lot at N. 6th and Reily streets.

According to GSA, the building and its courtrooms are failing to accommodate the increasing caseload of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. The building also has been criticized for security deficiencies.

The new, \$135 million courthouse will house eight courtrooms, court staff and related entities, such as the U.S. Marshals Service. Ground-breaking is not expected for at least another year.

Last month's decision culminates a battle for that location that began in 2004, shortly after federal funding and an architectural

design was approved. The judges had wanted the courthouse near the old downtown location to be closer to shopping and dining.

Many local officials, along with congressional leaders and residents, have pursued the N.

6th Street location because it could spur revitalization in the economically struggling area at the edge of Midtown. It also would help connect the corridor to the rapidly revitalizing neighborhood just to the south and west.

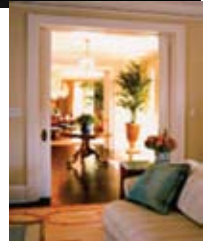


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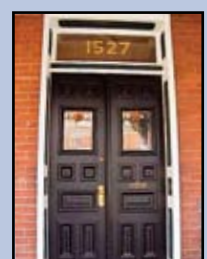
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From the Ground Up

HU, HBG Team for Student Housing

As a school that teaches students to become the next generation of innovators, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology is doing its own innovating in terms of providing student housing.

With no dormitories or residential halls, and expecting more students from out of the region looking for housing, the university at 4th and Market streets has brought on HBG Realty to, in a large sense, serve as a housing coordinator.

"We have about three to four times the number of applicants for this fall's semester than we had last fall," said Eric Darr, HU's executive vice president and provost.

HU currently has more than 50 students living downtown in places such as Pennsylvania Place and

International House. Darr anticipates that number to increase to as many as 80—if not more—in September.

HBG has already made presentations to hundreds of parents and prospective students about the city's rental market and what housing options are available within a 20-minute walk from the university, said HBG's Neal West.

HBG began its role advising students and identifying housing in March. West said the agency directs students to buildings with at least 10 units, but also makes available listings on private residences that rent apartments and options outside the 20-minute perimeter.

"I think we're off to a good start," West said.

—Peter Durantine

So Long, Farewell



The Patriot-News logo is all that remains of the newspaper at its former Market Street headquarters. A "for sale" adorns the front of the empty building, which lost its final occupants last month. The paper packed off to the suburbs after 156 years in Harrisburg. The building, with several related parcels spanning 4 acres, is on sale for almost \$4 million.



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Guerrilla gardeners: Look out, they've got a bulb!

Lori Myers



Guerrilla gardener Ben Ketchum surveys an empty lot on Allison Hill. The owner, Loretta Barbee-Dare, gave him permission to cull and plant. Highland Gardens is donating some of the plantings.

Whenever Ben Ketchum, 26, looks around parts of Harrisburg, he sees old buildings, cracked sidewalks and vacant lots. But he wants to change all that. He yearns to transform those empty and dormant sites into land that nourishes and feeds. He wants to turn the browns and grays of city life into yellows, reds and greens.

Ketchum, a Harrisburg resident, has created a group initiative called the Harrisburg Guerrilla Gardening Collective, an organization that wishes to plant seeds in communities that need it most—for food and for beautification.

The guerrilla gardening idea took root in this country in the 1970s and now extends to many parts of the world, where volunteers go out into neighborhoods and plant vegetable or flower gardens. In many cases, they educate the community about self-sufficiency and having pride in their surroundings.

"This has been an idea that has been inspired by countless

similar ideas over the past few years," Ketchum explained. "In Harrisburg, I hope to channel the passion of the youth I am closely acquainted with, and combine it with the dedication of the older crowd that I know to create a community organization without organization."

In March, Ketchum held the organization's first meeting inside The House of One Accord on Maclay Street. Much to Ketchum's delight, about 20 people showed up. Some boasted serious gardening experience, others never saw dirt beneath their fingernails, but all believed in the mission and wanted to help.

"People are now more distant from their food," Ketchum said. "That distance has people at a disadvantage. We're at the whim of those in the food industry. Also, there could be interruption of the food supply due to drought, climate change or politics."

Ketchum's concern is fueled by the fact that more than half of the people in this country live in cities where their only food source is a big supermarket or corner grocery. He hopes that the collective can work closely with the Harrisburg Food Not Bombs group, which provides donated or otherwise unused food to those in need in the community as a statement against war.

"Cities need to sustain themselves," he said. "A lot of people don't know that a potato is a root. To me, that's scary. I want children to take part, learn how to grow plants."

Ketchum wants to make sure city planners realize that plants and green space should be a big part of the equation. Words like "action," "dedication" and "community," make their way into his conversations nowadays, something that shouldn't surprise anyone who knows him. The son of a 1960s activist-history

professor father, Ketchum grew up in central Pennsylvania in a home of "slightly radical political leanings." In high school, Ketchum got into trouble for wearing an anti-war armband, and in college at Harrisburg Area Community College, he took part in the Free Tibet movement. Every time there was a march, he was there, Ketchum admits. It's that same sense of urgency and commitment he's giving to this newly formed passion, which will turn small plots of land into usable and meaningful spaces.

"Waiting for Parks and Rec to cut the red tape takes a lot longer than hanging a flower pot from a light pole or creating a vegetable bed with heirloom plants to feed the community," Ketchum said. "Some people in the city, even one as small as Harrisburg, don't even know what some of the plants they consume on such a regular basis look like outside of a box at the supermarket."

Harrisburg Guerrilla Gardening Collective has almost 100 fans on its Facebook page, and its own email address at guerrillagardenershbg@gmail.com where those interested can express their support. The collective has discussed a seed pod campaign to create packets of heirloom seeds, which simply can be tossed onto empty lots. Ketchum envisions vegetables, melons, dill and squash growing and thriving in the least unlikely urban places—with or without permission of the powers-that-be, but without infringing on the projects already being cultivated by residents.

"If no one is using the land, then I'd like to see it used for food," Ketchum said. "The biggest goal, however, is to empower individuals to sneak around and plant life where it can benefit all. I hope that they might see how easy it really is to go from seed to crop and be able to enjoy their own food and their own reliance in troubling times."

Ben Ketchum is at yippy555@aol.com or 434-5795. Call after 5 p.m.



Lawrance Binda

Here at TheBurg, nothing makes us tingle more than a new art gallery. So we're positively giddy to report a gallery debut for the second straight month.

Gallery@Second will have a grand opening for 3rd in The Burg on May 21. Perhaps you've already glimpsed the extensive renovation at 608 N. 2nd St., a former tanning salon next to Fire House Restaurant. We have nothing against a good bronzing, but, in our book, it sure can't beat more art space.

Speaking of which—have you ever noticed the art hanging on the walls in the lobby seating area at Midtown Cinema? If you're like me, you may breeze in and head straight for the popcorn. Well, stop and linger a few moments. Amy, the theater director, features some terrific local artists—and shame on me for not examining their works more closely before.

Last month's warm weather brought something more than an early chance to show off your pale winter legs: the return of dining *al fresco*. Midtown isn't known for its outdoor dining (something we hope will change as the area develops), but there are notable exceptions. Ray and Grace at Nonna's have thrown open their glass doors to let in the balmy breezes, and Shana at breads 'n spreads has set up seating on the very hip, very vertical area on the side of her café. And now we can add Café di Luna to that list, as Ambreen expects to open up an outdoor space later this month.

A different type of warmth (the human kind) was on abundant display recently at Gallery Blu, which hosted a terrific get-together for Friends of Midtown. It's exactly this type of community event that makes the neighborhood so special.

On sort of a down note, the 3rd Street location of Jackson Hewitt shut its doors, in the middle of tax season at that. Let's hope that something wonderful (yes, even better than tax prep) takes its place.

A New Gallery, Years of Connections

Gallery@Second may be new, but its roots run deep.

Lawrance Binda

You could call it a virtuous circle, and it seems to be what Harrisburg's art scene is happily caught in right now.

One connection leads to another; one success breeds more success.

For Ted and Linda Walke, the roots of their new gallery—Gallery@Second—have many such points of connection. Most notably, they've been inspired by local artists Tara Chickey and Caleb Smith, who taught the Walke's son, Ben, at Capital Area School for the Arts (CASA).

"Ben was a big fan of the films that Caleb made and showed," said Linda Walke. "His experience with CASA rejuvenated our desire to open our own art space."

Coincidentally, Chickey and partner Andrew Guth just opened their own gallery, The Mantis Collective, on N. 3rd Street. They're joined there by Smith, who heads the alt-film group, Moviate. The three found their new space through Eric Papenfuse, owner of Midtown Scholar and Yellow Wall Gallery.

See what I mean by connections?

The Walkes will quietly swing open the doors to their gallery at 608 N. 2nd St. on May 14. A grand opening will follow a week later for 3rd in The Burg on May 21.

Since purchasing the 1,300-square-foot building in January, the Walkes have been hard at work transforming the former

tanning salon into art space. On the positive side, the salon's many small tanning rooms—with many walls—were easily converted to hang art. On the downside, the bright yellow paint and worn carpeting had to go.

"The inside was largely renovated a few years ago, but we still had to put in new paint, lights, drywall, carpets, etc.," said Ted, an artist in his own right who exhibited many years ago before the demands of ordinary life—and three children—took over.

The Walkes plan to devote the gallery's first floor to just one or two artists, so that entire bodies of work can be shown. Group exhibits, highlighting many different artists, will take up the second floor. Various forms of art, from representational to abstract, are encouraged, as are newcomers.

"We'd like to have a place where young people and where new, unestablished artists can show," said Linda.

In fact, giving new artists a chance is one of the principal objectives behind Gallery@Second.

"When I was showing in the late 1970s, the art world was pretty closed," said Ted. "We'd like to help change that."



From tan to art: Linda and Ted Walke have turned an old salon into Gallery@Second, yet another critical piece of Harrisburg's arts renaissance.

The first group exhibition logically is devoted to Harrisburg. Images must somehow represent the city—and therein lies yet another point of connection.

The Walkes were inspired to devote their first exhibit to local subjects by the March cover of *TheBurg*, which featured a 40-year-old street scene of South Allison Hill by renowned Harrisburg painter Nick Ruggieri.

In other words, you can trace the origins of Gallery@Second back to the 1950s and '60s, when Ruggieri set up his easel throughout his beloved city, finding inspiration from life on nearly every street corner.

Moreover, art from the Harrisburg-focused group exhibition will have a chance to grace a future cover of *TheBurg*. For the Walkes, this element of their first exhibit

further draws a line from past to present, linking a single community through the years.

"We never expect to get rich by opening a gallery," said Ted. "But we hope to make a contribution and have a fun, rewarding experience."

Gallery@Second, 608 N. 2nd St.
www.galleryatsecond.com.

County Backs HMAC; Work Should Resume

The Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center is one giant step closer to resuming work on its extensive renovation.

Last month, Dauphin County commissioners passed a resolution giving HMAC the opportunity to raise \$2.2 million in tax-exempt bonds. HMAC now must put together a financing package by mid-August, said the county.

The tax exemption is critical for the successful placement of the bonds, said HMAC co-owner John Traynor, who expects financing to be finalized well before the deadline.

The money should allow for the completion of the ambitious project in the sprawling space at 1110 N. 3rd St., said Traynor. Plans include additional performance and arts space, a swim club and a café.

Since its opening in March 2009, HMAC has opened only one portion of the project, Stage on Herr. It since has become a premier venue for live music in Harrisburg.

Flowers, Just in Time for Mother's Day

Tina Magaro, Diane Buckley and Kyle Franke smile from behind their stand at The Flower Place at the Market, new at the Broad Street Market. Franke and business partner Justin Peterson took over the space occupied for nearly three decades by Brandt Farms Flowers. It's the second business at the Market for Franke and Peterson, who also run Shady Nook Farm, the expansive produce business at the rear of the Market's brick building.





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Market Broadens Its Mission

Broad Street Market reconnects with the community.

Peter Durantine

Cleaned and refurbished with new leadership at the helm, the Broad Street Market and the Historic Harrisburg Association, which manages the market, are taking new steps to re-connect with the city.

The first step was to join 3rd in The Burg, the event conducted each third Friday of the month by galleries, shops and restaurants in Midtown and downtown.

"Both organizations are doing it as a sort of grand re-opening to the community," said John Campbell, the

new executive director of Historic Harrisburg Association.

For its first 3rd in The Burg on Friday, May 21, HHA will open its brownstone building at 1230 N. 3rd St. from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., offering visitors an opportunity to see the historic research resources available to the public and to view artworks from local artists.

The market's stone building, across 3rd Street from HHA, will open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The building houses the food stands,

where 3rd in The Burg patrons can get dinner or a snack in between visits to the galleries and shops.

"We're going to use it as a trial, to see if we can keep the market open later," said Campbell who works with the market's new acting manager, Rafiqqa Muhammad.

Campbell said the goal is to again make HHA and the market essential to the city.

"We want to reach out to the community," he said, "and be a community asset."

Primaries: May 18

It's mid-term election time, with party primaries slated for May 18.

For U.S. Senate, primary candidates are Democrats Joe Sestak, Arlen Specter and Joseph Vodvarka; and Republicans Peg Luksik and Pat Toomey.

For governor, candidates are Democrats Joseph M. Hoeffel, Dan Onorato, Jack Wagner and Anthony Hardy Williams; and Republicans Tom Corbett and Sam Rohrer.

For U.S. Congress, candidates are Democrats Tim Holden and Sheila Dow-Ford; and Republicans are David Argall, Allen Griffith, Josh First and Frank Ryan.

For state representative (Harrisburg), the candidates are Democrats Ron Buxton, Brooks Mountcastle and Karl Singleton; no Republicans are running. For state representative (Swatara-Hummelstown-Hershey), candidates are Democrat Phyllis Bennett and Republican John D. Payne.

The general election is Nov. 2.

Greenworks Buys PHEAA Building

GreenWorks Development has purchased the 58,000-square-foot Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance building at 1001 N. 6th St., the developer said.

Realtor CB Richard Ellis arranged the sale and coordinated a lease back for a 20,000-square-foot data center on behalf of PHEAA, which has become a national provider of student financial aid.

Penn National Gives School Donation

Penn National Insurance last month donated \$180,000 to the Harrisburg School District for the Foose School Project.

Penn National has made donations in the past for the Foose Project, which have been used for reading programs, special events, the purchase of technology and science literacy initiatives, according to the city.

Real Estate Market Shows Improvement

For the first quarter of 2010, home sales increased 3.2 percent and average sale prices rose slightly, compared to the year-ago quarter.

The Greater Harrisburg Association of Realtors said home sales rose to 1,266 from 1,227 units. Median home prices increased to \$158,600 from \$157,400.

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Mutual Support, Mother to Mother

Mothers of autistic children organize around faith, friendship.

Peter Durantine

A few years ago, Elyse Cook, mother of an 8-year-old autistic son, embarked on a journey to understand how her belief in God has helped her raise Gavin and how raising a special needs child has tested her faith.

After her son was diagnosed at age 26 months, she started to search for resources about the connection between a mother's faith and child-rearing. She found that the materials were, at best, "difficult to come by."

She started a nonprofit called ASD HOPE—Help, Options, and Parent Empowerment—and in the process realized "a lot of other parents struggled with the same questions I had—why does a loving God allow for this to happen? What did I do to deserve this?"

She found some parents embraced their faith even more because of the experience of having a child with autism while others seemed to turn their back on their religion.

Cook sought ideas for a support group when an aunt in New York told her about a luncheon at her church, organized by several mothers with autistic children. They invited other mothers of children on the autism spectrum.

Cook spoke to the organizers, took some ideas and blended those with her own. She then found mothers who shared her passion



Elyse Cook (left) and Ginger Taylor at last year's Mother to Mother luncheon.

on the subject of faith and raising children with autism.

All this gave birth to the Mother to Mother luncheon on a sunny April afternoon in 2007 at the Colonial Park United Methodist Church. The 128 mothers who attended sat at tables set with fine china, dined on an outstanding meal by a local chef, listened to a guest speaker and enjoyed performances by a local liturgical dance group.

As the annual event has grown, Cook has found more resources on the subject of faith and autistic children. The speaker at this year's luncheon—attended by 130 mothers—was Kelly Langston, author of "Autism's Hidden Blessings: Discovering God's Promises for Autistic Children and Their Families."

Despite the demands, often draining at times, of raising a special needs child, Cook and other mothers

know they can turn to their faith in God for the strength to raise a loving, caring child and to get through each day.

Community Walk

Area residents will meet at 10 a.m. May 8, at Carousel Pavilion on City Island, the starting point of the Second Annual Piscioneri Century 21 Foundation Community Walk.

The walk will benefit The Allison Hill Fund, The Nativity School of Harrisburg, New Hope Ministries, and The United Methodist Home for Children. Walkers may pre-register at www.c21pish.com and can indicate the group their funds should go to.

Free Cancer Checks at Hershey Medical

Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center is offering free skin cancer screenings 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., May 15, to coincide with Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month.

The event is scheduled at the Center's University Physician Center Dermatology Clinic, Suite 100. For an appointment, call the 24-hour CareLine at 1-800-243-1455.

Penn State Hershey Medical Center has offered this free screening for more than 15 years. More information about the Center is at www.pennstatehershey.org.

Locks of Love



Michael Lawler of Lords & Ladies Salon in Midtown cuts Duncannon resident Aimee Lezinski's hair for Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged youth who suffer from long-term medical hair loss. Hair donations must be at least 10 inches long and free of bleach. For more, visit www.locksoflove.org/mission.

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One Decade, Three Capitols

A fire, then a mistake. The third time was the charm.

Jason Wilson

Both chambers of the Pennsylvania House were in session on the morning of Feb. 2, 1897. All morning long, senators were sending messengers to investigate an “acrid smoky smell” that was emanating from offices just above the chamber.

After the Senate adjourned for lunch at noon, several senators, increasingly concerned about the smell, investigated the second floor rooms only to find smoke coming from underneath the lieutenant governor’s office. Smashing in the door, they chopped through a partition and unknowingly granted oxygen to a fire, which had been smoldering along a floor joist all morning. Almost immediately, the roof of the room next door collapsed, and Senate Librarian Herman Miller pulled the fire alarm.

Harrisburg’s 11 fire companies recorded the call at 12:30 p.m. and immediately flew into action. Meanwhile, at the Capitol, the Senate was evacuating and notifying the House, which was still in session. Several minutes later, the House swiftly adjourned, as members and employees grabbed anything they could while licking flames began to shoot across the ceiling.

Overall, seven pumpers and several other horse-drawn wagons arrived to battle the blaze in 29-degree weather as snow was falling, but the size of the building and horrendous conditions made fighting the blaze almost impossible. By 1 p.m., the dome of the Capitol was engulfed in flames and, 20 minutes later, onlookers stood stunned as the entire dome came crashing down.

The fire companies trained their hoses on the adjacent buildings to prevent the fire’s spread, but by 3:30 p.m. the Hills Capitol, designed by Harrisburg architect Stephen Hills and completed in 1822, was a smoldering ruin.

Although tragic for its loss of history, documents and artifacts—though no one lost their life—the destruction of the Federal-style Hills Capitol signaled change.

What followed (after an incomplete brown-brick structure did not meet anyone’s satisfaction including its architect, Henry Ives



Harrisburg’s original Capitol, the so-called Hills Capitol (left), on fire in 1897. A replacement, the fortress-like Cobb Capitol, was abandoned mid-construction (right). The current Renaissance-style masterpiece, one of the most beautiful state Capitols, was completed in 1906 (below).



Cobb) was a new, massive building of granite, finished in 1906 and designed by Joseph Huston in the American Renaissance style with ornate features, such as the green-tiled dome, fashioned after St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome.

That Capitol stands today, the centerpiece of the Capitol Complex, ringed by the beauty of Capitol Park.

Jason L. Wilson is a research historian for the Capitol Preservation Committee.



Then and Now

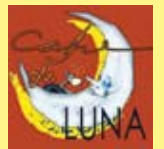
Courtesy, Judge Klinefelter and Eric Papenfuse



1306 N. 3rd St. has gone through many incarnations. It began as Charles George’s drugstore, shown circa 1890 (left). After turns as a hat store, a camera shop and a thrift store, it opened last month as the new home of the art gallery, The Mantis Collective/Moviate (right).



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Chinese Food that Isn't

Buffets are tasty, but please don't think they're authentic.

Sylvia Grove

The Chinese buffet is an American guilty pleasure.

The spacious booths, the gilded-gold artwork—everything about a Chinese restaurant appeals to the American preference for having as much salty food as one can handle, the convenience of not cleaning up and the comfort of never running out of Coke. While this may sound uncouth, even I have to admit that I visit a buffet at least once a month.

We in Harrisburg have more Chinese restaurants in a 10-mile radius from our state Capitol than we have McDonald's and Burger Kings combined.

Good Taste on 3rd Street in Midtown (carry-out only) is for lunch, dinner and midnight cravings, offering an extensive, reasonably priced menu of lo mein, chow mein, beef, pork or chicken. Asian Empire Bistro on Union Deposit Road is a sit-down, white-tablecloth venue geared toward dinner or drinks, providing new twists on old favorites like orange beef and shrimp in chili sauce. If this isn't enough, there are approximately 70 other Chinese restaurants in the Harrisburg area, catering to patrons' every white rice, rice noodle need.

According to the U.S. Census, we also have a higher-than-average concentration of Asian residents for the state of Pennsylvania. However, for many of us, a Chinese buffet is as much of Asia as we will ever see. While we hold chopsticks and name our Chinese zodiac, we have to admit we know very little about China. Instead, we secretly believe that every meal in China is deep fried and soaked in sauce. In our eyes, Chinese homes probably come standard with an electric waterfall and a tank of live fish.

According to Indigo Som, manager of the blog "Chinese Restaurant Project," American Chinese buffets are less windows into a foreign culture than they are mirrors of our own. The very existence of a "Chinese buffet" caters to the American need for choice and individualism. Equally, the idea that food should be heavily fried and rapidly consumed parallels the basis of our fast food culture.

Jingxia Yang (Judy) Stiffler, part-time professor of Chinese at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa., said the Chinese view food much differently than the idea promoted at a buffet. While most clients finish a meal at a

Chinese buffet in under an hour, an authentic Chinese dinner is an opportunity for patience and togetherness. The family sits around a circular table where several main dishes are placed on a large, central lazy Susan. It is culturally acceptable to eat from your own plate, from the dish in the center or to pass food from plate to plate with a quick "Here, try this."

At buffets, we clutch our plates to our chest as we wait for our share of General Tso's, but Judy explained, "In China, there is no such thing as your 'own plate.' Eating is very communal." A meal with friends can last four hours or more, starting with a cold salad and liquor and moving to stir fries, meatballs and soups. Dessert is only served for special occasions.

Traditional Chinese food differs from what we find under our buffet heat lamps. The country has five to six major types of cuisine that vary by region. Food from the Chinese province of Szechuan, for example,



Belly up: The fried egg roll, with a variety of fillings, is a staple of most Chinese buffets.

tends to be spicier (think Szechuan chicken) while food from the north of China is similar to that of Russia (like noodles and pickled cabbage). Vegetables such as bok choy, kai-lan, tomatoes and carrots are central to certain dishes, whereas American Chinese food pushes vegetables aside as garnish.

Judy maintained that American Chinese buffets aren't necessarily poor representations of her country's cuisine, but we need to regard American Chinese food for what it is. It represents both a nation of 1.3 billion people and a nation with a population one quarter of China's—ours.

In Harrisburg, Paxton Street's Jumbo Buffet welcomes the same patrons as the nearby Planet Fitness. Evergreen Chinese buffet on the Carlisle Pike serves clients in a neon-lit former diner. Across social and ethnic boundaries, we value equally the ability to promptly cater to our own tastes, and we rub shoulders with the neighbors with whom we would otherwise never speak. A Chinese buffet becomes a cultural intersection—a place where we are fully American and then some.

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

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A Dish with a Happy Ending

Pasta puttanesca has a spicy story, a complex flavor.

Rosemary Ruggieri Baer

One of my favorite dishes is pasta puttanesca, and I am fascinated by the story behind it.

To Italians, this dish is known sometimes as “whores’ pasta.” It is thought to have originated in Rome or Naples, depending on who is telling the story. It’s a dish I make often, especially on a work day, because it’s easy and calls for ingredients I usually have lurking in my pantry. Some think it’s a cold weather pasta, but I make it all year.

Italian urban legend links pasta puttanesca to the “ladies of the night” who lived in city brothels. Listen to what Diana Seed in her cookbook “100 Top Pasta Sauces” says about the origins of this unusual dish:

“To understand how this sauce came to get its name, one must consider the 1950s when brothels in Italy were state-owned. They were known as *case chiuse* or ‘closed houses’ because the shutters had to be kept permanently closed to avoid offending the sensibilities of neighbors or innocent passers-by. Conscientious Italian housewives usually shop at the local market

every day to buy fresh food, but the ‘civil servants’ were only allowed one day per week for shopping, and their time was valuable. Their specialty became a sauce made quickly from odds and ends in the larder.”

Because pasta puttanesca relies on pantry ingredients, they should be the very best you can find:

- **Olives:** Any good Italian or Greek olives work in this dish. Kalamata olives are black or deep purple in color and brine-cured. They are rich and fruity. Nicoise olives are very small French olives that are nutty and mellow in flavor. Gaeta olives come from Italy and are dry salt-cured and rubbed with oil. They are noted for their wrinkled appearance. You can find these wonderful olives in supermarkets either jarred or in the salad bar section. Many good Mediterranean olives come pitted, which saves time. Just avoid the tasteless canned black olives that we all know from the insipid relish tray.
- **Plum Tomatoes:** You can use the wonderful fresh ripe ones found in summer or a good quality canned variety. San Marzano tomatoes come from a small town outside Naples at the foot of Mount Vesuvius. They

are called the best tomatoes in the world. Canned San Marzano tomatoes are also showing up in supermarkets these days and, while pricier than other types, they are well worth it for a sauce that calls for each simple ingredient to stand out.

- **Capers:** Capers are the pickled buds of the *Capparis spinosa* plant that is native to the Mediterranean region. You can find them jarred in brine or packed in salt. The small ones are considered the best. My mother used capers often, mostly in fresh green salads. I sneak them into many dishes because I love their unique flavor.

- **Anchovies:** Anchovies are small fish found abundantly in Mediterranean waters. I didn’t become friends with anchovies until later in life, when I discovered that a small amount of them crushed and sautéed in olive oil lent a wonderful and sometimes unidentifiable taste to many pasta dishes. Often, I use anchovy paste, which comes in a toothpaste-type tube. A little goes a long way, but anchovies are essential to puttanesca.

So here is my favorite recipe for puttanesca. It is from Elisa Celli’s

“Italian Light.” Many variations can be found on the Internet as well.

1. In a large sauté pan, heat 2 tablespoons of green olive oil. Add 3 cloves of crushed garlic, and ¼ teaspoon of crushed red pepper. Cook for 3 to 4 minutes.
2. Add a cup of canned plum tomatoes, drained and crushed, along with ½ teaspoon of Italian herb seasoning, 3 tablespoons drained and rinsed capers, 2 anchovy filets, rinsed, dried, and chopped, (or 2 healthy squeezes of anchovy paste), ½ cup of fresh, chopped Italian parsley, and 6 Italian or Greek olives, pitted and sliced.
3. Cook the above over gentle heat for 5 to 8 minutes, stirring often.
4. Serve over freshly cooked thin spaghetti and top with good grated cheese. Sometimes, I add a little extra olive oil. Enjoy!



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

Water Colors



Artsfest returns to the Harrisburg waterfront for Memorial Day weekend, May 28-31. The Artsfest Film Festival will set up shop at Whitaker Center.

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Treats & Sweets

Ballpark Food Hits a Homer

These cookies are going, going, gone.

Sara Goulet

When my daughter was 3, I took her to Camden Yards to see a Baltimore Orioles game. She had fun watching the crowd and eating ballpark food; as for the game itself, not so much. She's nearly 17 now and when we can drag her to a game, it's still for the people-watching and the food.

I love everything about baseball. I'm happy to sit through a long game—at home or at the ballpark. I love the intricacies of the game. I love playing baseball in the backyard with my husband and son. I'm not very good, but I try.

But I especially love baseball food, a broad category that covers everything from the traditional hot dogs and peanuts to breaded shrimp and cheese quesadillas. Food and baseball just go together. After all, the song says, "Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks." And you can't deny that hot dogs fueled much of Babe Ruth's career.

Putch & Buckie's Baked Goods is sponsoring my son's Hershey Little League team for the second year in a row. To commemorate Little League opening day, I bake and decorate

baseball-themed cookies for each of the boys on our team. I just finished this year's treats—ball cap and baseball bat cookies with the boys' names on them.

While I am a baker, I am not much of a decorator (thank goodness Putch & Buckie's has the talents of my friend, Nora Gould). Mixing icing, tinting it to match the team's color (burgundy), decorating each cookie in detail and packaging them is enough to put me over the edge. When I was finished, my hands were dyed burgundy, my kitchen was covered in confectioners' sugar and three hours had passed. My husband told me I'm nuts. But it's all for love of the game, I reason.

Our Little League concession stand sells delicious hamburgers, hot dogs and an ingenious invention called a walking taco: taco meat, lettuce, tomato mixed in a single-serve bag of tortilla chips and eaten with a fork. With the revamped Metro Bank Park in Harrisburg, much of the buzz is about the new food offerings. Sen-a-taters is just too good a name not to try them.

The next time you're looking

for something to do, take a trip to your nearest minor league or major league ballpark or even to a high school or Little League field. Cheer for your team, check out the crowd—and bring your appetite.

Home Run Sugar Cookies

3 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
2 cups butter
2 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla
5 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon cream of tartar

Cream the sugar and butter. Mix in eggs and vanilla. Sift dry ingredients together. Blend into creamed sugar and butter. Refrigerate 3-4 hours or overnight. Use ¼ of the dough at a time, rolling to about 3/16-inches thick. Cut into circular shape with round cookie cutter or bottom of a drinking glass.

Bake at 375 degrees on parchment-lined baking sheets for 7-8 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool. Frost with white icing. Tint a portion of the icing red and, when cookies are dry, pipe on baseball stitches.



Stand-up double: With these cookies, one great American pastime (baseball) meets another one (eating).

Easy Creamy Icing

Blend 1 cup confectioners' sugar with ¼ teaspoon salt, ½ teaspoon vanilla and enough water to make icing that is easy to pipe through a decorating tube, yet still hold its shape. A good rule of thumb: drip the icing off of the beaters back into the mixing bowl. The dripped icing should disappear back into the icing in the bowl within a few seconds.



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



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Large Pie, Extra Art

Stacey Martin creates on walls, on canvas, online

Lawrance Binda



Under the dome: Stacey Martin was busy last month re-creating the state Capitol in one of many murals she's painting inside the new Brothers Pizzeria in Midtown.

Before long, you may be sitting at a table at the new Brothers Pizzeria in Midtown, perhaps enjoying a nice insalata caprese, when you'll look at the walls around you and think: Hmm, I wonder who painted all these wonderful murals.

We have the answer: Stacey Martin.

Even among the close-knit Harrisburg arts community, Martin may be a new name. Only recently did she re-start an independent art career, taking a sabbatical from the Lower Dauphin school district, where she taught art for 13 years.

She's been busy since. Last year, she founded a company called The Post and Lintel, an online art marketplace that connects buyers and sellers. Meanwhile, she's been working to boost her own diverse portfolio of work, which includes photographs, charcoal and pencil drawings.

"It's very exciting to revive my art career," she said. "I hope that this

will give me a greater opportunity to be involved in the local art scene."

Then, out of the blue, she received a commission from Giuseppe Barone and Luigi Ambrosino, owners of the popular, 25-restaurant Brothers Pizza chain. They were opening a new, more upscale location in the Campus Square Building at 3rd and Reily streets and were seeking a talented artist to paint nine

murals, depicting scenes of both Harrisburg and Italy.

On a recent afternoon, Martin was adding detail to the Capitol building, the principal mural in the dining area—and the first thing that catches the eye upon entering the restaurant. It's time-consuming

work, she explained, particularly since the dome, modeled after St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, is so intricate in design.

"It's the centerpiece, so you have to get everything just right," she said. "If you don't, the people who live here and eat here will notice that something's off."

A second large mural of almost equal complexity shows the iron-truss Walnut Street Bridge, another iconic Harrisburg image. Notably, the owners decided to depict the western side of the bridge, which lost several spans during the horrible 1996 ice jam and flood.

"That side may be damaged, but it's also very interesting to look at," explained Barone.

Other, smaller murals will depict scenes from the owners' native land around Naples, the paintings adorning spaces beneath the restaurant's large granite counter. The work must be done not only well, but also fairly quickly, as

Brothers is set to open in mid-May.

After completing this project, Martin wants to grow her nascent business, The Post and Lintel, making it a one-stop market for buyers of high-quality, original art. She also hopes to resume showing her own work at area galleries, several of which have expressed interest. A few years ago, she had a one-woman show at Penn State Harrisburg entitled "Browse the Children," which was inspired by her adopted daughter, Maddie.

"The arts community here has been wonderful to me, and it's been a pleasure getting to know so many people," she said. "That may be the best part, so far, of deciding to focus once again on my art."

The Post and Lintel can be found at www.thepostandlintel.com. Stacey Martin can be reached at thepostandlintel@gmail.com.

Brothers Pizzeria opens this month in the Campus Square Building.

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Two Cultures, One Sound

Batida! pours Brazilianana, Americana into a tasty musical cocktail.

Lawrance Binda



Brazil beat: Monica Teles-Carr (left) and Chelsea Bowman of Batida! play to a packed room at Suba.

The last Saturday of every month, the air warms a bit, colors become more vibrant and an addictive rhythm fills the air.

Have you noticed?

If so, you've probably already been drawn to Suba, the snug tapas bar on the second floor of the downtown bistro, Mangia Qui. It may be 20 bone-chilling degrees out on the sidewalk of 3rd and North streets, but, inside, as Batida! takes the stage, it's just another balmy, breezy tropical night in Rio.

Monica Teles-Carr and Chelsea Bowman make up the energetic duo, which musically combines Monica's Brazilian heritage with that of Chelsea, a native of Harrisburg. The two cultures mesh and interlock, yielding a Latin syncopation, brought forth by the thump of conga drums, and interlaced with an American acoustic sound.

"It's magical what happens," Chelsea said. "It's such a blend of influences."

Indeed, the interplay between cultures ebbs and flows from song to song. From the outset, Batida! surprises the audience by opening with a samba-flecked version of the "Sound of Music" standard, "Do-Re-Mi," with both women singing and playing drums. Shortly afterwards, Chelsea picks up an acoustic guitar and strums a song you might expect

to hear in an American coffeehouse, except that it's accompanied by maracas. Then it's back to the beaches of Brazil, the duo harmonizing in Portuguese, even hinting at a bossa nova.

In the Harrisburg area, there may be no better setting for a group like Batida! than their home at Suba.

The upstairs oasis is adorned with bright, tropical colors and art, diners sampling tapas and sipping mojitos as hard-working bartenders pour rum and grind mint

leaves with mortar and pestle.

Monica and Chelsea, in fact, were introduced a few years ago by Elide Hower, one of the owners of Mangia Qui/Suba. They've been friends and musical partners since.

In Portuguese, the word, "batida," means "beat," which is why they thought it appropriate for the band's name, explained Monica.

"Because of the type of music we play, 'batida' has a great deal of meaning for us," she said.

The word is perfect for the audience, as well, as listener participation is emphatically encouraged. A few songs in, the wait staff hands out a variety of shakers, many shaped like pieces of tropical fruit, to patrons, who are asked to play along—not always an

easy request for the normally staid central Pennsylvania crowd.

But, as the night wears on and a few more caipirinhas (the traditional Brazilian drink) are downed, the audience begins to loosen up. By the time the evening comes to a close, people may even be on stage, playing and singing along with Batida! Any discernable musical talent among the once-reluctant, now-enthusiastic participants is strictly beside the point.

"For us, any Batida night is a special night," said Chelsea. "We love music so much that we just want to share it."

Batida! plays the last Saturday of each month at Mangia Qui/Suba, 272 North St., Harrisburg. mangiaqui.com

Don't Cover Me: Give Original Music a Chance

Corey Bealert

When you think of Harrisburg, do you think of a music town? Most people probably don't.

Sure, 2nd Street gives off a big city feel on weekend nights. Clusters of people decorate the streets, and you can hear music coming from the bars and clubs. But what is playing?

Unfortunately, downtown is locked in a penitentiary of cover bands that fill each bar with familiar sounds. That market may be the way it is because it works. Bars and restaurants make a lot of money on weekends with this music.

Now the good news: the years of cover band tyranny finally may be drawing to a close. Venture out of the downtown core and you discover an emerging scene that is giving new life to live music here.

On North Street, you immediately hit the snug stage at Suba. Across Forster, Midtown Tavern just began live jazz and blues. A few blocks up, Midtown Scholar brings in terrific acoustic acts several times a month. Then there's HMAAC Stage on Herr, which may have more

original music per week than any other venue in Harrisburg.

"If I go into a bar, and there is a cover band playing, I leave," said Kristine Lannon of Midtown. "I enjoy Stage on Herr because they promote original music."

Midtown resident Samantha Sprague added, "If there is a bar with a cover band playing and a bar with an original band playing next door, I would go see the original band."

Indeed, Stage on Herr is the epicenter for this "movement." The venue features a wide array of local and national acts and hosts an open mic night on Wednesdays. My band, "Odd Man In," has played there a few times and really enjoyed the crowd.

Sensing growing interest, Midtown Tavern recently re-started live music. Tony, one of the managers, said, "We wanted to do something different. The music at most places is saturated with stuff you hear on the radio, and we didn't want to be like that."

The tavern is off to a great start. In the first few weeks of live music, Saturday night business has reportedly tripled. It can be done.

"Music in Harrisburg should not be like animals surviving in the wild where cover bands are alpha male," said Bobby Brooks of Harrisburg. "It should be a place filled with many types of original music as well."

There are several other notable venues that feature original music, even a few downtown. Appalachian Brewing Company and Dragonfly book originals; Carley's Ristorante offers high-quality, live piano music and an open mic.

Many people I know believe there's a large audience for original music spanning many different genres—that downtown venues should stop trying to "play it safe" with cover bands. Harrisburg can be a respected music town; our potential is endless. We have wonderful venues and even more wonderful people. Let's pull back the curtain and let original bands fill the window with light.



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

Strange Name, Great Time

Contra dancing is pro fun, pro exercise, pro friendship.

Ruth Hoover Seitz



Young and old alike take to contra dancing in the Social Hall of Christ the Savior Orthodox Church.

There is no shortage of contradictions with contra dancing.

No classes are taught for it, but to learn you first walk through each dance without music. You cannot contra dance unless a caller guides you. Each dance is different with its own choreography. You can attend without a partner, but, by

Music Museum Tunes Up Efforts, Presence

The Pennsylvania Museum of Music and Broadcast History is seeking broadcast and music professionals from or connected to the state.

The museum is working on three primary projects:

- Expanding a network of people bands, artists and broadcasters
- Gaining archival information to post on the virtual museum
- Adding board members with legal and financial expertise

The museum also is building an audience on Facebook, located at pmmbh.org.

Anyone who has relevant photos, videos, narratives and interviews regarding the state's rich musical history can post them on www.pmmbh.org.

the end of the night, you probably will have danced with everyone. The only dress requirement is soft-soled shoes.

So, what is contra dancing?

"Not to be confused with country line dancing, it is done to traditional American folk music. Sort of like square dancing in lines and minus the square," said Terry Bachmann of Harrisburg, who

has been contra dancing 17 years. "Couples move up and down facing lines to a caller's prompt."

A live band plays a jig or reel while the caller directs the dancers moving in a repetitive pattern of steps. People from the ages of eight to 80 can contra dance.

"It is all about having fun, enjoying live, acoustic music in an alcohol-free, smoke-free environment with fun-loving people," Bachmann said. "A caller's job is to teach each dance (the walk-through) and then prompt the dancers throughout so that they dance the figures to the music. Each dance lasts eight to 12 minutes."

Choreography specifies dance formation, the figures and the sequence of those figures. In response to the caller's instructions, each couple interacts with the couple next to them to form a four-person "set," and each set interacts

with the sets on either side of them. Each couple moves up and down the hall, interacting with every other couple in their multi-set "line."

Dave Colestock, a founder of the Harrisburg Area Contra Dance Association who has called dances in 15 states, said a caller's "timing needs to be impeccable, that the directions must be given slightly before the dancers move to the music."

There is no defined footwork. Individuals move to the rhythm of the music according to their own taste. The figures are similar to those of old-time square dancing. Some are: dosido your partner, allemande left, star by the right, gypsy and swing. For instance, gypsy means making eye contact while circling.

Contra dancing has about two dozen figures or moves, with six to 12 in one dance. After a dance, it is customary for the follow to thank the lead and both will choose new partners. A male can ask a female or vice versa.

Contra is danced to Celtic, New England, Southern Appalachian, jazz, blues, all sorts of traditional music played by live bands. A contra band commonly consists of a fiddle, a guitar, a keyboard or a bass or maybe a mandolin.

You can participate without experience. Twice a month, a diverse group of people meet at an area church to contra dance, sponsored by the association, a non-profit founded in 1999.

"Anyone can do it," said

the association's board president, David Spear, who has been contra dancing six years.

Contra dancers travel to find that synergy of hot musicians, connected dancers and swell choreography for the "contra high."

In central Pennsylvania, contra dances occur at Elverson (www.elversoncontra.org); Glenside (www.thursdaycontra.com); Lancaster (www.lancastercontra.org, 717-538-5833); and State College (www.cpcda.org).

A Susquehanna Township resident, Izaak Oliphant has been contra dancing for five years— "relieving stress by listening to music and enjoying myself."

For two-and-a-half hours of fun, one can get physical exercise and experience healthy touch.

Harrisburg Area Contra Dance Association dances the second and fourth Fridays of the month at the Social Hall of Christ the Savior Orthodox Church at 5501 Locust Lane, Harrisburg. The dance is held 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. www.harrisburgcontra.org.

Ruth Seitz started contra dancing the summer of 2009. She finds "the activity exhilarating and the community welcoming—a satisfying way to launch the weekend."

Free Contra Dance for New Dancers!

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www.harrisburgcontra.org

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Museums & Art Spaces

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

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

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

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

"4 Artist Invitational," through May 6.

The Art Association's 82nd Annual Juried Exhibition, May 15–June 17. Reception, May 15, 6–9 p.m. Music by The Jolly Goodfellas.

ArtHouse Lounge

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

"The Eternal Essence of Existence," the art of Adam Scott Miller, through July 3. Opening reception, May 21, 6–9 p.m.

Arts at 510

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

Paintings by Kevin Miller and wood tables by Robert Allen; works by the Susquehanna Woodturners Club, through mid-May.

Laminated acrylic paintings by Donald Sam Sneider. Also, Historic Harrisburg handcolored prints. Debuts May 21.

Gallery@Second

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

Exhibits by Mark Wesling and Andrew Hench. "The Burg," a Harrisburg-themed group exhibit. Grand opening, reception, May 21.

Gallery Blu

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

"Juneteenth," an exhibit commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States and exploring the artistic expression and cultural representation of our African American community, May 21–June 30.

Harsco Science Center

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

"Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition," explores the ill-fated 1912 cruise, 150 artifacts and several re-creations of onboard life, through Sept. 5.

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

"Abstract Ideas and String Theories," original art works by John Holtzman, Mark Billy and Tyler Yenna, through May 20.

"Greece Smiles," by Robert Stadnycki. Reception: May 21, 5 p.m.

The Mantis Collective

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

"Non Fiction" and other works by figurative artist Judeth Pekala Hawkins, through May 15.

"Airports," a series of paintings by Jeff Bye based on airport hubs throughout the country, May 21–June 12.

Midtown Cinema

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

Photography by Erin Sparler.

Midtown Scholar/Yellow Wall Gallery

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

"Light & Dark," works by J. Britton, A. DeFalco, E. Kramer and C. Peters through mid-June. Reception, May 21, 6–9 p.m.

National Civil War Museum

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

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

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

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

"Fragile Nature," a photo exhibit by National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore, through June 13.

Radius Gallery

300 North St., Harrisburg
717-787-5590; www.radiusgallery.com

Featured showcase: "Under the Cover: Handmade Books," through June.

Featured craftsman: Pam Tilly of Lemoyne, jewelry/glass through May. Open house: May 8, 1–3 p.m.

Rose Lehrman Art Gallery

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

"Student Honors Show 2010 (2)," through May 7. Reception: May 6, 5–7 p.m.

SPRAMA.gallery

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

"Urban Boulevard," a collection of urban-inspired art and photography.

"Natalie Lock: Legacy," a retrospective of the Harrisburg-area artist's work. Opens May 28.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

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

"1780 Act for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery Exhibit," an exhibit examining the first such legislation in America, through June 20.

"The Fine Art of Giving," a selection of artwork given to the museum, through June 30.

Note: Starting July 1, admission to museum increases from \$3 to \$5 for adults and from \$2 to \$4 for youth, seniors and groups.

Susquehanna Art Museum

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

"Down the Rabbit Hole: The Bizarre Worlds of Salvador Dali," artworks by famed artist/personality Salvador Dali, as well as photographs of him, through Aug. 1.

Dōshi Gallery: "The Spirit of Letters," mixed media by Edward Evans, through May 9; "Cornucopia," works by Lawrence von Barann, May 13–June 13.

The Stage Door

Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse

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

Murder on the Nile," through May 9

"No Sex Please, We're British," May 12–June 6

H. Ric Luhrs Performing Arts Center

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

No shows scheduled for May.

Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival

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

No shows scheduled for May.

Hershey Area Playhouse

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

"Wit," through May 2

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

Soul Comedy Café, May 9

Open Stage of Harrisburg

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

"August Wilson's Jitney," through May 8

Oyster Mill Playhouse

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

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," through May 9

Popcorn Hat Players at the Gamut

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

"Jack and the Beanstalk," May 5–27

Theatre Harrisburg

Krevsky Center, 6th & Hurlock, Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; www.theatreharrisburg.com

"Broadway's Greatest Hits," April 30–May 2

Whitaker Center

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

"Cinderella's Ball," May 1–2

3rd in The Burg: Friday, May 21

Art Association of Harrisburg—82nd Annual Juried Exhibition. Until 7 p.m. 21 N. Front St.

ArtHouse Lounge—The art of Adam Scott Miller of Harrisburg. 6–9 p.m. 217 N. 2nd St.

Arts at 510—Laminated acrylic paintings by Donald Sam Sneider. Reception and music by 510 Express. 5:10–8 p.m. 510 N. 3rd St.

Broad Street Market—Vendors open late. HACC student art displayed. 6–9 p.m. 1233 N. 3rd St.

Café di Luna: Grand opening of outdoor seating and new menu. Andrew Bellona Duo Jazz Band on patio. Until 10 p.m. 1004 N. 3rd St.

Gallery@Second—Opening reception for the new gallery, featuring emerging artists and a Harrisburg-themed group exhibit, 6–9 p.m. 608 N. 2nd St.

Gallery Blu—"Juneteenth," exploring the artistic expression of our African American community. Music by John Catalano. 7–9 p.m. 1633 N. 3rd St.

Historic Harrisburg Association—Grand re-opening of Historic Harrisburg Resource Center. Live music. Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres, 6–9 p.m. 1230 N. 3rd St.

The HodgePodgery—Soap-making demo & soap sale by Jana MacGinnes and Barbara Kline of Soap du Jour. 6–9 p.m. 1100 N. 3rd St.

Mangia Qui—Joanne Landis artist. Featured drink: strawberry lemon mojito. 272 North St.

Midtown Arts Center/Stage on Herr—Opening of "Greece Smiles," by Robert Stadnycki. Reception, 5 p.m. Music by Sarah Blacker, 9 p.m. Open 5 p.m.–2 a.m. 268 Herr St.

Midtown Cinema—Featured artists are Christine O'Leary Rockey and Erin Sparler. 250 Reily St.

Midtown Scholar—Noon coffee cupping. Live music and reception for "Light & Dark," works by J. Britton, A. DeFalco, E. Kramer & C. Peters, 6–9 p.m. 1302 N. 3rd St.

Nonna's Deli Sioso—3rd in The Burg special: shrimp scampi. 263 Reily St.

SPRAMA.design—"Urban Boulevard," a collection of urban-inspired art and photography. 6–9 p.m. 308 N. 2nd St.

3rd in The Burg is a monthly event featuring art, music and more at numerous venues around Harrisburg. Catch the shuttle! A new, specially marked shuttle, sponsored by Chevy, will make the loop between venues. Also, riders will be eligible to win one of five gift cards, courtesy of Chevy. For more, please check out our back cover or 3rdinTheBurg.com.

Live Music around Harrisburg

Appalachian Brewing Co./Abbey Bar

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

May 1: Bluegrass, Brews & BBQ (benefit for Leukemia/Lymphoma Society)
May 6: The Felice Brothers
May 7: Splintered Sunlight
May 8: Harpapalooza (benefit for the Diabetes Association)
May 11: The Kilmaine Saints w/Seneca
May 13: Jah Works
May 14: The Bridge & Hoots and Hellmouth
May 15: Pokey Lafarge
May 20: Little Ivory Blues Band
May 21: Shemekia Copeland
May 28: Start Making Sense
May 29: Hexbelt

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

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

May 1: Ted Ansel
May 5: Andrew Bargh
May 6: Anthony Haubert
May 7: Giovanni Traino
May 8: Anthony Haubert
May 12: Joel Toluba
May 13: Chris Novak
May 14: Ted Ansel
May 15: Noel Gevers
May 19: Andrew Bargh
May 20: Giovanni Traino
May 21: Anthony Haubert
May 22: Noel Gevers
May 26: Joel Toluba
May 27: Giovanni Traino
May 28: Ted Ansel
May 29: TBA
Every Tuesday, Open Mic Night

Ceoltas Irish Pub

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

May 1: The Kenton Shelly Band
May 7: Shortbus Heroes
May 8: Smooth Like Clyde
May 22: Luv Gods

Char's Bella Mundo

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

"Jazz Wednesdays," with special wine menu

Clover Lane Coffee House

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

May 21: Bob Sima and Brady Earnhart

Cygnat Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

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

May 7: Piano recital by students of Elizabethtown College
May 8: Mike Rydock

Dragonfly Club/Spy Club

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

May 2: Pearl w/Digital Elvis, Planeside, 91s and Deeze Church
May 30: 200 w/Penntera and Knuckleduster

Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra

The Forum, 5th & Walnut streets, Harrisburg
717-545-5527; www.harrisburgsymphony.org

May 1-2: "The Great American Songbook"
May 15: HYSO Spring Pops Concert
May 22-23: "Tales of Two Cities"

Hilton Harrisburg and Towers

1 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg

Solo jazz piano in the bar Tuesday through Saturday evenings

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

May 1: Jess Klein
May 2: My Rural Radio Sunday
May 6: Mike Banks & Friends
May 7: Quagmire Swim Team
May 8: Return of Hank and Cupcakes
May 13: Zach Deputy
May 14: The April Skies w/Parallax Project
May 15: IKE w/Wayne Super Genius and The Jellybricks
May 16: MiZ
May 20: Elizabeth Cook
May 21: Sarah Blacker
May 22: CASE 150
May 23: David La Fleur
May 24: Dudley Saunders
May 27: Peter Rowan w/John Train & Slo Mo
May 28: Barefoot
May 29: Mileunder
May 30: Erica Lyn Jazz Showcase
Every Wednesday: Open Mic Night

Hollywood Casino at Penn National

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

May 1: On Demand
May 7: Luv Gods
May 8: John King's Dance Band
May 14: M-80s
May 15: Flashback
May 21: Uptown Band
May 22: Don Johnson Band
May 28: Marshall's Highway
May 29: Goodfoot

Mangia Qui/Suba

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

May 1: Up Pops The Devil
May 7: Drake
May 8: Mergy Finnegan and Kenny Bourbon
May 15: DJ Geoffro
May 21: Alexandra Day
May 22: Flint Zeigler
May 29: Batida!

Midtown Scholar/Famous Reading Café

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

May 5: Zuill Bailey (Market Square Concerts)
May 15: Kris Delmhorst
May 21: Hot Club du Jour
May 27: Kevin Neidig and Henry Koretsky
May 28: Pick a Pocket

Midtown Tavern

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

May 1: Nick Howard
Please contact the venue for other Saturday night music events.
Every Tuesday: Open Mic Night

Morgan's Place

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

Please contact the venue.

Stock's on 2nd

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

May 1: Don Johnson Project Band
May 8: Cruise Control
May 15: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher
May 22: Funktion with Robin McClellan
May 29: Echelon

TuesdayBluesday

Harrisburg Musical Development Corp.
Der Maennerchor, 221 North St., Harrisburg

May 4: Blue Elephant with special guests
May 11: Blind Willies Blues Band
May 18: Pokey LaFarge & the South City Three
May 25: The Greatest Funeral Ever

Whitaker Center

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

May 4: The Five Browns
May 15: "The Glory & The Grandeur" (Harrisburg Choral Society)
May 15: Concertante (at Rose Lehrman Arts Center, HACC)

Lectures & Readings

Cygnat Studios/Conewago Coffeehouse

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

May 20: "How to Work Through Grief," with Tabitha Miller, MSW, of Heartland Hospice

Historical Society of Dauphin County

Harris/Cameron Mansion, 219 S. Front St.
717-233-3462; dauphincountyhistory.org

May 11: "A Conversation with Thaddeus Stevens," presented by the PA Past Players group, 6:30 p.m.

Midtown Scholar/Famous Reading Café

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

May 9: Book signing by noted film historian Jack Stevenson, 3-5 p.m. Event precedes film event sponsored by Moviate Film Co-op.

May 22: Book release for "8X7", limited edition art and film book, with original art by members of Moviate Film Co-op

May 29: Harrisburg author David Hoffman and Pittsburgh author Lisa Spahr discuss their recent books on WWII veterans, 2-4 p.m.

Other Highlights

May 2: Garden Faire. Celebrate spring at this garden party, complete with dancing, exhibits, a craft show and plant sale. Fort Hunter Park, Harrisburg. forthunter.org

May 5-6: Business Expo & Forum 2010. Greater Middletown Development Corp. hosts a two-day event: "Turning Economic Challenges into Opportunities." 944-6332.

May 6: Fashion Première—Celebrating 80 Years of Music. The Harrisburg Symphony Society presents this fashion fundraiser. Harrisburg Hilton, 10:30 a.m. 717-545-5227 or HarrisburgSymphony.org

May 8: MAC Yard Sale. The Midtown Action Council holds its annual neighborhood-wide yard sale: Front to 3rd streets and Forster to Verbeke streets, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

May 8: Mayfest. The Harrisburg School District hosts "Unity in the Community," a festival for families. The Broad Street Market, Harrisburg, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

May 10: 6th Annual Capital Region Go Red For Women Luncheon. American Heart Association holds its annual, woman-focused luncheon fundraiser. Hotel Hershey, 11:15 a.m. For more information, call 717-730-1782.

May 14-16: Greek Fest 2010. Celebrate all things Greek, including cuisine, music and dance, at the annual Greek Fest. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Camp Hill. pagreekfest.org

May 15: South Allison Hill Festival. Multicultural festival features a parade and street fair. Activities include interactive arts, crafts and games, food, live performances and free bicycle repair. Boys & Girls Club, 1227 Berryhill St. 1-5 p.m.

May 15: Armed Forces Day. The 9th annual day-long celebration features a 5K walk/run, military-related exhibits and re-enactments. City Island. harrisburgevents.com

May 22: 5K Run/Walk for the Animals. The Humane Society of Harrisburg Area holds its popular annual fundraiser. Wildwood Park, Harrisburg, 8:30 a.m. registration begins. humanesocietyhbg.org

May 22: Walk for a Healthy Community. Highmark sponsors the 5K walk, which benefits 35 nonprofits. Registration: 9 a.m., City Island. walkforahealthycommunity.org

May 28-31: Artsfest. Artsfest returns to the Harrisburg waterfront, along with the Artsfest Film Festival at Whitaker Center.



"Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition," visits the Harsco Science Center until Sept. 5.

Relief from the 3D Heat

Two artsy films cool the moviehouse like a summer shower.

Kevyn Knox

The 3D buzz may be pervading mainstream cinema like a festering parasite, but not to worry. Cinema is not as gone as one would think it would be.

Surviving amidst the cinematic dumbing down of society are films that deserve to be sought out like a treasure hunt through the minefields of mainstream mediocrity. I want to tell you about two of these nearly sunken treasures right now—before they disappear into the black hole of big studio marketing campaigns. And guess what? They both star darlings of the very mainstream cinema of whose dying light I so rage against.



The first of these films is "The Runaways," the story of punk female-empowerment trendsetter Joan Jett, played with a melancholy aplomb by the tween queen herself, Twilight's

love-sick vampire junky, Kristen Stewart. The film also stars one-time moppet (and "Twilight" star herself) Dakota Fanning as teenage glam-punk goddess Cherie Currie, in what

is surely the sweet sixteen starlet's most mature, and in turn, most sexually provocative performance yet. These two young actresses turn what would otherwise be just another forgettable cheap biopic into a frenzy of real-life teen angst—full of hormonal and psychological rebellion, to go with the rock-and-roll revolution that was happening at the time.

Complete with the requisite, and quite infamous Sapphic scene everyone is talking about, "The Runaways," with its experimental photographic work and fear-induced camera angles, goes beyond a somewhat staid and clichéd script to form an incoherent (purposely so, I believe) love poem to the early punk movement of the mid-1970s. The film may not have the chops it probably should, but, for what it's worth, with its unique filmmaking technique and its two surprisingly solid leads, it ain't half bad.

The other film I want to discuss is "Greenberg," starring so-called funny man Ben Stiller. Just the thought of being able

to say, with authority and without even a trace of irony, that I liked a Ben Stiller film is quite amazing in itself. Seriously though, "Greenberg," an acerbic, witty work from the crown prince of melancholy and malaise, Noah Baumbach ("Margot at the Wedding" and the superb "The Squid & the Whale"), is a marvel to watch. Much is due to Baumbach's skill at creating believable characters out of the topsy-turvy world that has been the director's own life, but a lot of the credit belongs to Stiller.

The actor finally proves that he can play a character and not just a caricature. Though Stiller has done some relatively decent work amidst the overwhelming dreck, such as "Zoolander," "Tropic Thunder" and even the first "Meet the Parents," the closest the actor has ever come to his portrayal here was in the unheralded, yet fascinating, "Permanent Midnight" more than a decade ago. I would like to think this is a change of direction in the talented actor's oeuvre, but considering his upcoming releases, which include an updated Hardy Boys movie called "The Hardy Men" (with Tom Cruise) and yet another "Meet the Fockers," one can only

watch Greenberg with a feeling of personal melancholy and malaise.

Well, that's it for this month. I'll be back again with more looks into the world of arthouse cinema next time, including some great films from all over Europe that will be popping up at Midtown Cinema and other arthouses throughout the country this summer. As for my raging against the 3D boom—well, hopefully it will fall into oblivion just like it did in the '50s and again in the '80s. Hmm, I sense a pattern.



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

Dali Exhibit Arrives

Need a break from reality? Then head over to the Susquehanna Art Museum, which opens "Down the Rabbit Hole: The Bizarre Worlds of Salvador Dali."

The museum features the artwork of the renowned Spanish surrealist in an extended exhibit that runs May 6 to Aug. 1. The exhibit also features photographs of him.

The Susquehanna Art Museum is 301 Market St. Visit www.sqart.org.

At the Cinema

Midtown Cinema

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

Opening soon: The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo; Babies; The Prophet; The Joneses; The Exploding Girl; Mid-August Lunch; The Girl on the Train; The Secret in Their Eyes; My Tale of Two Cities (includes filmmaker discussion).

Moviate Film Co-op

1306 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
www.moviate.org

May 9: Film historian/author, Jack Stevenson presents "Red Planet Mars."

May 28–31: 12th Annual Artsfest Film Festival. More than 40 films for free at Whitaker Center and special film events at Midtown Cinema, Midtown Scholar and Moviate.

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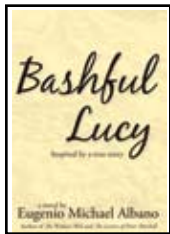
Local Books: Something for Everyone

This summer, take a bit of The Burg to the beach with you.

Peter Durantine

Bashful Lucy

By Eugenio Michael Albano
AuthorHouse
227 pp.
\$16.50 (soft cover), \$26.50 (hard cover)



For Italian immigrants in the early 20th century, certain family values were tested, such as a mother checking the bed sheets after the wedding night to

make sure her son married a virgin.

For Michael Santosi, in Albano's latest novel inspired by the true story of his own mother, he was assured his wife, Lucia, was pure. Lucia, though, wasn't one to follow all Old World traditions.

"It wasn't long after their marriage that Michael discovered that his wife was not the shy, timid wife that he thought he had married." Indeed, Lucia goes on to become the matriarch of the family, raising seven children while toughing hard times, breaking social barriers and becoming a risk-taking businesswoman in an era when that breed was rare.

Albano, Café Fresco's writer-in-residence, crafts a compelling narrative as he tells the story of his independent mother and the blessing it was to be Lucia's son. This book would make a wonderful gift for Mother's Day.

Bellevue Park: The First 100 Years An Anniversary History by its Residents

Jeannine Turgeon and Michael Barton (eds.); Xlibris, 200 pp. \$101.99 (soft cover), \$111.99 (hard cover)



According to this book, Bellevue Park, in the eyes of its planner, Warren H. Manning, was part of a much larger plan—"the beautification of all of Harrisburg."

Today, Bellevue Park is a tree-shaded oasis of urban living, with winding roads and a strong sense of community. Led by Turgeon, neighbors collaborated on this wonderful history filled with fascinating historic photos of both the neighborhood and the city.

"To understand the creation of Bellevue Park (which at the time was just outside city limits), one should appreciate life in Harrisburg ... at the turn of the century," writes Barton, a Penn State professor who cites news reports about rowdy city boys swimming along the Susquehanna and wearing "nothing but exuberant smiles;" about "brawls" and gun fire that "alarmed people on their way to and from church."

What makes this book special is that it's a collaboration of the community. "Local history," they write, "is the story of the community." Yes, and what a story the residents of Bellevue Park tell.

Ten Reasons to Stay Single

By Andria L. McFetridge
AuthorHouse
51 pp.
\$10.80



The book's dedication reveals the author's motivation: "I dedicate this book to a man named Jackie, who so royally pissed me off with a comment

he made about single women!"

Depending on your gender, your response may be, "poor Jackie" (for being so foolish to open his mouth) or "all right, Andria—you go girl!"

Regardless, either gender should enjoy this book, a debut by McFetridge who is "obviously single" and works by day as a software application analyst for a central Pennsylvania healthcare company.

McFetridge has a light, easy writing style and some sound advice both for singles unsure whether they want to couple and—though after the fact—for married couples.

"Don't be too quick to jump into a relationship just to be in a relationship," she writes. "There are married people who feel more lonely being married than they did being single. How is this possible?"

Readers may not find the answer to that question in her book, but they will find reasons to stay single.

When God Spoke To Me

By DavidPaul Doyle
New Page Books
256 pp.
\$15.99



"Have you ever questioned whether your inspiration, insight, or sudden shift in experience was the result of receiving divine guidance or communication?"

writes Doyle, an Oregon-based author of spiritual guides, in the introduction.

He leaves it to readers to decide this question with this collection of short stories from "ordinary people who have received divine guidance and wisdom."

One of these ordinary people is Jennifer Monahan from the Harrisburg area.

Monahan found the voice of God guiding her at an auction involving an important business transaction for her and her fiancée. At one point a "distinguished elderly gentleman" who she had never seen before inspired confidence in her decision. "It was as if God sent a messenger to say, 'Well done.'"

For those seeking spiritual guidance or affirmation of faith, the stories Doyle has compiled should encourage and hearten.

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Everything, Under the Sun

If you have a kid, our area has a summer camp.

TheBurg Staff

Summer without camp is simply no summer at all, and for kids, the Harrisburg area has camps for all pursuits: from athletics to religious.

At Penn State's Harrisburg campus, sports camps for baseball, basketball, soccer and tennis are available to kids ages 8 to 18. The camps, scheduled for June and July, run five days except for baseball, which is a three-day camp.

College coaches focus on developing the young athletes' skills and abilities, helping them build confidence in their chosen sport. Penn State, in fact, offers a variety of summer camp programs, including such offbeat ones as responsible pet ownership and care, conducted by Suzi Donnelly, humane educator for the Humane Society of the Harrisburg Area. This week-long camp for kids in grades six through eight concludes with a tour of the Humane Society's shelter. For more about Penn State's many programs, visit harrisburg.psu.edu/ce/youth-day-camps.php.

If your child has a flair for drama, Gamut Theatre group has "Popcorn Hat Players Summer Theatre Camp" for ages 6–12 with two sessions in June and August. For the older kids, it's "Shakespeare Camp for Teens" or "Improv Camp for Teens," one session each in early and late July.

The camp's goal is to enhance a child's communication skills and develop self-confidence, imagination and creativity. The instructors, Gamut's Popcorn Hat Players' company of actors, also teach kids general knowledge about theater. Camp is held at Gamut Classic Theatre, on the third level of Strawberry Square in Harrisburg. To register, visit gamutplays.org/education/camp.php.

Hershey Area Playhouse Theatre Academy offers camps in June. Grades one to three have "Tell Me a Story Performance Camp," where kids learn to create characters, while grades four to six attend "Murder Mystery and Mayhem Camp" to



Kids have the opportunity to explore nature, including some creepy-crawlies, at Camp Hebron.

explore the "whodunit" style of theater.

For grades six through twelve, it's the wizardry behind the scenes and for grades seven to twelve, it is theater spectacle—sword fighting, stage combat and costume. Camp is at the playhouse, 830 Cherry Dr., Hershey. For more, visit www.hersheyareaplayhouse.com/involved/classes.html.

Just 20 miles north of the city, on the other side of Peters Mountain, in the verdant Powell's Valley, is Camp Hebron, a Christian camp spread over 340 acres of woodland with plenty of nature and hiking trails. Over the years, the camp has grown to meet a variety of tastes for outdoor living, from tents to cabins to motel-like rooms. Its 30-member staff expands to 95 in summer to help with the many suburban and urban groups that come through the program.

For parents who want to immerse their children in their faith, there is Mt. Lou San Bible Camp, sponsored by Revival Encounter Ministries, and located 10 miles north of Harrisburg, off Blue Mountain Parkway. For more information, visit www.encounterrevival.org/mlsbc.

There are dozens and dozens of other summer camps in the Harrisburg area that provide a huge variety of enriching experiences. With a quick Internet search, you're certain to find one that suits your child to a tee.

City Native to Speak at HU Graduation



Kenneth Mack

Kenneth W. Mack, an alumnus of Harrisburg's public schools, now a professor at Harvard Law School, will give the commencement address at Harrisburg

University of Science and Technology on May 20.

Mack is one of the country's foremost experts on the history of civil rights law, American legal history, civil rights history and the legal construction of racial identity.

He is the author of a number of scholarly articles and is completing a book entitled "Representing the Race: Creating the Civil Rights Lawyer, 1920–1955," to be published by Harvard University Press.

At the commencement, Mack will receive the degree of Doctor of Public Service honoris causa in recognition of his commitment to civil rights and social equity.

More information about the university is at harrisburgu.net.

Harrisburg Students Quiz Bowl Champs

Six students from Harrisburg's Math Science Academy at the Benjamin Franklin School bested seven other area middle schools to take top prize at the 21st Annual Penn State High Achievers Academic Bowl.

For the Jeopardy-style competition, team members studied five categories of African-American heritage. After a long evening of intense competition, the Math Science Academy outlasted Central Dauphin to win the Quiz Bowl championship.



Quiz whizzes: From left, teacher Maureen Dunbar; students Elizabeth Ramos, Ashleigh Watson, Kira Waters, Beryl Bannerman, Chantel Wormsley and Breanna Spriggs; and teacher Judd Pittman.

No Lie, Just Pie



Renowned storyteller Linda Goss entertained a full house last month at Midtown Scholar Bookstore with a rowing tale entitled, "Can't Tell a Lie, Peach Cobbler Pie." Arts education organization Jump Street hosted the family event, which was filmed by the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN) as part of the "Humanities on the Road" series. The show will air in the fall.

Catch a Cat by the Mouth

In central Pa., you can reel in one lion of a fish.

Kermit Henning

Big fish! I'm talking big fish! And lots of them. Right here in our own backyard.

In 1993, the first documented catch of a flathead catfish was made in the Speedwell Forge area of the Susquehanna River in Lancaster County. The big bruisers were most assuredly illegally introduced into the river and have since made themselves quite at home.

The flathead catfish, *Pylodictis olivaris*, is native to the lower Great Lakes, the Mississippi River Basin and the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers in western Pennsylvania. They grow to more than 110 pounds in southern waters, but the Pennsylvania record is just over 48 pounds. Many are now being caught in the 20-to-30 pound range, and many anglers who fish for them think it's just a matter of time until a 50-pounder is caught in our area.

The flathead is much larger than any other catfish in Pennsylvania. They are scaleless, with well-developed pectoral and dorsal fins typical of other cats. The flathead's lower jaw projects out past the upper jaw—a key to identification. They are generally yellowish-brown to even purplish on top, white or grayish underneath. As the name suggests, the head is wide, flat, even depressed. This feature alone makes them strong fighters, with that flat head fighting the current. The tail is almost straight, not indented or forked like other cats.

Catching these big, strong fish takes big, strong tackle. Rod Bates, owner of Koinonia Guide Service of Carlisle, has been targeting these brutes ever since they first started showing up in the lower Susquehanna. I spent an evening with Rod in the Marietta area, my first introduction to flatheads.

I've fished the river for more than 40 years, primarily for smallmouth bass. I wasn't ready for the tackle Rod brought for flatheads. Rods are 7-foot heavy



Here, kitty: Anglers Ed Hall and Lou Zaydon, both of Harrisburg, flank Koinonia guide Dave Neuman.

and medium/heavy action with big reels capable of lots of heavy line. He uses 50-pound test braided line with 8-pound Dacron leaders. Heavy flat, lead sinkers, depending on the flow of the river, range anywhere from 1 to 5 ounces—kind of like what I use to anchor my duck decoys!

To hook and hold a big flathead, Rod and his guides use 7/0 or 8/0 circle hooks.

These big fish have big appetites, but are fussy in what they will take as bait. All of the prepared commercial baits that are so successful for channel catfish in the river simply will not work on the flatheads. Even cut baits, cut-up chunks of other bait fish, will not bring them to your hook. The flatheads want live baits—and big ones. Rod uses live suckers, fallfish and sunfish from 4 to 12 inches.

Fishing is best after dark when the flatheads go on the prowl to feed. The cats like to live in deep pools with cover such as submerged logs. They will come up into nearby shallow areas at night to feed. Fishing is best in the warm water of summer but can be taken into fall.

My first flathead was a mere 5-pounder. As he effortlessly stripped line off my reel and bent the rod into an arc, I kept thinking what a bigger one would do. I didn't have to wait long to find out.

I caught 10 fish that night, the largest just over 16 pounds. That was enough for me and my sore arm.

I haven't caught one of the 30-pounders yet. I'm not sure how a person could ever handle a flathead that big. They are unbelievably strong and just don't give up. I know Rod is going to call me when the water gets warm, and I'll get my chance. There are plenty of big fish out there that

are more than willing to test your tackle and your will.

Oh, I forgot to mention. They are by far the best tasting of any of the catfish clan. And one big fish feeds a lot of eager eaters.

If you think you're up to it, give flatheads a try. Or give Rod a call. Let him introduce you to these brutes. Just make sure to take a big net.

*Koinonia Guide Service, 717 805-7082
www.koinoniafishingguides.com*

Get a Guide

Need a river guide? You're in luck! There are companies up and down the Susquehanna that will be happy to help you reel in the big ones. Here are several in the area:

Koinonia Guide Service, Carlisle
717-805-7082
www.koinoniafishingguides.com

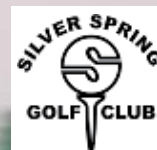
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Don't Forget to Brush

Good oral hygiene is a sign of good health.

Dr. Deepa Sekhar

Many of us remember grudgingly brushing our teeth as children.

Fortunately, the prevalence of cavities among school-age children has declined from approximately 75 percent in the 1970s to 42 percent by 1999–2002. Still, by kindergarten, more than 40 percent of children today have some tooth decay.

In 2003, a new recommendation was made for a child's first dental visit at 1 year old. However, many dentists are uncomfortable seeing kids so early and continue to follow the previous recommendation of 3 years old. In fact, only 1.5 percent of infants and 1-year-olds see a dentist. Thus, I like to review basic dental care with my families.

A child's "first tooth" typically

appears at 6 to 10 months of age. Teeth should be cleaned at least twice daily. In infants with a few teeth, wiping with a soft cloth or using a "finger toothbrush" may do. Once more teeth emerge, use a child-size toothbrush with a pea-sized amount of toothpaste. Flossing may begin when adjacent teeth are in contact and the surfaces can no longer be easily cleaned with a toothbrush.

When children are learning to brush and swallowing most of their toothpaste, use fluoride-free toothpaste. Fluoride is a chemical that naturally occurs in water, food and soils. In the early 1900s, it was noted that communities with high water fluoride levels seemed

more resistant to cavities. Fluoride promotes tooth mineralization, prevents tooth breakdown and works against the acid-producing bacteria that cause cavities.

For families without fluorinated water, I provide fluoride supplementation for children at 6 months of age and recommend fluoride-free toothpaste for all children until they can reliably spit. The optimal balance of fluoride is delicate, so regular consumption of fluoride medication/fluorinated water and swallowing fluorinated toothpaste may cause an "overdose" of fluoride. The consequences are largely cosmetic, but can lead to tooth discoloration and abnormalities.

Beyond good brushing and fluoride supplements, diet plays a major role in cavity prevention. Your mother is right—eating too much candy may ruin your teeth. This is especially true when children often eat or graze on sugary foods. Children should not sleep with a bottle. Soda and juice drinks should be avoided. Limit sugary foods and drinks to mealtimes as opposed to letting children sip on them throughout the day.

Even with meticulous oral

hygiene nearly half of children will have a dental injury. Preventive measures involve child-proofing for toddlers (i.e. covering sharp table edges) and protective mouth gear for older children in sports.

Parents often ask about handling an avulsed ("knocked out") tooth. If feasible, an avulsed permanent tooth should be re-implanted as soon as possible. Handle the tooth from the crown to prevent additional damage. Gently rinse debris from the tooth with water, but do not scrub or sterilize the tooth. The child may keep the tooth in by finger pressure or by biting on a towel or gauze. If the tooth cannot be immediately re-implanted, it can be placed in cold milk. The container of milk should be surrounded by ice to keep it cool. Do not place ice directly into the milk as this will dilute the milk. Another option is storing the tooth in a container of the child's saliva. Due to the danger of more damage or aspiration, the loose tooth should not be held in the child's mouth. Do NOT store avulsed teeth in tap water. Seek dental care immediately. Avulsed primary teeth are handled differently. You should call your child's physician or dentist with

concerns of dental trauma.

Teaching good dental hygiene will not only help families sustain beautiful, healthy teeth, but also has the potential to save a fortune in dental work—a winning situation for everyone.

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ART, MUSIC & MORE!

MAY 21ST

gallery BLU (1633 N 3rd St • 717.234.3009 • www.galleryblu.org • Hours: 11 am-9 pm) "Juneteenth" art show commemorating end of slavery in the US and exploring artistic expression of our African American community. Music by John Catalano. 7-9 pm

MIDTOWN SCHOLAR BOOKSTORE (1302 N 3rd St • 717.236.1680 • www.midtownscholar.com) Coffee Cupping at Noon. Live music and reception for "Light & Dark" works by J. Britton, A. DeFalco, E. Kramer & C. Peters: 6-9 pm

THE HODGEPODGERY (1100 N 3rd St • 717.236.0150 • www.thehodgepodgery.com • Hours: 11 am-10 pm) Soap Making Demo & Soap Sale by Jana MacGinnes and Barbara Kline of Soap du Jour. 6-9 pm

HMAC/STAGE ON HERR (268 Herr St • 717.441.7506 • www.harrisburgarts.com • Hours: 5 pm-2 am) "Greece Smiles" by Robert Stadnycki Opening reception at 5 pm. Music by Sarah Blacker: 9 pm-late.

MIDTOWN cinema (250 Reilly St • 717.909.6566 • www.midtowncinema.com) Independent & foreign films. Featured artists are Christine O'Leary Rocky and Erin Sparler.

ARTS AT 510 (510 North 3rd St • 717.724.0364 • www.artsat510.com • Hours: 11 am-8 pm) Laminated Acrylic paintings by Donald Sam Sneeder. Reception and music by 510 Express: 5:10-8 pm

Mangia qui (272 North Street • 717.233.7358 • www.mangiaqui.com) Featured artist: Joanne Landis & drink: Strawberry Lemon Mojito \$6

ARTHOUSE LOUNGE (217 N 2nd St • 717.236.2550 • www.arthouselounge.com) The Eternal Essence of Existence: The Art of Adam Scott Miller, internationally known Harrisburg artist: 6-9 pm

EVERY 3RD FRIDAY

IN HARRISBURG

3RD in the burg

SPONSORED BY:

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Ad designed by: SPRAMA.design.

SPRAMA.design. (308 N. Second Street • 717.238.1001 • www.sprama.com) "Urban Boulevard" a collection of urban inspired art & photography: 6-9 pm

Nonna's DELI-sioso (263 Reilly Street • 717.232.6150) 3rd in The Burg Special: Shrimp Scampi

gallery@second (608 North Second St • www.galleryatsecond.com) New gallery in the Burg! Feat. emerging artists. Reception: 6-9 pm

CAFÉ DI LUNA (1004 N 3rd St • 717.695.9449 • Hours: 7 am-10 pm) Grand opening of Outdoor Seating & new menu. Andrew Bellona Duo Jazz Band on Patio.

HISTORIC HARRISBURG ASSOCIATION (1230 North 3rd St • 717.236.4646 • www.historicharrisburg.com) Grand Re-opening of Historic Harrisburg Resource Center. Live music. Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres: 6-9 pm

BROAD STREET MARKET (1233 North Third St • 717.236.7923 • www.broadstreetmarket.org) Vendors are open later! HACC student art on display: 6-9 pm

ART ASSOCIATION OF HBG (21 N. Front St • www.artassocofhbg.com • 717.236.1432) 82nd Annual Juried Exhibition, featuring an eclectic array of work from across the U.S. & several from China. Open until 7 pm

"CHEVY COURTESY SHUTTLE" Look for a specially marked 2010 Traverse or Equinox. Departing on the half hour from the Broad Street Market and stopping at all participating galleries and restaurants throughout the evening. "Win prizes just for riding!"

FOR MORE INFO & A PRINTABLE MAP VISIT:

WWW.3RDINTHEBURG.COM