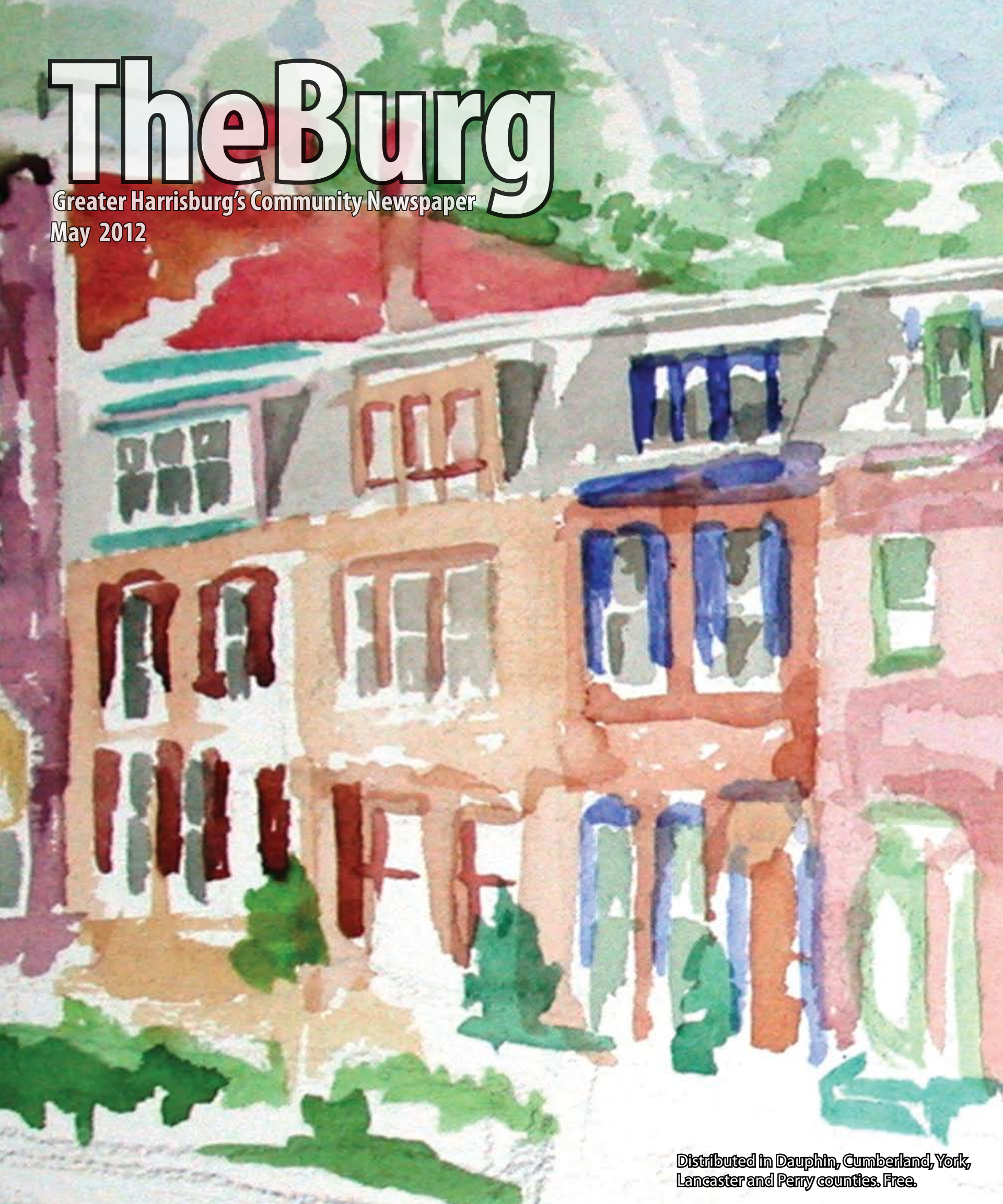


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May 2012



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Contents

In the Burg

- 4 City Hall

Street Corners

- 6 Around Town
- 10 City View
- 11 Doing Good
- 12 Past Tense
- 13 Community Corner
- 14 ShutterBurg

Burg Biz

- 15 From the Ground Up
- 17 Face of Business
- 18 New Biz
- 19 Biz View

Good Eats

- 20 Taste of the Town
- 21 Home Cooking

Home & Family

- 22 Home Front
- 23 Hall Pass
- 24 Green Thumb

Culture Club

- 25 Creator
- 27 Curtain Call
- 28 City Cinema
- 30 Happenings
- 32 Burg Books
- 33 Musical Notes

Sports & Bodies

- 34 Family Health

This month's cover: "Front Street," a painting by Susan Getty



Neighborhood reborn, p. 6



In the network, p. 8



Over coffee, p. 17



Illustrator in residence, p. 26

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Reddig Assumes Receiver's Role until New Candidate Named, Confirmed

The state's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has stepped in to manage Harrisburg's financial recovery plan until a new receiver is confirmed.

Fred Reddig, executive director of DCED's Governor's Center for Local Government Services, said last month that he is acting as "administrator," guiding the recovery plan already approved by the Commonwealth Court.

"Gov. Corbett [has made] DCED responsible for administering the Office of the Receiver," Reddig said. "It is the governor's plan to move the process forward."

His role will end after Corbett appoints and the Commonwealth Court approves a new receiver for Harrisburg, he said.

Former receiver David Unkovic abruptly resigned his post in late March, saying he found himself "in an untenable position in the political and ethical crosswinds."

Reddig made the announcement during the first meeting last month of the Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee, which is tasked with advising the receiver's office on the implementation of the recovery plan for Harrisburg.

Otherwise, Reddig said that the plan's implementation continues, with "teams of professionals" responding to bidders interested in buying the

city's troubled incinerator, leasing its valuable parking assets and managing its water and sewer system. There also have been discussions between recovery plan representatives and the city's three employee unions on possible contract concessions.

Much of the day-to-day work mandated under the plan is being done by the law firm of McKenna Long & Aldridge, based in Washington, D.C. Mayor Linda Thompson, who is a member of the advisory committee, praised Reddig for his accessibility and leadership.

"There's never been a day when you haven't picked up the phone [when I called]," she said. "We're pretty stable over here and satisfied with how the process has gone."

The advisory committee is slated to meet publicly each second and fourth Wednesday through December, at 8:30 a.m., in the City Government Center in City Council chambers.

In addition to Thompson, the other members of the advisory committee are:

- Wanda Williams, president of the Harrisburg City Council;
- David Black, president and CEO of the Harrisburg Regional Chamber and CREDC (governor's appointee);
- Fred Lighty, assistant solicitor for Dauphin County (Dauphin County commissioners' appointee).

More Lawyers: Mayor Sues City Controller

Mayor Linda Thompson last month filed a lawsuit seeking to force city Controller Dan Miller to sign a contract to auction off Harrisburg's collection of historic artifacts.

Miller has refused to affirm the contract with New York-based Guernsey's auction house, saying that it must be approved by City Council.

Thompson refutes that position, saying that the council's previous actions, as well as the city's financial recovery plan, already give her the authority to dispose of the artifacts.

The delay may push back the timeframe of the planned auction, originally slated for July.

"It's Mr. Miller trying once again to usurp the executive branch's authority," said Thompson.

Former Mayor Stephen Reed spent millions of dollars of public money to assemble a vast collection of artifacts as part of a now-abandoned effort to turn Harrisburg into a museum destination.

Guernsey's, which will charge an 18 percent commission, believes the auction should yield \$6 to \$10 million.

Leadership Turmoil in Public Works

Harrisburg Public Works Director Ernie Hoch resigned his position last month, dealing another blow to a key city department.

He was replaced by city engineer Paul Francis, who now serves as acting director.

Hoch, who served for almost two years, was widely regarded as a capable manager and respected for his knowledge and commitment to the job.

Shortly before his resignation, he had filed a complaint for alleged "harassment" against Mayor Linda Thompson for an issue related to her ongoing dispute with city Controller Dan Miller over the city's automatic payroll deposit program.

The administration has lost numerous top staffers since Thompson took office in 2010.

The administration refused comment on Hoch's resignation, citing the confidentiality of personnel issues.

—Lawrance Binda

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General & Letters

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Who Wants an Asset?

Proposals received for incinerator, garages.

Lawrance Binda

That was quick.

The proposals have arrived for Harrisburg's incinerator and parking assets, just weeks after former city receiver David Unkovic asked a group of finalists to submit their formal bids.

Last month, the receiver's office released the names of the bidders, though the details of their bids remain confidential.

Originally, five parties expressed interest in bidding for the city's incinerator. Unkovic winnowed that list to four, and now three companies have actually submitted proposals. They are:

- Cambridge Project Development, Miami
- Interstate Waste Services, Ramsey, N.J.
- Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (LCSWMA)

Originally, 14 companies hoped to bid on a long-term lease of Harrisburg's valuable parking assets. Unkovic narrowed that list to 12, and now eight companies have actually submitted proposals. They are:

- Boenning and Scattergood, West Conshohocken, Pa.
- Harrisburg First LLC
- Harrisburg Forward LLC
- Harrisburg Parking Partners LLC
- Morgan Stanley/Central Parking, New York
- National Development Council, New York
- Northwest Financial Group, Jersey City, N.J.
- Ontario Teachers' Pension Fund/Imperial Parking LLC, Toronto

Originally, five companies wanted to manage Harrisburg's water/sewer system. Unkovic selected four

companies to make bids, and all four have submitted proposals. They are:

- Aqua America, Bryn Mawr, Pa.
- CH2M Hill, Englewood, Colo.
- Pennsylvania American Water, Hershey
- United Water Environmental Services, Harrington Park, N.J., with Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. LP

The receiver's office, currently being administered by Fred Reddig, an official with the state Department of Community and Economic Development, now will consider the proposals and may open formal negotiations with one or more of the companies.

Unkovic had hoped to conclude a deal for the assets by mid-June. The turmoil in the receiver's office, including the possible appointment of a new receiver, could push that timeframe back.

Under a state-appointed receiver, Harrisburg is seeking to sell the incinerator and lease its parking assets to retire some \$317 million in debt accumulated over many years due to multiple upgrades, some botched, to the incinerator.

City Offers Cash for Illegal Guns

Do you know someone who has an illegal gun? Turn them in and get \$100.

Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson is encouraging residents to rifle through the rooms of relatives to find illegal firearms, offering to pay \$50 for a tip that leads to seizure of an illegal gun, \$100 for the arrest of someone with an illegal gun and \$200 if the tip leads to multiple arrests.

"Moms and aunts, you know your kids and relatives," she said, urging family members to look under mattresses and floors for weapons.

The gun seizure program is funded by \$10,000 donated by "an anonymous business owner," Thompson said.

Tipsters should call 717-255-3131. All tips will remain anonymous, she said.

New City Chief of Staff Assumes Post

Harrisburg last month met the man nominated to be the city government's second-in-command, as Ricardo Mendez-Saldivia (pictured) introduced himself to the public.

Mendez-Saldivia repeatedly emphasized the need for cooperation, communication and collaboration.

"If we work as a team, there's a good chance that we can overcome our challenges," he said.

Mendez-Saldivia has spent most of his career in south Florida, where he worked as acting public works director for Miami and as chief community planning and development officer for the Seminole tribe of Florida.

City Council spent more than an hour questioning Mendez-Saldivia about his background and his goals, as well as his commitment to sticking with Harrisburg as the city works through its deep financial troubles.

"I bought a one-way ticket," he said. "I am here with my heart and my mind to work with the mayor and all of you to move the city forward. I'm not going anywhere."

The council seemed impressed with Mendez-Saldivia, but expressed some confusion over his exact role.



The city's court-approved financial recovery plan mandates appointment of a chief operating officer, who would have broad authority to oversee city government and ensure that the plan is implemented.

Mayor Linda Thompson, however, has stressed that Mendez-Saldivia actually will act as the city's chief of staff/business administrator, a seemingly more subordinate post that, under the city's charter, falls beneath that of the mayor.

Mendez-Saldivia sided with Thompson's definition, but added that he hoped to work cooperatively with all levels of the often-fractious city government.

"I want to be a part of the solution," he said. "That's my dream."



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From Ruined to Resurrected

Shipoke shines again during HYP Home Tour.

Lawrance Binda



You can go home again: Bob Hostetter relaxes in the living room of his lovely Shipoke home, which has been largely rebuilt since September's flood. This year's HYP Home Tour will show off more than 20 houses in the neighborhood, including this one.

Strolling through Shipoke, it's almost hard to believe that, just months ago, the narrow streets were coated with dried river muck, the sidewalks chock-a-block with piles of ruined furniture and house debris.

The quaint has now returned to what may be Harrisburg's most charming neighborhood, which is scrubbed, rebuilt and ready again to share its beauty with outsiders.

On May 12, Shipoke will have the opportunity to show off its fresh look during the annual Home and Garden Tour hosted by Harrisburg Young Professionals.

"Shipoke was one of the hardest hit areas in the region from the flood," said Meron Yemane, HYP president. "But we wanted everyone to know that it's come back, that it's still a vibrant and beautiful place to live."

More than 20 houses will be open for viewing, ranging from the grand to the snug. And, because the neighborhood is so compact, it may be the easiest Home Tour yet to get around.

Bob Hostetter is one of the proud Shipoke residents eager to show off his home and his beloved neighborhood.

Hostetter admits that it wasn't easy being out of his house, living with friends for four months, after 3 feet of river water inundated his first floor.

But after extensive reconstruction, his S. Front Street home now looks gorgeous. And when people ask him if the flood—his second big one in 16 years there—ever caused doubts of continuing to live in the area, his

answer is a swift shake of the head.

"Anytime you live near the water, you just have to take your chances that, now and then, you're going to get wet," he said. "I'm lucky to have a home right on the water with this view. It's incredibly beautiful."

The one thing that Hostetter enjoys even more than Shipoke's beauty is its sense of community.

On many weekends, residents hold neighborhood events, such as an Easter egg hunt, a holiday parade, a clean-up and a flea market. Then there are the informal, impromptu gatherings with neighbors in parks, yards, sidewalks and the playground.

"There is an extraordinary sense of comradery," Hostetter said. "People are genuinely interested in your welfare and will help if you have a problem or a need."

And many people, like Hostetter, are happy to open their homes to strangers. They want outsiders to experience Shipoke's historic houses, charming streets and, most importantly, spirit of togetherness.

This year, in particular, they want everyone to know that Shipoke is back—and just as breathtaking as ever. The HYP Home Tour will provide a tremendous opportunity to get that message out.

"We've all come to know each



Beauty is back: In just seven months, Shipoke has gone from mud- and debris-choked (top) to looking as bright and charming as ever (bottom).

other here," said Hostetter. "And now we're focused on welcoming people to our neighborhood once again."

The 14th Annual HYP Home and Garden Tour is May 12, 1 to 5 p.m. An after-party takes place for all attendees 5 to 8 p.m. on City Island. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door and \$20 for members. Tickets include all food and drink from area restaurants served at each house. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://hyp.org/event/annual-home-tour>. Tickets also are available at many local restaurants.



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Midtown beat: Surrounded by police officers, HACC President John "Ski" Sygielski speaks as a new police substation is announced for Midtown Harrisburg, located in HACC's Midtown 1 building at N. 4th and Boyd streets. Police Capt. Annette Oates, who heads the city's patrol division, and Mayor Linda Thompson stand to the right.

Concerns Aired over MID

Complaints, praise heaped on Midtown district.

Lawrance Binda

A plan to boost safety in Midtown Harrisburg had its first public airing last month, as residents had a chance to give their views of the proposed Midtown Improvement District (MID).

More than 100 residents packed Midtown Scholar Bookstore for the two-hour meeting, offering opinions of the plan's scope, cost, effectiveness and accountability.

The evening began with the two principal organizers—Eric Papenfuse, owner of Midtown Scholar Bookstore, and Bill Fontana, executive director of the Pa. Downtown Center—explaining what the MID is, how it would operate and how much it would cost.

"Our government cannot support the security we need," said Papenfuse. "The reality of the situation in Harrisburg today is that the government cannot do what they should be doing."

In March, Papenfuse and Fontana, working with numerous community groups in Midtown, unveiled their plan, which would levy a fee, averaging about \$60 per year, on the owners of the proposed district's 4,162 properties. Commercial property owners would pay slightly more.

The money raised, about \$420,000, would primarily fund the hiring of off-duty Harrisburg police, who would patrol the area bordered by Forster, Maclay, Front and N. 7th streets.

To take effect, the plan would be voted on by each property owner, failing only if 40 percent of the owners of all properties rejected it. If the MID passed that stage, the City Council would have to approve it.

Papenfuse said he hoped the MID

would be up and running by Oct. 1.

To reach that point, supporters may have some work to do, as numerous residents voiced a variety of objections to the current proposal.

"I'm totally against the association you're forcing on us," said Midtown resident Bill Fritz. "It's a shift of responsibility for what we're paying in taxes already."

Several residents agreed, while others expressed concerns that the scope of the MID was either too narrow or too broad.

"I'd like you to reassess what your goals are here," said one resident. "I'd like your focus to be wider than security."

Fontana explained that, once in place, the MID could apply for a variety of grants that could help expand its mission, such as for economic development and infrastructure improvements, especially through the state's Elm Street and Main Street programs.

"This is your money," he said. "You can do with it what you want to do."

Papenfuse and Fontana worked to allay other concerns, stating that accountability would be assured through a yearly audit required by the state and that they would consider building in fee reductions for low-income residents.

One resident said he was concerned funds would be eaten up by administrative costs.

Papenfuse said that an administrator, earning \$40,000 to \$50,000 per year, would be the only person on the payroll not a police officer. And that salary, he hoped, would be offset by funds collected from the area's nonprofit groups.

An advisory council now will draft a formal proposal for the MID. If all goes smoothly, property owners would cast ballots for the proposal this summer, with a City Council vote in September.

It would be the state's first residential improvement district. Its initial focus on police security would make it even more unique.

"I think people feel this a matter of life or death—literally," said Papenfuse.



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Pa. Downtown Center Executive Director Bill Fontana (far right) speaks at the Midtown Improvement District's first public meeting.

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Part of the Network

Small business hooks up in networking groups.

Barbara Trainin Blank



Making the pitch: Linda Wright of Co-Active Coaching speaks at a recent Business Network International (BNI) event at Appalachian Brewing Co.

It's 8:30 on a Friday morning, but instead of winding down for the weekend, Pam Schultz, owner of the Frugal Decorator and of Moving Maniacs, is attending—along with other entrepreneurs and professionals—a meeting of ExecConnect of PA.

ExecConnect is one of a growing number of networking groups in greater Harrisburg offering opportunities to meet people, share knowledge and promote and grow a business.

"It's a nice group of professionals," said Michael Gaffney, president of

ExecConnect and owner of an electrical contracting business. "We don't have a lot of rules or requirements to bring referrals. If people enjoy each other and build relationships, the referrals will come naturally."

More structured is LeTip, which builds business success through personal referrals.

On Thursdays from 11:46 a.m. to 1:01 p.m., to be precise, the Harrisburg Metro Chapter meets at Perkins Restaurant for a lunch meeting.

Members are expected to bring a tip and a guest or pay into the "kitty." Only one person in any given profession is accepted per chapter—a model used by other networking groups. First-year fees may add up to \$1,000, but are worth many times that in referrals, said David Castro, the Harrisburg chapter's outgoing president.

Business Network International (BNI) is a business and professional organization that also accepts one professional of any type per chapter. The Capital Region I Chapter has 25 members—many of them businesses owners—and meets at the Appalachian Brewing Company every Thursday from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

"BNI members operate under the 'Givers Gain' concept of 'What goes around comes around,'" said Robert Gill, chapter president. "If I help you with your business, you will want to help me with my business; therefore, we all benefit . . . If you become an active member, it is like having 25 salespeople working for you."

Harrisburg Business Women originated from a "group of ladies who lunched" and became a "formal group with an informal structure," says Lynne Baker, facilitator. HBW meets at the Best Western Central on the second Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m., and speakers are primarily from the group itself.

Women pay for their own lunch (hbwluncheon.com) and can register online. There is no membership fee, but there is a fee for a display table or a presence on the website.

"The group is special to me," says Baker. "I used to get frustrated in groups where I'd meet people quickly and superficially. I've developed good friendships and trusting relationships. With that, people are more likely to refer."

Another female-oriented group is the Mechanicsburg Business Women, composed of a lot of business owners and executives—but also employees.

Abeer Srouji is president of the group, which meets 11:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month—mostly recently at Flavours, a Mechanicsburg catering company.

Although there's an annual coed mixer, essentially, "The group is for women—offering educational and vocational speakers and an opportunity to showcase our businesses," Srouji said. "We try to educate small business owners. Women want to help other women succeed. There's a lot of togetherness."

Our area is rich in chambers of commerce. At the Harrisburg Regional Chamber—with some 1,500 members in Dauphin, Cumberland and Perry Counties—the emphasis is very much on networking.

"A lot of our members say they joined [primarily] for that," said Christine Brindle, director of communications and marketing. "Almost all of our events and programs have some time either before or after for networking, and we have specific networking events, as well. If members have good relationships and need services, they will obviously recommend those people."

Last year HRC instituted speed-networking luncheons. The first 50 people who register attend. The next speed-networking events are scheduled for June 1 and Sept. 7.

To get the most out of networking organizations and events:

- Be prepared, with business cards and a name badge and an elevator speech.
- Plan ahead what you want to accomplish.
- Behave in a way that reflects positively on your business. Take notes.
- Be helpful to others when you can. Be friendly but not "pushy."
- Research which group seems best for you.

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A Warning Unheeded

Plaintiffs recall suit that tried to force fiscal accountability.

Lawrance Binda

It didn't have to end up this way. "It" is the mountain of debt that has buried Harrisburg, a burden that has led to a bankruptcy filing and a state takeover of municipal finances.

That was the underlying message that emerged from a forum held last month marking the 20th anniversary of the Harrisburg 13, a group of citizens who, in 1992, attempted to halt what they believed was the unauthorized spending of the former Reed administration.

"For me, it was just my small attempt to make government work the way it was supposed to work," said Wendi Taylor, a plaintiff and former Patriot-News reporter.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore hosted the forum, which included several members of the original 13, plus their attorney, Steven Schiffman.

"We knew that Steve Reed's creative financing would come tumbling down, just like a house of cards," said Evelyn Daniel Warfield, who, like several of the panelists, started out as a Reed supporter.

The group explained how, in 1992, residents banded together to sue the administration after it began spending \$7 million—gained by selling the city's water system—without the approval of City Council.

That action, they argued, violated a Commonwealth Court decision that stated that the council had to approve contracts on behalf of the city.

"The sale of the water system to the Harrisburg Authority was just a way of getting hold of money," said Schiffman.

The group won its suit—eventually. Five years passed before Dauphin County Judge Joseph Kleinfelter issued his ruling condemning both the administration for unauthorized spending and the council, controlled by Reed loyalists, for allowing it to happen.

By then, though, the money was gone, spent in a variety of ways, including to establish the now-infamous revolving loan fund, which leant public money to private businesses, many of which later went bankrupt and/or never paid it back.

Another chunk of the money went to demolishing the landmark Warner Hotel and for financing a field for an indoor soccer team.

Meanwhile, the administration's reckless spending continued in other ways, the panelists said. Money was diverted from utility funds to pay for pet projects, such as buying artifacts for a series of planned museums.

And, every four years, City Council was refreshed with a new crop of loyalists to ensure approval for other priorities, including a retrofit of the city incinerator, a debacle that has pushed Harrisburg into insolvency.

Therefore, in the end, the group seemed to agree that their efforts were largely futile.

"I think the people in Harrisburg were afraid," said Taylor. "They were afraid of living without Steve Reed, and they were afraid of living with Steve Reed."

They feared living without him because, though 28 years as mayor, he did help spark a revival of bars and restaurants downtown.

However, that revival, they said, came at a great cost, as insufficient funds were spent rebuilding neighborhoods. Also, much money was borrowed or used in questionable ways—with one man controlling how it would be spent, they said.

Indeed, former receiver David Unkovic himself said the city "has been mismanaged for 20 years."

Several panelists pointed the blame beyond Reed to others—



Taking a stand: Rebecca Myers, Pamela Parson and Wendi Taylor of the Harrisburg 13.

professional services firms, Dauphin County, the state, which even allowed Reed to take over the city's school system, now collapsing under its own massive debt load.

"It's wasn't just Mayor Reed," said Harrisburg 13 plaintiff Rebecca Myers. "I think it took a lot of people to make this happen. There was a lot of collusion."

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There's Still Hope for Harrisburg

Unkovic is gone, but we can build on his work.

Alan Kennedy-Shaffer

I find myself in an untenable position in the political and ethical crosswinds and am no longer in a position to effectuate a solution," receiver David Unkovic penned in his March 30 letter announcing his resignation. "I wish the citizens of the City of Harrisburg well in their ongoing quest for fiscal stability and good government."

And so our quest continues. Without Unkovic, an honest broker frustrated by the "corruption" behind what he called a "house of cards," our quest to find a sensible and fair solution has become more difficult and bankruptcy more likely.

Harrisburg's first receiver was on the right track and asking the right questions. He understood that the first step toward saving a broke city—short

of bankruptcy—was to bring together the community, the creditors and the elected officials. He also understood that getting Harrisburg out of debt will ultimately require concessions from creditors, sacrifices from residents and regional cooperation. There just are not enough city residents and businesses to survive the tax increases that it would take to pay off an incinerator debt topping \$317 million.

To get a sense of the enormity of the incinerator debt crisis that Unkovic was tasked with trying to solve, consider these facts: At \$6,340 per person, Harrisburg has the highest debt per person of any municipality in the country. Only the national debt per person—\$49,879.47—is higher. And that does not count the

city's structural deficits or any other obligations. Do we have the money? No. Do we have the means and the motivation to face the facts and come together to find a solution that will actually work? I believe that we do, but it will not be easy.

Here is one possible option: Members of the Harrisburg Authority (who requested not to be named because of ongoing negotiations) told me that the sale of the incinerator, the asset at the heart of the problem, would likely sell for \$100 to \$150 million, only enough to wipe out about a third of the debt. If AGM and the other creditors (who collectively were paid millions to insure the debt) were to accept 66 cents on the dollar in order to avoid the roulette wheel of bankruptcy, that would wipe out about another third of the debt. The remaining third, or about \$100 million, might be paid off with county gambling funds, restitution and ending the Delaware loophole, which allows companies to avoid paying state corporate taxes here.

With limited assets and a receivership law that takes a commuter tax and county sales tax off the table, Harrisburg has few fiscal options. Enter bankruptcy, the option of last resort.

The lack of options is also why the county, the banks and AGM—which agreed in principle to accept 66 cents on the dollar from Jefferson County, Ala., in a failed attempt to avoid the largest municipal bankruptcy filing in American history—should stop demanding their own receiver and start working with the state and the city to answer the questions that Unkovic was asking.

Without political courage and cooperation from residents, community groups, elected officials and the city's creditors, financial ruin for the city is all but inevitable. With everyone working together, the quest for fiscal stability will still be worth pursuing.

Good government also eludes the city, but is necessary if Harrisburg is to honestly say, "never again." Unkovic's last act was to ask for a full investigation of Harrisburg's "house of



Better days: Author Alan Kennedy-Shaffer and former receiver David Unkovic at a Harrisburg Hope forum last December.

cards." Criminal and civil justice, where deserved, is long overdue. Where are the prosecutors? Harrisburg needs to know the truth.

What Harrisburg needs most right now, though, is a commitment to civility and community empowerment. Continue to ask the tough questions. Demand accountability from those we elect to serve us at all levels. Consider reforms, such as term limits, in order to prevent Harrisburg and other cities from having to make the tough choices that face us now. Our ability to put aside our differences to find common ground is our best hope for achieving fiscal stability and good government. If Harrisburg Hope stands for anything, it is the power of dialogue to bring us together. Together, we can move forward. That is why there is still hope for Harrisburg.

Alan Kennedy-Shaffer is president of Harrisburg Hope.

Authority Appeals Incinerator Ruling

The Harrisburg Authority has appealed a court decision appointing a receiver for the city's troubled incinerator.

The authority filed an appeal last month with the Commonwealth Court objecting to the decision of Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas Judge Todd A. Hoover. Hoover granted a request by several of Harrisburg's creditors for the appointment of a receiver, who would oversee the day-to-day operations of the facility.

The plaintiffs are TD Bank, the National Association Manufacturers and Traders Trust Co. and Assured Guaranty.

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Doing Good

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When disaster strikes, in steps The Red Cross.

Jack E. Eilber

Fires, tornadoes, floods: central Pennsylvania isn't exempt from these disasters and, when they strike, volunteers with a local chapter of the American Red Cross are there to lend a hand and offer someone to lean on for comfort.

The American Red Cross wants you to realize that it's about more than collecting blood donations, offering swimming and CPR classes and responding to large scale disasters. Chris Weidenhammer, regional director for Emergency Services, said people don't realize the Red Cross responds to disasters on a daily basis, such as house fires and gas leaks.

"We've always tried to educate the fire chiefs, county leaders and the public that we're around for the smaller incidents as much as the larger incidents," Weidenhammer said.

The Lancaster County chapter of the American Red Cross assisted in such an incident. Joan Decker and her husband lost their home in a fire in 2010. Two volunteers came to help the Deckers and provided them with some necessities and a place to stay.

"I will be forever grateful to the Red Cross for assistance given to my husband and myself during our house fire," Decker says in a letter written to the Red Cross. "Instead of gifts for my birthday, I asked for donations to your efforts to help those overcoming fire disasters, like myself."

Another service The Red Cross offers, which much of the general public isn't aware of, is emergency communication for Armed Forces. In the event of a death in the family, or

the birth of a child, the organization can bring the service member home.

"We're more or less a conduit between families that are state-side and service members overseas," Weidenhammer said.

While responding to 650 to 700 disasters a year, regional chapters of the American Red Cross are prepared for everything. The last major disaster still on many people's minds is the flooding from Tropical Storm Lee in September 2011.

With 129 volunteers, the Red Cross set up 10 shelters in the capital region alone, which consists of Dauphin, Cumberland and Perry counties. Almost 400 people spent 1,127 overnight stays in those shelters. Volunteers served 5,257 meals and 8,945 snacks.

Tropical Storm Lee cost \$3.4 million for the capital region and the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area in northeastern Pennsylvania. That money was raised through donations.

"We get all our funding from the American people. We receive no government funding whatsoever. It's just the generosity of the American people and through grants and foundations," Weidenhammer said.

Whether you give \$5 or \$10, that's just one way you can help your local American Red Cross. Another way is through volunteering. From helping families cope following a house fire, to working at a disaster shelter, even office work and data entry, The Red Cross would love your help.

To learn more how you can donate time or money, go to www.sqvalleyredcross.org.

Height of Elegance

This year's The Elegance at Hershey, June 8 to 10, at The Hotel Hershey, features 60 of the world's finest cars, in addition to The Grand Ascent, two days of racing up the historic 7/10-mile hill climb course around the hotel. The Grand Ascent is open to the public, offers special viewing areas, an intimate pit/paddock area, a wide variety of cars on display and food and vendor areas. Rides up the Grand Ascent in vintage cars with famous drivers are offered for a donation to The Elegance at Hershey charities: the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the Antique Automobile Club of America Museum and AACA's Library and Research Center. For more information, visit <http://theeleganceat Hershey.com>.



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Mary Sachs Way, on Its Way

Street to honor business pioneer, philanthropist.

Peter Durantine



In March 1960, former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt wrote this item in her nationally syndicated column, "My Day":
"I went to Harrisburg, Pa., yesterday afternoon to speak for the United Jewish Appeal, and there I met a very remarkable woman. Her name is Miss Mary Sachs."

Sachs (pictured, circa 1927) died a few months after Roosevelt penned that column, but she left a legacy of philanthropy, of generosity in spirit as well as wealth—"... she gave to countless organizations, from hospitals and the Boy Scouts to religious institutions and colleges," states a collection of documents from the Pennsylvania State Archives.

A Russian-born immigrant who was 4 when she came to America with her family in 1892, Sachs was a smart businesswoman. She owned successful retail clothing stores in Harrisburg and Lancaster and founded the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University. She was praised in a 1958 edition of the Congressional Record as



The corner of N. 3rd and Locust streets soon will share the name Mary Sachs Way, honoring the Harrisburg businesswoman and philanthropist. Her long-time store is at top (red canopy).

the "Merchant Princess."

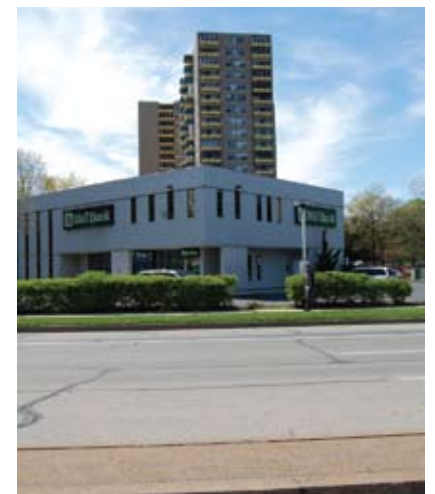
Eight years after Sachs' death, her store at 208 N. 3rd St. celebrated 50 years in business. A few weeks later, it sold to Hess' Department Store, which stayed in operation until 1978.

From May 1 to 18, the Dauphin County Historical Society will display an exhibit on Sachs in Strawberry Square.

On May 11, Mary Sachs Charitable Trust board members, along with the Historical Society, will gather at 3rd and Locust streets, just a few doors from the building that once housed her store and still has her name, to unveil a sign naming the corner "Mary Sachs Way."

Sachs Photo: Cordier Auctions & Appraisals

Then & Now



The grocery store (left), circa 1920, and other buildings near the corner of Boas and N. 7th streets were razed decades ago during the post-war effort to expand the Capitol complex, accommodate suburban commuters and bring "modernity" to Harrisburg. The store, advertising both groceries and "talking machines" (phonographs), sold by proprietor G. Di Santo at 1016 N. 7th St., would have stood just to the right of the M&T Bank, which is at 1002 N. 7th St.

Events in Our Area

KCB kicks off season

May 5: The Keystone Concert Band's first concert of the 2012 season starts 7 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 3700 Rutherford St., Harrisburg. The concert will feature soloists and sections of the band in pieces including "Them Basses" and "Harlem Nocturne." For more, www.keystoneconcertband.com.

Healthy Kids Day at East Shore YMCA

May 5: A day of free health-related events at the East Shore YMCA's "Turn on Summer! Healthy Kids' Day," featuring a Bounce House, T-shirts for the first 50 kids, Hip, Hop, Hustle and Zumba, games, races, snacks, blood pressure screenings, body mass index tests, and more, 9 a.m.-noon, East Shore Y, 701 N. Front St. For more, contact Dee Fisher at 717-232-9622 or dee.fisher@ymcaharrisburg.org.

Uptown Harrisburg clean-up day

May 5: Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area will team with Camp Curtin Crime Watch, Harrisburg Clean Streets Project and Camp Curtin YMCA's Teen Achievers program to help clean the Camp Curtin neighborhood. Volunteers meet 9 a.m. at the Camp Curtin Memorial Mitchell United Methodist Church, 2221 N. 6th St., before dispersing in the area. Bags and gloves will be provided by the city while bottled water and snacks are provided by C-Town Supermarket. Work ends at noon with a free lunch to follow.

Black & White Party

May 5: Help support patients with HIV/AIDS who need medical and financial support at The Black & White Party, 6 p.m., at Zembo Shrine, 2801 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. For more, visit www.theblackandwhiteparty.com.

Open street bicycling

May 6: To celebrate National Bike Month, the Harrisburg Bicycle Club, Bicycle Access Council, Capital Area Greenbelt Association and Recycle Bicycle are conducting the city's first open street biking event, along Front Street between Forster and Walnut streets, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Front Street will be closed so people can bike there free of traffic. Riders would also have access to City Island, Riverfront Park and the Capital Area Greenbelt for additional traffic-free biking. The event is free. For more, visit www.bikeharrisburg.org or contact Marilyn Chastek, 717-798-4537 or mchastek2009@gmail.com.

Photography walk

May 6: From 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., photographers are invited to bring a camera and walk with Phil Lloyd and Charlie Smith along the trails of Wildwood Park, which offer abundant opportunities for landscape and wildlife photography. This is a free event. www.wildwoodlake.org.

Garden Faire

May 6: Step into spring amidst historic structures where visitors can browse at more than 30 vendors of plants and crafts, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fort Hunter Park. Mid-1800s dancing, exhibits on Victorian daily life, tasty food at the cafe and an art show and sale. Garden chats, children's activities, as well as cakewalks to live music will also be showcased. There is a charge for a Mansion tour.

Hidden world of moths

May 8: Seabrooke Leckie, co-author with David Beadle of the new "Peterson Field Guide to Moths of Northeastern North America," shares the hidden world of moths at 7 p.m. at the Ned Smith Center, 176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg. More information and online registration is at www.nedsmithcenter.org.

Free budget education

May 8: Community Action Commission, in partnership with the United Way of the Capital Region and PNC Bank, has opened the Harrisburg Prosperity Center. The center has been developed to help individuals become financially stable by providing workshops that teach budgeting and money management, and by providing assistance with applying for state and federal benefits. Workshops are 9:30 a.m. or 6 p.m. For more, call 717-232-9757 or email prosperitycenter@cacctrinity.org.

Local Train Day events

May 12: Amtrak celebrates the experiences only a train can offer with its 5th Annual National Train Day. Local events are in Stewartstown, York County, and Mt. Joy, Lancaster County. Visit www.nationaltrainday.com/events/other for times and more.

Blessing of the Bikes

May 12: A charity ride to benefit "New Life for Girls" ministry, a program to help with addiction and self-worth, is noon to 2 p.m. Registration is 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Motorcyclists start and end the ride at Dellville UMC, 806 Dellville Rd., Duncannon. A meal is offered afterward. Registration is \$20 the day of, \$10 for passengers. Fee is \$15 for riders who pre-register by May 6. Contact Sharen Brown, 717-462-0876 or sharen_brown@yahoo.com for information and to register. Rain date is June 2.

Volunteer work day at the park

May 12: Join the monthly work day on the second Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Wildwood Park. Work days are an opportunity to work outside and help Wildwood's park and habitat enhancement projects. Pre-registration is required for a group of six or more. Call Olewine Nature Center at 717-221-0292.

Walk 'N Roll

May 12: To help eliminate barriers for people with disabilities, the Center for Independent Living of Central PA will hold its 4th Annual Walk 'N Roll—walk/run/bike tour—9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (registration at 8 a.m.) at Riverfront Park, Harrisburg. All proceeds benefit the Dare to Dream Well Fund. Register the day of or online at cilcp.kintera.org/walknroll or contact Katrina Bradley, 717-731-1900 ext. 238 or events@cilcp.org.

Midtown yard sale

May 12: Midtown Harrisburg holds its Neighborhood Annual Yard Sale, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sales area goes from Front Street to N. 3rd Street and Forster Street to Verbeke Street. Sale takes place rain or shine.

Celebrating New Cumberland history

May 12: The Gateway Historical Society Of West Shore presents a "Salute to New Cumberland History" at 1 p.m. at the Foundation House next to New Cumberland Library at 7th and Brandt Ave. The free event features displays, refreshments, a trivia contest and a tour of downtown's historical sites. For more, contact Eulah "Cookie" Grugan at grugan@verizon.net or Mayer Foner at maygam1@verizon.net.

New Cumberland Town Band

May 12: Bring a lawn chair or blanket for this free 3 p.m. concert at Shiremanstown Park, Park Lane, Shiremanstown. In case of rain, the concert will be moved indoors at the Shiremanstown United Methodist Church, 125 East Main Street, Shiremanstown.

Flower Walk: spring flowers

May 13: Join volunteer Cara Martinez-Williams at Wildwood Park from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. to search for Jack in the Pulpits and other flowering plants. In addition to the predominantly white blooms, some colors are beginning to appear by mid-May. The event is free and pre-registration is not required.

Wandering Wildwood with Phil Lloyd

May 19: Bring your camera and wander about Wildwood Park 8 to 10 a.m. with photographer Phil Lloyd. Engross yourself in Wildwood, learn the paths and boardwalks, learn to observe nature and not just look around—there is plenty to see. This is a free event.

Walk with Habitat for Humanity

May 19: Join Highmark's Walk for a Healthy Community, which benefits Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Harrisburg Area, at 9 a.m. on the campus of HACC. To register, visit www.walkforahealthycommunity.org. For more, call 717-545-7299 or visit www.harrisburghabitat.org.

Cabooses on display

May 19-20: Train enthusiasts can visit two cabin cars, better known as cabooses, at Harrisburg Transportation Center, 4th and Chestnut Sts., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. View these restored cars and see how railroad crews once lived.

Harris Tower opens for the season

May 19-20: Harris Tower, the 1940s switching tower in the train yard at Harrisburg Transportation Center, 4th and Chestnut Sts., opens for the season 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and thereafter will be open every Saturday at that time through the end of October. For more information, visit harrisburgnrhs.org.

Celebration of Caring

May 20: Everyone is invited to the Celebration of Caring, a free event marking the 40th anniversary of the Ecumenical Food Pantry. The celebration will be filled with great music, history, story and song to recognize and honor pantry founders, volunteers and supporters. Several area church choirs will participate, and a free will offering will be taken. There will be refreshments and tours of the pantry, and Capitol Opera Harrisburg will sing during the reception hour. The celebration starts at 2 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6th & Forster Streets.

Free HU Social Media Summit

May 23: With social media accounting for one out of every six minutes spent online in the U.S.—and with more than 200 million blogs now in existence and 77 percent of internet users reading them—social media is changing society, business, journalism, education, law and politics. Its impact is the focus of Harrisburg University's free day-long Social Media Summit, featuring nine panel discussions and four workshops with authors, academics and other leaders. For more information or to sponsor a panel or workshop, e-mail CONNECT@HarrisburgU.edu or call 717-901-5146.

Harrisburg Artsfest/Filmfest

May 26-28: The Greater Harrisburg Arts Council presents the 45th annual Artsfest in Riverfront Park. More than 275 artists and craftsmen will participate in the juried competition. The annual arts celebration also features three days of music on multiple stages and numerous food, arts and crafts vendors. \$5 fee for all three days. Downtown, the 14th annual Artsfest Film Festival, hosted by Moviate, runs concurrently at Open Stage of Harrisburg, 223 Walnut St.

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March 29: Mayor Linda Thompson cut the ribbon on improvements to the Harrisburg Transportation Center, including a renovated bus lobby, new security cameras and a new heating system.



April 1: With guitars as a backdrop, runners passed by the Susquehanna Folk Music Society tent in Riverfront Park on their way to completing the 2nd annual Capital 10-Miler, a race to support local arts.

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April 3: A retrospective of renowned Harrisburg painter Nick Ruggieri opened in the Governor's Residence. Ruggieri's daughter Rosemary Baer (right) attended the opening reception, as did (left to right) grandson James Baer, son-in-law John Baer and grandson Johnny Baer.



April 4: Twelve wines from 12 wineries in Dauphin, Perry, York and Lancaster counties highlighted the kickoff of the Hershey Harrisburg Wine Country, a program to promote winery tours and tastings.



April 14: Harrisburg Young Professionals, assisted by PennDOT, trimmed, weeded and planted during the spring beautification of the Forster Street median.



April 14: More than 100 volunteers from numerous community groups picked up litter, planted trees and pulled invasive plants in Dauphin County's Wildwood Park. Trees were provided by the Friends of Wildwood TreeVitalize Grant.



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April 20: Adrian Felton showed some of his artwork during last month's 3rd in The Burg. The exhibit at the Yellow Wall Gallery featured works by Midtown Scholar Bookstore's employees, many of whom are artists.



April 22: Two Harrisburg Bike Taxis compete in the 1st annual Market Madness Bike Race, held in honor of Earth Day, at the Broad Street Market.

Conversions Continue

Office-to-residential slated for 2 more downtown buildings.

Peter Durantine

Development of two historic, downtown office buildings into residential space received approval from Harrisburg's land use boards last month.

The Barto Building and the William Seel building, both about a century old, are fated for apartment conversions by Dan Deitchman, president of Brickbox Development Ltd., who has the properties under contract for purchase.

Deitchman now has the approvals he needs to begin development of the four-story Seel Building, at 319 Market St., into 25 multi-family apartments.

But the Barto Building, at the southwest corner of N. 3rd and State streets, still needs final approval from the Planning Commission and approval from the Harrisburg Architectural Review Board. Hearings are May 2 and 7, respectively.

Once approval is granted, work should commence quickly on transforming the eight-story Barto into 50, one- to two-bedroom condominiums.

The 45,440-square-foot Barto Building, eyed for years by other developers as a potential hotel, was constructed in 1911 as a Masonic Temple and has been vacant for several years. The asking price is \$1.5 million, according to the listing by NAI/CIR.

The 10,200-square-foot Seel building, directly across from the Market Street entrance to Strawberry Square, is a narrow brownstone built

in 1912-13. It's on the market for \$755,000, according to NAI/CIR's listing.

The Seel building currently houses the headquarters of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, owner of both the Seel and Barto buildings. Jim Deegan, union spokesman, said that, if the deals go through, the AFL-CIO plans to relocate into space near the state Capitol building.

"We're staying in the city," Deegan said.

The Planning Commission gave unanimous consent to both projects on April 4. Only the Seel building needed to go before the Zoning Hearing Board, which granted approval on April 16.

Deitchman has become one of the premier developers in the city for restoring historic buildings into residential living. He said he also is considering the old Moose Lodge at 3rd and Boas streets, which had been the Ron H. Brown Charter School.

Deitchman said he's bullish on the city's commercial and residential prospects. Last year, he converted the old Governor's Hotel at 4th and Market, renamed Residence on Market, into student housing for Harrisburg University of Science and Technology.

Currently, he's converting the 98-year-old, nine-story office building at 301 Market St. (formerly the Kunkel Building renamed Market View Place) into 40 to 50 market-rate apartments. Harrisburg University signed a 10-year lease on that building.

Deitchman said he is in negotiations with the university on leasing the Seel building for student housing.

In Midtown, Deitchman, along with GreenWorks Development, is converting the 1908 Beaux Arts Furlow Building, on N. 3rd Street across from the Broad Street Market, into 20 to 24 one-bedroom apartments with commercial space on the first floor. The developers are matching \$2.5 million in public money for the project.

In 2009, Deitchman finished restoring Riverview Manor along the riverfront at Harris and Front streets, a 76-unit apartment

building designed by renowned architect Clayton J. Lappley and built in 1927.



You don't work here anymore: The historic Barto and Seel buildings are slated to go from office space to residential.

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From the Ground Up

Students Live Among Us

HACC housing coming to Midtown.

Lawrance Binda



Insert students here: HACC housing soon will rise on this stretch of N. 4th Street, which contains several unfinished, abandoned buildings, as well as grassy fields, which were once part of the Capitol Heights redevelopment project.

Student housing is coming to Midtown Harrisburg, as HACC and GreenWorks Development announced last month that they will build as many as 43 townhome-style buildings.

Construction is expected to start right away on the first phase, a nearly \$1 million project for seven townhomes that will be ready to house 26 students by Aug. 1. The buildings, on N. 4th Street between Harris and Hamilton streets, each will have three or four bedrooms.

"We are pleased to announce this partnership that will provide housing adjacent to our Midtown site," said HACC President John J. "Ski" Sygielski. "Our students already are part of the community, and having access to residential housing will allow them to become neighbors, as well."

Currently, there is no student housing at HACC. Sygielski said that the residences might attract students from

the main Wildwood campus, as well as from the Midtown campus.

Each townhome provides private bedrooms, two bathrooms, a washer and dryer, a full kitchen, furnishings and on-site parking. Each student will pay \$600 per month in rent, which includes utilities and cable television.

The area was once part of the Capitol Heights project, a sprawling redevelopment of numerous city blocks in Midtown. Two years ago, GreenWorks acquired dozens of parcels that had not yet been developed.

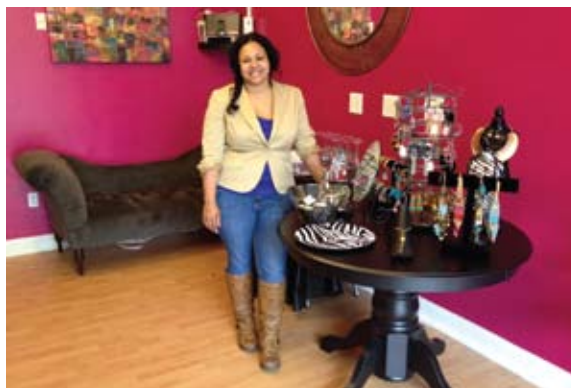
GreenWorks will own, operate and manage the student housing in accordance with an exclusive marketing agreement with HACC.

Thirty-six additional townhomes are approved for the project to meet future demand for student housing, said GreenWorks Chairman Doug Neidich. When the project is complete, as many as 400 students could eventually live in the buildings.

If student demand is weak, the houses could be turned into private residences, Neidich said.

Interested students can find information about the newly named Midtown Campus Village and apply for student housing at www.midtowncampusvillage.com.

"This project is another investment as part of our long-term commitment to fundamentally improve Midtown Harrisburg," said Neidich. "Adding resident students to Midtown Harrisburg will create new vitality to the area's already blossoming retail and entertainment corridor."



New in Midtown: Owner Dimitra Diggs welcomes shoppers to The Urban Snob, a new accessories boutique at 1006 N. 3rd St. in Midtown Harrisburg. The shop offers a little of everything—jewelry, handbags, clothing and much more—in a cozy, fashionable environment. For more information, visit www.urbansnob.com or go to Facebook: The Urban Snob. The shop's phone is 717-298-0434.

Sipping Lattes, Making Deals

Pol, Occupiers, tourists pack Caffeine Connection.

Peter Durantine



Power mug: Caffeine Connection's location makes it a natural meeting spot for the state's movers and shakers.

In the shadow of the state's looming, green-domed Capitol, the Caffeine Connection evokes the coffee houses of 18th-century London, where Whigs and Tories, authors and merchants, the famous and not so famous, mingled over coffee and scones.

The modern-day equivalent is this little coffee house at the corner

of State and N. 3rd streets, across the street from the steps to the Capitol, where state legislators and Cabinet officers, lawyers and lobbyists, grass root activists and journalists gather.

And it's oatmeal they mingle over, though scones are available, too.

"Senators were in here this morning," said owner Pat Erb, a petite, pleasant woman who likes to dote on her customers. "I don't know what they were up to."

Even if she did, she wouldn't tell. Most of her customers are city and state movers and shakers who sip their lattes and enjoy Pat's homemade baked oatmeal (for which she is famous for, from Philadelphia to

Washington, D.C.) as they share gossip, gather intelligence and cut deals.

Pat enjoys serving them all, and though she's not privy to their conversations, it's easy to guess by body language and intense conversation that some strategy is being made or some policy being developed.

"Pretty much all my clientele are from across the street," she said. "And the lobbyists – I can't forget the lobbyists. They're pretty generous to me."

"What makes Caffeine Connection so unique is Pat herself," said Kurt Knaus, who, as managing director at Ceisler Media & Issue Advocacy, often meets clients there.

"It's really great in a cookie-cutter kind of world to find someone who stands out so much and who clearly puts in the time and effort to ensure her customers get a memorable experience with every cup of coffee and homemade snack," he said.

For Pat, the coffee house she opened seven years ago is a realized dream, having grown up in Chicago among family who owned restaurants, bars and pastry shops, where she learned how to bake the muffins, cookies and other sweet confections she serves.

"I always had a passion for coffee," she said. "I love my customers."

She presides in a shop decorated in her eclectic tastes. Photographs and artwork from local artists hang on the walls. A painter for 16 years, she occasionally has some of her paintings on the wall



Caffeine Connection has a colorful, artsy, yet comfortable interior.

in what is a warm, comfortable place to be on a cold day.

"I'm blessed," she said of her clientele. "I'm very blessed."

Biz Notes

Midtown Scholar Bookstore plans to open its space next door, 1300 N. 3rd St., on June 1. The new space will include expanded children's and new book sections, as well as more concert and meeting space. P&R Bakery & Café will set up at the rear of the space.

Changing Hands: March Property Sales

Balm St., 48: O. Antley to L. Rotta, \$50,000

Briggs St., 1710: PA Deals LLC to Marty Thomas Brumme LLC, \$46,500

Chestnut St., 1603: L. & V. DiVita to T. Ledesma, \$48,000

Derry St., 2105: R. & S. Delligatti to Evans Property Rentals LLC, \$30,000

Emerald Ct., 2448: J. McCraw to C. Evans, \$111,500

Emerald St., 327: R. Cutting to C. James, \$39,000

Green St., 1323: P. Emberger to B. Wall, \$85,000

Green St., 1624: US Bank NA Trustee to WCI Partners LP, \$39,900

Green St., 3228: M. & B. Handler to D. Schwab, \$103,000

Greenwood St., 2505: L. Guzman & M. Figueroa to P. Reyes Salcedo, \$122,000

Hamilton St., 279: Integrity Bank to W. Hoover, \$67,500

Kensington St., 2035: Bedrock Capital Management Inc., to J. Stoltzfus, \$50,000

N. 2nd St., 809: Metro Bank to Vantage Rentals LP, \$77,500

N. 2nd St., 907: Freddie Mac to D. Dudley, \$46,000

N. 2nd St., 3201: D. Mersky to J. Crossett & M. Hochstetler, \$125,000

N. 3rd St., 2209: R. Requa to A. & V. Rockmore, \$118,000

N. 3rd St., 2430: S. Chwan to T. Wadlinger, \$172,000

N. 4th St., 2603: Bank of New York Mellon to Equity Trust Co., Custodian Seth Pomeroy IRA, \$35,000

N. 7th St., 2144: PA Deals LLC to G. & R. Brown, \$57,900

N. 18th St., 910: M. Roy Sr. to Ream Properties LLC, \$60,000

N. 19th St., 1004: PA Deals LLC to R. Dressler & E. Knuth Jr., \$66,000

N. Cameron St., 1900: Resort Foods of HBG Inc., to APP Northeast Property LLC, \$385,000

N. Front St., 1407: L. Roteigliano to N. & F. Zook, \$166,000

N. Front St., 1013: Absecon Holdings Inc. to M. Santalucia, \$150,000

N. Front St., 1525, Unit 610: C. Wood to M. & C. Heppenstall, \$75,000

Paxton St., 1723: Deutsche Bank Trustee to T. Gilbreath, \$55,000

Regina St., 1921: Cabrico Enterprises to C. Caraballo, \$60,000

Rudy Rd., 1929: D. Blake to K. Banks, \$80,000

S. 25th St., 622: PA Deals LLC to E. Buckwalter, \$64,900

Susquehanna St., 1608: A. & M. Murlin to C. Frater, \$45,000

Swatara St., 2039: Mainline Funding Group, Inc., to J. Stoltzfus, \$48,000

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

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As Seen from Above

Central PA Helicopters will change your perspective.

Peter Durantine

Eleven hundred feet up, flying around 111 miles per hour, pilot Jim Sedgwick gently guides his white Bell Jet Ranger helicopter over the Hershey Hotel as he circles over chocolate land, its amusement park and other attractions.

The afternoon is slightly hazy, but the view of this part of central Pennsylvania is magnificent. Wearing a black polo shirt and sunglasses, Sedgwick said into the microphone of his headset, "You get a whole different perspective up here."

A pilot for nearly 30 years, having flown tours for various helicopter companies over the Canadian Rockies and around the canyons of New York City, Sedgwick and his wife, Margie, have opened their own helicopter touring company.

Based at their heliport in Palmyra's Flightpath Business Park, they also operate out of



Another whirl away: Margie Sedgwick exits the helicopter that husband Jim pilots (left); a lovely view of Hershey's Catherine Hall, in addition to other midstate sights, awaits customers of Central PA Helicopters.



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For the 58-year-old Sedgwick, flying came naturally. His mother was

a fixed-wing pilot. He wanted to surprise her when he earned his license at 29 by flying over the family home. "I buzzed the house and I nearly took off the TV antennae," he said.

"He liked 'Sky King' on television," Margie said of the popular 1950s radio and TV program.

Sedgwick smiled as he recited the show's opening line: "Out of the blue of the western sky ..."

The Bell Jet Ranger helicopter seats four. The routes Sedgwick takes always promise fascinating views. The Sedgwicks also offer airport transfers, transport for aerial photography and news events as well as tours for weddings and other events.

For more information, visit www.centralpahelicopters.com or call 717-306-9103.

D&H Razes Plant in Uptown Harrisburg

The former Atlantic Coast Packaging plant at 2715 N. 7th St. has been demolished to provide for expanded parking for D&H Distribution's corporate headquarters next door at 2525 N. 7th St., according to a spokeswoman for D&H.

Suzanne Mattaboni, a public relations consultant for the 94-year-old technology distributor, would not comment as to the reason D&H needs more parking.

"D&H continues to be proactive in its plan for future growth," she said. "The company had an opportunity to take over the lot space in question, so currently it's being planned for parking."

Atlantic Coast Packaging filed for bankruptcy in 2008.

The 107,302-square-foot demolished plant, which was built in 1986, has been vacant for at least the last few months.



Wreckage of the former Atlantic Coast Packaging plant was all that remained after D&H Distribution razed the large building to accommodate more parking.

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What's Ailing Local Business?

Crime? Incinerator? Not so much.

Lawrance Binda

Last month, the final exhibit closed at Mantis Collective Gallery.

Weeks before, just up the block, breads 'n spreads served its last delicious brunch of cinnamon French toast and chocolate chip pancakes.

Two months gone by, two loved businesses shut down in Harrisburg.

Tragic enough, but then came the predictable response.

"What's wrong with business in Harrisburg?" shrieked several news stories, linking business closures to the local media's twin go-to themes for the city: crime and the incinerator. One story even suggested that a downtown Olive Garden or a gimmick like another "cow parade" would help supposedly desperate Harrisburg business.

Here's a fuller version of what's happening here.

As those businesses closed, the following opened or will open soon: Old Town Deli, Crawdaddy's, Porter's House, Dunk's Soulful Sins, The Urban Snob, a downtown Arooga's.

P&R Bakery and Midtown Scholar are both expanding, The Speakeasy will debut in Garrason's old spot, and a brew pub is being built in the troubled Dragonfly nightclub downtown.

Even the old Mantis location soon will have a new tenant, with multiple offers for the space.

And that's just what I can think of off the top of my head.

Practically every day, I talk with small business owners in Harrisburg and, almost without exception, their stories are complex.

Some are prospering and expanding (Mangia Qui, Midtown Scholar); others recently have failed (Garrason's, Spice); most fall somewhere in the middle.

So, what's the small business situation in Harrisburg? It's good for some, bad for others and a mixed bag for many more.

One thing is certain, though—Harrisburg has an extremely dynamic small business environment. Most

storefronts aren't vacant long before another shopowner swoops in, attempting to defy the long odds that work against any new business.

Last year alone, the city reported about 400 new business licenses. As of mid-April, it had recorded more than 100 more. Why?

Despite its financial woes, Harrisburg probably isn't much different from other American cities, which have always attracted creative, enterprising people to them.

They see a place with density, charm and a sense of busy-ness. They realize that people come here to do things—work, have dinner or a drink; catch a show, listen to music. Amidst the hubbub, there might be room for their dreams, too.

But, the truth is, running a small business isn't for everyone—and isn't a right choice in many circumstances.

Therefore, when a business closes, it's important to look beyond the obvious.

How was the business marketed and run? Was the concept ever viable? What were the personal circumstances of the owners?

For the record, the owners of Mantis and breads 'n spreads both told me that public safety did not factor into their decisions to close. In fact, I have yet to encounter a business owner who said he closed because of the city's financial crisis or crime.

High rent? Personal problems? Just didn't want to do it anymore? Yes, yes and yes. To that list, I would add—never should have opened a business in the first place.

In TheBurg, we follow small businesses closely. Each month, I'm astounded at how vibrant that community is in Harrisburg.

Sure, the city is neck-deep in problems, from crime that's troubling to government mismanagement that's epic. And, yes, those factors don't help the always-substantial issues that small businesses face.

But businesses aren't fleeing the city, as some might suggest. Businesses

are opening and closing and opening. It's called capitalism—and it's very alive here.



Crawdaddy's in Midtown is one of many new businesses that have opened recently in Harrisburg.

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Bourbon Street in the 'Burg

It's a Cajun feast at Crawdaddy's (if you can get a table).

Lawrance Binda



Cajun country: Crawdaddy's owner Bill Crawford pauses for just a moment before the dinner rush.

Bill Crawford has a problem that most new restaurateurs would love to have: a little too much popularity right off the bat.

Since opening last month, he has experienced a rush of diners into Crawdaddy's, his New Orleans-style restaurant near the corner of N. 3rd and Reily streets in Midtown Harrisburg.

And no one is more surprised than Crawford himself.

"If I had to do it all over again, I would have spent a month in a trial period, slowly building up," he said. "I didn't expect this."

"This" would be packed tables on the restaurant's two floors, with people sometimes waiting for a

chance to sample his crab cakes, creole-style shrimp, catfish po' boys and chicken and shrimp gumbo.

The thing is—Crawford's "new" restaurant has actually been years in the making.

The 57-year-old Uptown Harrisburg native founded Something Special Catering about 15 years ago, when he was still working the line at Hershey Foods. After retiring as a candy-maker, he built up his catering business, giving thousands of people a taste of his cooking.

These same people are now his first restaurant patrons.

"I had a large group of people to draw from," he said.

Crawford didn't initially set out to have a New Orleans-style menu, but, after calling his restaurant Crawdaddy's (combining his last name with his proud status as a father), he decided to head completely in a southern direction.

"When people heard Crawdaddy's, they immediately thought of Cajun food," he said. "I've

been to New Orleans many times and love the food. So I thought, 'Why not?'"

Ironically, Crawford opened his restaurant because catering had become too hectic—all the setting up, delivery, tearing back down. A restaurant would be more stable, he thought. Meanwhile, he still would be able to run his catering business out of the restaurant when things were slow. But things definitely have not been slow.

On a recent Friday night, the downstairs dining room was packed, as was the more casual upstairs bistro.

Meanwhile, Crawford was having problems familiar to almost any new restaurant owner—new equipment, untested employees, a routine that hadn't yet become routine and the reality that owning a restaurant is like putting on a huge party every night.

"It's just a challenge now because everything is so new," he said.

But he's learning quickly. He's made numerous adjustments to work out the kinks, and most of the interior construction is finally done.

At press time, he was supervising the finishing touches on the snug third floor, which he is making into a hookah lounge.

He also has set up a few tables outside for al fresco dining. From that vantage, diners can watch the

emerging neighborhood take shape, with projects like The 1500 Project rising in one direction and the new Susquehanna Art Museum about to begin construction in another.

"To me, one of the most exciting things is being in this area," he said. "I love it in Midtown, and I'm very optimistic where the area is heading."

Crawdaddy's, 306 Reily St., Harrisburg. 717-232-7374. Open Monday to Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 5 to 10 p.m.; closed Sunday.

Restaurant Notes

Dunes, a Moroccan-style restaurant, closed after little more than a year at 19 S. 3rd St.


Brick City, 1313 N. 2nd St., has a new menu geared around warm weather dining, as well as a spring/summer cocktail selection. Check out such selections as strawberry walnut salad, a lemon basil shrimp salad and a Thai chicken lettuce wrap, as well as several new burgers, wraps and sandwiches.

New at the Market



Nadine Graham and Melbourne Reid last month began welcoming diners to Porter's House, their new Jamaican eatery inside the Broad Street Market. Graham and Reid have many Jamaican favorites, including jerk pork, oxtails and stewed chicken. Open Wednesday to Saturday, regular market hours. Catering is also available. 646-245-1099.

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A Meal and a Memory

Lamb chops recall the restaurants at the Penn Harris Hotel.

Rosemary Ruggieri Baer

At the risk of putting my age out there front and center, I remember Harrisburg of the '50s and '60s fondly. As a little girl, my mother, my aunt and I made many regular trips downtown to shop in every woman's store we could manage in the course of an afternoon. In fact, Harrisburg was at the center of almost everything we did: from eating out to going to the movies to joining my father in his many art activities.

My father was a long-time employee of the Patriot News, and every day he walked under the "subway" on Market Street to head downtown for lunch. His favorite place was "The Esquire Bar and Grille," a pub that was part of the old Penn Harris Hotel. It was a gathering spot like the "Cheers" bar in Boston and was known for having what many regarded to be the best burgers in town.

Shopping trips to the city often involved lunch which, for me, was the most eagerly awaited part of the day. Two places stand out in my mind. One was Davenport's Cafeteria, a bustling and crowded eatery on Market Street. In typical cafeteria fashion, food was chosen from a long line of items and placed on a tray. At the end of the line was dessert. Ignoring the coconut cream and shoo-fly pies, I always picked the same thing: red Jell-O in a sundae glass topped with whipped cream. (My mother made Jell-O, too, but usually when I was sick. And it

never had whipped cream!) While it was an immensely popular lunch spot, Davenport's was also a place where late-night party-goers would congregate for a very early morning breakfast, not something little girls got to do.

Sometimes, lunch was at Pomeroy's Tea Room. Pomeroy's was one of two large department stores downtown, the other being Bowman's. The Tea Room was located in the mezzanine section of the store, an open area that allowed a view of the shoppers below. They made what I thought were the best grilled cheese sandwiches I had ever tasted, rich with butter and gooey cheese oozing from the sides. (Also better than my mother's.)

A special treat occurred when my father picked us up after a day of shopping and took us for dinner at another popular spot in the Penn Harris Hotel, called La Rue d'Ville. This little restaurant was fashioned after an outdoor Parisian café. It had wrought iron tables and flickering gas lights on frescoed walls. As with lunch at our other favorite Harrisburg haunts, I always ordered the same thing: baby lamb chops, creamy whipped potatoes, peas and mint jelly. The lamb chops had paper mutton tops attached to the rib bones that looked like miniature chefs hats. To this day,

this remains one of my favorite meals, and I break from my usual Italian bill of fare to make it often.

Remembering La Rue d'Ville

- Choose the best baby lamb chops you can find. Good lamb can often be found at the supermarket, but local lamb sold at farmers' markets is best. You can use either loin or rib chops. The latter are cut from the "rack" and are harder to find. Allow two per person.

- Rub the chops with some olive oil and a little chopped garlic and sea salt. Place them under the broiler or grill for just a few minutes on each side. The meat should have a nice crust to it, but still be pink and juicy.

- Cook a bag of frozen petite peas according to package directions. When cooked, set aside in a separate bowl. In the same pot, sauté about a cup of sliced scallions in olive oil or butter. When softened and golden in color, return the peas to the pot and toss gently. Then add a few handfuls of finely shredded Boston or bibb lettuce until it is wilted. (This is wonderful.)

- Don't forget the mashed potatoes. Whip boiled potatoes with a hand-held mixer and add lots of butter and cream or evaporated milk.

- Serve with mint jelly (if you like it) and a good red wine.

I often think of the "old days" in downtown Harrisburg and the many wonderful experiences I shared with my mom and dad. The Penn Harris Hotel fell victim to the wrecking ball in the 1970s to make way for Strawberry Square. But I never pass the corner of 3rd and Walnut without seeing my dad lifting a glass of beer with his friends at the best burger place in town.



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

It's Harpapalooza!

Harpapalooza is back, with local and national harmonica players competing for an eighth year.

Local favorites Nate Myers & the Aces hosts the May 5 event, which kicks off at 8 p.m. at Appalachian Brewing Co.

For a \$10 donation, attendees experience great music, a silent auction and more. Proceeds benefit the American Diabetes Association.



Gone but not forgotten by Rosemary: The Penn Harris Hotel, circa 1920s.

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John Anthony

These days, a credit score can come between you and your dreams. Whether it is your dream home, dream car or dream job, your credit impacts your price and ability to buy.

So, it is critical to understand how we can raise our score and thereby

improve our purchase capacity—owning what we want and need at the lowest possible cost. To that end, here are a few points to keep in mind when working on raising your scores.

Pay your bills on time—It's obvious, but it needs to be

said. About 35 percent of your score is tied to how you pay your bills. Nothing replaces making your payments on time. There is no extra credit for paying early, but the

impact of paying late will be felt for at least two years.

Keep your balances low—This one might surprise you. Many think that paying off your debt will drive their scores higher when, in fact, keeping small balances on your revolving debt may have a higher impact. Additionally, spreading your debt out among all available lines (or credit cards) will reduce ratios important to the algorithmic calculations.

Consider not closing out your older credit cards—Before closing out accounts, consider that the age of your credit has an impact on your score. Closing out your oldest credit may have long-term effects. To this point, young people should consider opening and holding open accounts early in life.

Don't let everyone pull your credit—Be aware that when creditors pull your report to determine if they will extend you credit, your score is negatively impacted. The points you lose will be gone for a year. When shopping, do so in short, confined periods of time. Don't let just anyone pull your credit.

Be purposeful about the credit types you hold—One should have a balance of revolving accounts (credit cards, for example) and installment accounts (closed ended loans such as car and college). Additionally, borrowing from institutions that cater to higher-risk customers may have a negative impact on your score.

Be purposeful. I suppose that's the best advice. Some say "knowledge is power." I say that "applied knowledge is power." Your credit touches so many parts of your life. Taking the time to

evaluate and plan your credit profile will save you thousands.



John Anthony, a mortgage lender in central Pennsylvania with 25 years in the industry, has taught for multiple organizations across the country on credit and mortgage topics.



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MEN in the Divorce Process

As marriages and relationships end, new circumstances arise for everyone involved. In particular, many husbands find themselves facing unique challenges during the divorce process.

Often, men feel that their needs are being disregarded. From the onset, they feel as though they are being cast in an unflattering light. Fairness concerns often emerge as a result. Husbands and fathers require and deserve an attorney who is focused on fairness throughout the process, and who will be aggressive on their behalf.

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

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School Board Members Named

The Harrisburg school district last month appointed two new members to the board of directors.

Ruth Cruz of Midtown and James Thompson of Bellevue Park were named to fill empty spots left by the departures of Arlene Burno and Wayne Henry.

The entire board faces an enormous challenge, as the district is saddled with an \$15.8 million deficit for the 2012-13 school year.

The board currently is considering an array of unpleasant choices, with kindergarten, music and art programs all on the table for possible cuts.

Schools to Combine

The Cathedral Consolidated and Holy Family schools are being realigned to create a single new school, Harrisburg Catholic Elementary.

Holy Family School, 555 S. 25th St., now will house grades kindergarten to 4, while grades 5 to 8 will be located at the Cathedral School behind St. Patrick Cathedral, 212 State Street. The location of the pre-K program is yet to be determined. The changes will take effect in the fall.

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HU Gets 1st Endowed Gift

Harrisburg University of Science and Technology has received its first endowed gift, a \$1 million grant from The Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation that will aid students who meet financial need and academic requirements.

The grant will create the Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Endowed Scholarship Fund at the 11-year-old private university, located downtown at 326 Market St. Students who qualify must also demonstrate a commitment to leadership and service.

HU President Dr. Mel Schiavelli said the grant enables the university to provide talented students greater access to an HU education and ensure that graduates will enjoy the high-paying, high-growth careers that a STEM—science, technology, engineering, mathematics—education can provide.

"The creation of our first endowed scholarship fund is a transformational day for Harrisburg University and for the countless number of students who will benefit in the coming years from this grant," Schiavelli said.

The grant enables the Stabler Scholarship Fund to, in perpetuity, provide need-based financial aid to students, Schiavelli said.

The first recipients of the fund will enter the university this fall.

Another 4-Year Option for HACC

HACC and Delaware Valley College have signed a dual admission agreement to give students the opportunity to pursue a DelVal bachelor's degree without leaving the area.

Starting this fall, a HACC student who completes an associate degree in a business administration program can transfer to DelVal and specialize in accounting, management, marketing or business administration.

"This opportunity adds to the existing dual admission agreements and degree-completer programs HACC has with more than 80 four-year institutions," said John J. "Ski" Sygielski, Ed.D., HACC president.

Robert McNeill, DelVal director of continuing education, said students would save money on tuition costs by completing an associate degree at HACC then transfer to DelVal for the remaining two years.

Students pay DelVal's tuition but save on the cost of room and board by taking courses at HACC's Harrisburg campus rather than enrolling at DelVal's campus in Doylestown. Classes will be offered to students during the day.

To learn more about the new business administration degree program at HACC, contact Delaware Valley College Office of Continuing Education at 215-489-4848.



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Take a Walk on the Liquid Side



Dr. Leena Pattarkine, lead faculty member in nanotechnology at Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, has one of her students demonstrate non-Newtonian fluid—a liquid that acts almost as a solid, able to support a certain amount of weight—in a makeshift tub filled with water and cornstarch. The class met behind the university's Academic Center March 22 and took turns walking across the glue-like substance.



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Judge and Be Judged

America in Bloom checks out Hummelstown.

Jay Stanton

In honor of its 250th anniversary this year, Hummelstown is entering the America in Bloom contest.

America in Bloom (AIB) is a national quality-of-life program, using horticulture to help beautify a town, assist in economic improvement and build community pride. Camp Hill and Hershey have enjoyed the benefits of the AIB process. Any town, regardless of size or circumstance (including Harrisburg), can use AIB as a catalyst to improve its public image by encouraging community involvement and inspiring improvement.

The America in Bloom program is a contest among similar-sized communities. AIB efforts are judged in six categories, and the process begins with someone or a group of interested residents learning about AIB and deciding that the process would benefit their town.

As the group gets organized, the first step is to share the benefits of AIB with business leaders, local government officials and private citizens. Once there is sufficient interest, an application is sent to the AIB office. Two judges are assigned to each population group.

Before judges visit each town for two days during the summer, they receive a community profile. This is an introduction to the town with basic information on municipal services, commercial vibrancy and local citizenry. The profile includes a written section on these criteria being judged:

- Overall impression. Cleanliness and proper maintenance of private and public spaces including the commercial area. How the town looks and feels when you are there.

- Floral displays. Flower beds, containers, arrangement, originality, distribution, as well as integration of annuals, perennials, and seasonal flowers, in well-maintained fashion.

- Landscaped areas. Overall design and suitability of turf and ground covers including native plants with concern for maintenance and sustainability.

- Urban forestry. Distribution, variety and suitability of trees that are used, planted and inventoried by qualified personnel and managed by a local commission of volunteers.

- Environmental effort. Sustainable practices such as recycling, water quality management, cleanup of the environment, and lowering of the town's carbon footprint.

- Heritage preservation. The cultural, natural, historical, preservation and restoration of public and private buildings and sites by a committee or historical society.

Each town visited then receives an evaluation highlighting strengths and listing areas for improvement. In the fall, there is a symposium and awards program. This begins the process of seeing what others see when they visit. Once you're aware of areas that are seen and appreciated by others—and perhaps areas where attention is needed—your town's efforts can expand and improve.

This summer, Hummelstown will be judged. Come, see what we've done. We look forward to hosting the judges and the America in Bloom program. For more, visit www.americainbloom.org.



Jay Stanton of Hummelstown is a gardener, founder of the Susquehanna Hosta Society, and a member of the Hobby Greenhouse Association. You can reach him at thermalhouse@comcast.net.

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"Silly Brainstorm," on the Page

Creative nonfiction focus of new literary journal.

M. Diane McCormick

Donna Tallarico's idea came from a group exercise during Wilkes University's creative writing MFA program: Why not create an online journal for creative nonfiction, the publishing genre producing popular memoirs and compelling histories? It was all make-believe, but still, what would the journal be called?

"Where do memories form in the brain?" Tallarico thought. "The hippocampus. We can't have memories without the hippocampus."

That "silly brainstorm" of an idea followed Tallarico to the midstate, where she is integrated marketing manager at Elizabethtown College. In 2009, she bought the domain name hippocampusmagazine.com. In January 2011, she started accepting submissions. In May 2011, she launched the first edition of Hippocampus, adding a one-of-a-kind journal to central Pennsylvania's burgeoning literary scene.

The nation's few literary journals devoted exclusively to creative nonfiction—and they can be counted on one hand with a couple of fingers left over—are issued in print. Hippocampus combines blind-judged submissions with regular articles on the craft of writing creative nonfiction.

Which begs the question: What is creative nonfiction? Tallarico calls it "a true story told with literary elements that you find in fiction."

"If you're writing a memoir, it could read very much like a novel," she said. "You're still using character development and foreshadowing."

At Penn State Harrisburg, Professor Jen Hirt—winner of a 2010 Pushcart Prize, very prestigious on creative nonfiction circles—defines creative nonfiction by comparing a newspaper story about a car crash to an account that factors in the accident's emotional toll.

Creative nonfiction is "more engaging," she said. "Many times, it's confessional. You're allowed inside the writer's world in a way you're not usually allowed in. It's compassionate."

Devoting a journal to creative nonfiction exclusively "reinforces that it's a legitimate genre," said Tallarico.

"Look at all the memoirs that are hugely popular today," she said. "There are so many home runs out there—Nick Flynn's memoir ('Another Bullshit Night in Suck City') is being made into a movie ('Being Flynn'). My mentor's book, 'Riding in Cars with Boys,' was made into a movie. We like real people because we can relate to it."

When Hirt entered college, nonfiction received little attention as a genre or career choice, but now she's teaching it, and her students' writings are winning awards. Like Tallarico, Hirt said that a creative nonfiction-only journal "legitimizes" the field.

Now celebrating its one-year anniversary, Hippocampus draws submissions from around the world, running only about 15 pieces in each month's edition. Its core staff—all unpaid—remains anchored in the Harrisburg area. Interviews editor Lori Myers, a Susquehanna Twp. writer, snagged a recent Q&A with Dinty Moore—not the canned stew maker, but a top CNF writer and editor. Mechanicsburg-based Ally Bishop is reviews editor.

"It's just nice to have that personal touch and meet in person," Tallarico said.

Creative nonfiction "doesn't get enough credit," said Tallarico. Hippocampus is a way to elevate its profile.

"People might not realize they're reading creative nonfiction sometimes, but there's really a place for it, and I'm glad to have a place in it," she said.



Donna Tallarico

For more, visit hippocampusmagazine.com.

Our Cover



"Front Street" by Susan Getty features one of the most charming rows of houses in Harrisburg—the colorfully painted Victorians lining the 1400-block of N. Front Street. The row is anchored (far left) by the Sunset, an eye-catching boutique apartment building. Learn more about Susan and her art at <http://pilgrimspeems.blogspot.com>.

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Live, Work, Create

Harrisburg's new artist-in-residence sets up shop.

Lawrance Binda

Has Harrisburg ever hosted an "artist-in-residence?"

I actually don't know the answer to that question, but I do know this—it has one now.

Last month, children's book illustrator and author Jonathan Bean

moved into a brand new apartment on the third floor of 1320 N. 3rd St., smack-dab in the heart of Midtown.

The newly renovated residence had been designed specifically to provide both living and work space for an artist—and the 33-year-old Bean was the first lucky tenant.

"I'm really excited about being here," Bean said. "I enjoy being in an area that is urban, but without the pressures that a big city like New York can exert."

He knows what he's talking about. A native of Fleetwood, Pa., Bean, after graduating from Messiah College, attended the School of Visual Arts in New York.

The Big Apple was a great place to meet publishers and get started in the business, he said. But the high cost of living and hectic pace of life made him desire a smaller place.

After seven years, he returned to Pennsylvania, settling in Reading. The move to Harrisburg came after his old college professor, renowned local illustrator Stephen Fieser, told him that a new artist's live/work space had just been developed.

"I had already thought of moving here from Reading, but then Steve told me this was opening

up," he said.

The artist-in-residence concept had been thought up by Midtown Scholar Bookstore owner Eric Papenfuse.

Last fall, he bought the building from the West End Republican Club, which was using it mostly for storage for their facility next door.

After an extensive renovation to the circa-1880 storefront, The HodgePodgery took the ground floor for retail space. Papenfuse then set out providing something he believed was needed in the emerging Midtown arts district: affordable living space for an artist that can double as a studio.

"Our philosophy is to look at this not so much as a money-making venture but as an investment in our community here," said Papenfuse, who owns three other buildings just down the street. "The studio concept, instead of just another apartment building, seemed very attractive."

In addition, the Susquehanna Art Museum is slated to move into the old Keystone/Fulton Bank building just a half-block away.

"This is one more connection between here [Midtown Scholar] and SAM," he said. "With SAM coming, we thought another arts space would be great."

In fact, Bean's studio is expected to become a part of the arts scene. Papenfuse said he plans to create curated exhibit space on the walls leading up to the third-floor studio, which Bean will open up during the monthly 3rd in The Burg arts event.

There, visitors will be able to see for themselves what Harrisburg's newest artist is up to.

Perhaps you'll get a preview of the art for a new children's book, "Building Our House," which is due to be published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2013. That will be the second



Workspace: Artist-in-residence Jonathan Bean has set up his desk near several large windows for the natural light. Below, an illustration from his book, "At Night."

children's book that Bean has both illustrated and written.

He also was the illustrator of "One Starry Night," a Scholastic Press book by Lauren Thompson that came out last October.

Both Bean and Papenfuse hope the new artist's space will provide inspiration to other building owners in Harrisburg. Perhaps more landlords will see an opportunity to help make the city a better place.

It doesn't take much, they said—just a place with good light and reasonable rent.

"It'd be great if other spaces opened up for other artists who could form a community to feed off each other's skills and work," said Bean.

Added Papenfuse: "Landlords have to come up with a number that will work for the artist. They have to realize that this is an investment in their community."



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Take a seat: Richard Sis, a volunteer usher for 12 years at the Whitaker Center's Sunoco Performance Theater, directs patrons to their seats at a recent production of "Giselle" by the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet.

Hushed excitement rippled through Section 305 of the Forum. Dozens of volunteers, dressed in white and black, had just heard their assigned posts as ticket-takers and ushers before a Harrisburg Symphony concert.

Volunteer Coordinator Alice Anne Schwab's melodic voice continued, "A sold-out house ... a dynamite concert. Things will happen, so let's stay calm. And remember ... smile."

It would be 1½ hours until Maestro Stuart Malina stepped on stage, but the brass doors leading to 1,837 seats were open. For the Symphony's 28 concerts at the Forum each season, volunteers are essential to the concert-goers' enjoyment. Sprinkled throughout the 80-year-old Forum on Walnut Street, volunteers greet, tear off tickets, direct to the appropriate section, offer programs and usher patrons to their seats.

At a recent concert, 200 people used the lift; volunteers helped to ease the traffic flow. In return for showing up early and offering these services, volunteers can stay and enjoy the concert free. A new transplant to Harrisburg, Jane Chapman walks from Midtown to work the Will Call desk.

"After attending my first concert, I was hooked," Chapman said. "We have a world-class symphony, and it is an added bonus to see what the Maestro will be wearing—a cape? A baseball uniform? Socks?"

Other arts venues depend on volunteers for each performance. The Whitaker Center for Science

and the Arts solicits 10-14 ushers for each event in the Sunoco Performance Theater. Volunteer and Membership Coordinator Katie Hicks depends on a pool of 186 volunteers. Because of the need in the Harsco Science Center, Imax Theater and several other settings, Hicks requests volunteers first serve in one of those before ushering in Sunoco. She wants volunteers who are "willing to be flexible and put the customer first."

At the Hershey Theatre, a premier performing arts hall featuring Broadway shows to concerts to special performances such as comedienne Joan Rivers, volunteer coordinator of the MS Hershey Foundation, Debbie Ganunzio, needs 30 ushers for a full house event. She maintains a list of 350 volunteers who also serve at Hershey Gardens.

Dependability is foremost what she looks for in a volunteer. "I need them to honor a commitment that they have made 2-3 months in advance," Ganunzio said.

It's important, too, for volunteers at all these venues to be friendly, outgoing and compassionate to folks with special needs.

Hershey Theatre and Whitaker Center require volunteers to be 16. The Harrisburg Symphony accepts 14 year-olds as volunteers and even younger, if accompanied by a parent. Girl Scouts helped at a recent concert and middle school students collected donated food from patrons.

For Grace House, a retired Mechanicsburg resident who started volunteering as a student, ushering for the arts has been a part of her life for more than three decades.

"My community service," she said. "I have met so many nice people and got to see the events free – just for arriving early and showing patrons to their seats."

To volunteer, visit Hershey Theatre, hersheytheatre.com/membership_support/volunteer.php; Whitaker Center, whitakercenter.org/volunteer; Harrisburg Symphony, harrisburgsymphony.org/volunteer.html.

May Schedule

May 5: Ducky & The Vintage
May 6: T.M.I. Comedy
May 11: The Passionettes
May 12: The Kenneth Brian Band
May 13: Soul Comedy Café
May 17: John Costellano
May 18: Drag Show
featuring Miss Poison
May 20: Deux DJ
May 25: Pandora from Italy
May 26: Belly Dance Lounge
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Continental Midtown

Take in a French film? Ah, oui!

Kevyn Knox

My friends and I have been getting together every Wednesday night to watch French movies for going on six months now.

This weekly ritual was spawned from my lovely wife's interest in all things French. Now I am not exactly someone uninitiated in the world of cinema, watching on average 500-plus movies a year, so it did not take very much arm twisting to get me on board our weekly Francophile evenings. And as a film historian, I am well aware that, for all intents and purposes, it was France that started it all.

Sure, the U.S. and the U.K. may have relatively strong arguments for their respective sides of the story, but indeed, it was France where cinema was born lo so many years ago at the end of the Victorian age. It was France that begat this rich history of the medium, and it is French language cinema that continues to keep it a viable force to be reckoned with, even in this day and age of digitalized dystopia. That brings us to one of the best films of 2012.

The film in question, now playing at Midtown Cinema, is called, in the quaintest of manners, "The Kid with A Bike." It's from famed Belgian

filmmaking brothers Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne. Okay, so it is not actually a French film, but the language of the film is French, and it is just one country to the west.



This French-language work of art is indeed one of the most alluring, most charming and most disarming films of the year. Being from the Dardenne Brothers, one who is

familiar with their work might expect a melodically cadenced work of cinematic art, and one would not be wrong. Yet, this is the brothers' most accessible work to date, and, being so, it is the film that should bring them out of the festival circuit and into the relative mainstream light.

This is a story of a young boy and his bike, but that's a deceptively simple way of looking at things. Sharing an obvious kinship with Italy's "The Bicycle Thief" from 1948, this film digs deeper. It explores the psyche of a boy, abandoned by his wayward father, who has inadvertently fallen in with a dangerous crowd. This is the boy's struggle out of that

broken world, finding help from a kind woman. It is a tragedy of very humanistic proportions. It is a film that needs to be seen.

Well that is it for this time, but before we part ways, let us play our little trivia game. Last time you were asked on whom the character played in "Inglourious Basterds" by Michael Fassbender was based upon, and the answer is novelist and screenwriter Graham Greene, a man many cinephiles know as the writer of the classic film "The Third Man."

In keeping with the French theme, here's this month's trivia question: We all saw Michael Hazanivicius take home the best director Oscar this year for "The Artist." He became the second French-born director to win the prize. Who was the first to do so, and for what film did he win it?



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

Art Association Show

Eighty-eight varied works of art will be on display this month, as the Art Association of Harrisburg, 21 N. Front St., holds its 84th Annual Juried Exhibition.

A group of oils, acrylics, photos, prints, graphics, sculptures, watercolors and other media were selected from 202 entries.

The exhibition debuts on May 19 with an awards ceremony and reception starting at 6 p.m. The show runs through June 21.

For more information, visit www.artassocofhbg.com.

Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day, an annual celebration on City Island, returns on Saturday, May 19.

This year's event features more than 100 displays, including helicopters, tanks, veterans resources, living history demonstrations, family activities, fitness challenges and more. "Sound Off for Vets," a free concert featuring local artists, benefits the Wounded Warriors Project.

The annual Armed Forces 5K run precedes the daylong event.

Visit www.harrisburgymcaraces.com for more information on the race.

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Harrisburg Mayor's Readers' Choice 2010

Stories of Comedy, Woe

Jewish Film Festival opens for 18th year.

TheBurg Saff

Celebrating its 18th season, the Harrisburg Jewish Film Festival, May 13-20, has a superb selection of international films from France, Germany, Israel, the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom and the United States.

There are quirky comedies ("The Names of Love;" "The Infidel"), powerful dramas ("Remembrance;" "Restoration;" "David;" "Intimate Grammar") and inspiring documentaries ("Nicky's Family;" "Ahead of Time: Ruth Gruber;" "Sholem Aleichem: Laughing in the Darkness").

"Nicky's Family" opens the festival at 7 p.m., May 13, at the Jewish Community Center, 3301 N. Front St. The documentary recounts the legacy of Sir Nicholas Winton, whose kindertransports from Czechoslovakia saved the lives of more than 600 children, most of them Jewish, at the dawn of World War II. Alice Masters and Hanna Slome, two of these rescued children and now in their 80s, will answer questions after the film. A reception follows.



For the rest of the week, the festival moves to the auditorium of the State Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 North St. The film screening on "3rd in The Burg," at 5:30 p.m. May 18, is "Intimate Grammar."

Awarded "Best Feature Film" at the 2010 Jerusalem International Film Festival, "Intimate Grammar" spans three years in the life of pre-adolescent Aharon Kleinfeld, striving to survive a domineering mother, an anti-intellectual father and his delayed puberty in a 1960s-era, lower-middle-class housing development.

The festival's closing film at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, May 20, is "David," the award-winning story of a young Muslim boy who finds unexpected friendship at an orthodox Jewish school in Brooklyn. Executive producer Stephanie Levy, and actor Muatasem Mishal, who portrays the title character, will conduct a Q&A afterward.

Opening and closing night tickets are \$10; for all other sessions tickets are \$8. For more information and screen times visit www.hbgjff.com.

Local Authors In Focus at City House B&B

City House Bed & Breakfast will host a local author's night to coincide with this month's 3rd in The Burg, May 18.

The following authors will be reading excerpts from their latest publications.

- Richard Fellingner, author of "They Hover Over Us," a collection of short stories about people from Pennsylvania's rust belt and winner of the 2011, Serena McDonald Kennedy Fiction Award, 6 p.m.

- Gale Martin, author of "Don Juan in Hankey, PA," a lively new novel about a dysfunctional small-town opera guild, 7 p.m.

- Lori Myers, an award-winning writer who has published more than 500 articles, stories and essays in over 40 publications, 8 p.m.

Art from various local artists will also be on display and refreshments will be served.

City House Bed & Breakfast, a restored historic home, is located at 915 N. Front St. For more, visit <http://www.cityhousebb.com>.

HHA Events Celebrate Preservation Week

In observance of National Preservation Week, May 21 to 25, the Historic Harrisburg Association offers these events:

- A walking tour of the city's historic art and architecture in downtown and Midtown, 10 a.m. to noon, May 19, guided by architectural historian David Morrison and HHA Executive Director John Campbell. Meet at Kunkle Plaza, Front and State streets, Riverfront Park. Tickets may be purchased upon arrival.

- Historic Educational Session, 6:30 to 8 p.m., May 22, Historic Harrisburg Resource Center, 1230 N. 3rd St. Architect Richard Gribble will discuss ways to design, renovate and preserve your historic home. The seminar also will provide examples of what you can and cannot do to the exterior of your home and discuss what makes a successful interior work in a historic home. The seminar is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact 717-233-4646 or visit www.historicharrisburg.com.

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Museums & Art Spaces

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey

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

"Alternative Energy Vehicles," a history of automobile propulsion beyond the internal combustion engine, through May 27.

"Dusty Jewels: Off-road Motorcycles of the 1970s," highlighting the off-road aspect of the explosive 1970s motorcycle boom in America, through Oct. 25.

Art Association of Harrisburg

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

Five artist exhibit w/Aaron M. Brown, Yachiyo Beck, Roger Firestone, Ann Piper & Richard Paul Weiblinger, through May 10.

84th Annual International Juried Show, May 18–June 21; reception, May 19, 6–9 p.m.

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse

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

Photography by Emily Truckenmiller, through May.

Fenêtre Gallery

HACC Midtown 2, 2nd Floor
N. 3rd and Reily streets, Harrisburg

"WABI-SABI," works by Paul Batchelor and Heather Clauser, through May 10.

"Black-Hearted Kings: A State of Higher Learning," artwork by The Huckle Buckle Boys, May 18–June 8; reception, May 18, 6–8 p.m.

Gallery@Second

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

Works by Richard Chandler Hoff and Sue Marrazzo, through June 2.

Gallery at Walnut Place

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

"Iconic Images," a review of sketches from the collections of Frank & Franklin Hummel, May 7–31; reception, May 18, 5–8 p.m.

Harsco Science Center

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

"Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion," 40 life-sized interactive models based upon the master engineer's inventions, May 26 to Sept. 2.

Little Amps Coffee Roasters

1836 Green Street, Harrisburg
717-695-4882; littleampscoffee.com

"An Eyeful Experience," layered photography by Kristin Dumberth, through May.

Mangia Qui

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

The art of Elide Hower & Shawn Theron, through May.

National Civil War Museum

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

"1862," an exhibit highlighting the second year of the Civil War, through Dec. 31.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art

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

"Olivia's Birds," original bird paintings by Olivia Boulter, through September.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center

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

"Student Honors Show," through May 4.

"Selections from the HACC Permanent Collection," May 21 to June 28.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania

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

"Art Is an Entrée, Not a Dessert," a juried group exhibit of the Dōshi Gallery, through July 15.

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

The Susquehanna Art Museum

717-233-8668; www.sqart.org

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

Whitaker Center/The Curved Wall

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

"Variation on a Theme," a juried exhibit of the Dōshi Gallery, through July 14.

Yellow Wall Gallery/Midtown Scholar

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

Midtown Scholar staff art show, through May 13.

"Transition Pieces, or I'm On The Elevator But I Forgot Which Button I Pressed," mixed media by Andy Rash, May 15–June 10; reception, May 18, 6–10 p.m.

Read, Make, Learn

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

May 1, 15, 22: Brew Lab—How to make the perfect cup of coffee, 6 p.m.

May 5, 12, 19: Kids' Storytime, 10 a.m.

May 5: Book-signing for Rick Fellingner's "They Hover Over Us," 2 p.m.

May 7, 21: Occupy Harrisburg teach-in series w/George Lakey, 5:30 p.m.

May 12: Book talk for author Kirsten Kaschock's "Sleight," 2 p.m.

May 15: Midtown Poets working and reading, 7 p.m.

May 17: Occupy Theater—Vaclav Havel's, "Protest," w/panel discussion, 7 p.m.

May 17: T.M.I. improv troupe, 6 p.m.

May 19: Mike & Ethan Strignoli share their book, "Dinorific," 10 a.m.

May 19: Book-signings for authors Michael T. Fournier and Michael Faloon, 2 p.m.

May 22: Art Kaleidoscope forum, 6 p.m.

May 26: Book-signing for author Judith Coopey's "Waterproof," 2 p.m.

May 31: Meet author Becky Diamond of "Mrs. Goodfellow: Story of America's 1st Cooking School," 7 p.m.

Hygea Wellness SALT ROOM

2321 Market St REAR, Camp Hill
717-412-0447; www.hygeawellness.com

May 4, 11, 18, 25: "Meditation In The Salt Room: Free Your Mind ...," 7 p.m.

May 12: "What's your Dosha?" Learn to re-balance your body, mind & soul, noon.

May 19: "Sensible Snacking to Promote Weight Loss," 11 a.m.

May 19: "Herbs Up Close—Touch, Taste, See & Learn to Grow," 1 p.m.

May 19: "Sound Journey in the Salt Room—A Blissful Re-balance," 5:30 p.m.

Artsfest Returns



The local band, That Girl, played last year during Artsfest, the annual celebration of art and music in Riverfront Park. This year, Artsfest, presented by the Greater Harrisburg Arts Council, runs May 26 to 28, with more than 275 juried artists and craftsmen, as well as dozens of musicians. A \$5 fee covers all three days. The 14th Annual Artsfest Film Festival, hosted by Moviate, takes place at Open Stage of Harrisburg.

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

May 3: Todd Scheaffer w/Hexbelt Acoustic
May 12: Star Slinger & The Hood Internet
May 13: 4onthefloor
May 18: David Mayfield Parade
May 24: Season Pass Holder Private Show

Broad Street Market/Stone Building

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

May 5: Hemlock Hollow
May 12: Jonathan Frazier
May 19: Chris Gassaway
May 26: Voxology

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar

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

May 1, 5, 8, 15, 24, 29: Brandon Parsons
May 2, 16, 30: Chelsea Caroline
May 3, 24: Giovanni Traino
May 4, 11, 18: Ted Ansel
May 9: Roy Lefever
May 10: Wade Preston
May 12: Brandon Parsons
May 13, 17, 27, 31: Anthony Haubert
May 19, 25: Noel Gevers
May 23: Tattoo Slover
May 26: Jett Prescott

Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz

717-540-1010; www.cpfj.org
(please check website for location)

May 20: Warren Wolf Quartet

Clover Lane Coffeehouse

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

May 18: Rhianna LaRocque

Cornerstone Coffeehouse

2133 Market Street, Camp Hill
www.thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

May 4: Bobbi Carmitchell
May 5: Herr Street

Giant Center

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

May 6: Lady Antebellum

Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra

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

May 5-6: "Motown Magic"
May 13: Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra & Junior String Youth Orchestra
May 19-20: "Perfect Pictures"

Hilton Harrisburg & Towers

1 N. 2nd St., Harrisburg; 717-233-6000

May 4: Steve Rudolph & Peter Paulsen Duo
May 5: Steve Meashey & Tim Brey
May 6: Reuel Ryman
May 11: Erin Cruise & Steve Rudolph
May 12: Steve Rudolph Duo
May 16: Jim Wood
May 18: Cathy Chemi & Steve Rudolph
May 19: Amy Simpson & Steve Rudolph
May 25-26: Dwayne Dolphin and Steve Rudolph
Most nights, Steve Rudolph solo on piano

HMAC/Stage on Herr

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

May 5: Ducky & The Vintage
May 11: The Passionettes
May 12: The Kenneth Brian Band
May 17: John Costellano
May 18: Drag Show featuring Miss Poison
May 20: Deux DJ
May 25: Pandora from Italy
May 26: Belly Dance Lounge with Ishtar
May 31: Night of Latin Flamenco
Every Wednesday, Open Mic

Mangia Qui/Suba

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

May 3: Drew Kelly
May 4: Emily Yanek
May 11: Matt Otis
May 12: Voxology
May 18: Dirty Little Secret
May 19: Ryan Tennis
April 27: The Johnny Monster band
April 28: Maiden Ground

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café

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

May 4: Herb & Hanson w/Knife & Fork Band
May 5: Good News Café
May 9: Kalispell
May 11: Chris Cernak & The Great Northeast
May 12: John Gorka & Antje Duvekot
May 13: Brad Yoder
May 18: Brent & Solly w/Lost Companion
May 19: Emmett Williams
May 25: Ryan Harvey
May 26: Mark Santanna

MoMo's BBQ & Grille

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

May 4: Mark Facasico
May 11: Bushmaster
May 18: Forward Thrust
May 25: Blues City Blues Band

St. Thomas Roasters

5951 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg
717-526-4171; www.stthomasroaster.com

May 4: Channalia
May 5: Kevin Kline
May 11: The Cotosol
May 18: Tasha Peter
May 19: Sterling Koch
May 25: Woody
May 26: Marie Smith

Stock's on 2nd

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

May 12: Shea Quinn and Steve Swisher
May 19: Don Johnson Project Band
May 26: Funktion

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society

www.sfmsfolk.org (check website for location)

May 13: Tish Hinojosa

The Stage Door

Broadway Classics Productions

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

"Anything Goes," through May 20

Giant Center

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

"WWE Smackdown," May 15

"Dragons," by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, May 23-28

Harrisburg Comedy Zone

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

Mike Eagen, May 4-5; DL Hughley, May 8-9;
Tim Statum, May 18-19; Jody Kerns, May 25-26

Harrisburg Shakespeare Company

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

"That Championship Season," through May 6

Hershey Theatre

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

Hershey School of Dance, May 18-19

Hershey Theatre Apollo Awards, May 20

Whitaker Center

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

May 17: Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

At the Cinema

Moviate Film Co-Op

moviate.org

May 19: Student Films and Videos created by students at CASA (Capital Area School for the Arts).

May 25: Filmmaker Richard Kern in person, at Midtown Cinema, 10 p.m.

May 26: Artsfest Film Festival—Films at Open Stage, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; also, films at Midtown Cinema, 10 p.m. and midnight.

May 27: Artsfest Film Festival—Films at Open Stage, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., featuring documentary "Grandma Lo-Fi"; also, films in the community room at Midtown Scholar, 8 p.m.

May 28: Artsfest Film Festival—Films at Open Stage, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring local filmmakers.

3rd in The Burg: May 18



Mixed media, including this work entitled "Obstruction," by artist Andy Rash will be featured at Midtown Scholar's Yellow Wall Gallery during this month's 3rd in The Burg, May 18. You can visit galleries, restaurants and other venues at the monthly celebration of arts and culture throughout Harrisburg. For more information, see our back cover or visit www.facebook.com/3rdinTheBurg.

Pa. Past Lives

2 new books examine the impact of people gone.

Peter Durantine



Keystone Tombstones: Famous Graves Found in Pennsylvania, Vol. 1
By Joe Farrell and Joe Farley
Sunbury Press 190 pp.
\$19.95 (softcover)

No doubt, the Keystone State is rich with American political history, but from the grave sites these two state workers (one now retired) tracked down, Pennsylvania's sons and daughters also contributed to the nation's culture, letters and sports.

There's the resting place in Pittsburgh of Batman's nemesis, the Riddler, the 1960s television character that brought actor Frank Gorshin the most fame; there's movie actress and blonde bombshell Jayne Mansfield, who was hardly as dumb as the characters she played, interred in, of all places, a Northampton County cemetery; and there's Zane Grey, the western author and Ohio native buried in Lackawaxen, Pike County, where he met his wife and devoted himself to writing full time.

This book is full of delightful stories of the famous, the nearly famous and the forgotten famous. It provides fascinating details of their

lives, quelling myths, substantiating facts and explaining how they came to their final resting places.

Farrell's and Farley's site visitations, replete with photos of the grave markers, include well-known luminaries such as Harrisburg's Simon Cameron (the "political kingmaker") and all-American Jim Thorpe. Volume II, which the authors hope to release in September, is awaited with anticipation.



Waterproof: A Novel of the Johnstown Flood
By Judith Redline Coopey
Fox Hollow Press 264 pp.
\$14.95 (softcover)

A disaster's effect on the psyche is first immediate, then lingering. It's that lingering, the aftermath of the horror, that is the most devastating—dealing with the loss of a loved one, or ones; of a way of life gone forever, of peace of mind.

This, Coopey so well captures in her novel of the Johnstown flood. On May 31, 1889, an earthen dam collapsed 14 miles up river from the city. A dark wall of water, 30 feet tall, moved with force and speed and

collected debris, hurtled down the valley, smashed the city, swept 2,000 lives away and changed countless others.

For years afterward, families who lost loved ones, their bodies never recovered, would often report seeing their child or girlfriend or husband walking down the street or in a crowd. One of these sightings is a pivotal plot development around the story of Pam and her struggle to survive loss of family and property after the flood.

"Waterproof" is a story about the aftermath, about the struggles of a woman and of women, about living and rebuilding, despite the troubles that befell her. It's about the tragedy of vengeance, and the adventure of spirit.

Despite her lot, Pam, as are all the characters in this novel, is richer than the millionaires whose dam it was that collapsed, and far deeper than the 30 feet of water that washed away her one life, leaving her opportunity to seek a greater one.

Poetry Corner

A city in distress

Meetings behind closed doors, extensions and pay raises; proposals with no solution!
Our city is plagued with structural deficits.
9 million in debt; am not blaming one person
But the ones that benefit, coming up with unlikely solutions, it's like rain drops in the ocean.
I cannot believe this kindergarten getting dropped.
If we accept this, know I believe it won't stop.
They speak of expenditures and revenues. I wonder if their cars and homes are brand new.
What's really going on?
Seems the taxpayer is in the blind ...
this city is sucking the life out of my invest mental mind!

By Juelz
www.juelzpublishing.com

Whitaker to Debut da Vinci Exhibit

May is a big month for Whitaker Center's Harsco Science Center, as an intriguing new exhibit debuts.

On May 26, "Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion" opens, featuring 40 life-sized interactive models of Leonardo's inventions, based on the designs from the master engineer.

The 5,000-square-foot exhibit includes such visionary inventions as the helicopter and glider, the armored tank, the drive transmission, the printing press and the bicycle. The models are operational and are linked to the four ancient elements—air, water, land and fire.

"Many of da Vinci's inventions were centuries ahead of their time," said Steve Bishop vice president of Science and IMAX Programs. "This exhibition presents them not just as hands-on displays, but also as beautifully crafted objects of Renaissance art."


The da Vinci exhibit arrives on the heels of the debut of Backstage Studio, which features 1,800 square feet of exhibits that reveal the science and technology behind movies, TV, music and theater.

Visitors can make their own animated video, create movie sound effects, play 'intelligent' musical instruments and discover how different colors of light can create a variety of moods.

Funded by The Alexander Grass Foundation, Backstage Studio is the fifth new, long-term exhibit to open since of the renovation of the Harsco Science Center.



Fascinating: An exhibit featuring full-scale models of Leonardo da Vinci's inventions opens this month at Whitaker Center.



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Musical Notes

Dear Music School Grad ...

Some advice for those beginning in the biz.

Loren Weisman

Soon to be graduates, specifically those who are graduating from music schools or schools with a music degree, be careful to move forward in the best way possible.

You are coming into a world where you will be going after the same gigs and the same jobs as people who are old enough to be your grandfathers and grandmothers. They are still working, and they are using a much vaster resume, a wider range of experience and an expanded network that you are going to have to start building now.

Work on your networking, on your soliciting, on getting out and getting seen, heard and known. Watch, I repeat, watch the ego and avoid the trash talking of others. I don't care how good you are or how much better you think you are than someone else, that kind of reputation will keep you out of the loop and out of the gig. Don't wave your music degree around like it means anything.

I see too many graduates talk up the school they went to and the degree they got in music. Most don't give a shit, most don't want to hear it and many will just see you as wet behind the ears and a newbie. Talk about what you did while you were in school. Who inspired you and what you want to do. Talk about your goals and ask questions about what a studio, a producer, a record label or any position needs in the moment. Be the communicator, be the one pushing to reach new contacts every day, looking for new opportunities and connections every week

and coming off in a professional, assertive and confident way without being cocky.

You have both an amazing and very hard road ahead, if your dream is to be successful in music, pieces of paper from schools do not make you the top candidate for most gigs. You need to be reaching out to new contacts online and through the social networks everyday. You need to be setting up a solid content to describe what you can do as well as samples including photos, videos and audios. There are a lot of people out there going after the same gig you are, so STAND OUT!!!

Use a diploma as a supplemental to what you do, what you have learned and what you are going after. The main thing it can stand for is commitment, but a lot of schools out there are sliding musicians through, which gives graduated musicians a bad name. You know it deep inside, too, as you looked around and couldn't believe this guy or that girl actually got one. Don't lie.

Do not make the degree and the piece of paper the main focus. In the end, it is what you learned, how you learned, how you played with others and how you communicate. In a sense, the key tools that you need to get the gig are not encompassed by a college diploma, but in all the key traits you hopefully learned in elementary school.

Loren Weisman is a Seattle-based music producer and music consultant who currently lives in Harrisburg. He is the author of "The Artist's Guide to Success in the Music Business." Visit his website at lorenweisman.com.

Coming to HBG



Harrisburg's own Ducky & The Vintage takes the stage at HMAC on May 5 as the band releases a new record. Be sure to catch "Ducky Duke" (left) and his band, as their bluesy alt-rock explores the darker side of life and love. Across town, the David Mayfield Parade takes the stage at ABC's Abbey Bar on May 18. The band is fronted by the man known as the wild man of indie folk rock. But Mayfield (right) isn't really so wild, and some of his songs can be downright understated. The show is a must for fans of well-crafted songwriting and quality musicianship.

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Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM
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Directed by ALICE KIRKLAND

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PERFORMANCES:
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ICONIC IMAGES

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Spring Flowers = Allergies

Nature's beautiful season comes with a downside.

Dr. Deepa Sekhar

It finally seems winter is over! The weather has started to warm up, and the first spring flowers are blooming. It's also the time when lots of kids come into the office with stuffy noses, coughing and sneezing, and parents ask me about seasonal allergies.

Seasonal allergies (also known as hay fever) are believed to affect up to 40 percent of children. Children affected by seasonal allergies will react during certain times of the year, usually when outdoor molds release spores, or trees, grasses and weeds release pollen. A child may be allergic to one or more types of pollen or mold. An individual's specific allergies will determine when symptoms occur. For example, in central Pennsylvania, tree pollen is present from late February through May. Grass pollen is present late April through early July. Molds are present once the snow melts to when it returns, but peak mid-June to mid-August.

Allergies are uncommon in children under 2 years of age. It seems at least a couple of years of allergen exposure are needed before symptoms develop. Allergies usually present in a child by 10 years old and peak in the early 20s with symptoms typically disappearing later in adulthood.

Allergy symptoms may be very similar to symptoms of the common cold and include sneezing, coughing, stuffy nose, runny nose, itchy nose, itchy throat and fatigue. In addition, children may have itchy, watery or red eyes.

Unlike the common cold, allergy symptoms will often show up at the same time every year. Children with colds may run fevers, which are not seen with allergies. Lastly, most colds will resolve in about 7 to 10 days, with allergies persisting beyond this timeframe.

As a physician and parent, distinguishing between a cold and allergies can be helpful, as the common cold is usually managed with supportive care. For colds, this includes taking a bath at bedtime, running a cool-mist humidifier in the bedroom and encouraging lots of fluids. There is currently no evidence to support the use of over-the-counter cough/cold medications in management of the common cold. In fact, some of these products may actually cause serious side effects. In contrast, there are treatments available for seasonal allergies.

The first step in allergy management is to avoid exposure if the allergen is known. Blood and skin

testing is available to test an individual for reactions to specific allergens, and your child's doctor can decide if such testing would be beneficial. You may hear about the pollen count during the weather report in the springtime. The pollen count is a measure of how much pollen is present in the air. Typically, pollen counts are highest in the morning and on warm, dry, breezy days. Pollen counts decline in the afternoon and evening and in wet, chilly weather. If your child has seasonal allergies, it may be helpful during their peak allergy season to keep windows closed, use the air conditioning and stay inside if pollen counts are high. Having children bathe and change after playing outside can also reduce allergy symptoms.

If avoidance alone does not help symptoms, several medications are available. These typically include oral antihistamines (e.g. Claritin, Zyrtec, Allegra). A physician may also prescribe a steroid nasal spray (e.g. Flonase, Nasonex). If symptoms cannot be managed with medications, allergy shots (immunotherapy) may be recommended in consultation with an allergist. The goal of allergy shots is to gradually desensitize children to particular allergens.

Bad seasonal allergies can significantly impair a child's ability to participate in school, sports and other outdoor activities. I find allergies are sometimes very frustrating for both parents and children. Once it is determined a child has seasonal

allergies, it is important for parents and physicians to work together to optimize treatment so children can function at their best.



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

3-D Mammogram

PinnacleHealth now offers a 3-D mammography technology at its Women's Imaging Center that delivers clearer, more detailed images.

Doctors say the pictures improve the detection of cancer and lesion visibility and can decrease recall rates by 20 percent to 40 percent. They advise it's best for women who have their first or baseline mammogram, have elevated Gail scores or need a diagnostic mammogram.

The service is available in the Medical Sciences Pavilion, 4300 Londonderry Rd., Harrisburg.

Burg Classifieds

Yard Sale

Midtown Neighborhood Annual Yard Sale, Saturday, May 12, 8-2. Front St. to 3rd St., Forster St. to Verbeke St. Rain or shine. Come and have fun!

Dauphin County Treasure

By 1765, tea was the most popular drink in the American colonies, so Jane Kean had many opportunities to use the tea set that her husband John had given her on their wedding day in 1789. Probably made in England, this porcelain teapot is simple but elegant, boasting gold leaf and the prominent initials "JK." John Kean was a Harrisburg merchant and politician. Jane was the daughter of Capt. John Hamilton, merchant and resident of Front Street. For more information on the John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion and its collections of historic objects, call the Historical Society of Dauphin County at 717-233-3462 or visit www.dauphincountyhistory.com.



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THE CITY OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



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Be part of the celebration



Get inspired at this 5K!

Girls on the Run—Saturday, May 19

Registration is 9 a.m. Run begins at 10 a.m.

PinnacleHealth Fredricksen Outpatient Center
2015 Technology Parkway, Mechanicsburg

This is a family friendly event!

Register online at CapAreaGirlsOnTheRun.org.

What is Girls on the Run?

Girls on the Run is an international character development program that teaches life skills to girls in third through eighth grade. PinnacleHealth is proud to be the founding sponsor of the local council, Capital Area Girls on the Run.



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3rd IN THE BURG

ART, MUSIC & MORE ...

FRIDAY, MAY 18

THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH IN HARRISBURG



Whitaker Center • 222 Market St • 214-ARTS • *Backstage Studio*—NOW OPEN. Lights, camera, action! Discover fascinating hands-on exhibits revealing the science and technology behind TV, movies, music and theatre. Animate a stop-motion animation sequence, create sound effects and make your mark on a virtual Graffiti Wall. Funded by The Alexander Grass Foundation. For more information, please visit whitakercenter.org or call 717-214-ARTS.



City House B&B • 915 N Front St • 903-2489 • cityhousebb.com • Local author night! Join area authors who will read from their latest publications. Richard Fellingner, 6p; Gale Martin, 7p; Lori Myers, 8p; Art from local artists will be on display and refreshments will be served. For all details, go to p.29 of this issue.



Midtown Scholar Bookstore • 1302 N 3rd St • 236-1680 • midtownscholar.com • The science of coffee (cupping) with Counter Culture's Phil Proteau, noon. Rishi tea-tasting presented by Midtown Scholar staff, 2p. TMI improv troupe performs, 6–7p. Yellow Wall Gallery reception for collage and assemblage pieces by Andy Rash, 6p. Free concert by mandolin sensations Brent & Solly with local folk favorite Lost Companion, 8p.



The HodgePodgery • 1320 N. 3rd St. • 236-4676 • The HodgePodgery will be offering a color-your-own HoPo hand fan in preparation for ArtsFest. The shop is open 11a–9p.



The State Museum of Pennsylvania • N. 3rd St between North and Forster • 787-4980 • statemuseumpa.org • 18th annual Harrisburg Jewish Film Festival screening, "Intimate Grammar." Awarded "Best Feature Film" at the 2010 Jerusalem International Film Festival, this adaptation of the best-selling "The Book of Intimate Grammar" spans three years in the life of pre-adolescent Aharon Kleinfeld, a sensitive soul striving to survive his parents and his own delayed puberty in a 1960s-era housing development where appearances are all important. Tickets \$8, 5:30p.



Gallery at Walnut Place • 413 Walnut St • 233-0487 • "Iconic Images," a review of sketches from the collections of Frank & Franklin Hummel, 5–8p.



Gallery@Second • 608 N 2nd St • 233-2498 • galleryatsecond.com • Featured artists are Richard Chandler Hoff and Sue Marrazzo. Music by Jonathan Frazier. Plus visit the "Upstairs Gallery" featuring more than 250 pieces of artwork by local artists. 3rd in The Burg Special—10% discount on all purchases made during the event. Refreshments served, 6–9p. Visit us on Facebook: GalleryAtSecond.



Mangia Qui/Suba • 272 North St • 233-7358 • Mangia Qui and Suba Tapas Bar will feature the original art of local artist Elide Hower and Baltimore artist Shawn Theron. Live music by Dirty Little Secret, 9–11p, and a \$6 Wilky drink special.



Open Stage of Harrisburg • 223 Walnut St (street level of Walnut St. Garage) • 232-OPEN (6736) • openstagehbg.com • OSHKids Performance Company, Open Stage's Children's Theatre Group, presents *HEROES WITH TEN FACES*, an original play exploring what it means to be a "hero!" This show celebrates Theatre By Kids For Everyone! Great for all ages! Curtain: 7p, May 18 & 19; 2p, May 20. General admission \$10.



Little Amps Coffee Roasters • 1836 Green St • littleampscoffee.com • Opening: Kristin Dumberth presents "an eyeeful experience" (layered photography), 6–9p.

Other Participants

- **The Fenêtre Gallery**, HACC Midtown 2, N. 3rd & Reily Sts.
- **Nerds in The Burg**, HACC Midtown 2, N. 3rd & Reily Sts.
- **The Urban Snob**, 1006 N. 3rd St.



Harrisburg Bike Taxi rides available during 3rd in The Burg for "Tips Only." Call 461-2202 for a lift and thanks for "Getting There The Green Way."

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/3RDINTHEBURG