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COVER ART BY: NED SMITH

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

At TheBurg, we spend a great deal of time discussing what Harrisburg is and what it can be. In the office, at lunch, after work, our small staff often talks about where we're heading as a community, sometimes in general, sometimes more specifically at the block- or property-level. This issue, even more than others recently, reflects that continuing dialogue.

In a broad sense, I feel that Harrisburg, to succeed, must become more comfortable with its status and role as a small city, an opinion that is reflected in my editor's column. More narrowly, senior writer Paul Barker analyzes if the city can—or even should—wrestle 2nd Street from suburban commuters and return it to the people who live here. Meanwhile, our intern, Danielle Roth, wonders aloud if Harrisburg can ever be a cycling town.

Now that primary season is over, columnist Tara Leo Auchey looks ahead at the probable makeup of the next City Council, reflecting on what the results say about the temper of the electorate. We also hope you'll enjoy a multi-part photo feature on the renovation of an historic Front Street mansion, along with some thoughts on what the Harrisburg riverfront was, is and might one day become. In addition, school Chief Recovery Officer Gene Veno and Superintendent Sybil Knight-Burney dropped by our offices to discuss their vision for the Harrisburg school district.

Otherwise, this issue is packed once more with all the things that make the Harrisburg area, well, the Harrisburg area: the food, the arts, the characters, the activities, the doing good, the doing not-so-good. Oh, there's also a story about cats. Enjoy!

LAWRANCE BINDA
Editor-in-Chief

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WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

There's no lack of great thinking, doing in our Harrisburg community.

BY J. ALEX HARTZLER

Early summer means high school and college graduations, and graduations mean commencement speeches. I often enjoy reading or listening to commencement speakers and their advice to young people about to take on the world.

In some ways, it would seem difficult to give interesting, let alone unique, advice to graduates. Somehow, however, I rarely grow tired of hearing or reading about the myriad nuggets of wisdom from some of the best speakers around the country.

Far from being relevant only to graduates, much of the advice is applicable to all of us. Some of the best advice I have heard over the years is: "Find what you love to do and do it well," "Be passionate" and "Think big." You can't accomplish what you can't dream or envision, and you are rarely successful or satisfied in a job, career or location that you find unrewarding or that brings out your inner cynic.

As I have mentioned before, Harrisburg itself may be entering a unique period that enables us to put away our well-worn cynicism, discover an inner passion to improve the city (if not the world) and think big.

While a resolution to the debt and fiscal crisis remains tantalizingly close at hand, a number of entrepreneurs and community leaders have already decided that Harrisburg has a bright future ahead.

There are lots of people starting to "think big" in Harrisburg. Reading the latest commencement wisdom, I reflected on the many things that have been (or which will be) covered in the pages of *TheBurg* this year.

WebpageFX announced its technology company and 35+ employees' move to Front Street in Harrisburg by early next year. Little Amps opened its second location in as many years. The MakeSpace went from idea to reality to its second location in about 18 months. The Susquehanna Art Museum, after years of planning and waiting, embarked on development of its new site on N. 3rd Street. St@rt-Up opened with a dozen or so clients in Midtown. Josh Kesler announced plans for a major development near the Broad Street Market. Yellow Bird Café became an overnight sensation and must-try hot spot. First National Bank moved from the suburbs to downtown Harrisburg.

Brickbox developed more than 200 apartment units downtown, including in the long vacant Furlow building, and is currently developing the former Barto Building into luxury condominiums. Hamilton Health Center embarked on expansion plans to complement and build upon its very important success to date in Allison Hill. Char's opened the first riverfront fine-dining restaurant along the banks of the Susquehanna, demonstrating that getting flooded can sometimes be an invitation to even greater opportunity and even tastier cuisine.

Stash opened a super-cool boutique vintage clothing store. Federal Taphouse expanded into the city. Habitat Re-store opens this summer in a former brewery on Paxton Street. The 1500 Project became the first-of-its-kind development project, complete with "jazz on the roof" and offering 40-plus new residential condominiums on 6th street. D&H distributing installed a major new solar project in Uptown.

All in all, these businesses and projects add up to big moves and big plans for a small community.

On the community front, City Beautiful 2.0 is attempting to reinvent the movement of the early 1900s that created many of the city's best parks and public spaces. Our collective ability to "think big" holds the promise to transform our city in similar ways.

What kind of city do we want to live and work in over the next decade? How about the next five decades? What do we need to do to reinvent our city? How do we attract more residents and businesses? How do we take advantage of our best resources and attributes and move us all forward?

If *TheBurg* hasn't yet covered your big idea or commitment to Harrisburg, please tell us about it. We want our readers to know.

J. Alex Hartzler is publisher of TheBurg.



NEW COO FOR CITY

Robert Philbin will fill the post of Harrisburg's chief operating officer/chief of staff until the end of Mayor Linda Thompson's term. It was announced last month.

Philbin served as Thompson's spokesman for almost two years before leaving in February to accept the post of marketing/communications officer for Capital Area Transit (CAT). He said he plans to return to CAT after his stint as COO.

The COO post was open after the sudden departure of Ricardo Mendez-Saldivia, who served about one year. Mendez-Saldivia was the city's first COO, a position created as part of Harrisburg's financial recovery plan in an effort to bring more professional management to city operations.

During his six-month tenure, Philbin said he would focus on continuing to implement the city's financial recovery plan, crafting a budget for 2014 and helping with the transition to a new administration. The job pays an equivalent of \$110,000 annually.

"I'm honored to serve the city during this historic period of fiscal recovery and transition, and I look forward to working closely with Mayor Thompson and her administration in the coming months," Philbin said.

Philbin's career with the city has been a rocky one. He took the communications director post in 2011, the fourth person to hold that job in over 2½ years, soon becoming a close aide to Thompson. City Council struck the job from the 2012 budget, leading him to work without pay all of last year. Council reinstated the position in 2013 only to have Philbin leave for CAT shortly afterwards.

FEE HIKES ON TAP

The Harrisburg City Council last month boosted fees for a variety of services, such as answering false alarms, taking out building permits, renting park space and hanging banners.

The hikes, approved unanimously, were in response to suggestions made last year by Maximus Inc., one of several firms assisting the city in its financial recovery. In many cases, the fees had not risen in more than a decade, said Councilman Brad Koplinski.

For instance, the fee for a second false burglar alarm goes from \$10 to \$50; for a fourth false burglar alarm from \$35 to \$100. The permit fee for a plumbing fixture and trap increases from \$15 to \$25.

City Council members said they didn't want to raise fees, but that the city needed to consider every option to increase revenue. Raising long-stable fees is part of the receiver's financial recovery plan for the city.

HARRISBURG THREATENED WITH FUND CUT

The state House last month passed a budget plan that would slash the amount of direct state funding Harrisburg receives from \$2.5 million to \$496,000.

That money flows into the Fire Bureau budget for compensation to protect the Capitol complex. The bureau estimates that it costs Harrisburg about \$4 million annually to provide emergency fire service to the Capitol complex.

State Sen. Rob Teplitz (D-Dauphin County), state Rep. Patty Kim (D-Harrisburg) and Mayor Linda Thompson all said they would work hard to restore the funding for the cash-strapped city before the state budget is finalized.

"At a time when the city is already struggling to maintain safety, this painful cut to fire protection funding further jeopardizes the safety of Pennsylvanians and adds to the burden of the city's fiscal crisis," said Kim.

Harrisburg already faces an operating budget deficit of around \$3 million this year. The proposed funding cut would widen that gap considerably.

SCHOOL UNIONS AGREE TO CUTS

Harrisburg's two school unions have signed off on a plan to cut staff salaries as part of the financial recovery package for the debt-laden school district.

Both the Harrisburg Education Association (HEA) and AFSCME Council 13 last month tentatively agreed to salary and benefit cuts of 5 percent, said school Chief Recovery Officer Gene Veno. Already, Harrisburg school district personnel have not received regular raises for the past two years.

AFSCME, which represents non-instructional

staff, originally rejected the offer, leading Veno to plan layoffs. The union later reversed itself, stating that members objected more to tougher evaluations and performance standards than to the salary and benefit cuts.

At press time, the memberships of both HEA and AFSCME had yet to ratify the agreements.

A third group representing school administrators also agreed to the cuts, said Veno.

VACANT LOT IGNITES DISPUTE

A dispute over the use of a vacant lot at the corner of 6th and Herr streets could come to a head this month.

Bethel AME Church had run a commercial parking operation out of the lot until 2010, when its temporary variance to the zoning code expired. In May, the church applied for another temporary variance, but some members of the Fox Ridge neighborhood near the lot raised objections.

Ted Hanson, whose house abuts the southern edge of the lot, said the church falsely claimed "community support" for the commercial parking plan.

"Not one of the signatories on the church's petition resides in Old Fox Ridge," he said.

He added that the church historically has not made any effort to develop the lot appropriately, as past variances have required. On a website, foxridgeneighbors.org, Hanson also called into question Bethel's appeal to make the lot tax-exempt, saying the church already owes nearly \$6,500 in back taxes on the property.

Bethel AME declined to comment.

The application was to be considered at a meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board on June 17, but the meeting was cancelled at the last minute due to an error in the public announcement. The board's next meeting is July 22, though Geoffrey Knight, the city's zoning officer, said an earlier date is being sought to review the application.

HARRISBURG AGAIN WITHOUT HEALTH OFFICER

Harrisburg lost its Health Officer last month after the city, acting on the instruction of receiver William Lynch, declined to raise the position's annual salary from \$40,000 to \$50,000.

The officer, Cornelius Johnson, left the post to accept a \$50,000-per-year offer for the same position in Susquehanna Township.

The Health Officer conducts routine inspections on Harrisburg restaurants and food vendors to ensure they are complying with health codes. The city is currently seeking someone to fill the position at a starting salary of \$42,000. In the meantime, inspections will be conducted by other codes officers employed by the city.

City Council President Wanda Williams expressed regret over Johnson's departure and criticized Lynch

and Mayor Linda Thompson for not ensuring the position offered competitive pay.

"City Council did everything it could to try to retain him," she said.

Recently, Harrisburg has had trouble filling that position. The health officer post was vacant for more than a year before Johnson took the job.

Councilwoman Susan Brown-Wilson praised Johnson's abilities, adding that he was Susquehanna's "number one choice" for the job.

Lynch, however, pointed out that all other city employees are experiencing a pay freeze and stressed that making an exception for one employee would have a "corrosive" effect.



ANOTHER INDEPENDENT FOR MAYOR

Air Force Staff Sgt. Nate Curtis last month announced his candidacy for Harrisburg mayor, the second independent in the race.

At a press conference in the Pennsylvania State Museum, he said his political party affiliation will read "Curtis for Mayor" on the Nov. 5 general election ballot.

Curtis grew up in Harrisburg, where his mother worked at a number of restaurants around the city. His father, whom Curtis said he met when he was a teenager, was a homicide detective with the police department.

Curtis recently returned to the city after a tour in Afghanistan and said he was distressed to find "my hometown at war with itself." In 2007, his brother Dax was murdered in the foyer of his apartment on Woodbine Street.

His priorities as mayor, he said, would be addressing education and blight and cutting the city's budget, including a 10 percent pay cut to the mayoral salary and a dismissal of the mayor's security detail.

The race to replace Mayor Linda Thompson has grown increasingly crowded. Midtown Scholar Bookstore owner Eric Papenfuse captured the Democratic nomination for mayor in May, and Uptown resident Nevin Mindlin also is running as an independent.

City Controller Dan Miller, who lost the Democratic primary, narrowly won the Republican primary based upon 196 write-in votes. At press time, he had not announced his intentions for the general election.



BROAD STREET MARKET
LOSES MANAGER

Harrisburg’s historic city market is again without a manager as Dennise Hill left after less than a year on the job.

The board of the Broad Street Market confirmed Hill’s resignation, saying that Market vendors were informed of the departure, but refused further comment on this personnel issue.

The Market has had great difficulty retaining top staff, with the past three managers all serving very short stints.

CHANGING HANDS:
APRIL PROPERTY SALES

- Briggs St., 1608: T. Simmons to Fannie Mae, \$61,911
- Capital St., 1007: 3rd Street LLC to CJ Good LLC, \$125,000
- Cumberland St., 216: D. Maguire Trust to P. Wambach III, \$117,500
- Derry St., 1711: J. Mendoza to D. Patel, \$36,432
- Green St., 1628: C. Lex to M. & A. Collins, \$90,000
- Hale Ave., 433: T. Bryant to G. & C. Speroff, \$72,500
- Hanna St. 110: Donna C. Flath Trust to M. Knouse, \$150,000
- Harris St., 625, 641, 643 & 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527 Wallace St.: J. Close to U.S. GSA, \$63,600 each
- Harris Terr., 2481: PA Deals LLC to S. Hill, \$66,000
- Hoffman St., 3028: V. & C. Piatos to J. Hull & L. Downs, \$140,000
- Holly St., 1849: B. & K. Kreps to D. Reed, \$69,900
- Hudson St., 1256: J. Fabiankovitz to Lemoyne Land Corp. Inc., \$45,000
- Hummel St., 224: V. Mainardi to Brethren Housing Assoc., \$48,500
- Kensington St., 2135: S. Orfanelli to A. Segin, \$45,000
- Kensington St., 2147: PA Deals LLC to J. Gaidos, \$67,900
- Liberty St., 1404, 2021 Holly St. 2651 Jefferson St. & 1826 Briggs St.: R.Shokes Jr. & Shokes Enterprises to R. & D. Requa \$201,000

- Shokes Enterprises & R. Shokes Jr. to R. & D. Requa, \$201,000
- Locust St., 103 & 105: Front & Locust LLC to Browser Properties, \$150,000
- Maclay St., 524: W. Grannison to 524 Real Estate Holdings LLC, \$100,000
- Manada St., 2003: D. Barrick to M. Jackson, \$63,000
- N. 2nd St., 1225: J. Van Allen to M. & L. Day, \$120,000
- N. 2nd St., 1404: Kyzer Rentals LLC to Tang Liu Realty LLC, \$100,000
- N. 2nd St., 2405: PBE Companies LLC to M. & R. Lindquist, \$140,000
- N. 2nd St., 2533: J. & V. First to K., C. & E. Meisinger, \$120,000
- N. 2nd St., 2619: R. Davis Jr. to D. Skerpon & C. Baldrige, \$225,000
- N. 15th St., 17: B. Miller to Wofford Enterprises Ltd., \$50,000
- N. 15th St., 1217: PA Deals LLC to A. Plowman, \$79,900
- N. Cameron St., 101, 101 Rear, 109 & 111 Hancock St.: C. Green to R. & S. Otto, \$269,000
- Oakwood Rd., 2309: M. & S. Gruin to M. Knopf, \$245,000
- Penn St., 1523: K. Thralls to E. Jones & J. Lindgren, \$134,000
- S. 12th St., 1442: Beneficial Consumer Discount Co. to N. Sanchez, \$42,500
- S. Cameron St., 1119: River Rescue to Statewide Enterprises LLC, \$385,000
- Verbeke St., 210: K. Leitner to R. Katsifis, \$90,000

Source: Dauphin County. Data is deemed accurate.

RESTAURANT ROUNDUP

Harrisburg-area foodies got a triple treat last month as two long-promised eateries and a café made their debut.

The month started out strong as Little Amps Coffee Roasters opened its second location at the corner of N. 2nd and State streets on June 1. Little Amps first rocked Harrisburg’s gourmet coffee market in October 2011 with a storefront in Olde Uptown, and its new downtown spot offers the same fresh-roasted coffee along with a selection of goodies and sandwiches from Yellow Bird Café.



In mid-month, Taco Solo began serving tacos and salads from a central location at the corner of N. 2nd and Locust streets. The downtown taqueria is the inspiration of Juan and Lisa Garcia, owners of the popular Mexican restaurant El Sol, who wanted to bring their cuisine to the takeout crowd.



About a week later, owner Sri Kumarasingam gave a culinary nod to Midtown in the form of Pastorante, a new pasta-themed restaurant at 1012 N. 3rd St. The completely renovated space features an open kitchen, homemade pastas and numerous choices of toppings and sauces. The storefront has been empty for years, last housing the greatly missed Italian Market.

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RIGHT-SIZING HARRISBURG

It's time to do small city well.

BY LAWRENCE BINDA

In its history, Harrisburg has been many things: a quickly growing village, a manufacturing center, a railroad hub, a government town.

Since the 1960s, the city has been trying to shake off a less-desired identity: poster child for post-industrial urban decline. Perhaps that's why people so eagerly signed on to former Mayor Steve Reed's grand vision of Harrisburg as a center for culture, sports, entertainment, education – well, everything.

Unfortunately, Reed's vast ambitions effectively bankrupted Harrisburg and, in retrospect, often look downright silly (a sports hall of fame? a Wild West museum? a hydroelectric dam?). Reed's massive overreach (and equally massive debt) also directly led to the city's most recent identity: ward of the commonwealth.

As it tries to recover and move forward, Harrisburg has to begin to think in new ways. At the most basic level, it must understand what it is and what it is not.

Reed's vision failed because Harrisburg is not a cultural or sports or tourism center – and no amount of borrowed money, creative financing and political coercion will turn it into one.

Harrisburg is a small city. To succeed, Harrisburg must do small city well.

CITY RE-THINK

Since I moved here five years ago, I've often been astonished at how people depict and talk about Harrisburg.

Mayor Linda Thompson, much like Reed before her, tends to speak in inflated language of both Harrisburg and her own role in "history." The media dutifully follow along, tailing her from one press conference to another, predictably overreacting to her verbal stumbles. Meanwhile, many suburbanites seem to fear that, by crossing the Market Street Bridge, they'll enter what might be the setting for the next "Mad Max" movie.

Folks: Harrisburg is a tiny urban center of 49,500 people. It's not New York or Washington or Chicago. It's not even Baltimore or Pittsburgh. And it's certainly not some urban dystopia dreamed up by Hollywood.

Harrisburg has to accept that there's nothing wrong with being a small city. Small cities can be wonderful places to live, as, unlike larger metropolises, they often more naturally can combine urban amenities, charm and livability.

Harrisburg must ratchet down its expectations to fit what it actually can be: a little jewel of a place perfectly sited on a grand river—somewhere most people may have never heard of, but, when they do stumble upon it, they'll want to return and even live here.

THE BASICS

So, what does it mean to do small city well? It means putting aside grand visions and oversized projects, focusing instead on a handful of basic services that will attract more residents and visitors.

In short, Harrisburg can strive to remake itself as a clean, charming city with a well-functioning infrastructure. To do so, it must repair itself: its streets, sidewalks, curbing and water/sewer system. It must fix streetlights, collect trash, fight dumping. It must see

that building codes are enforced and police effectively deployed.

Only then can Harrisburg become a more attractive place for those who are most likely to want to settle here: young professionals, the creative class and empty-nesters.

Of course, Harrisburg should welcome everyone. But let's face it – the city is unlikely to get a middle-class family of four to move in from Hummelstown or Camp Hill. It has a far better chance of attracting recent college graduates who want an active nightlife, professionals who want to live in old houses in real neighborhoods and aging couples who enjoy nice restaurants, but don't like yard work or driving.

Meanwhile, Harrisburg should do everything possible to play to its strengths. The city still has many largely intact, historic neighborhoods, an architectural legacy valued by those who enjoy urban life. It must take pains not to lose another Victorian-era townhouse or commercial building to neglect or the wrecking ball.

Harrisburg, in fact, should resolve to undo the immense damage of the post-war era.

Unfortunately, the city can't re-construct the many historic buildings it has lost over the past 60 years. However, it can minimize additional losses, while ensuring that new construction fits well into existing blocks. The office building at N. 2nd and State streets is an excellent example of new construction that is both thoroughly modern and conforms to a Victorian-era cityscape.

In addition, the city should swim with the current. People want to live and visit cities for such things as bars, restaurants, cafes, the arts, markets and specialty shops, all within or near close-knit neighborhoods. Harrisburg should spend its limited resources on the building blocks of urban life – infrastructure and safety – so these businesses can take root and thrive. It should avoid the usual wasteful economic schemes of

loan funds, municipally financed building projects and the construction of tourist traps.

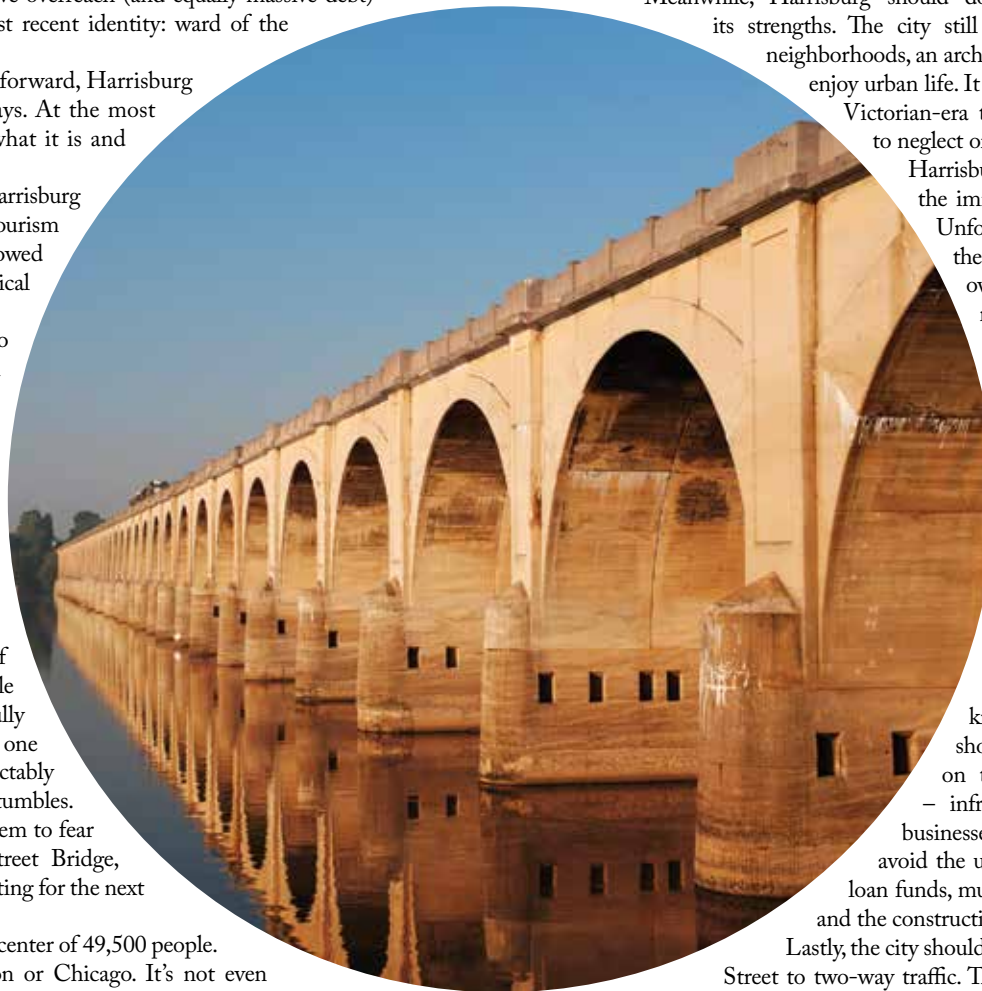
Lastly, the city should plan to return 2nd Street and Front Street to two-way traffic. These streets were designed for local use by city dwellers, not as high-speed escapes for suburban commuters.

Three-lane highways slicing through the heart of the city are incredibly dangerous and stupidly self-destructive. Harrisburg would become far more livable if these gritty, perilous, industrial-looking streets were returned to the community as attractive assets.

LET'S BE HONEST

Harrisburg has a chance to become a more desirable place to live and visit, but it first must be honest about what it is.

Harrisburg is a small city. If it can do small city well, it will be able to attract people – and their money – back into town. A more prosperous Harrisburg then can make greater investments in education, neighborhood development and a variety of other good works that, currently, are utterly beyond its means. **B**



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HARRISBURG WANTS FIGHTERS

Voters sided with reform in City Council election.

BY TARA LEO AUCHEY

While the Harrisburg mayoral race has another leg, barring any atypical occurrence, we know what the next City Council will look like.

In this Democrat-heavy town, only Democrats have run for council in the past few years, so it's the primary election that determines the winners and the losers.

This year, there were four seats up for grabs, and of the 10 candidates who ran, there were three incumbents—Wanda Williams, Eugenia Smith and Kelly Summerford.

Summerford lost, and two fresh faces were elected to office. In fact, one of those newbies, Shamaine Daniels, garnered more votes than anyone else, which was a surprise to many and, most certainly, to the incumbents.

Aside from the fact that a relatively unfamiliar newcomer succeeded above the rest, it's worth noting who lost, most especially Summerford, who was considered a Linda Thompson defender and upholder.

When looking back on City Council votes since 2010, when Summerford took office, his voting record indicates an alignment with Thompson and her positions. He was not alone. His comrade was former City Council President Gloria Martin-Roberts. In 2011, she retired from council at the end of her term, choosing no longer to run for local government, but rather tried to make the jump to state. In 2012, she ran for the 103rd PA House of Representatives seat,

coming in last in the primary.

She also has stood out as a fervent Thompson supporter.

On the other hand, we have City Council incumbents who have been re-elected. And whether it was this run or the last, what we know is that the "Fabulous Four" made it, while the others have not.

Who are the Fabulous Four?

In a long story made short synopsis....

Back when Linda Thompson was on council, she and Mayor Stephen Reed engaged in a fight about whose right it was to appoint members to the Harrisburg Authority (THA) board—the mayor's or council's. The issue headed to the courts, where it went as high as it could. However, there was no final ruling until Thompson defeated Reed and took the office of mayor.

On May 26, 2010—as City Council-appointed members of THA were making progress on the organization of chaotic files and setting terms of negotiations with creditors in the incinerator debt matters—the state Supreme Court came down with its ruling on the matter.

It ruled that the mayor has the right to appoint members to THA's board, not City Council. Thus, by law, THA's board was immediately dismantled. Work on a plan to face the incinerator crisis and on a much-discussed forbearance agreement stopped.

Despite a lot of public pressure to do so, Mayor Thompson refused to re-appoint the board members



so they could get back to work. It could have been done. The next day. The irony, of course, was that Thompson as city councilor fanatically claimed it was council's prerogative to appoint the THA board. Hence, the lawsuit with Linda Thompson explicitly named her as one of the parties involved, meaning she believed so full-heartedly that City Council should appoint the board, not the mayor, that she was willing to spend public money and time to prove her righteousness of principle.

Yet, when the tables turned and she was mayor, instead of returning the council-appointed board back to business, she delayed and then began to send down a list of new candidates who either withdrew themselves before they came before council or caused strife amongst city councilors.

This is the first time we saw the so-called "Fabulous Four," as the media began to refer to them. There were four members of City Council who stuck together and demanded a re-appointment of the old board—Wanda Williams, Susan Brown-Wilson, Eugenia Smith and Brad Koplinski. They stood strong despite the mayor and City Council President Gloria Martin-Roberts calling them "obstructionists," "hypocrites" and "children." This is when Summerford was noted to side with Martin-Roberts and Thompson.

Why does this matter? Because, looking back on that summer of 2010, reflection easily demonstrates how bad of a move it was for Harrisburg to have an inactive THA Board.

"VOTERS WANT ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES AT HAND."

It gave creditors power and ultimately contributed to Thompson's application to the state for the Act 47 program in October 2010, which led to a state takeover and the appointment of a receiver.

The "Fabulous Four" stuck together for a long time. They formed a bloc that voted down various Thompson administration initiatives, including premature asset monetization moves, high-interest financings and the Act 47 program and plans. They even fought receivership and never failed to call Thompson out in unity if there were a questionable claim or deal on the table.

They were publicly applauded. They were voted back into office.

Gloria Martin-Roberts and Kelly Summerford were not. Even Patty Kim, who continuously teetered in the middle of the two sides, won the 103rd seat by a very slim margin.

Apparently, Harrisburg wants fighters. Voters have indicated they want elected officials who seem to understand the complexity of the issues at hand, who have noble opinions and who express perspective for the common good.

The electorate wants representatives to fight the fights that matter the most and not the ones that don't.

If anything, this election seems to reflect that.

The two newcomers—Daniels and Ben Allatt—have been given a chance to show who they will listen to and what they're made of. Clearly, the standard has been set. **B**



SECOND THOUGHTS

BY PAUL BARKER

Decades ago, Harrisburg's leaders quickly turned 2nd Street into an urban highway. Some people now think they made a big mistake.

Ray Davis has a traffic problem. Davis, the well-known Harrisburg realtor, has lived on N. 2nd Street for more than a dozen years, watching the post-work traffic rush past his door each day, heading straight out of town for the suburbs.

"There are people who won't live on 2nd because of the speed and volume of cars," he said. "There's some beautiful homes below Division that would sell for more above it, and the only reason is the traffic." He also said the street, in places, lends a "dangerous, industrial feel" to the surrounding area.

He's not alone in his belief that the road has affected the neighborhood's livability, as well as its property values.

N. 2nd Street is one-way heading north and three lanes wide, with an additional two lanes for parking, from downtown to Division Street, where it turns into a two-way. Residents along this stretch refer to it variously as a racetrack, highway and speedway.

"People come flying up here at 80 miles an hour," one woman told me. Another resident said he worries about his kids' safety. "You feel like it's risky to cross to the other side."

For the people who live in the neighborhood, crossing 2nd around 5 p.m. can feel like a game of Frogger, the 1980s-era arcade game in which a player tries to guide frogs across a busy street without them turning into roadkill. Still, it's doubtful that most residents—much less those behind the wheel whizzing by—think much about how a once-quiet, wide road lined with grand buildings became a noisy urban freeway cutting through core city neighborhoods.

The issue, however, unexpectedly arose during the recent mayoral primary, when independent candidate Nevin Mindlin mentioned it during a debate. He said he wanted to restore 2nd Street to

the people of the city by making it, once again, a two-way neighborhood road.

After the debate, I spoke with Mindlin at his Uptown home, on N. 3rd Street. For years, he's lamented the existence of a high-speed thruway in the middle of a residential neighborhood. Currently, he said, 2nd Street is designed "to accommodate the suburban traffic that comes into town, sits in town for eight hours and then turns around and leaves." Coupled with Front Street, its one-way southbound twin, 2nd Street severs an entire span of houses from the tranquil grid to the east. "It's a six-lane highway, and the median winds up being a city block."

Eric Papenfuse, the Democratic candidate for mayor, has now joined Mindlin in advocating the conversion of 2nd, from Forster to Division, back to a two-way street.

"It would make the neighborhoods more pedestrian-friendly and connect them to the river," Papenfuse said. "It would very clearly make Harrisburg a more bikeable, walkable and livable city."

The conversion of 2nd Street isn't currently a campaign issue. In addition, depending on the outcome of the city's receivership, it may languish at the bottom of a priority list through a first term and beyond.

Excluding a handful of people who live on 2nd, most people you ask have never heard of the proposal—and usually think it's crazy.

Is it?

AMERICAN DREAM

Much of Harrisburg's infrastructure dates back an entire century. In the City Beautiful movement of the early 1900s, a handful of citizens, taking inspiration from the cities of Western Europe, set about improving the city's roads and sewers

and beautifying its public spaces. Some of their creations—especially the parks, such as Wildwood, Italian Lake, and the pathway along the riverfront—endure to this day more or less as they were conceived, as accessible public spaces.

The city's streets, however, have changed profoundly. Largely in response to the proliferation of automobiles in the 1940s and '50s, Harrisburg bisected its close-knit neighborhoods with widened, higher-speed thruways. As a result, the city became less a place to walk around in and more a place to drive through.

"What we see is the thinking of the last generation—whoever dreamed up what the world ought to look like in the '50s, '60s and '70s," Mindlin said. "Their world was automobile-centered. The goal was to give everybody access to the American Dream: an eighth of an acre, a chicken in every pot and a car in every garage."

Converting 2nd is one of several ways in which Mindlin hopes to restore the city of an earlier era: one that is safe and pleasant to walk in, in which neighborhoods prize the wants of residents over those of commuters. In addition to making 2nd Street two-way, he proposes converting Front to a parkway, with more stops and curbside parking. Division could be extended over a bridge toward HACC, tying the campus to the rest of the city, and a second parkway could connect Wildwood to the riverfront. City-bound traffic would park at outer crossroads, and mass transit would carry workers downtown.

"The goal is to intercept traffic at the points where it comes into the city," Mindlin said.

Papenfuse also sees the 2nd Street conversion as part of a comprehensive plan for urban renewal. "The drive of urban living is that people want to be able to walk—to Broad Street Market, to the bookstore, to the river," he said. He believes a discussion about the



city's traffic plan is one way Harrisburg can change "from a reactive mindset to a proactive mindset."

"It's about planning. It's about re-engaging the community," he said.

Both Mindlin and Papenfuse are aware the proposal may not be universally popular. Papenfuse acknowledged concerns about cost, and insisted that federal funds would be required. "We're not proposing spending money we don't have," he said.

Mindlin criticized earlier efforts at city planning for being "top-down." He said he would seek a "community-driven discussion" about how to develop the neighborhoods and roads.

Papenfuse agrees. "Planning has to be done based on neighborhood input," he said. "Before any decision will be made, we need a community conversation."

Of course, this raises the possibility that the community, as a whole, will prefer to keep 2nd Street the way it is. It's not clear the American Dream, as it relates to swift traffic, has changed. Suburban commuters aren't the only ones exploiting the car-friendly roads through town; city-dwellers drive them, too.

But Mindlin is right on his basic point: Harrisburg's streets look the way they do because of a few people whose priority was something other than maintaining walkable, quaint neighborhoods that served the people who lived there. Their focus, instead, was to solve the novel problem of traffic. And the solution, like many things in the 20th century, happened very fast.

MATTER OF MONTHS

On Oct. 19, 1955, the League of Women Voters hosted Harrisburg's first televised mayoral debate. The candidates were Leo Werner, a Democrat, and Nolan Ziegler, a Republican. Werner ran a negative campaign, connecting Ziegler to the

political machine of Harvey Taylor, a boss whose career spanned half a century and included a long-held state Senate seat and offices in Dauphin County. "We are fighting," Werner said, "to end a dictatorship that has controlled our city and county for more than 40 years."

Ziegler promised to fix the city's traffic. He pledged to eliminate two-hour parking at meters, instate a citywide ban on double parking and designate one-way streets to improve traffic flow. He also announced he'd been promised the services of "outstanding experts" in traffic who would offer their guidance to the city for free.

Ziegler won. So did every other Republican candidate, including two candidates for City Council.

In February of 1956, a month after taking office, Ziegler appointed the city's first traffic engineer. City Council voted unanimously in favor, and an engineer was hired at an annual salary of \$7,600. This made him the highest-paid official in the city. (Ziegler's salary was \$7,000).

The engineer's name was Eugene Simms. He came from New York City, and he seems to have had Harrisburg's governing body in thrall. The record of City Council ordinances that spring and summer is replete with actions pertaining to roads and traffic: from the hiring of a secretary for Simms (March, \$3,000 per year) to the appointment of a Supervisor of Plans and Surveys (April, \$3,500) to the creation of a new account in the budget for "Traffic Engineering" (May) and the purchase of 750 new traffic signs, 1,600 gallons of traffic paint, 34 traffic lights, 26 pedestrian signals and 950 parking meters (June, July, August).

In a matter of months, Simms's traffic team, drawing on a seemingly bottomless fund, conceived a complete transformation of Harrisburg's roads. Front Street would run one-way south, and 2nd Street one-way north. Truck traffic would be

sequestered into east-west and north-south routes. An obelisk at the intersection of 2nd and State, which effectively created a roundabout at the foot of the Capitol, would be removed. (It was relocated to a grassy median off Division, near Italian Lake Park, where it still stands.) Both roads would intersect with Forster Street, itself recently transformed from a quaint, leafy neighborhood street into a much wider, six-lane highway.

The changes were aimed at creating a swift, seamless network of routes through town, with seemingly little regard to how noisy, high-speed traffic running over acres of new asphalt would impact some of the most desirable and historic parts of Harrisburg.

Not everyone was pleased. Residents on 2nd Street circulated a petition claiming that "incidental speeding" on the one-way roads "would endanger pedestrians, especially children." But the promise of an end to congestion, and of improved parking downtown, outweighed the inconvenience to the residential neighborhood. The Simms team plowed ahead, and, on Sept. 16, 1956, the new system of one-way roads was unveiled.

In early October, a man wrote a letter to the Patriot congratulating the city on its achievement. "Never have I experienced the relieved pleasure of going north to the City line from either Front and Market Sts. or from the Square in less time than from 30 to 40 minutes," he wrote. Now, he said, a commute from downtown to the city's northern boundary took him just over 10 minutes.

Speed was not only a benefit, however. It also replaced congestion as the new traffic problem. In the weeks after the one-way conversion, reports of reckless driving abounded. During the rest of September, Ziegler made frequent appearances in the paper, issuing stern warnings to speeders and promising policies to curtail abuse of the roads.



On Sept. 27: “We have a new club. It’s called the Second Street Speeding and Reckless Driving Club. The police are taking all applications. In fact, we picked up a dozen new members last night at \$22.50 each.”

The problem persisted. On the same page as the October letter praising the new street plan, an anonymous letter sounded a note of dismay. In the weeks since the conversion, its author wrote, an increasing number of vehicles had been using 2nd Street as a “speedway.” In addition, trucks had taken to using the street as a shortcut to Route 22. “There is no reason to ruin one residential section of a community just because others have been ruined,” it said.

In short, the system of one-way streets had done what 2nd Street residents predicted. It had created a racing strip in front of their homes. It would be hard to describe this result as a failure. The new system aimed to move traffic faster, and that is exactly what it did.

IN A HANDBASKET

What happened under the Ziegler administration was not unique to Harrisburg. Cities across the country transformed their roads to accommodate the growing volume of cars.

A movement towards restoring slower-moving streets would not be unique here, either. In the past decade, a number of mid-sized cities—among them Sacramento, San Jose and Lubbock, Texas, as well as Lancaster and Carlisle—have undertaken the conversion from one-way to two-way roads.

Lancaster, for example, recently secured federal funding to convert a stretch of Mulberry Street, which is currently a one-way boulevard through a residential neighborhood. Charlotte Katzenmoyer, Lancaster’s director of Public Works, told me that Lancaster, much like Harrisburg, initially created its one-way streets

to get commuters “into the work center and home after.” As in Harrisburg, the result was more traffic at a higher speed. “Our one-ways are the fastest-moving streets in the city,” Katzenmoyer told me. “We wanted to improve it for residents and businesses.”

If Harrisburg were to embrace the 2nd Street conversion, however, it would not just be following the lead of these cities. It would also be following through on its own long-term transportation plan.

“This concept is not a new concept,” Papenfuss told me, and he’s right. A number of people besides the mayoral hopefuls have been thinking about transforming local traffic for a long time.

I spoke with Bret Peters, an architect who has been coming up with designs for the Harrisburg streetscape for more than 15 years. Peters’ firm, Office for Planning and Architecture, or OPA, occupies a building just off State Street, in the shadow of the Capitol dome. He told me his “light bulb” moment came when he was in high school.

“I realized that secondary cities ought to be the places with the highest quality of life,” he said. “Big cities have amenities, but they’re tough.” He lived for a time in New York and Chicago and recalled how in a large city an errand as simple as going for groceries could be an ordeal. Harrisburg, by contrast, with its river setting and smaller scale, was well positioned “to create a very high quality of life for a lot of people.”

Peters has come up with a number of concepts for transforming Harrisburg’s traffic flow. In the mid-1990s, he developed a piece of the design for what would become the so-called Southern Gateway, which aimed to improve the way vehicles entered the downtown from I-83. His concept, which involved an extension of 3rd Street to the highway,

grew into a large-scale planned urban district and became a major project of Mayor Steve Reed’s. But the proposal also made political enemies—“It meant certain people couldn’t have surface parking lots,” Peters said—and when the economy collapsed in 2008 and Reed lost re-election, it fell apart.

Peters also became interested in a second, less ambitious streetscape project of the Reed administration: the Northern Gateway, also known as the 7th Street Corridor Widening. Like the Southern Gateway, the 7th Street project would provide an appealing exit and entry point, this time at the city’s northern end, where traffic passes over the Maclay Street Bridge.

Joe Link, the city engineer under Reed, explained that the project emerged from conversations concerning 2nd Street’s future.

“We’ve got an interstate highway running through the city,” Link said, referring to Front and 2nd streets’ combined six lanes. “The discussion at the time was that we would also like to convert 2nd Street to a two-way. We had a residential community going to hell in a handbasket. We thought, if we did this, the property values would go up.”

Peters wanted the project to go further. Like Mindlin, he envisioned a restoration of the city’s roads as connectors of urban neighborhoods. Front Street, as a parkway, would be the city’s “collective front yard,” where people could bike and walk dogs. 2nd Street would be a residential community, with a tree-lined median dividing two-way traffic and benches and fountains at the corners. And 3rd Street, absorbing some of the cars from the slowed-down 2nd, would reclaim its position as the prime commercial corridor. “The ideal would be to spread traffic throughout the city,” he said.

Peters is a professional designer, but he speaks of his concepts for planning and design with something like civil-servant piety. “Your job is to take your expert knowledge to the society around you,” he said. “I have an intellectual and personal interest in making people happy where they live—people who live in an environment they have no control over.”

He thinks about how the look of a town affects its residents’ psychology. He showed me drawings for his 2nd Street design, which included a “whole experiential sequence” of planted trees that would bloom in spring and show a variety of colors in fall. He talked about neighborhood “differentiation,” created by the placement of landmarks and trees, and how it would affect people’s “cognitive map” of their city.

“This city is so easy to fix,” he said. He blamed a mix of ignorance and political opportunism for obstructing good design. “There is a class of people who stand in the way of progress in this city,” he said. “I call them the fourth-tier politicians—people who are trying to get noticed. Everybody wants their piece.” He claimed that the involvement of numerous parties in the Southern Gateway—all wanting credit—boggled the project down and, ultimately, helped defeat it.

The Northern Gateway, however, after years of delay, was finally undertaken in the fall of 2011 and completed earlier this year under Mayor Linda Thompson. By then, it was divorced from anything resembling a comprehensive traffic plan. At the ribbon-cutting ceremony, on Jan. 8, Thompson touted the road’s re-opening as a boon to commerce in the area.

“This is a business corridor,” Thompson said. “We’re excited about the opportunities it’s going to bring for the plantation of new business development.”

But the project’s intent was not really to attract business, and the abandonment of its original purpose shows. The route remains virtually empty most hours of the day. The expanded northbound lanes can’t actually absorb traffic because they collapse into a single right turn lane over the Maclay Street Bridge. Past Maclay, 7th remains one lane wide in each direction, making it an unappealing link to Division for cars needing connection to I-81. (Expansion of the bridge, as well as an extension of 7th to Division and even a Division Street Bridge over the railroad, was part of the discussion at the time. But the costs of acquiring properties along N. 7th were prohibitive, and the planning process for the bridges and railroads would have added “10 or 15 years to the project,” according to Link.) As long as 2nd Street remains a three-lane thruway, it will continue to attract the bulk of commuters.

The 7th Street Corridor, meanwhile—a widened roadway with little traffic, no lights and no stop signs—does have at least one obvious use. A reporter proposed it at the January ribbon cutting, asking Mayor Thompson if the expanded road would become a “drag strip” for speeders.

“There you go, inciting the public,” Thompson replied, smiling. “You better not be on this drag at 2 o’clock in the morning because I’ll be there in an unmarked car, ready to ticket you for speeding.”

She almost sounded like Ziegler.

THIS IS A COMMUNITY

The work of engineers, designers and planners rests on a pair of fundamental assumptions. The first is that the way a city looks will affect how its citizens behave. The second is that, in a modern city, the scale and stakes involved are too large or complex for citizens to comprehend themselves. Experts are required.

Katzenmoyer, the public works director in Lancaster, told me that the current traffic pattern on Mulberry Street is an example of how infrastructure affects behavior. “The lights are timed for people to go 25 miles per hour,” she said. “But they’ll speed up just to get to the red light.” She also referred to the “induced traffic” phenomenon. “When you build to accommodate volume, it tends to increase both volume and speed.”

But, she added, people tend to have a poor understanding of the relationship between driver conduct and road design. When Lancaster held public meetings to discuss the conversion, several residents were opposed, because they expected the two-way street to produce congestion. “We had to explain, that’s traffic calming in itself,” Katzenmoyer said. “If it slows down, people will go seek another route.”

I thought of one 2nd Street resident I asked about whether he’d support the two-way conversion. “Hell no,” he said initially. “There’d be traffic backed up all

the way up the road.”

I explained that any conversion, if it happened, would likely mean diverting traffic to alternate routes. “In that case, yeah,” he said. “That’d be awesome. That’d be beautiful.”

On a typical workday, around five in the afternoon, cars accumulate on 2nd Street on their way out of the city. They zip past with something like the sound of running water, or of a blow-dryer strafing an open palm. They gather at the red lights, at State Street, Forster, Verbeke and Maclay, sometimes 30 or 40 cars deep, until the signal releases them to spread again over the road.

In half an hour, it’s all over. The gaps in traffic are long enough for joggers to dash through, and drivers can parallel park in relative peace. On a good day, the whole sequence will pass without gridlock, horn-honking or lengthy delays. From the perspective of commuters, the system is working smoothly.

But that, according to Mindlin, is precisely the problem.

“This is a community,” he told me. “They wouldn’t want their community taken over by people running in and out.” **B**



Two of Bret Peters’ renderings for a proposed 2nd Street conversion, showing the aerial view from the streetscape at 2nd and Muench Streets, and a drivers’ view, southbound at 2nd and Pepper Streets., respectively. (Images courtesy of Bret Peters, Office for Planning and Architecture.)



SINK OR SWIM

Flooded out, Harrisburg River Rescue dedicates itself to finding a new home.

BY JACK EILBER

Nestled in the back of a former Brenner dealership building on Paxton Street in Harrisburg, members of the Harrisburg River Rescue are at the ready, waiting for the inevitable summertime call that a boater, kayaker or swimmer is in trouble. They have called this location home for nearly two years since the 2011 floods that devastated parts of the city and outlying areas. While crew members were assisting with water rescues in the Hershey/Hummelstown area, the River Rescue itself was being flooded out of its long-time location on S. Cameron Street.

The Central Penn Business Journal, located on high ground on Paxton Street, provided the group with a temporary facility on its property. But, even after the waters subsided, members were unable to return to their former home because they didn't own the building and the landlord decided to sell the property.

Eventually, they made their way to their current location at Paxton and S. 19th streets. Members like this spot because it's not prone to flooding, but is still close to the river. However, the old Brenner site is not suited to the very specific needs of the organization, since it's designed like, well, a car dealership.

"We're looking for a place that can house fundraising and catering events and that we can move into while still on-call for rescues," said Steve Ketterer, a member of Harrisburg River Rescue for 41 years.

The group has been working with an agent to locate a new headquarters.

"We've seen several properties, but they're not conducive to us. They're either too expensive, or they're in shambles, or they are too expensive and need to have more money put in them for re-modeling," said Joe Ketterer, public information officer and a 37-year member of the group.

The Harrisburg River Rescue has 72 members, with 35 trained in water rescue. Twelve to 15 members are solely responsible for fundraising events and are constantly looking to host events, such as bingo and flea markets. Many of the events are held off-site because of the space.


"We do an annual basket bingo in October, and we're looking for a way to hold it here," said Joe Ketterer.

The group also gets help from the community.

In May, Earl David Reed, radio personality from the morning show on 105.7 the X, along with other comedians from the area, held a fundraiser comedy show for the organization at the Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center. RJ Harris, radio host on WHP 580, holds an auction on the radio during the holidays. On July 15, the River Rescue is hosting a Harrisburg Senators community night, in which the group will receive a portion of the ticket sales.

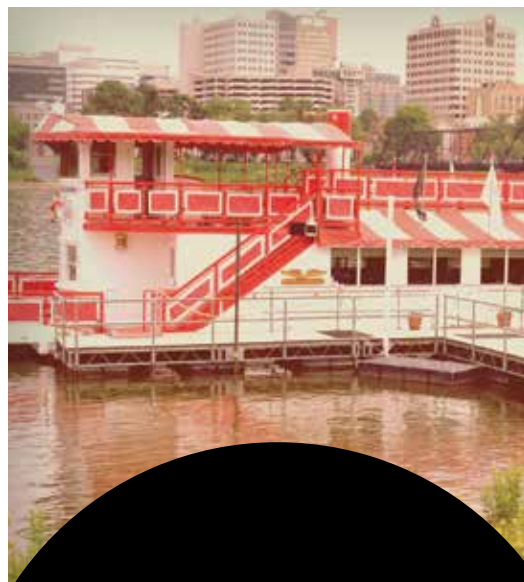
While some of the money is going to a potential new home, fundraising also helps pay for other essentials, such as insurance and equipment.

"We're not included in any kind of funding of any type, including Homeland Security funds or anything like it. We tried to get introduced in there as an add-on, but any type of water rescue or any special type of rescue is not included, unlike fire and EMS," said Joe Ketterer.

As a non-profit, any donation made to the Harrisburg River Rescue comes with tax advantages. Someone could benefit with a tax write-off if they have a vacant building or a piece of land within the city of Harrisburg that they don't plan on selling or renting, as long as the organization finds it suitable, said Ketterer. The group also encourages everyone to support them by attending one of their many fundraising events. 

If you are interested in making a donation, or want more information about the organization and its fundraising events, check out harrisburgriverrescue.org. Photos by Daniel Smyth.





SOURCE OF PRIDE

There's much to celebrate as Harrisburg's riverboat turns 25.

BY DANIEL SMYTH

Summertime in Harrisburg invites the swarming mayflies, the shudder-inducing Dobsonfly and the humid breeze. Yet, hope and bold relief can be found in the flow of our Susquehanna River and experienced on board the Pride of the Susquehanna, which this year celebrates its 25th anniversary.

"The Pride," as it's affectionately known to locals, is one of only seven authentic paddleboats in the United States and a genuine tribute to a riverboat past. "Most paddleboats are not paddleboats in the pure sense of being propelled and steered by the paddles. They usually use propellers and thrusters under the water level," explained Richard Spitler, two-year captain of Pride of the Susquehanna and a 30-year captain in his own right.

The Pride is not only authentic in function, but also in style. The old-timey, red-and-white striped canopy outlining the outer deck contrasts with the glimmering elegance of the salon within the boat. Aesthetics aside, the slow-moving and stable boat lulls its passengers into an escape from the present into the enduring river current, while all deck levels privilege guests with fantastic views of the river.

"It's an opportunity to appreciate the moment and clear my head," said one passenger aboard the 45-minute daily cruise. "It's a completely unique experience."

Led by local businessman Michael Trephan and the nonprofit Harrisburg Area Riverboat Society, construction of the boat began back in 1988 as a learning and entertainment venue for the Harrisburg community. The following quarter century has been marked by many highs, including numerous weddings, celebrations and the sheer majesty of glimpsing the city's skyline and bridges on glorious summer days.

There have been challenges, too, such as an urgent 2010 call for donations so the riverboat could pay its bills and continue operating. The Pride, in fact,

depends on a generous flow of donations, and, to mark its 25th season, will host an anniversary fundraiser in early October.

Daily cruises are the mainstay of the Pride's six-month operating schedule, which runs from early May to early November. In addition, the paddleboat hosts many special events, such as "Pirates on the Pride," a fun-filled adventure for the whole family (wherein passengers fight off marauding pirates with water guns and balloons!) to "Wine & Cheese Tastings" for the adult crowd to Thursday night's "Jazzin' on the Pride." The riverboat can be reserved for private occasions, as well.

Although an authentic tribute to the past, the Pride of the Susquehanna incorporates a friendly, modern twist. "Every year, at the conclusion of the cruise season, the Pride is taken off the waters to dock on City Island...for updates and maintenance," explained Andrew Ponti, executive director of the Harrisburg Area Riverboat Society. "This past year, we changed the hydraulic fluid that drives the paddles to a biodegradable fluid. In the event that there is a leak, it's not a pollutant—it's biodegradable."

This newly added efficiency continues the basic idea of a paddleboat as a simple, clean vessel. Using a natural, vegetable oil-based material to pump its paddles, the Pride is even more a part of the Susquehanna, not only utilizing the river as an avenue to display its beauty, but ensuring it won't pollute it.

This sustainable innovation on a classic paddleboat creates an entrenched sense of the Pride as a community and environmental project. The Susquehanna River School, which teaches all ages about the ecology of the river and its local history, even takes place aboard the boat.

"The Pride is part of the Harrisburg community and very much community-oriented," said Ponti. **B**

For more information about the Pride of the Susquehanna, visit harrisburgriverboat.com. Photos by Daniel Smyth.

PEDALING PROBLEMS

Can Harrisburg catch up to the growing urban biking culture?

BY DANIELLE ROTH

In many U.S. cities, the once-ignored, even derided, bicycle is fast becoming a legitimate, preferred form of transportation.

Traffic-choked New York just implemented a bike-sharing program, following in the footsteps of many other cities, including Washington, D.C.

In our state, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia are listed as bronze and silver communities, according to The League of American Bicyclists, the 35th and 17th top bike-friendly cities for the year of 2012, according to

Bicycling Magazine.

Can Harrisburg follow suit?

The answer seems to be a qualified “yes,” but only with a dedication to make it happen, the same commitment that much larger, more congested cities increasingly are making.

“We know that people want to ride bicycles. It’s an up-and-coming hobby,” said Dick

Norford, an avid cyclist and founding member of Bike Harrisburg, a cycling advocacy group for the Harrisburg region.

With proper signage, bicycle racks and marked cycling routes throughout the city and over the bridges, more cyclists would emerge in Harrisburg, he said.

“We are working on it,” said Ross Willard, a cycling advocate and founder of Recycle Bicycle, a non-profit that helps the in-need community repair and obtain bicycles. “Harrisburg has great potential. It’s a cycling-friendly city if you know where to ride and can avoid the bad areas.”

Something as simple as adding proper bike racks could encourage more people to swap their cars for a more environmentally friendly option. “When you ride your bike downtown, what do you do with it? There’s not enough safe places to park the bikes,” said Norford.

Willard described a scene of a couple who rode their bikes downtown to get sandwiches, and the man entered the shop. “The woman was outside protecting their bikes because there weren’t bike racks,” said Willard. “[And] if we have a bike rack, it’s the wrong design.”

For roads large enough, such as Reily Street, adding a bike lane would be as simple as painting lines and adding correct signage. With properly signed bike lanes, cars would be more alert to their two-wheeled friends and cyclists would feel more comfortable on the road.

“The more people see bicyclists, the more they do it,”

said Willard. “I ride up 2nd Street, and I keep up with traffic. By doing so, it tells people that, ‘Wow, a bicyclist is doing what we are doing.’ Gridlock means nothing to a bicyclist, generally.”

While avid cyclists like Willard will continue to lead the vanguard, obstructions remain for the more occasional commuter.

For example, our bridges and their surrounding highways may be the largest impediment to commuters wishing to bicycle to work from the West Shore. Two of the four bridges are highways, making it illegal and unsafe for cyclists to ride on them. The Harvey Taylor Bridge and the Market Street Bridge are legal for bicycles, but they lack adequate signage.

Then there are the city’s roads, which are in terrible shape. Yes, we’re blessed with a continental climate, a great riverfront and a fair amount of flat land, but Harrisburg is missing a key component to becoming a great cycling city—decent infrastructure.

Harrisburg’s roads were never designed to accommodate bikes, a situation made worse when major thoroughfares (Front, 2nd and Forster streets) were turned into urban highways in the 1950s. In addition, the roads are poorly maintained. Fading lane lines, a large number of potholes

and lots of bumps and divots make the roads more of an obstacle course than a safe medium for travel.

One ray of hope: until recently, cities now regarded as models for biking suffered from similar conditions—with terrible fiscal situations to boot.

In 1990, Pittsburgh was listed as one of the three worst cities for cycling, according to Bicycling Magazine. Government incentives for businesses and infrastructure development transformed its hilly neighborhoods, small roads and bridges into a safer, happier cycling community.

This translated into Pittsburgh’s local government creating properly signed bike routes and racks. It also worked with the business districts and the community-at-large to offer a better biking environment, while providing monetary incentives for employees to commute to work through a federal tax benefit that reimbursed cycling commuters through their employers. Lastly, the city held many bicycle-related events to educate and encourage bicyclers.

To ascertain ongoing needs, the city even employs a bike/pedestrian coordinator to oversee the development of the city from a bicyclist’s perspective, making driving conditions safer for everyone.

So, can Harrisburg follow in the (bike) path of these other cities?

Willard is optimistic.

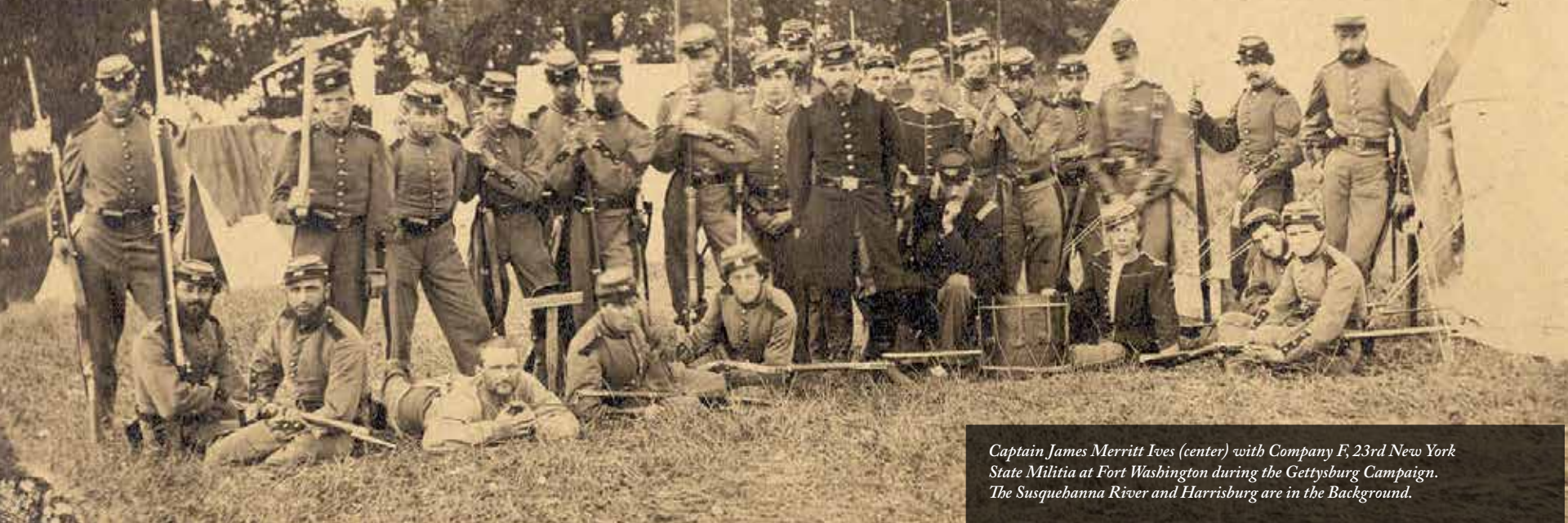
“Those employees [who cycle to work] are happier, less stressed and have less heart attacks. Peddling works off their anxiety, and they can do the extra mile through the park on their way home,” said Willard.

In addition, cycling is environmentally friendly, less harsh on our roads and creates healthier residents.

“[Cycling] makes a friendlier community,” said Willard. “It’s more social.” **B**

Danielle Roth is an intern for TheBurg, currently attending Syracuse University.

THE ATTACK THAT NEVER WAS



Captain James Merritt Ives (center) with Company F, 23rd New York State Militia at Fort Washington during the Gettysburg Campaign. The Susquehanna River and Harrisburg are in the Background.

Lee came very close to descending on his target—Harrisburg.

BY JASON WILSON

June and July of this year mark the 150th anniversary of the Confederate invasion of the North, culminating in the epic Battle of Gettysburg, which arguably stands as the turning point of the American Civil War. For this reason, it seems fitting to talk about Harrisburg's role during the war, especially its importance as a strategic focal point of the Gettysburg campaign.

Harrisburg numbered close to 15,000 permanent residents in 1863, but it was already an important transportation hub and river crossing, with three railroad and one wagon bridges spanning the river in the immediate vicinity. In addition, it was the closest Union capital city to the Mason-Dixon line.

So, it was a primary focus of Gen. Robert E. Lee's Confederate invasion of 1862, which ended at the Battle of Antietam. It again became Lee's objective in early summer of 1863. Despite the unsuccessful invasion of 1862, Harrisburg was still under-defended by the following year, especially surprising since Camp Curtin, the North's largest mustering camp for soldiers, was in the city. There

seemed to be little worry that Lee's troops could ever penetrate so far into northern territory.

When news of Lee's advance came, Gen. Darius Couch, commander of the Department of the Susquehanna, hired laborers to dig trenches and build several small forts along the western side of the Susquehanna at Lemoyne and Camp Hill in an attempt to keep the Confederates from gaining access to the bridges that led to the city.

On June 28, Union troops under Maj. Granville Haller and Col. Jacob Frick burned the bridge crossing the river downstream at Wrightsville, and, the next day, Confederate and Union troops skirmished in Camp Hill and attacked the earthen-built forts outside of Harrisburg. On June 30, a skirmish between Confederate cavalry under Gen. Albert Jenkins and Union militia at Sporting Hill became the northernmost battle of the Civil War. On the evening of June 29, Lee issued orders for all of his troops to concentrate around Cashtown in Adams County.

Gen. Richard Ewell had already formulated a plan of attack after probing the Harrisburg defenses and

most likely would have begun assaulting Harrisburg in force on June 30 or July 1. Had the city been truly assaulted by a large Confederate force, all the bridges crossing the Susquehanna, including the first Rockville bridge, Northern Central bridge, Cumberland Valley railroad bridge and Camelback bridge would have been burned and troops on the West Shore evacuated into Harrisburg.

Fortunately, Lee's orders saved the state capital from the bleak prospects of burning bridges, being shelled and possibly surrendering to overwhelming Confederate numbers. However, Lee's orders were not so favorable for the small south-central town of Gettysburg, where 150,000 men fought for three days, culminating in the most famous battle of the American Civil War. Given a few more days to plan and attack, Harrisburg's Civil War history might have been a vastly different story. **B**

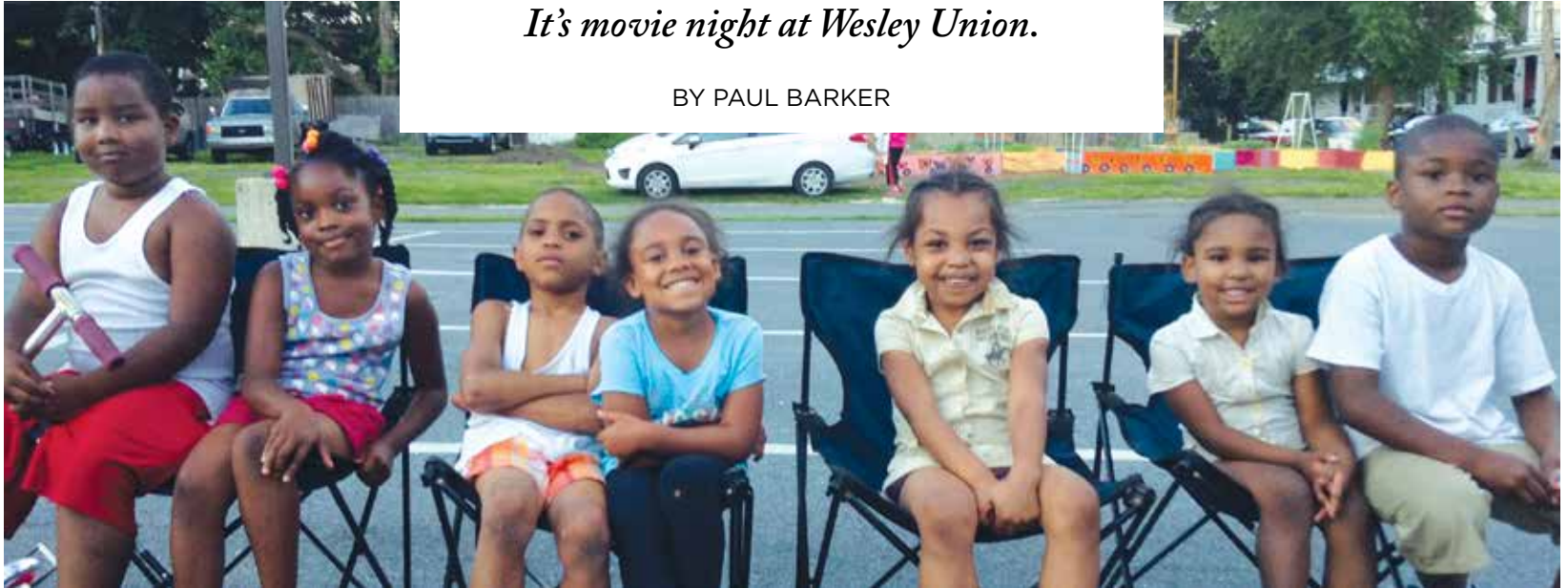
Jason Wilson is a historian for the Capitol Preservation Committee.

Photo provided by the National Civil War Museum.

PREACHER FEATURE

It's movie night at Wesley Union.

BY PAUL BARKER



“TO choose doubt as a philosophy of life is akin to choosing immobility as a means of transportation,” says Pi Patel, the syncretic narrator of Yann Martel’s novel “Life of Pi.” On a Friday night in June, in the parking lot of Wesley Union AME, a church at the corner of 5th and Camp, spectators at varying levels of doubt and faith sat still and were transported. The pastor, Willie Dixon, had bought a 12-by-17-foot inflatable Gemmy screen, which stood by the church’s east wall, its air pump blowing. It was the first night of Wesley Union’s free movie series, which will take place Fridays at sundown through Labor Day.

“We wanted to offer the neighborhood an alternative to just hanging out and waiting for something to happen,” said the Rev. Michael Stanley, who was manning the projector.

The movie—the screen adaptation of “Life of Pi,” about an Indian boy stranded by the wreck of a freighter carrying his family’s zoo—sat in the drive of a laptop, ready to play. But, first, an audience would have to gather, and the sun would have to set.

The reverends looked at the sky and looked at their watches. A family appeared at the end of an alley, toting white, plastic lawn chairs and pushing a stroller. Another caravan, all children, paraded down Camp Street on foot and on scooter, hauling collapsible chairs.

“Is it starting yet?” An adult came over and picked up a seat while two girls asked if they could help. While the man unfolded the legs, the girls grazed its canvas backing with their fingers. “I did it,” one said. “Me too!” said the other.

A man named Charles, with pale, thick arms and a stubbly beard, wearing an Iverson jersey and matching shorts, milled around doing whatever needed doing. “Pastor turned my life around,” he said. He gave a tour of the church’s new garden: five rows of plywood boxes filled with soil, sprouting cabbage, broccoli and peas.

“Guess which ones are mine?” said Pastor Dixon. Two of the boxes flourished noticeably with thicker, advanced vegetation. The pastor nodded.

More people arrived. There was a seating shortage. Someone tossed a Dora the Explorer blanket on the macadam, giggling. “Y’all can sit on this thing,” she said.

Nevin Mindlin, the mayoral candidate, arrived and shook hands with the pastor. Mindlin, who has collaborated with Dixon on various neighborhood projects over the years, was fresh from a two-week vacation in Barcelona and Provence. “These cities have public spaces, where people can gather and converse,” he said. “People want to do this. This is what Harrisburg needs.”

A crescent moon rose in the sky, but the daylight lingered. Dixon spoke into a microphone, thanking everyone for coming. He announced that next week’s movie would be “Courageous,” an independent Christian film about



fatherhood. (Later, this selection would be swapped for “Madagascar,” a DreamWorks blockbuster in which David Schwimmer plays a giraffe.) “You need to bring your own chairs,” he said. He quieted the crowd for prayer.

“We ask, Lord, that our neighbors will embrace this and that we may be a blessing to one another. Amen. And remember, bring your own chairs.”

A rendition of the gospel song, “He’s a Keeper,” took over on the standing speakers. Kids lined up at a buffet table and came away with hot dogs, Capri Suns, sodas and cookies.

A man in a brown beret brought chips to a woman and child bundled in a clamshell seat. “Look at you two. Look at you all. Can I come in there?”

The crowd in the lot swelled to more than 70, most of them children, excluding a handful of neighbors lounging on porches across the street. In a row near the front, a girl peered into a bag of trail mix, shook it and skimmed the top for M&Ms.

The sky grew darker, the moon more sharply defined. Purple clouds sailed past the steeple. Suddenly the music faded, and the fanfare sounded for Twentieth Century Fox. Then came the sound of a sitar and drum, and the screen filled with scenes of animal life in a zoo in Pondicherry. **B**

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CARVING OUT TIME

*Sometimes, the most
interesting stories are
right next door.*

BY DAN WEBSTER



Chris Hauke, proprietor of St. Nicholas Carving & Gilding, is my neighbor in an apartment complex along the 1000-block of N. Front Street, near the Harvey Taylor Bridge.

Hauke works out of a small first floor unit, and, from my parking spot in the rear of the building, I can see him in his woodshop, under a trolley of overhead lights, sanding or gilding one of his signs. Sometimes his cockatiel, Big Boy, is perching on the window. His landscaped grounds, which he dutifully designs and plants each year, seem incongruous beside the potholed alley and the shabby backs of buildings nearby. Besides the occasional exchange about books we're reading, Hauke and I rarely speak. As far as his trade is concerned, I am mostly a voyeur.

Chris is 62 years old, a lean man who sports a white mustache, his lanky arms and workman's hands almost hairless. He dresses plainly, in a blue polo and khakis. He's loquacious, has a brash, Brooklynesque accent and is prone to jump off the tracks with his stories.

When I ask him how he developed his passion for woodworking, he tells me about his grandfather.

"He was trained in tinsmithing at a Philadelphia technical school, and went on to run a bar in

Allentown. In his cavernous cellar underneath the bar, he held cabinets, chests, workbenches, vises, racks of tools," Hauke says.

"When he passed away, I was there that Sunday. The first thing I did was go down to the cellar and box all the tools I wanted." He starts to laugh. "I was very taken by the planes, the chisels, anything that looked well-used." (Hauke still uses his grandfather's patinated, wood-handled tools, which are prominently displayed in his shop.)

He follows up with backstory about his father managing the bar in Allentown after his grandfather's passing, and then: "What was the question again?"

In a way, his own query seemed rhetorical after spending three hours with him, because Chris's anecdotes are immersive and his folk aesthetic is bent toward spitting out sagas, whether discussing his extensive self-education in playing the fiddle while attaining a comprehensive appreciation for violins and their makers or his capacity to learn portrait painting. For him, exchange is not relegated to my pithy questions.

"My father was absolutely helpless when it came to home upkeep, construction. I think he might have been able to change a sink washer out."

"The crux of this thing is how strange to me life

is in the sense that my father was totally unable to instruct me in any woodlore...and my grandfather never bothered too, which is why my father never did." Grandfather William F. Hauke, however, passed on his mechanical inclination to his youngest grandson.

Hauke depended on his treasure trove of tools for years, working in many industrial trades: tree surgery, surveying, framing and steel puddling. He joined the U.S. Navy Construction Battalion for a five-year tour, learning plumbing, pipefitting and air conditioning. Despite his apparent predilection for the blue collar, he describes himself as "an academic boy."

In September of 1982, Hauke entered Penn State Harrisburg's Structural Engineering class, which he ultimately left after a frustrating bout with "calculus, Newtonian mechanics and the Fortran-based computer."

Hauke then pushed a hot dog cart downtown while taking night courses in portraiture from Leo Gilroy, an educator with the Art Association of Harrisburg, and enrolling in two carving classes with Dick Koontz, a blue ribbonist during the 1976 National Woodcarvers annual competition.

"I always had a love for letters, calligraphy, layouts, justification, distribution of weight and



stylistic nuances, and how they fit historical periods, how they evoke the feel for that [era]," Hauke said.

His epiphanic moment came during a trip to Boston Bay, where ship carving and gilded signs are ubiquitous. He made his way to Paul McCarthy's sign shop, resting on a jetty overhanging Scituate Bay.

"Large chunks flew from the biting gouges, a razor sharp knife smoothed the turn of a letter 'P,' the bandsaw buzzed on its lathe—I was infected!"

He returned and did some kitschy production work for a local purveyor, "carving bunnies, that sort of stuff." But he was eager to do original work, so he spent time at libraries studying the history of carving.

In 1986, he registered St. Nicholas Carving & Gilding. Since then, the business has been housed in multiple buildings throughout the city. One of these, the old Lawton Street Garage, caved in following the blizzard of '94, and, afterwards, Hauke relocated his shop to its present home, at 1011 N. Front St. His home business is modest, but the 12-foot ceilings are sufficiently high for the mounting of display samples, and the basement of the apartment allows for dirty work and heavy machinery. The front entryway is closed

off where a tight hallway contains his design studio: a computer with his go-to program, Adobe Illustrator, and a large format printer.

After you enter through the hallway, an immediate left takes you to a cupboard, which Chris refers to as "Buddy's Apartment." His workspace is defined by a bench under a parallel beam carrying a track of halogen spotlights. On the wall behind him hangs 80 chisels and gouges on magnetic strips and a Swedish grinder for maintaining the tools' sharp edges. Cases holding additional tools, as well as a reference library, line the wall underneath the sample pieces. Currently, an 8-foot-by-18-inch sign for Cordier Auctions lies protected under a linen cloth, set up for gilding, a process by which he lightly hammers gold leafing into the letters. He shows me the Giusto Manetti 23-carat gold leaf sheets—delicate wafers resembling sushi wrap—that arrive in containers resembling jewelry boxes.

I ask Chris to give me a quick lesson in his process. "It starts with good design," he says. Then he takes into consideration the time period, the chosen text and the intended location of the building or grounds. Sizing the piece, picking out the wood—cedar or redwood—and planing the wood completes the preliminary production work.

As for the rest of the process—Hauke wouldn't go into detail.

His pieces can be seen around the city: Sunken Gardens, Italian Lake and his favorite, St. Patrick's Cathedral Gate, a 16-foot-wide masterpiece.

"That was a work of everything—designing, sculpting, carving, carpentry, a few skilled helpers," Hauke says. It took him four months to complete. He doesn't limit himself just to the Harrisburg region; he has signs all over the east coast, leaving lasting impressions in Delaware, Myrtle Beach, Long Island and other locales.

This autodidact is a Renaissance man yet a solid realist, and, while he might have dispelled all my silly notions of woodworking, in a way, it doesn't take away from his craftsmanship and the beauty of the formal artifacts he's sprinkled around Harrisburg. **B**

St. Nicholas Carving & Gilding
Location: 1011 N. Front St., Parking Located in the rear and on Herr and Boas Streets
Website: www.stnichsigns.com
Phone: 717-234-1776
E: hauke@epix.net



FASHION FORWARD

Higashi brings style to the Midstate.

BY STEPHANIE KALINA-METZGER

Mechanicsburg resident Susan Fotos must be doing something right because the little jewelry store located at the West Shore Farmers Market is as popular as ever. Named after the Japanese word for “east,” Higashi has been providing shoppers with a variety of jewelry and accessories for 13 years now.

Fotos took a circuitous route to end up in the place she now calls home, having resided in Minneapolis, New York and eventually Tokyo, where she worked for Syracuse University in international recruitment. You could say serendipity paid her a visit while she was in Japan because she became friends with a major pearl exporter who suggested she sell pearls in Pennsylvania when he learned she was relocating.

And that’s how it all began.

Fotos started with pearls and expanded the business to include jewelry, gifts, eyewear and accessories for both men and women. The former art major, who holds a master’s degree in counseling, says her background comes in handy in running her shop.

“I have a love for art and a good eye,” she said. “Counselors help people solve problems. I help people select gifts for the ones they love.”

Business acumen, a discerning eye for the unique and unusual and a willingness to take risks have all

contributed to her success. “I approach the jewelry business differently than most,” she said, explaining that her lack of retail background kept her from being constrained. “There were no rules, so I was always ready to say, ‘let’s try it.’”

Fotos prides herself on carrying products for a wide range of budgets. She sells some of the finest gold and diamond jewelry crafted by an array of talented designers, alongside items tailored to the more budget-minded. “We offer the best gifts you can find in the \$50 price range; it’s not stuff you can just pick up at the mall,” she said.

Traveling the world to select merchandise is one of her favorite tasks as owner of Higashi, and her eyes light up as she expounds on her travel itinerary.

“I just brought back clutches from Spain and they’re fabulous, and I’m currently importing a line of jewelry from Italy. Next week, I am going to Paris for a big, international accessory and

jewelry expo, and, in September, I’m traveling to a show in London,” she said, adding that she stays on the cutting edge of what’s happening with fashion in New York as well. “I keep a little apartment there and walk around SoHo and the Upper East Side to get the scoop,” she said.

Lemoyne resident Debra Yates is a regular customer. “I’ve collected a lot of jewelry pieces throughout the years, and she always has something new and

exciting. I’m not far away, which makes it dangerous,” she said with a laugh. Yates also said she enjoys the wide range of eyewear available at Higashi.

“We have the best selection of frames in central Pennsylvania. Eyewear is the most fun product there is,” Fotos said.

Customer Suzanne Love agrees. “Her selection of eyeglasses is head and shoulders above all others in the area. Choices range from elegant to funky, to those with a European flair. The range is wonderful,” said the Camp Hill resident who also shops for jewelry there. “It’s the only jewelry store I shop in this area,” she said.

Fotos’ love of the region is obvious as she talks about her customers, small town life and her favorite charity—the YWCA, which fits in well with her passion for serving women. “We fundraise and participate in the Power of Style Fashion Show,” she said, referring to an event that raises money for domestic violence intervention.

When asked about her plans for the future, she said she is looking forward to remodeling her shop and adding to her collection of merchandise. “I will be bringing some exciting new brands to the area in the fall,” she said. **B**



Images: Tisento Jewelry, Milano. Sold at Higashi. Higashi Jewelry & Eyewear West Shore Plaza, 900 Market Street, Lemoyne 717-303-0336 <http://www.higashijewelry.com>

A RENOVATION, IN PICTURES



BY LAWRENCE BINDA



The Moffitt Mansion is undergoing a total renovation, joining the ranks of restored grand homes along Front Street.

Paul Beers, the former Patriot-News columnist, once wrote that the “Front Streeters,” as he called them, were a unique breed. Yes, the men who built mansions along the Harrisburg waterfront were wealthy, but they retained a social mission to help the city where they lived and had earned their wealth.

Dr. Robert Hopkins Moffitt is an excellent example. His Queen Anne-style mansion, clad in dressed blue limestone, certainly showed Victorian-era Harrisburg that he had arrived. At the same time, the successful dentist was deeply involved in his church and community, understanding that his fortunes were dependent upon the health and progress of Harrisburg as a whole.

Unfortunately, that communal spirit increasingly was lost, beginning with the Depression and accelerating with the post-war flight to the suburbs. One by one, Front Street’s great houses fell into disrepair, often sold by the original owners’ children and grandchildren for whatever they could get. They then were sliced, diced and carved up into offices, group homes and medical facilities.

The circa-1895 Moffitt mansion, located at 1703-05 N. Front St., is an excellent example.

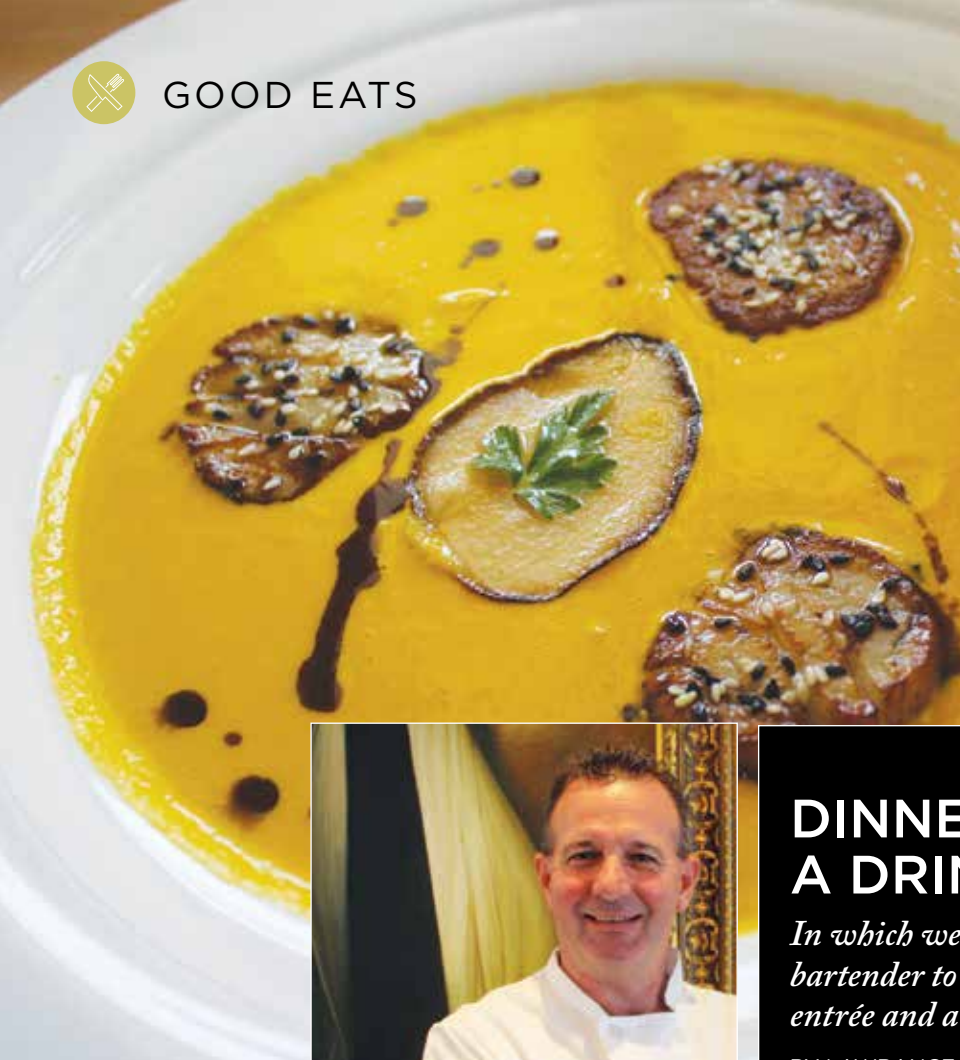
Walking past it today, the building looks like someone has sheared it in half. It appears that way because, three decades ago, a previous owner decided to tear down the stunning, two-story front porch that anchored the house, an element that gave the structure much of its magnificent street presence. However, even before then, the building had been divided into a warren of offices, including serving as the long-time home of Midtown Harrisburg’s magisterial justice office. The barred holding pen at the rear of the building, with chains attached to the floor, shows just how far this once-noble home had fallen.

Fortunately, some of the grand Front Street buildings today are being repurposed and revived. The Moffitt Mansion is the latest, purchased last month by WCI Partners LP, which plans a complete renovation. By early next year, it will become the new home of WebpageFX, a quickly growing Internet/Web design firm that is relocating from Carlisle.

We thought our readers would enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the renovation of this building. In this installment, we show the “before” shots, including the first floor magistrate’s offices. The upper floors housed a real estate company, among others.

The interior is very similar to other houses, large and small, that suffered 1950s to 1970s-era “renovations”: drop ceilings, industrial carpeting over hardwood floors, disregard for the historical nature of the property. According to design consultant Kristine Werley of Urban Interiors, the renovation will be sensitive to and will complement the house’s original architecture, while providing for the 21st-century needs of WebpageFX. Future issues of TheBurg will include “during” and “after” photo features, so readers can follow the progress of the project.

Grand Harrisburg homes that fell into abuse and disrepair are now slowly coming back, bought and restored by a new generation who share the social mission of their Victorian-era forebears. Soon, the Moffitt Mansion will join the ranks of such buildings as Char’s at Tracy Manor (a gorgeous mansion then a mental health facility and now a fabulous restaurant) and City House Bed & Breakfast (a grand home then a group house and now the city’s premier B&B). And the “Front Streeter” story continues. **B**



DINNER & A DRINK

In which we ask a chef and bartender to recommend an entrée and a drink.

BY LAWRENCE BINDA



WHERE: CHAR'S AT TRACY MANOR, 1829 N. FRONT ST., HARRISBURG

YOUR CHEF: Ron Canady

WITH CHAR'S: 11 years (including at Char Magaro's previous restaurant, Char's Bella Mundo)

PREVIOUSLY: Marriott Corp.

DESCRIPTION: Fresh ginger and carrot soup with seared sea scallops and honey pear

BASIC RECIPE:

- Prepare soup of onions, carrots, celery, apples, fresh ginger
- Season the soup and puree it
- Add seared sea scallops and honey pear
- Serve hot or cold

KEY TO THIS DISH: Use only fresh ingredients. Do not artificially thicken it.

WHY THIS DISH IS POPULAR: "It's refreshing. It's not overly heavy, and seafood-eaters love it."

YOUR BARTENDER: Salvatore Pantano

WITH BRICK CITY: 11 years (including at Char Magaro's previous restaurant, Char's Bella Mundo)

PREVIOUSLY: Nick's 1014

DESCRIPTION: Clementine martini

BASIC RECIPE:

- 3 ounces clementine vodka
- 1 ounce ginger honey
- Splash white cranberry
- Splash ginger ale
- Fresh squeezed orange

KEY TO THIS DRINK: The ginger honey. Pantano makes his own ginger honey and his own flavor-infused vodkas

WHY THIS DRINK IS POPULAR: "You don't see infused honey very much, and people like it. Also, it has a good balance of citrus with a touch of ginger, giving it a nice bite."

DINNER AT PATSY'S

Where the meal is only part of the pleasure.

BY ROSEMARY RUGGIERI BAER

The next time you walk down the grocery store aisle that houses the familiar jarred spaghetti sauces, take a closer look. Lined up next to the Ragu, Newman's Own, Emeril's, Rao and Mario Batali might be jars of various Italian sauces that bear the name of "Patsy's."

There's marinara, puttanesca, basil, fra diavolo, vodka, Amatriciana and pizzaiola, and they are relative newcomers to the shelves.

Most of you who have read this column over the years know that I value making food from scratch, especially pasta sauces. But a visit to a very famous New York City restaurant has convinced me that maybe (well, once in a while) pasta sauce from a jar may not be too bad.

Patsy's is an iconic New York restaurant located in a bustling section of West 56th Street just off Broadway. Opened in 1944 by Italian immigrants Pasquale (Patsy) and Concetta Scognamiglio, Patsy's has been a comfortable haven and source of wonderful Italian food for generations of native New Yorkers, visitors to the Big Apple, sports figures, Broadway actors and showbiz celebrities. Patsy's "Wall of Fame," located at the front of the restaurant, is a collection of photos of the many celebrities that have visited and cherished Patsy's over the years. The legendary crooner, Frank Sinatra, had his own table there and is still considered their most beloved patron.

I had the opportunity to eat at Patsy's for a second time during an April visit to New York. The thought I had when entering the restaurant again was that this is the way an Italian restaurant should be: vibrant with the sound of happy voices, waiters conversing in Italian, beautiful dishes being hoisted high on their way from kitchen to table and, best of all, the delicious aroma of sautéed garlic, tomatoes and olive oil.

We happened to be with a couple who know the current owner and head chef of Patsy's, Joe Scognamiglio. Joe is the grandson of the original Patsy who, with his brother, aunt, uncle, cousin, mother and father and, hopefully in the future, his two sons, oversees every aspect of the business. Joe is a happy and friendly man who made us feel at home right away. One can feel the love of family in this place.

It isn't often I feel I could order almost everything on a restaurant menu—but such was the case at Patsy's.


Seafood dishes abound: Chilean sea bass with eggplant and olives, striped bass with horseradish crust, prosciutto wrapped monkfish, salmon with herbs and shrimp with cognac and Dijon mustard. My husband relished his stuffed calamari, an Apulian dish that is often hard to find on restaurant menus. I had swordfish Arreganata, a sweet and succulent dish made with Sal's seasoned breadcrumbs, which really make a difference in the recipe. Sal makes his breadcrumbs from leftover Italian bread grated in a food processor. But he says you can also use packaged breadcrumbs (about 2 cups) and add the following ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese
- 1 minced garlic clove
- ¼ cup minced parsley
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- Pinch of oregano
- Salt and pepper to taste

Leftover breadcrumbs can be stored in the refrigerator for several days and can be used with chicken as well. Sal uses them on delicious baked clams that resemble clams casino. And I think they would be wonderful sprinkled on cooked vegetables like green beans or cauliflower. Whoever thought that one could get excited over breadcrumbs!

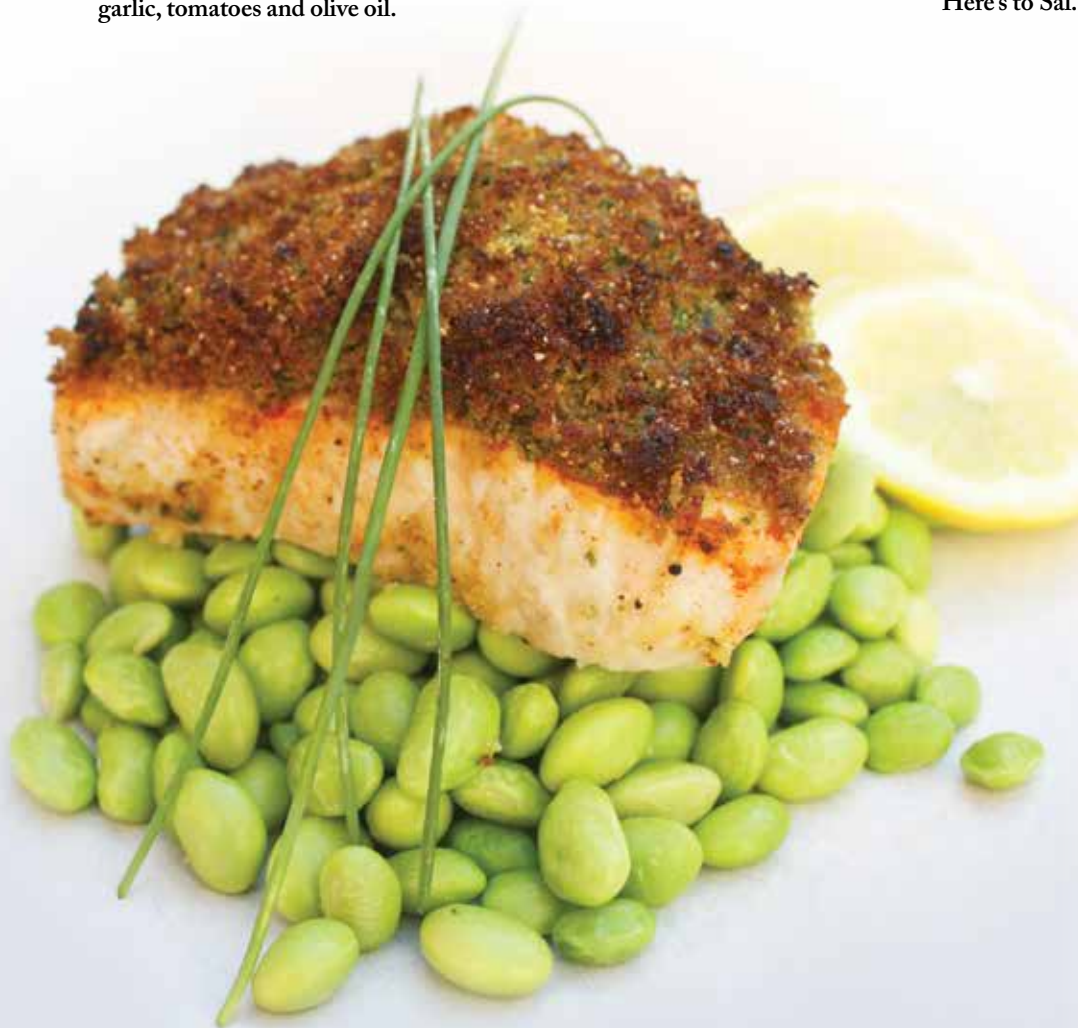
When our dinner at Patsy's was nearing its end, Sal presented each couple at the table with an autographed copy of "Patsy's Cookbook" and a jar of Patsy's sauce. I will always remember his kind smile and his wish for "happy cooking."

The real reason I am writing about Patsy's this month is not about swordfish or tomato sauce. It's to share with you again what Italian cooking means to so many: love of food, love of life, hospitality and, most importantly, sharing all of this with family and friends.

Here's to Sal. Buon appetito! 

Patsy's Swordfish Arreganata

- Pre-heat the oven to 450 degrees.
- Place 4 swordfish steaks in a shallow baking dish and season them with salt and pepper.
- Dot the steaks with 1 tablespoon of butter cut into pieces, and then sprinkle with ¼ cup fresh lemon juice and paprika.
- Add about ¼ cup water to the bottom of the baking dish and roast the fish for 15 to 17 minutes, being careful not to overcook.
- Remove the fish from the oven and turn on the broiler.
- Spread 2 tablespoons of the seasoned bread crumbs over each piece of fish and drizzle with olive oil.
- Broil for 2 or 3 minutes until the crumbs are lightly browned.
- Serve the fish with asparagus or broccoli or a fresh tomato salad and a crisp, cold Pinot Grigio.



TO MARKET

**THIS SUMMER, YOU CAN SUPPORT THE
GROWING LOCAL FOOD MOVEMENT BY VISITING
HARRISBURG-AREA FARMERS' MARKETS.**

BY MISSY SMITH

With the sun shining and an abundance of food growing, we are in the heart of farmers market season in Harrisburg. Over the next few months, you'll have many opportunities to get outside in the sun instead of shopping under fluorescent bulbs. You can skip the impersonal, humdrum grocery store aisles and get to know your local farmers and producers, who grow and make wholesome, delicious foods for sale in beautiful and historic market locations. You can trade in the bulky shopping cart and wasteful plastic grocery bags for a sustainable, trendy cloth market bag.

In central Pennsylvania, there's a great collection of seasonal markets to choose from that offer a little something for everyone. Most of these markets showcase producer-only vendors, who grow or make the majority or all of what they sell. Here they are, your tickets to local, organic and sustainable food; rich community and shopping experiences; and pleasant summertime outings. For you fresh food seekers and enthusiasts out there, check out each of these locations at least once to get the full Harrisburg-area farmers market experience.





PA FARMERS OPEN AIR MARKET

Pennsylvania Farm Show Building Parking Lot • N. Cameron Street, Harrisburg • Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Probably Harrisburg's easiest farmers market to get to, the PA Farmers Open Air Market is conveniently located in the parking lot of the Farm Show Complex. In its 37th year, this market welcomes vendors that travel from many areas throughout Pennsylvania.

"Anyone statewide is welcome to join our market," says Dick Habig, market manager. "And the vendors are expected to grow about 75 percent of what they bring."

Stroll around this farmers' market to find a variety of produce, herbs, condiments, wine, hummus, guacamole, salsa, bread, prepared foods and baked goods. Probably most impressive is the market's large selection of flowers and plants. You can take home hanging flower baskets, some annuals and perennials to plant in your garden or berry plants to enjoy homegrown fruit in your yard.

Keep in mind this market is arranged on blacktop with minimal shade. Be sure to dress cool and bring water to help beat the summer heat.



CAPITAL FARMERS MARKET

Soldiers' Grove, Harrisburg (across from the Capitol building) • Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A relatively new market in Harrisburg, the Capital Farmers Market was organized to meet the healthy, local lunchtime needs of city employees. While the idea to hold a farmers market in Soldiers' Grove has been in the works for a few years, the market officially got underway last summer with the go-ahead from the city of Harrisburg. Situated across from the fountain at the Capitol building, the market offers fresh fruits, vegetables, bread and handcrafted items.

"We wanted to give the employees in the city of Harrisburg a chance to get

fresh, local items that are actually produced in Pennsylvania," says Jan Rullo, market manager.

While the market currently has a small number of vendors, Rullo says, "We are working toward being something bigger and better."

She encourages local farmers and food producers who are interested in satisfying Harrisburg's local food cravings to get in touch with her. "Like" Capital Farmers' Market on Facebook for more information.




FARMERS ON THE SQUARE

Northwest corner of High and Hanover Streets, Carlisle • Wednesdays, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. • farmersonthesquare.com

Carlisle's farmer-run market serves up a variety of fresh, often organic, produce and handmade food items, in the town's historic downtown square, which was home to a variety of markets from 1751 to 1952. Tucked throughout the walkway of the First Presbyterian Church, Farmers on the Square is an ideal backdrop for a farmers market, which preserves a longstanding local foods tradition. All of the vendors at Farmers on the Square live and work within a 50-mile radius of the producer-only market, offering only items grown or made from scratch, says Ann Light, market manager.

According to Light, all of the Farmers on the Square vendors are major draws for market-goers. "It's kind of amazing, if one vendor is missing one week, people ask about them. They are like, 'Where is the honey lady?'" says Light.



Not only can you pretty much cross off all of the basic staples on your grocery list at this market—veggies, herbs, fruits, eggs, meat, milk, cheese, bread—but you can also find hummus, guacamole, juice, tomato sauce, canned vegetables, baked goods, ice cream and more.

Farmers on the Square also hosts cooking demonstrations, so adults and children can learn how to prepare a meal with produce at the peak of the season. Kids have their chance to get hands-on too during children's cooking classes. Dickinson College Farm hosts a composting demonstration and a do-it-yourself project, where you can learn how to sew your old t-shirt into a market bag. Also, be sure to look for Healing Touch Massage throughout the summer for an added treat at this market.



FARMERS MARKET IN HERSHEY

1215 Research Blvd., Hummelstown • Thursdays, 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. • Summer concert series: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. • farmersmarketinhershey.com

This health-centric farmers market was organized three years ago by neighboring Penn State College of Medicine to create healthy food, wellness and community experiences for students and employees, as well as people from neighboring towns.

"Our goal is to be a community-focused market," says Michelle Wohlfarth, market manager. "We want to get people to our market to appreciate wellness and to support our local vendors."

With a beautiful lawn venue in front of the Cocoa Beanery cafe, where Milton Hershey's cows once enjoyed pastured meals, the Farmers Market in Hershey is charming and deliciously eclectic. The producers-only market offers fresh-grown, organic vegetables, honey, wine, hot sauces, and, sometimes, even opportunities to

adopt a pet through the Humane Society, which will be at the market on Sept 12.

Wohlfarth encourages people to attend the farmers' market to support the local economy and greater Harrisburg communities. "As people support the local economy, it will make us more community-minded," she explains. "Supporting your local farmer at a farmers market brings back a sense of community that I think we lost."

This market also offers healthy living workshops that sometimes include free healthcare screenings or instructional workshops on gardening—added bonuses of shopping locally. Stick around after the market each week for live music as part of the summer concert series.



FARMERS ON WALNUT

2145 Walnut St., Camp Hill • Thursdays, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. • farmersonwalnut.org

Arranged in the Camp Hill Borough Building's parking lot, Farmers on Walnut is a producers-only farmers market operated by participating farmers and volunteer staff. This market showcases a large, beautiful selection of locally grown produce and greens, as well as meat, charcuterie and dairy, all grown, raised and produced within 50 miles from the market.

"I think the quality of the food that you get locally far surpasses what you can get at the grocery store," says Monica Rhodes, market manager. "There exists out there beyond the grocery store world a huge variety of heirloom vegetables and

fruit that are, in my opinion, far superior to what you buy at grocery stores. [All of the produce] here is picked when it is ripe. And the meat and dairy farmers go to great lengths not to use GMO (genetically modified organism) feeds."

You will also find delicious breads and fruits at this market. Be sure to check out Farmers on Walnut's Facebook page to see what days you can purchase flour, cornmeal, rolled oats, baked goods, vinegar, canned goods, soups, maple syrup, honey and shagbark hickory and to get information about its upcoming special events, like a salsa-making demonstration and backyard tomato tasting.



SUMMER MARKET DAYS

Many people find a trip to the local farmers market to be an enjoyable outing in itself. There are, however, ways to make it an even richer experience.

MAKE IT A DATE

Fresh food, vibrant flowers, sweet treats, music and community all make farmers markets a great place to go on a not-so-typical date.

Stop in at Farmers on Walnut for some snacks and flowers for your love. You won't want to miss Roots Cut Flower Farm to pick up gorgeous, vivid floral arrangements. Then, stay in Camp Hill for the evening to enjoy dinner. Be sure to check out Fraîche, a farm-to-table restaurant just in front of the market, whose chefs often stop by for some fresh, local food for their mouth-watering recipes.

Plan a date at Hershey Market where you can sip Cocoa Beanery's coffee while perusing the wide array of market vendors or people watch from the coffee shop's porch. Then, stick around to enjoy live music on the lawn during the summer concert series. Bring a cooler with you to keep your market purchases fresh after you shop and be sure to pack chairs or blankets.

For the foodie-loving couple, hang out at Farmers on the Square to catch cooking demonstrations, after which you can often sample what was prepared. As a couple, learn how to cook up that bok choy you are intrigued by, but may be a little intimidated, to purchase.

Look for Mountainside Supper Club at Farmers on the Square and Farmers on Walnut, where you can order artisan, farm-to-table meals for a bite to eat with your casual market stroll, without having to worry about planning dinner later. Be sure to try executive chef Steve Dunlap's variety of chilled soups this summer.

BRING THE KIDS

Farmers markets aren't just fun for adults. The festival-feel of markets provides a perfect atmosphere for kids. All of these markets have plenty of activities and treats that will delight your little ones, while you shop to stock your kitchen.

Be on the lookout for some homemade baked goods and ice cream. A must-try for the kiddos, and ahem, the big kids, is Sunset Valley Farm's vanilla ice cream. This Ickesburg (Perry County) farm handcrafts its decadent treats with raw milk and does not use any artificial ingredients or preservatives. Grab a scoop at Farmers on the Square and Farmers on Walnut.

Your little ones can have their faces painted at several of the markets, including Farmers on the Square, Farmers on Walnut and the Farmers Market in Hershey.

At Farmers on the Square, children can enjoy cooking demonstrations and hands-on classes, as well as kids' activities presented by the Carlisle Arts Learning Center.

Save the date of July 11, when the Farmers Market in Hershey will host a smoothie sampling, Hershey Library story time and a concert featuring Mr. Music for kids.

Be sure to check out each market's website or Facebook page for more kids' activities.

EAT WHILE YOU SHOP

Many vendors offer treats that you can enjoy while perusing each market. Grab a cold drink or cookie at Cool Beans CSA—which also offers micro-greens, eggs, salad greens and vegetable and herb plants for purchase—at Farmers in the Square. Pick up a fresh, crisp treat from Three Springs Fruit Farm, which brings crate-loads of beautiful apples to Farmers on the Square and Farmers on Walnut.

Quite a few of the vendors also offer taste tests of their market treats. One of them is FreshaPeel Hummus!, which makes from-scratch guacamole and hummus in delicious varieties like lemon kale, jalapeno lime and summer pumpkin. Check them out at the PA Farmers Open Air Market, Farmers on the Square and the Farmers Market in Hershey. Be sure to swing by Lark Rise Farm at Farmers on the Square and Farmers on Walnut to sample artisan breads like onion rye and spinach basil pesto ciabatta. Also check out Perry County Land and Cattle's breads at the PA Farmers Open Air Market, Farmers on the Square and Farmers on Walnut. At these markets, you can sample delightful varieties like kalamata olive, pumpnickel raisin and fig anise.

Keep your eyes peeled at each market for additional goodies that you can sample.

GET CONNECTED

A great way to stay up-to-date on what each farmers' market has to offer every week is to "like" them on Facebook or follow them on Twitter. Special events and vendor information can change just a few days ahead of time. And many of the vendors are not at market every week and instead come every other week or once a month.

Getting connected online also allows market-goers to connect with the farmers and producers themselves to get to know them further and to learn more about their farming practices and handmade techniques. Farmers markets and their respective social networks are great venues to network with like-minded local foodies. **B**

ADVOCACY & APPLE PIE

At Linda's Pies, you'll find outstanding food, topped with a dose of activism.

BY JOHN MESSEDER

Linda Hamilton has two principal aims that, at first blush, may seem an odd match.

First, she wants to make the Harrisburg area's finest apple pies. Secondly, she wants to make the world a better, more socially aware place.

To Hamilton, these goals fit together perfectly.

"I think of myself as a socially-active capitalist," she said, while making her signature apple pies in Linda's Pie Shop, a bakery and café she opened a few months back in downtown New Cumberland. "I feel really passionate about our food situation in the world right now. To me, it's time to take some action."

On any day, you'll find Hamilton's beliefs baked right into her business.

All the meat and produce is organically grown on farms in Perry and Adams counties. On the walls, local art is featured, and the pie shop quickly has become a meeting place for politically and socially active groups.

For breakfast on one recent morning, her devoted customers savored a broccoli and cheddar soufflé made with raw milk and eggs from free-range hens.

For lunch, there was chicken salad, chicken pot pie and slow roasted pork. The soup of the day was a thick and tasty ginger carrot, made, more or less, from Hamilton's grandmother's recipe.

Then there are the pastries.

A large case displays "Big Brownies" roughly the size of a grown man's hand and at least as thick, cinnamon popovers and chocolate pecan and caramel apple pies.

"People gravitate toward that apple pie," said head chef Ben Mason, adding, "We bake everything fresh each day."

Said Hamilton: "I wanted to have a place where real food was available, but it's not all sprouts and wheat grass."

LIFE OF ACTIVISM

Hamilton lived her early years with her missionary parents in Hong Kong. When she was 13, the family returned to the United States, first to California and later to New Jersey and south-central Pennsylvania.

In 1984, she married a medical supplies sales representative and became disillusioned by what she termed "the corruption and exploitation of disenfranchised people by large corporations," becoming a social activist.

She founded a nonprofit organization called Birth Without Boundaries and lived awhile in Costa Rica, advocating for young, especially single, mothers in matters including natural childbirth and breastfeeding, helping them "take power back in their own birth experience rather than forfeit it to expensive doctors and hospitals."

One day, a friend, who was also an environmental advocate, pointed out Hamilton's life history—which included owning a baked goods stand in the West Shore Farmers Market, selling homemade desserts to support her children. She then decided to turn her cooking prowess into a restaurant. For start-up money, she opted for crowd-sourcing, seeking 15 people who would contribute \$1,000 each, with a promise of repayment within a year.

Linda's Pie Shop opened March 9. Her goal, she said, is to provide nutritious, great-tasting food to her customers and pay a living wage to her employees.

The minimum wage at Linda's Pie Shop is \$10 an

hour, and, if there is no family member willing or able to care for pre-school children, Hamilton helps find—and pay for—daycare so the mother can work.

"Subsidized child care in Cumberland County has a two-year wait," she noted. "A woman with a pre-school child and low skills and education has no options—none."

GATHER & TALK

The restaurant features widely spaced tables, a bookcase and several armchairs. In the front window is a stage for performances by local musicians, including, for instance, a talent show and an open jam with guitar player John Catalano of Camp Hill.

The walls are decorated with paintings by New Cumberland artist Brian Campbell. Hamilton said she plans to showcase a different area artist every two months. The venue also is available for meetings of area groups.

"Important elements in society need to be addressed, but it's hard to find a place to gather and talk about issues," Hamilton said.

In May, Harrisburg-area cities participated in a national march opposing genetically engineered crops retired to the pie shop to "discuss the issue and have some real food that wasn't GMO (genetically modified organism)," she said.

Of course, non-activists also eat there.

"We work in Harrisburg and came here for lunch," said Steve Goldstein, a state employee enjoying a chicken pot pie one recent day.

"This is what brought us here," said Goldstein's co-worker, Clint Johnson, speaking of the organic, free range chicken and produce.

"That's all I talk about is organic food," Johnson said.

Great, natural foods, stirred in with activism—it's a recipe that seems to be working.

"So far, we're looking good," Hamilton said. **E**

Pictured: Linda Hamilton and her famous apple pie.



LINDA'S PIE SHOP

316 Bridge St., New Cumberland
Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; closed Sunday and Monday.

Phone: 717-836-7397

www.lindas-pie-shop.com





TOWARDS RECOVERY

Q&A WITH GENE VENO & SYBIL KNIGHT-BURNEY

Last month, Harrisburg School District Chief Recovery Officer Gene Veno and Superintendent Sybil Knight-Burney stopped by TheBurg offices to talk about the recently passed school recovery plan, designed to lead the district to financial stability and improve academic performance. We share most of this extensive interview on these pages.

THEBURG: The recovery plan is designed so the district can achieve a budget surplus by 2017. That seems like quite a monumental task. Can you take us through how you hope to achieve that?

VENO: First, I'd like to thank you for having us here today. Anytime we can get out positive information about the school district, we're very appreciative.

The plan is designed on a forecasted five-year model. The idea, when we came into the district, was first to see where we were financially. That was not known prior to coming in. We found out there was a deficit in the current general budget of which the superintendent had known previously, but we didn't know the depths of how much. We started to drill down on what could we do without making cuts, what could we do without closing schools, what could we do without furloughing educators or eliminating any programs.

I've been saying this now in the community, and it seems to be really a catchphrase: this is really "Recovery 2." "Recovery 1" was the board previously working on doing some of the harder decision-making as far as closing five schools; they had to furlough a number of employees; they cut \$22 million in their operating budget. So, I call the recovery plan the Phase 2 process, which will give the board and the superintendent the opportunity to get through to the next stage of recovery.

Now, that being said: how do we get from where we were to a balanced budget in the 2017-18 school year? Well, there are very specific initiatives within the plan. If you've reviewed the 128 pages, there are guidelines that have to be followed, not necessarily just financially, but academically.

Financially, there are ways that we have now to manage our budget, and one of the areas that we have to look at is that we will see a dollar amount of \$14 million. That will be from \$6 million to \$14 million in this budget year to next budget year of money going to charter cyber schools. We looked at 672 students at \$15,000 approximately a student. That is money that we would like to see stay within the district. So, one of the initiatives to achieve that goal is to, hopefully within the next month, retain a cyber director who will oversee the cyber Cougar Academy, which we currently have, which is only 9-12. We'd like to expand it to K-12. It would be a blended model, where students will be both on site and at home. That's one area.

The other area is looking at where we can bring in additional revenue. As I said, there were five shuttered buildings. One of them, we're going to try to keep for the school administration building, that being Lincoln. The board had previously looked at the admin building cost and targeted about \$40,000 a month. So, there's about half-a-million there that will go away in the 2013, '14, '15 years. So, by 2017, we won't be spending that half-a-million. So, if you add up there, we're almost at a point of eradicating the current deficit that we see for next year, which would have been \$14 million, if we didn't do something, which we did.

Finally, there are many other aspects of the recovery, such as sale of buildings, which would come into the general fund, increasing student population (we average about \$14,000 per student cost). So, we're looking, as every student brings in revenue, our goal is to immediately to start to keep our 6,340 students and increase it. We want to see the population change, and that's the challenge in the urban district.

THEBURG: The additional funding that comes in per student, does that essentially come in from state aid?

VENO: State aid, yes. But the point being: you don't get it unless you have the students. So, it's the average daily measure—the ADM as they call it. We want to stem the egress of students outside the district. We want to keep students in the district and increase the student enrollment in the district. And that's one way of increasing the value revenue of the school.



VENO

THEBURG: Do you plan to do that mostly through the Cougar Academy?

VENO: That's only one stage of that. We'll have three academies, which I want Doctor (Knight-Burney) to speak on. It's her vision to create special academies for children of [grades] 5, 6, 7 and 8, which we believe will inspire many parents to keep their children in our schools not only through 5, 6, 7 and 8, but on through graduation.

THEBURG: Getting back to this revenue question—if you have greater enrollment, you will get more money in from the state, plus you hope to get more students from the cyber charter school, correct?

VENO: If you take the number I gave, times the number we're looking at, we're looking at almost \$10 million we'd like to stay in the district. So, right there, if we had \$10 million this year, we'd have beyond a surplus, and we wouldn't be looking at a 5 percent budget and 5 percent wage cut.

KNIGHT-BURNEY: And provide options in our district so that families who are looking at other options can consider us.

VENO: So that was one area that we noted immediately in our discussions—that we needed to do something about the egress of students. When we got down to it, we said, "672 students times 15,000." Right there, that was one area that we targeted. 672 are in a cyber school right now in the school district. Statewide, there are currently 103,000 students in a cyber charter school. That is their choice. We commend any parent who wants to do that. That is not for us to make that determination, but we have an obligation under the school code to pay that fee. We looked at it as, "Why are they going there?" And we are going to come out and do an aggressive marketing campaign to educate the community, the citizenry and the parents of these children that we do have a good product. We need to have a quality product, and one of the areas is through our academy. So, we're going to do that.

KNIGHT-BURNEY: This whole charter and cyber charter is something many districts are facing. Some districts have even higher charter costs than we have.

VENO: We don't have a large number of charter buildings in brick and mortar. Ours is in cyber. So, that's what we focus on, and we'll do the best to compete. Again, what parents decide is their choice, but we're going to try to give them a good choice in the Harrisburg City School District.

THEBURG: The accumulated deficit in the district is almost half-a-billion dollars. For a community this size, that number seems daunting. Do you really think that kind of debt can ever really be retired?

VENO: Yes. The number is \$437 million. At one of the meetings, I asked our financial team, "What is our total outstanding debt? And if we were to pay it down over a period of time, what is that period of time?" Our total debt load right now is

about \$265 million. But I asked a question, “Well, when would it be paid?” And, if you look at it and amortize it over 25 years, it comes to the \$437 million. And I put that number out there because that was kind of the benchmark for where we have to stop on our debt and have to reduce that.

I also looked at other districts, and we’re running about 12.5 percentage of debt to budget. And I’m looking at most universities and most other high schools and districts, and they’re running about pretty much from 9 to 12 percent, as well. Now, the thing I feel good about, in this respect, finding this, is that the money was not wasted. It was spent on refurbishing and reforming all of these schools—actual structural buildings. So, we have good schools. So, that part is done.

We have now set the stage for the next five years. That (debt payment) will grow another \$6 million this year, from \$14 million to \$20 million, and then flatten out for five years. So, once I saw those numbers trending, I felt more comfortable knowing that I know what my fixed is for the next five years. And that’s predicated in the five-year plan, as well. That being said: \$20 million a year is a lot of money. Our goal is to try to trend that down. How do we do that?

We’d like to place three of our buildings into the marketing of the KOZ (Keystone Opportunity Zone): Hamilton, William Penn and Shimmel. We already had some interest in William Penn through the State Museum Archive Society. We had a few medical facilities taking a look at it. But our biggest challenge the last month was looking at the property at 1901 Wayne Ave., which is not in the city. It’s in Susquehanna Township—42 acres. We would not receive all of that money because that money would have to be in context with the state because they’re the ones that gave it to the city school district to build a public education facility. If it should move forward, we would generate a net, at this point, of almost \$1.8 million, which would have to go back to the state. Then the state would have to determine how much we would receive.

So, we’ll put these other buildings into the same kind of a process. We’re not going to sell them immediately, but we’ll do our best to market them so they become a viable source of revenue not just for the district but for the city.

Hamilton, for example: we had one interested party coming to rent it. I saw him, and it’s just not going to work out. We don’t want to be in the lease business; we want to sell it. We had another developer taking a look at it to make it into an apartment complex. We don’t base a dollar value on this. Any of that dollar that comes in will go right into the general fund.

THEBURG: You received significant interest in William Penn? Any potential action?

VENO: We gave some tours of the building. Again, we haven’t marketed any of the buildings. The property needs to be rezoned, and we met with City Council and the mayor and that will take place. I just think it’s a beautiful facility of 25-plus acres that could be turned into just about anything. I’d like to see it tax-driven too. So it would be a revenue-producer for the city, as well as the school district.

THEBURG: How is the search for the proposed CFO (chief financial officer) going?

VENO: We just finalized the job description. It’ll be posted on our website in the next day or two. We’ve been in deep negotiations with the labor unions. On May 17, the plan was approved. Once it was approved, one item on my list was to get to the bargaining table with all the labor unions, and we did, and they’re completed. We will have hopefully this checked off our list very soon for two bargaining units (AFSCME and HEA) and the meeting group, which is for administrators. I was looking for a sign-off by all three groups. HEA signed off on it. They agreed to the 5 percent wage and benefit [cut]. All administrators and principals have signed off on it. And AFSCME—the non-certification employees—will sign off on it hopefully. If they do not sign off on it, we do not go into receivership, but we will go into furloughing employees. We do not want to see that happen. [Ed. Note: Days after the interview, AFSCME negotiators rejected the district’s offer, but then reversed and accepted it.]

KNIGHT-BURNEY: Over the years, after closing five buildings, after furloughing over 300-some-odd people, we were out of ideas. Every year, we were able at the minute to balance the budget. But the point has come that we can’t close any more buildings. We’d have kids sitting on top of each other. We won’t have teachers to teach them. We’d have 40 to 50 kids in a classroom. In an urban school district, where we have kids with so many needs, that’s crazy. We already are looking at downsizing more with our psychologists and our counselors and, in an urban school district, they are vital to the academic environment. So we will do everything we can to hold our district together and to make it the high-performing, high-achieving district that it once was. I know we can do that.

VENO: We will make this turnaround. This is not in a receivership mode. It is an actual recovery plan . . . this a five-year forecasted model. This will be the key to the recovery of the district. We will stick to it. In the out years, the revenues increase, the costs go down, no tax increases in the fourth or fifth year, plus increases back to the teachers, employees, non-certification. And, if we can get there sooner, we will. One thing I keep saying: this is a five-year plan, but we really have three years. We can’t miss a mark in the next 36 months.

THEBURG: Have you gotten a lot of pushback from the teachers?

Veno: Yes, and they should. I don’t feel this is a win to ask anybody to accept any reduction in salary or benefits. They’ve been asked to take a lot of hits in the past three years. They have been invested in this district to stay and teach at wage freezes. They have not had a signed wage agreement in two years. They have not received a cost-of-living. They have not received a step increase. I’m very saddened this has to be the case for the next two years [5 percent salary cuts] and a freeze in the third year, but, if you work with us and you continue to stay with us, we’re going to try to resolve this quickly before the third year.

KNIGHT-BURNEY: It beats the alternative, and the alternative is that we don’t have a district. We don’t have any place for our kids.

VENO: I’m trying to save the district. We all need to save the district. I would not go for charterization of the district. That’s one thing I said: I’d like to keep a traditional program. I’d like to keep the Cougar pride. But more importantly, I didn’t want to see anyone furloughed. We did not furlough an educator. I did not want to see us closing schools. I did not want to see tax increases at 10 percent. And the only way we can get to that was to get to some of the tougher decisions on wage cuts and benefit cuts.

KNIGHT-BURNEY: One of the good things about having an outsider come in, they also bring in resources, and we’ve had a good relationship with the Department of Education, but it’s even better now. One of the things Gene was able to do was to bring in some experts to look and assess what we’re doing. One of the things we had started doing is building that academic piece, which is important because, if the academics don’t approve, we’re not going to have a district. It doesn’t matter what the finances are. If you’re failing, you can’t justify pouring any more money into it. So we’ve been able to be a part of pilot programs on teacher effectiveness, principal effectiveness. Gene has been able to go in and negotiate classes for our principals.

The only thing that’s going to make a difference is the instruction in the classroom: what the teachers are teaching and how the kids are learning and how they perform. **B**



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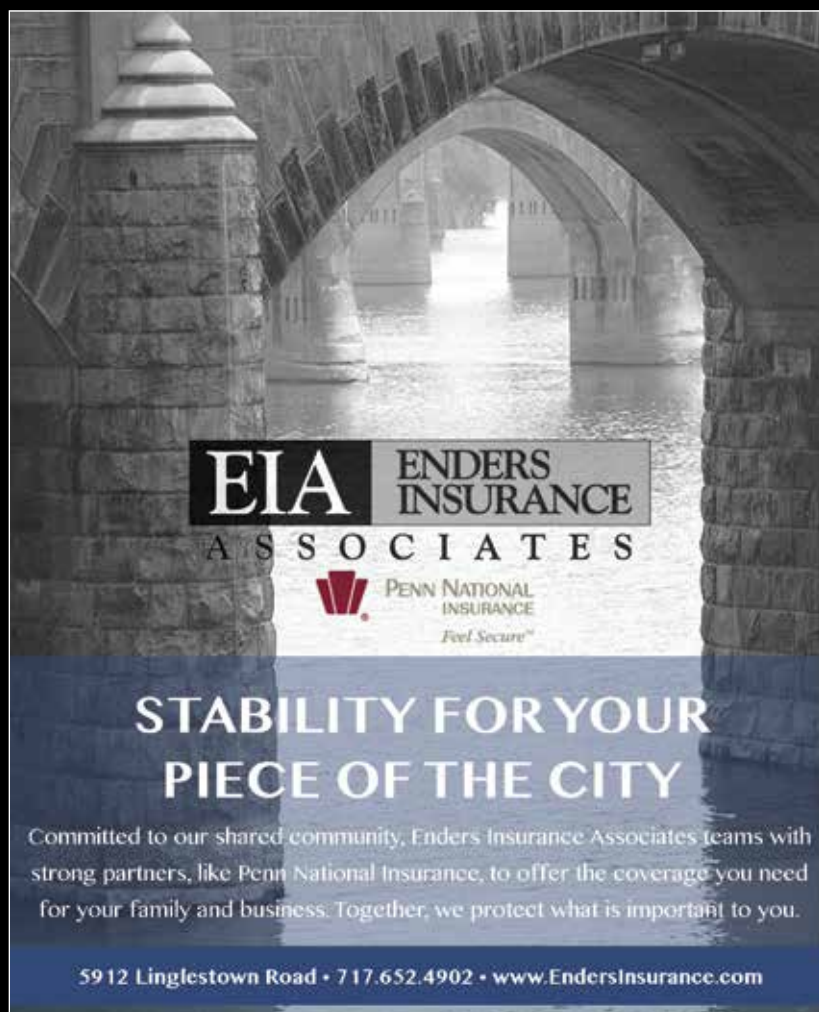
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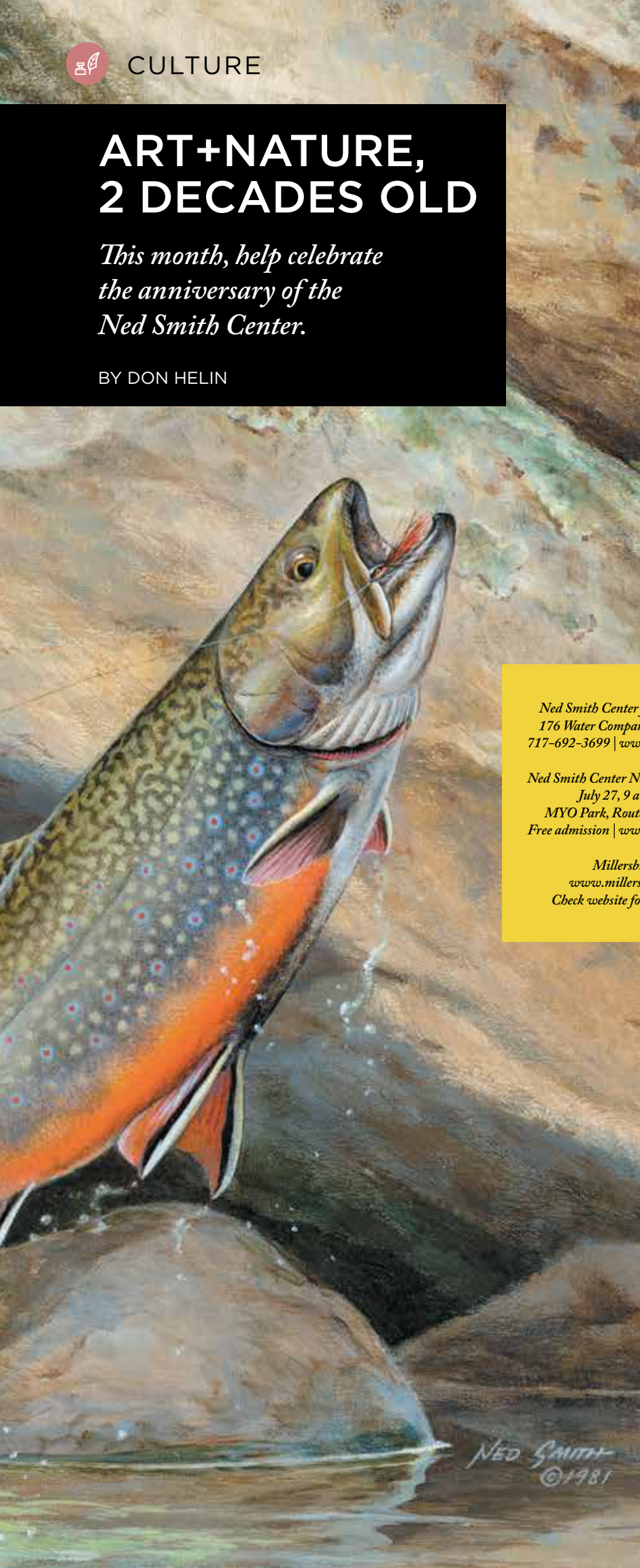
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ART+NATURE, 2 DECADES OLD

*This month, help celebrate
the anniversary of the
Ned Smith Center.*

BY DON HELIN



*Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art
176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg
717-692-3699 | www.nedsmithcenter.org*

*Ned Smith Center Nature & Arts Festival
July 27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
MYO Park, Route 147, Millersburg
Free admission | www.nedsmithcenter.org*

*Millersburg Ferry
www.millersburgferry.org
Check website for rates and hours.*

An artist, naturalist, educator who wrote the column “Gone for the Day” for the Pennsylvania Game Commission? If you answered Jeopardy-style, “Who is Ned Smith,” you’d be correct. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Ned Smith Center, founded in 1993 to celebrate the life and the legacy of nationally recognized wildlife artist, naturalist and writer, Ned Smith.

“Ned Smith created thousands of drawings and paintings of wildlife based on his long hours exploring and chronicling what he saw in the rivers and creeks and along the back roads and trails of Pennsylvania,” Steve Quigley, the Center’s executive director, explained.

“These adventures led to a storied relationship with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, where Ned served as staff illustrator. His art appeared on more than 120 issues of Pennsylvania Game News magazine, and his column, “Gone for the Day,” became one of the magazine’s most beloved features, and has morphed into a popular book of the same name.”

The Center, the ultimate homage to Smith, is 30 minutes north from the clatter of Harrisburg, but seemingly a world apart, offering a tranquil outdoor experience on more than 500 acres of rustic beauty. With 12 miles of trails and stunning views of the river from the mountaintop, the land is home to the variety of wildlife Ned Smith immortalized—namely, deer, bear, wild turkey, grouse, fox.

To celebrate the anniversary and the legacy of Smith, the Ned Smith Center Nature and Arts Festival will be held on July 27 at MYO Park in Millersburg. It will boast 70-plus programs covering a huge range of topics and an extensive lineup of arts, crafts and food vendors. Best of all, this family-oriented event is free to the public. I asked John D. Laskowski, also known as “The Mothman,” about this year’s highlights.

“Music this year will be provided by Lonesome Meadow, an award-winning bluegrass band out of Ohio,” Laskowski said. “And we’ll feature programs on owls, honeybees, butterflies, native plants, natural history and some great dog programs, including the nationally recognized disc dogs, the Summit Search and Rescue bloodhounds and the Susquehanna Service Dogs.”

Rita Gahres, a long-time volunteer, coordinates the youth activities at the festival. “The Youth Pavilion will be in full swing,” Gahres said. “We’ll have fish print T-shirts, face painting and a visit from Smokey Bear. Also, families can walk among live butterflies fluttering about in an incredible exhibit from Folk’s Family Farm out of Luzerne County.”

But when it comes to family-friendly activities, the Youth Pavilion is really just the beginning. “Almost all of the programs and activities are great for all ages,” Gahres continued, “giving everyone something to discover. For

example, the main stage will feature a kids-friendly presentation by one of the community’s favorites, ZooAmerica.”

During the festival, a free shuttle will be available to transport attendees between the festival site at MYO Park and the Ned Smith Center, said Quigley. Programs at the Center this year will include special hummingbird banding demonstrations by naturalist and author Scott Weidensaul and a free tour of the Center’s two galleries.

If you prefer your transportation more old-timey, two ferries—the Roaring Bull and the Falcon III—will traverse the Susquehanna River between Millersburg and Liverpool, offering passengers a leisurely sojourn across the river. These historic vessels, which operate May through October, are the only all-wooden, double-paddle, stern-wheel ferry boats left in the United States.

“Depending on river depth,” Laskowski said, “the ferries will be operating during the festival and will be home to four festival programs: Scott Weidensaul on ‘Birds of the Susquehanna,’ Terry Neumeyer on ‘Waterfowl of the Susquehanna’ and live musical performances by The Rough Edges String Band and Sweet Life Music.”

“All of the programs,” Quigley added, “have the goal of bringing our audiences to the intersection of nature and the arts. The diversity of our programming extends the boundless curiosity of our namesake and represents the broad range of our stakeholders’ interests.” **B**

Don Helin published his first thriller, “Thy Kingdom Come,” in 2009. His second thriller, “Devil’s Den,” has been selected as a finalist in the Indie Book Awards. Don lives in central Pennsylvania. Contact him at www.donhelin.com.

LET'S DANCE

At the Harrisburg Academy of Dance, it's been 30 years & millions of steps, taps and cha-cha-chas.

BY TREVOR PIERCE

For three decades, the Harrisburg Academy of Dance (HAD) has provided central Pennsylvania with a supportive environment for learning to dance, whether professionally or for personal satisfaction.

"All of our teachers follow the same positive-reinforcement teaching philosophy, with emphasis on building a healthy self-esteem and sense of accomplishment in each student," said owner, Artistic Director & Choreographer Jo Ellen Hoffman. "I just encourage them to come and have fun."

A Harrisburg native, Hoffman moved to New Mexico to study under notable dancers such as Suzanne Johnston, Eric Nesbitt and Karen Cotter. While training, she gained experience as a jazz instructor for the Albuquerque Ballet Company. Following her studies, Hoffman returned to Harrisburg, and, in 1983, opened her own studio, the Harrisburg Academy of Dance.

"We started small in Penbrook with only 30 students," recalled Hoffman. "Now, after 30 years, we have our own space on Locust Lane and thousands have danced on our floors."

Students of all ages are given a variety of options at HAD, with curriculums based on their personal goals. "It's not just for professional dancers, it's good for everybody," said Hoffman. "Some people come just for the exercise and the fun, but most still want to progress and perform."

Dancers are encouraged to study multiple disciplines, and many of the school's performances incorporate elements from ballet, jazz, tap and hip-hop. "Students can sign up for whatever style they wish," said Hoffman, "For the ones that are very serious, that want to become professional dancers, I'll set a plan out for them that really should start with ballet, but it depends on what they're interested in. The more you take, the better dancer you are and the more fun you have."

The studio's versatile approach was recently showcased at the Rose Lehrman Arts Center Theatre in "HAD to Dance!—Celebrating 30 Years."

"We're always trying to do new and different things," explained Hoffman. "We like to be creative, to try to make it fresh for the audience."

Like all of the academy's productions, the show's choreography was developed in-house by Hoffman and company dancers and instructors Kimberly Klick, Brittany Cagno and Stephanie Graehling. Routines included a contemporary ballet set to "While My Guitar Gently Weeps," which was complemented by a classical ballet to Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No. 3." Tap, hip-hop and jazz styles were also featured, with music ranging from Rhianna to Michael Bublé.

"HAD to Dance!" was performed by the Harrisburg Academy of Dance's 2013 class of students and

company dancers, a number of whom have long associations with the school.

"Many of the current students have been with us almost since the beginning," said Hoffman. "Some started as children, who left to attend college and came back after they graduated to pick up where they left off. There are several mothers as well, who sat in the waiting room watching their children take classes and finally decided to give dance a try for themselves."

The anniversary show also displayed Hoffman's modern style of presentation, incorporating guest musicians such as Amaryllis Santiago, who will appear with a number of HAD dancers alongside legendary guitarist Jose Feliciano on Aug. 3 at the Forum in Harrisburg. The Rose Lehrman stage was dressed sparsely, with lighting cues providing atmosphere and mood for each number while leaving the dancers as much room to perform as possible.

"As dance purists, we feel many times backdrops distract from the choreography being performed," said Hoffman. "Lighting and colors better set the mood of a piece of music and better accentuate the special moments in a dance."

Perhaps the celebration's most moving moments came during a performance of "Besame Mucho" in memory of Jo Ellen's mother Besse L. Grimes, who served as the academy's administrative director before passing away in July 2012. "She's always been a part of the studio," said Hoffman. "She was there with us from the

beginning, and I wanted to include a tribute to her with her favorite song."

The tribute to Grimes underscored the family environment that the Harrisburg Academy of Dance has fostered for 30 years. For performers and audiences alike, "HAD To Dance!" was a celebration of the academy's ability to bring people together through dance education. Moving forward, Hoffman hopes that the Harrisburg Academy of Dance will continue to build lifelong connections with students and their families.

"Former students will bring their daughters, and grandmothers who brought their daughters will now bring their granddaughters," said Hoffman. "It makes me feel very grateful and happy to know that they liked what we do so much that they keep coming back, generation after generation." **B**

The Harrisburg Academy of Dance is currently accepting registrations for their summer classes, including ballet, tap, jazz and hip-hop courses for a variety of age groups and skill levels. Tuition begins at \$43.50 per month, based on the number of classes taken per week. The Harrisburg Academy of Dance is located at 4409 Locust Lane in Harrisburg and is open Monday through Saturday. For more information or to register for classes, visit HADToDance.com or call 717-652-7071.





COMING TO HBG

Americana, the Beautiful

BY DAN WEBSTER

Americana ambassadors fill up the calendar for the celebration of our country's birth month. I've decided to extend it beyond the weekend. Joining us in July is Pokey Lafarge's old-time sensibilities; the Harrisburg Symphony's annual Negley Park concert that gives proof that our flag is still there; and Glenn Jones' steel-string guitar picking, which will deliver the ruminative sides of the American folk experience. Each will aim to penetrate the rambling tale of America, albeit in a variety of ways and means.

GLENN JONES, SANCTUARY (SECOND CITY CHURCH), JULY 5—Glenn Jones is categorized under the American Primitivism category, a style most easily understood as the solo guitar genre that plays with melding instrumental guitar with blues, country and classical music. John Fahey was its founder and Jones, his favorite son and the successor to his untimely death.

Jones makes Harrisburg a dutiful stop along his show route, and, if you're into this recipe of experimental, folk, guitar-based music, Jones is like the Phillip Glass of this approach. Meditative, nuanced repetition and a toying with maximalism and minimalism dominate his vocal-less tunes. He's been highlighted on NPR's Tiny Desk Concert series and in the Washington Post due to his mindful and moving musical stories that are dense and deliberate—the stuff of real artistry.

THE HARRISBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, NEGLEY PARK (LEMOYNE), JULY 6—Stuart Malina and the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra donate their talents and fanfare for the common man by performing a compilation of classical Fourth of July sounds in Negley Park. Bring a blanket, some friends and family and come ready for Copland, Sousa and, of course, our adopted favorite, Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture," a song about Russia's defense against Napoleon's army. Don't forget the sparklers when the latter composition reaches its climax.

TEGAN & SARA, FEDLIVE, JULY 19—Tegan and Sara, twins from Canada, grace our continental stage at FedLive. I will mention that entrance is free to watch one of the most popular indie bands of the past 20 years. Their seventh album, *Heartthrob*, is a full-throttle move into synth, electronic pop world, which makes room for a more universal crowd whose band has largely been tagged with the cult-following identifier. "Closer" is a song that reminds one of the Ace of Base days: upbeat, sexual and danceable. "Now I'm All Messed Up" has some Madonna-esque qualities to it and is unabashedly repetitive and romantic. Overall, their most recent selection is a contemporary throw back to the '90s and it's damn fun. Oh yeah, did I mention the concert is free? **B**

Mentionables: July 8, The Mantles, MakeSpace, 8 p.m. | July 25, Joy Ike, Stage on Herr, TBA July 27, Larry & His Flask, FedLive, 8 p.m.

7 | 5

GLENN JONES, JULY 5

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7 | 6

THE HARRISBURG
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, JULY 6

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418 CUMBERLAND RD., LEMOYNE
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7 | 8

THE MANTLES, JULY 8

THE MAKESPACE
1916 N. 3RD ST., HARRISBURG
STARTS AT 8 P.M.

7 | 19

TEGAN AND SARA, JULY 19

FEDLIVE
234 N. 2ND ST., HARRISBURG
DOORS OPEN AT 8 P.M., FREE

7 | 25

JOY IKE, JULY 25

HMAC STAGE ON HERR
268 HERR ST., HARRISBURG

7 | 27

LARRY & HIS FLASK, JULY 27

FEDLIVE
234 N. 2ND ST., HARRISBURG
STARTS AT 8 P.M.



Glenn Jones

STARTING ON A HIGH NOTE

At the new Camp Hill Light Opera Experience, you'll find everything from classic stage shows to vampire opera.

BY LORI M. MYERS

Sometimes, anger and frustration become springboards for new beginnings and, in Libby Moyer's case, a new opera company. This upper Dauphin County native, who now lives in Mechanicsburg, started her own company, Camp Hill Light Opera Experience (CHLOE), all because another opera company refused to have her participate in the production of a show she had written.

"Most opera companies request to have composers involved, but not this one," Moyer recalls. "They told me if I didn't like it, then I should produce my own operas. So, that's what I decided to do."

Unlike the company who had refused her help, Moyer's mission is to instill true collaboration by bringing together composers and singers and making sure that the performers learn the music and dialogue from the one who wrote it.

"Performers love that," she says. "And it's a rare treat in opera, as most of the composers are dead."

But Moyer is very much alive, and CHLOE is her passion. The company presented its inaugural productions in June at Camp Hill's Grace Milliman Pollock Performing Arts Center with the staging of Moyer's original comic operetta "Not A Tenor," followed by Gilbert & Sullivan's "Patience"—all in one weekend.

The leads in both shows included award-winning performers, many of whom have studied their craft in schools such as Peabody Conservatory, Cincinnati College's Conservatory of Music and Florida State University and sung nationally and internationally. That is not to say that local artists need not apply. In fact, Moyer says, there is no stipulation that performers couldn't be local; they just have to be good. This year saw featured roles, actors, chorus and orchestra cast from the midstate.

"In theory, someone from Harrisburg could end up as our principal soprano, for instance," Moyer says. "We have a couple of high school singers, adults from various background, and orchestra players from the Harrisburg and York symphonies. Imagine being a local student wanting to pursue a career in opera or theater and being able to stand on stage with professionals. Looks great on the college application."

CHLOE seeks to offer audiences new shows they haven't already seen. Its goal is to have one new work by a living composer/librettist and one work from any time period that hasn't been produced in the region. Fortunately, Moyer has a vast supply of old operas and operettas that she unearthed when she was taking voice lessons. Partner that, she says, with the compact theater in Camp Hill, where microphones aren't a necessity in order to be heard in the back row—and then fill those seats with a smallish but hungry market for new musical comedy.

"The audiences will hear the natural, wonderful voices of professional singers, backed up by natural, acoustic instruments, not a synthesizer," she explains. "The operas I like are mostly the ones that make money, so shows I would pick for CHLOE would have broad appeal, easy-to-listen-to music, be fun and fast-moving and appropriate for most age groups. In other words, perhaps a little naughty, but no vulgarity, no foul language, no offensive situations—just fun."

With no formal musical training on her resume but armed with a love of the art and marketing know-how, Moyer's plan is to have the same sort of festival weekend featuring two shows—one brand new and one new to central Pennsylvania—for the next couple of years. If there's enough support, a second weekend might be added. Another possibility is having another musical event during the fall and winter.

"I already have a whole list of possible shows to produce," she says, "including an old vampire opera that has great music." **B**





A LEGEND VISITS

Guitar god Jorma Kaukonen makes a stop in Harrisburg.

BY JESS HAYDEN

Veteran rocker and blues guitarist Jorma Kaukonen has had the kind of career that most musicians only dream about. He was part of the early '60s San Francisco folk and blues music scene where he jammed with the likes of Jerry Garcia and Janis Joplin. He was the lead guitarist for Jefferson Airplane, a rock band best known for the hits "Somebody to Love" and "White Rabbit." He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. And he founded the legendary band Hot Tuna—still touring after 40 years.

Now 73 years old, Kaukonen doesn't show any signs of slowing down. One of his newest projects is a music instruction camp—The Fur Peace Ranch, which he runs along with his wife Vanessa. Situated in beautiful rural Ohio, the camp provides a unique opportunity for aspiring musicians to learn from him as well as a team of prestigious musicians, which this season includes Happy Traum, Patty Larkin, Chris Smither and Rory Block.

During the next couple of months, Kaukonen has a heavy touring schedule, playing 25 gigs in cities along the East Coast as a solo artist or with Hot Tuna. He'll be making a stop in Harrisburg, where he'll play a concert with the band at Whitaker Center on July 26.

I had a chance to speak to Jorma Kaukonen recently about the upcoming Whitaker Center concert, his musical influences and the Fur Peace Ranch.

TheBurg: Hot Tuna has been around for so long that I'm sure that many people in our area are familiar with your music, but, for the uninitiated, what would they expect to hear at a Hot Tuna concert?

Kaukonen: Our style is extremely fundamental—roots, Americana music. We're not a straight blues band. We're really not a straight anything band, but the blues is an incredibly powerful muse for us. I'm fond of gospel music, so there are some spiritual songs involved, as well as songs that I have written. Our bass player is Jack Casady, of course, who I've played with for many years. So, what you're going to get is a cross-section of stuff that Jack and I have been doing for the better part of our life really. We also have Barry Mitterhoff, who's a great mandolin player. He plays an electric mandolin, which is a little bit of an odd instrument to begin with, and he's a master—the best that I know.

I think what Jack and my buddies and I bring to the table is a test of time rather than a specific style of music. We play the music that we love and have loved for a number of years, but it has evolved. We don't constantly have to re-create ourselves in a moment in time.

TheBurg: You have a lot Hot Tuna music available on your site. Would you recommend that people take a listen to those before attending?

Kaukonen: We have a large body of work, and it's great if people are familiar with it. I think they'd be happy going in cold—obviously we'd be thrilled if they listened to some of our downloads or some of our YouTube stuff.

TheBurg: I've read that the music of the Rev. Gary Davis has been very influential for you. Who was he, and why was he so significant?

Kaukonen: In my opinion, Rev. Gary Davis is one of the most important figures of 20th century American music for a number of reasons. One of them was as a guitarist. His style was incredibly complete. He was able to re-create on the guitar what you would hear on the left hand and the right hand of the piano. He was also such a lover of life—even when he sang a song like "Death Don't Have No Mercy," there is always a hint of redemption at the end of the road. For people who are interested in guitar and songwriting and stuff like that, he's a "must listen."

TheBurg: The Fur Peace Ranch sounds like a terrific place to go and immerse oneself in music. What's it like?

Kaukonen: We have fabulous instructors, great concerts and all that kind of stuff, but almost more important than all that is the atmosphere. The Fur Peace Ranch is on a 123-acre farm surrounded by other farms. You get there on a single lane dirt road. We have our 200-seat theater—we have cabins for people who are staying there—but we're not hooked up to TV. People are there to create that musical community that is so important to all of us—and it seems to happen every single weekend.

It's been really important for us to make the learning process unintimidating—people can come and play at any level really. And it's not just guitar. We have classes in bass, lap steel guitar, you name it. In my opinion, there is no better way to communicate than through music, and that's what happens at the ranch.

TheBurg: Anything crucial that I missed?

Kaukonen: I'd just like to encourage people to come and hear us play. Hot Tuna is so fortunate. We've been around a long time, as you know. But our fans—God bless them—have allowed us to change and encouraged us to expand. It's been an unbelievable run. **B**

Jorma Kaukonen will play at the Whitaker Center on Friday, July 26. Tickets are available online at www.whitakercenter.org or by calling 717-214-2787. To learn more about Hot Tuna, visit www.hottuna.com or www.youtube.com/user/FurPeaceRanch.



COMMUNITY CORNER

Senior Monday Cruises

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Senior Monday cruises return to The Pride of the Susquehanna, taking place every Monday, June to August, 3 p.m.-4:15 p.m. Activities range from trivia games to bingo to a special River School Lecture given by William Cornell. \$9 per senior (ages 59 and older). For more info, www.HarrisburgRiverboat.com or 717-234-6500.

Free Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra (HSO) Concerts:

July 3, 6: Join Maestro Stuart Malina and the HSO in celebrating our country's independence during the 2013 Summer Concert Series. All concerts are free to the public, so grab some lawn chairs and a blanket and enjoy an evening of patriotic music under the stars. On July 3, HSO will be playing at Metro Bank Park starting at 8 p.m. and on July 6 at Negley Park in Lemoyne at 8 p.m. For more info and rain locations, visit HarrisburgSymphony.org or call 717-545-5527.

Independence Day Festivities

July 4: Harrisburg's annual festival will feature a number of events along the waterfront, including the annual fireworks display at dusk, along with music, food, rides and unique product vendors. For more, call 717-255-3020 or email hbgrec@cityofhbg.com.

An American Salute

July 4: Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center presents "An American Salute," an Independence Day celebration on the Medical Center lawn. The concert, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will feature a performance by the Hershey Symphony Orchestra followed by fireworks. The event is free to the public. More information can be found at pennstatehershey.org or call 717-531-1997.

Harris-Cameron Mansion Celebration

July 4: Celebrate the holiday at the Harris-Cameron Mansion as the Historical Society of Dauphin County presents re-enactor David Biser as John Harris, Jr. in public readings of the Declaration of Independence from the porch. Readings will take place on the hour from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There is no charge. For more information, call Nicole McMullen at 717-233-3462.

Fireworks Express

July 4: Join the Modern Transportation Partnership for a private party and Harrisburg's Independence Day fireworks display. Ticket prices can be found at www.mtptransit.org. Cost of ticket includes transportation, food, beverages and exclusive access to the event on the bridge. Complimentary beer and wine will be available. 7:30-10 p.m. For more, call Julie Shade at 717-238-2400 or email jshade@mtptransit.org.

Fort Hunter Family Movie Nights

July 5, 12: Enjoy movies on the lawn of the Centennial Barn offered by Dauphin County Parks and Recreation throughout the summer. Bring blankets, chairs and picnic baskets; alcohol is not permitted. The Friends of Fort Hunter will have light refreshments available for purchase. Rain or shine, movies shown in the Centennial Barn in case of rain. July 5 is "E.T." and July 12 is "Ghostbusters." 8:30-10 p.m.

Festival of India

July 6: Enjoy international flavors and culture at the Festival of India, featuring free vegetarian food, music, dance performances and more. While there, visit the jewelry and clothing vendors. Riverfront Park, Harrisburg, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Jazz in the Park

July 6: Hosted by Capital Area Christian Church in Mechanicsburg, this fundraising event supports the new Adventure Park Fitness Trail, a one-mile trail accessible to senior citizens and those with disabilities. The event is family friendly and will take place immediately following the grand opening. Music headlined by the Jimmy Wood Quartet. 3-9:30 p.m.

4-H Day Camp: Junk Drawer Robotics

July 10-12: Campers ages 6-12 will use everyday objects to learn how things work, create "air, water and road crafts" and compete in a team crafts race. Cost is \$65 and includes snack. Register online at extension.psu.edu/dauphin.

7th Annual Cadillac LaSalle Club

July 13: If you're a Cadillac and LaSalle fan, stop by the Antique Auto Museum, 161 Museum Dr., Hershey, which will host 30 to 50 remarkable vehicles. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Italian Lake Concert

July 14: Riverside United Neighbors continues its summer concert series, "Second Sunday Concerts," at Italian Lake. This month's free concert begins at 7:30 p.m. and features the Octavia Blues Band. For more, visit www.riversideneighbors.com or e-mail riversideunitedneighbors2012@yahoo.com.

Greater Harrisburg Concert Band Dates

July 14, 21, 25, 26 & 28: The Greater Harrisburg Concert Band's free summer performances this month are: July 14 at Schaffner Park in Hummelstown; July 20 at Messiah College's High Center; July 25 at Fredericksen Library in Camp Hill; July 26 at Cumberland Crossings in Carlisle; and July 28 at Messiah Village in Mechanicsburg. Start time is 7 p.m. More info can be found at www.ghcb.org or www.facebook.com/GHCBand.

Harrisburg Mile

July 17: Join the sprint down Front Street at the 32nd running of the Harrisburg Mile. The race starts at Front and Maclay streets at 6 p.m. and ends at Front and Boas streets. For more information, visit www.harrisburgmile.com.

HBG Tweet-Up

July 17: Join the social gathering of local twitter characters at Appalachian Brewing Company, 7-10 p.m. Your conversation quota is not limited to 140 characters.

3rd in the Burg

July 19: Enjoy a night out on the town during Harrisburg's monthly arts event, held each third Friday. Walk among numerous galleries, art spaces, restaurants and music venues—or hop the Sutliff shuttle for a free ride. Check the back cover of TheBurg for a list of venues and times or visit www.thirdintheburg.org.

BrewFest at Fort Hunter Park

July 20: Dauphin County Parks and Recreation welcomes more than 20 craft brews to the 2nd Annual BrewFest. Sip a microbrew while tasting foods from area restaurants and listening to music. Tickets cost \$35 in advance and \$50 at the door. Visit www.dauphincounty.org/government/Parks-and-Recreation for schedules, participating breweries and additional information.

Martin Luther King III Address

July 24: The oldest son of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King will attend and speak at the Harrisburg School District Recovery Officer's Advisory Meeting. King is expected to address community leaders on the need to curb violence. Time and place will be announced soon.

Networking Mixer

July 25: The Central Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly networking event at St@rtup, 1519 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg. Bring your business cards and 30-second elevator speech. Business dress requested. Free for members and \$10 for prospective members. 6-8 p.m. Visit cpglcc.org for more.

PrideFest

July 27: The annual Pride Festival of Central PA touches down in Riverfront Park in Harrisburg with music, food, entertainment, informational booths and more. The festival is the capstone of a multi-day series of events. More information at www.centralpapridefestival.com

Ned Smith Center Festival

July 27: The Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art will host its 20th annual Nature and Arts Festival along the banks of the Susquehanna River at MYO Park in Millersburg. There are 70-plus programs and activities aimed especially for families, making the festival a great outing for all ages. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, www.nedsmithcenter.org or 717-692-3699.

THE BURG

REACH YOUR COMMUNITY WITH AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THEBURG!

Contact Lauren Mills
717-695-2621
lmills@theburgnews.com

MUSEUM & ART SPACES

Antique Auto Museum at Hershey
161 Museum Dr., Hersey
717-566-7100; aacamuseum.org

"Old Fashioned July 4th," enjoy the museum for half price (\$5/person) from 5-9 p.m. and watch fireworks over the town of Hershey to celebrate the Fourth of July.

"7th Annual Cadillac LaSalle Club Interregional Car Show," a lawn show hosted by the Central Penn Region of the Cadillac and LaSalle Club with 30-50 cars, through July 13.

"British Motorcycles in America," a retrospective of classic British bikes, 1940s-1970s, through Oct. 17.

"Pop Culture & Popular Cars," a trip down memory lane as popular cars of the 1950s-1970s are recreated and celebrated alongside the popular culture of the time, through Oct. 13.

Art Association of Harrisburg
21 N. Front St., Harrisburg
717-236-1432; artassocofhbg.com

"Midtown Soirée," part one of the six summer soirees hosted by the Art Association of Harrisburg, featuring landscapes, abstracts and architectural images, July 13, 5-8 p.m.

"Meet the Artists Soirée," featuring paintings by Dominick Brandt, Chad Caldwell and Barry Ginder and jewelry by Adrienne Alaimo on July 21.

"Invitational Exhibition Reception," featuring paintings, photographs, mixed media sculptures and jewelry by local artists on July 27 from 5-8 p.m.

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse
2133 Market St., Camp Hill
thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

Watercolor artwork by Madeline Reilly, through July 31.

Fenêtre Gallery
HACC Midtown 2, 2nd Floor
N. 3rd and Reilly Streets, Harrisburg

"Questions Unanswered," photographs by Jenna DeNoyelles, June 21-July 10.

"The Great Indoors," paintings by Erika Stearly, July 19-Sept. 11; Reception July 19, 6-8 p.m.

"Clouds, Smoke and Vapors," pieces in several media by Ward Davenny, July 17-Aug. 29; Lecture on Aug. 29 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Whitaker 214; Reception in gallery from 6:30-7 p.m.

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

Works by Steve Wetzel and Vivian Calderon, June 6-July 13.

Works by Nancy Huerter and Craig Andrews, July 18-Aug. 31; Reception July 19, 6-9 p.m.

Historical Society of Dauphin County
219 South Front St., Harrisburg
717-233-3462
dauphincountyhistory.org

"Women's Fashion of the 1920s," supplied through the Shippensburg University Fashion Archives Collection; flapper era fashions are on display, through Sept. 26.

The LGBT Center Gallery
1306 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-920-9534
centralpalgbtcenter.org

"Open Mic Night," Listen to and perform spoken word poetry, July 26, 7-9 p.m.

Metropolis Collective
17 W. Main St., Mechanicsburg
717-458-8245
metropoliscollective.com

"Field of Vision," an exhibition of folk, outsider, visionary and self-taught art. Reception July 5, 6-10 p.m.

National Civil War Museum
One Lincoln Circle at Reservoir, Harrisburg
717-260-1861
nationalcivilwarmuseum.org

"Living History—Palmetto Guard 2nd South Carolina." Visit Civil War camps and ask historians questions. Musket and rifle loading and firing demonstrations are July 27 at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. and July 28 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

The Pride of the Susquehanna sponsors the "Civil War Lecture Dinner Cruise."

Enjoy dinner while traveling down the scenic Susquehanna River and learning about the Civil War; July 27 from 6-8 p.m.

"1863," an exhibit highlighting the third year of the Civil War, through Dec. 31.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art
176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg
717-692-3699; nedsmithcenter.org

"Bob Hines: National Wildlife Artist," an exhibit displaying work created by the only officially designated staff artist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bob Hines. The illustrations include his work of birds, game mammals and sport fish, through Sept. 1.

Rose Lehrman Arts Center
One HACC Drive, Harrisburg
hacc.edu/RoseLehrmanArtsCenter

"Early Modern Prints" through July 3

"Clouds, Smoke and Vapors," work in several media by Ward Davenny, July 17-Aug. 29, open Mon-Thurs, 11 a.m.-3p.m.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania
300 North St., Harrisburg
717-787-4980; statemuseumpa.org

"Objects of Valor," an exhibit showcasing treasured State Museum artifacts that reflect a century and a half of collecting, preserving and interpreting the commonwealth's Civil War experience.

Susquehanna Art Museum
100 North St., Harrisburg
sqart.org
(at the State Museum)

"Construction/Destruction," a display of artwork capturing the idea of the past constructing our present community, through Dec. 1.

Whitaker Center/The Curved Wall
222 Market St., Harrisburg
717-214-ARTS; whitakercenter.org

"Warmth of Light, Chill of Night," an exhibit of artwork emphasizing the season's change, June 22-Aug. 22.

Yellow Wall Gallery/ Midtown Scholar
1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-1680; midtownscholar.com

Photographs by Mathew Murray, through July 14.

Gallery opening for featured artist Valerie Dillon; July 19, 6 p.m.

READ, MAKE, LEARN

The LGBT Center of Central PA
1306 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-920-9534
centralpalgbtcenter.org

"Pride in the Park—Gay Day in Hersheypark," Enjoy a discounted ticket rate, a picnic and a free T-shirt while supporting LGBT pride at Hersheypark; July 21 open-close.

July 12: Movies of Substance and Thought, 7 p.m.

July 13: TransCentral PA Meeting, 8 p.m.

July 21: LGBT Book Club at Midtown Scholar, 5-7 p.m.

July 25: Memories of Pride, 6-8 p.m.

July 26: Open Mic Night Featuring Debberae

The MakeSpace
1916 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
hbgmakespace.com

July 3, 10, 17, 24: MakeSpace Yoga, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

July 6: Collagery (Michael Fisher hosting), 1-2 p.m.

July 11: Untitled (Stories) 8 p.m.

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café
1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-1680; midtownscholar.com

July 1: Swing Dance, 6:30 p.m.

July 1: Midtown Writers Group, 7 p.m.

July 2: Sci-Fi Writers Group, 7 p.m.

July 3: Sydney's Book Club, Preschool Event, 10 a.m.

July 6: Good News Café, 6 p.m.

July 7: TED Talks, 1 p.m.

July 11: Capital Area Toastmasters Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

July 11: Almost Uptown Poetry Cartel: Featuring Yolanda Wisher with Host

Christian Thiede, 7 p.m.

July 13: Literary Celebration Series presents "America the Timeless," Honoring the Great American Author, Mark Twain, 11 a.m.

July 14: TED Talks, 1 p.m.

July 17: Sydney's Book Club, Preschool Event, 10 a.m.

July 17: Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club, 7 p.m.

July 18: Capital Area Toastmasters Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

July 18: Banned Books Book Club, 7 p.m.

July 18: Almost Uptown Poetry Cartel: Feature Josline 'SoulCry' Kears with Host Maria James-Thiaw, 7 p.m.

July 19: Coffee Education with Café Staff, 12 p.m.

July 19: Tea Tasting with Café Staff, 2 p.m.

TMI Improv Group, Family Friendly Theater, 6 p.m.

July 20: Author, Tom Huntington - WITF Pick of the Month Book Signing, 2 p.m.

July 20: Poison Pen Book Club, 5 p.m.

July 21: Philosophy Salon, Open Discussion, 12:30 p.m.

July 21: TED Talks, 1 p.m.

July 21: Midtown Writers Group, 2 p.m.

July 21: LGBT Book Club, 5 p.m.

July 22: Feminism Group Book Club, 7 p.m.

July 24: Pride Educational Forum presented by the Stonewall Democrats, 6 p.m.

July 25: Almost Uptown Poetry Cartel: Open Reading with Host Christian Thiede, 7 p.m.

July 26: Des Sera in Concert, 8 p.m.

July 27: Children's Book Blast, 11 a.m.

July 27: Infobility: Inform and Share on Disability Issues, 12 p.m.

July 27: Local Author Signings, 2 p.m.

July 28: TED Talks, 1 p.m.

July 28: Harrisburg Young Professionals Book Club, 2 p.m.
July 30: Art Kaleidoscope, 7 p.m.
July 31: Sydney's Book Club, Preschool Event, 10 a.m.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art
176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg
717-692-3699; nedsmithcenter.org

July 27: "Nature and Arts Festival," an outdoor festival featuring programs on nature and environmental topics and outdoors bluegrass music. The festival is located at MYO Park, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC AROUND HARRISBURG

3rd Street Studio
1725 N 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-385-3315

July 19: The Coalishun R&B w/ Blues Trio
July 27: The Coalishun R&B w/ Blues Trio (at Broad Street Market)

Appalachian Brewing Co./Abbey Bar
50 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg
717-221-1083; abcbrew.com

July 16: Pokey LaFarge
July 19: Bag of Toys w/ Bumpin' Ugles
July 31: Dick Dale

Carley's Ristorante and Piano Bar
204 Locust St., Harrisburg
717-909-9191; carleysristorante.com

July 1, 8, 15, 17, 22: Chris Gassaway
July 2, 9, 16, 20, 23: Brandon Parsons (Open Mic)
July 3, 10, 24: Chelsea Caroline
July 5, 27: Noel Gevers
July 6, 26: Roy Lefever
July 11, 21: Anthony Haubert
July 13: Ted Ansel
July 18, 25: Giovanni Triano
July 19: Jett Prescott

Char's
829 North Front St., Harrisburg
717-213- 4002; charsrestaurant.com

July 5: Wave Trio
July 6: Andy Alonzo Trio
July 12: Stevensomn Twin Trio
July 13: X Factor Quartet
July 19: Forrest brown Trio
July 20: Lady A Trio
July 26: Jeff Calvin Trio
July 27: Diane Wilson Quartet

The Cornerstone Coffeehouse
2133 Market St., Camp Hill
717-737-5026
thecornerstonecoffeehouse.com

July 6: Dove Tail
July 7: David Carr
July 12: Antonio Andrad
July 13: Woody Guthrie Birthday Celebration w/ Doug Morris
July 14: Steve Gellman
July 19: Kevin Kline

July 20: North Side
July 21: Lana Witmer

Fed Live
234 N 2nd St., Harrisburg
717-525-8077; fedlive.net

July 12: Sabrina Duke
July 27: Larry and His Flask

Fraiche
2138 Market St., Camp Hill
717-737-4380; fraichetodef.com

July 6: Chelsea Caroline, Family Style Boar Feast
July 10: John Terlazzo and Voices in the Hall
July 17: John Catalano Trio
July 24: Hana 'Lis and Friends
July 31: Misha Kashock of Yoga Nature

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

July 27: Tony Bennett

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

July 5: First w/ Aortic Valve
July 6: Kyle Morgan Orchestra
July 7: Rainbow Road w/ Nixon Fairly Portrait
July 11: Strangest Places
July 13: The Jeff Calvin Group
July 18: The Midtown Getdown w/ Shrimboat
July 23: Kill the Circus
July 25: Joy Ike
July 26: Driftwood
July 27: Charm City Saints
July 28: Heloise and the Savior Faire

Johnny Joe's Sports Bar & Grill
5327 East Trindle Rd.,
717-766-2254; johnnyjoesbar.com

July 5: Shades of Autumn
July 6: Hold for Zodiac
July 12: Bamboozled
July 13: Not Quite Ninjas
July 19: Martini Bros (CD Release Party)
July 20: Fragile Mindz
July 26: Adrian Blitzer
July 27: Star Child

Luhrs Perfroming Arts Center
1871 Old Main Dr., Shippensburg
717-477-SHOW; luhrscenter.com

July 11: Shippensburg Symphony Festival Series: Joshua Roman
July 18: Shippensburg Symphony Festival Series: Kirill Gerstein
July 25: Shippensburg Symphony Festival Series: Christine Brewer

The MakeSpace
1916 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
hbgmakespace.com

July 3: Prairie Empire
July 8: The Mantles w/ Juan Wauters

July 18: La Luz w/ Colora
July 25: Katie and the Lichen w/ Ok Vancouver Ok

Midtown Scholar Bookstore-Café
1302 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg
717-236-1680; midtownscholar.com

July 4: Good Graeff
July 5: Jeff Ruby
July 12: Tanner Walle
July 14: Jonathan Frazier
July 19: Cranston Dean
July 20: Richard Barone
July 26: Des Sera
July 30: Nate Currin

MoMo's BBQ & Grille
307 Market St., Harrisburg
717-230-1030
momosbbqandgrill.com

July 5: Chas Depalo
July 12: Bushmasters
July 19: Autumn Brew
July 26: Buskers

St. Thomas Roasters
5951 Linglestown Rd., Linglestown
717-526-4171; stthomasroaster.com

July 5: Sterling Koch
July 6: Diaspora
July 12: Otto Wallenmeyer
July 13: William Buckner
July 19: Betsy Barnicle
July 20: Joe Cooney
July 26: Cotolo

Suba Tapas Bar/Mangia Qui
272 North St., Harrisburg
717-233-7358; mangiaqui.com

July 5: The Alonso Mendez Duo
July 6: Erica Everest
July 11, 25: Steve Rudolph & Special Guest
July 12: Jeff Calvin
July 13: Hot Club du Jour
July 19: Bella Ruse
July 20: Batida
July 26: Flutter
July 27: Matt Otis

Pride of the Susquehanna
City Island, Harrisburg
717-234-6500
harrisburgriverboat.com

July 11: Pat Murphy w/ Kirk Reese
July 18: Ronnie Waters w/ Jimmy Wood
July 25: Kenny Gehret w/ David Francis

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

July 2: U.S. Army Field Band: Jazz Ambassadors
July 26: Hot Tuna Electric

July 5, 6: Steve Burr
July 12, 13: Julie Scoggin
July 19, 20: Kenny Smith
July 26, 27: Raymond The Amish Comic

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

July 18-21, 25-28: "The Music Man"

Little Theater of Mechanicsburg
915 S. York St., Mechanicsburg
717-766-0535; ltmonline.net

July 11, 12, 13, 14: "Boys and Ghouls Together"
July 25, 26, 27, 28: An Original Play

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

July 12-28: "Exit The Body"

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

July 10-August 17: "Snow White and the Two Dwarfs"

Pride of the Susquehanna
City Island, Harrisburg
717-234-6500
harrisburgriverboat.com

July 12: Murder Mystery Dinner Cruise, "Pier Pressure"
July 26: Murder Mystery Cruise, "Alienated by Murder"

THE STAGE DOOR

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



FEATURED PROFILE | @KATIEMZT

KATIE MANZULLO-THOMAS

Katie Manzullo-Thomas is an artist, a sandwich artist, that is, at Yellow Bird Café. She lives, cooks and completes crossword puzzles in Midtown Harrisburg with her husband, Devin, who is significantly taller and nicer than her. They have no children or pets but have sustained house plants for up to two months. She enjoys jalapeño margaritas at El Sol, movie trivia at Midtown Cinema and re-watching Buffy the Vampire Slayer.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE APP THAT DOESN'T EXIST?

Standing Room Only: an app where you check in to a concert venue and it sorts the crowd by height. Get out of my way, seven-foot-tall hipsters!

WORLD WAR Z OR THIS IS THE END?

I'm reserving final judgment until I see Nicolas Cage's "Left Behind" reboot.

WHO OR WHAT ARE YOU CURRENTLY INSPIRED BY?

This American Life, which changed the way I looked at the world when I started listening at 16 and hasn't disappointed me since, and Radiolab, which finds the best and strangest ways to tell compelling stories and sneakily teach me about science. My food icons continually inspire me as well: Ina Garten, Christopher Kimball and the Cook's Illustrated braintrust, Martha freaking Stewart and Deb from Smitten Kitchen.



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@DEVINMZT



F ANTHONY JORDAN
@FROGBURRITO



F JUSTIN ARMBURGER
@JARMBURG



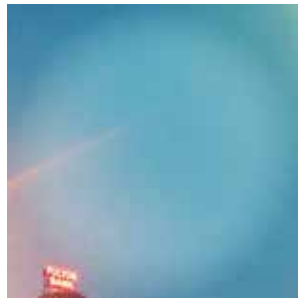
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@LADYMIKE



F CODY NEISWENDER
@MCTHUGINN



F MICHAEL TODARO
@MICHAELTODARA



F SHANNON STIFFLER
@MISTER_STIFFLER



F RACHAEL CRIDER
@MYFETCHINGFRECKLES



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@WILLISDAVIS



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ARTS IN THE GARDEN

Some of Harrisburg's best-known arts organizations joined First Lady Susan Corbett last month for the second annual Arts in the Garden, a free, public event at the Governor's Residence. The gardens provided a beautiful setting to show off the work of such local groups as the Art Association of Harrisburg, Open Stage of Harrisburg, Susquehanna Art Museum, Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz, Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra, McGinley School of Irish Dance, the Susquehanna Flute Trio and the Gents Night Out Barbershop Quartet. In addition, the Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Dauphin County presented a special garden program.

Patricia Ramsey, Charles Mosten, Michelle Shirley



Ann and Harold Pacey



Patricia Greiser, Tammy Dombrowski



Xenia Makosky, Alexandra Makosky, Alice Anne Schwab



Bob and Marion Brandt

///////////////// SOCIALBURG ///////////////////



Mark McMullen, Up In Smoke BBQ

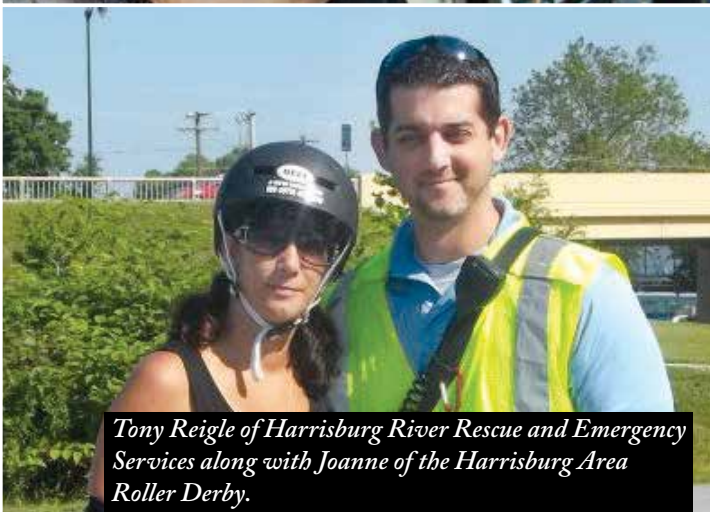


Tara Leo Auchey, Marissa Hockenberry

Photos by Lance Whitmire of LJW Digital Photography



Customers at the HBG River Rescue Stand



Tony Reigle of Harrisburg River Rescue and Emergency Services along with Joanne of the Harrisburg Area Roller Derby.

FLEA MARKET MASHUP

Can anything beat a mix of old furniture, vintage clothing and Cuban sandwiches? We think not! Luckily, Tara Leo Auchey of today's the day Harrisburg and Marissa Hockenberry of Events by Marissa agree with us. They created an event that slams together great food truck food and something Harrisburg may need even more—a good, old-fashioned flea. The first Mashup was held June 15, a sunny, warm day that brought walkers, bikers and drivers out to City Island, all to benefit the HBG River Rescue.



Olivia and Rodrigo Madrigal, Mad Sandwich truck



MILK MATTERS

Are “health milk” alternatives good for your young child?

BY DR. DEEPA SEKHAR

“It does a body good...”

The 1-year well-child visit is typically when parents ask about the transition to cow’s milk. At this point, most children are getting the majority of their calories from table food. They typically have reduced the amount of formula or breast milk they are taking. Breastfeeding is encouraged for as long as mutually desirable by mother and baby. However, even breastfeeding mothers have usually considered the next step in terms of a milk source.

Transitioning to cow’s milk is not as straightforward as it used to be. At the grocery store, one may be faced with a dizzying array of what are termed, “health food milk alternatives.” These include soy milk, almond milk, rice milk and oat milk. In some cases, children with food allergies must utilize these products. However, I have many parents with a personal preference to avoid the use of traditional cow’s milk who inquire about alternate milk options.

Everyone knows that cow’s milk provides calcium. To be more precise, an 8-ounce glass of milk provides 300 milligrams of calcium. Calcium is important for bone health but also for teeth and muscles. It may play a role in maintaining blood pressure and body fat. Current recommendations are for toddlers (1 to 3 years old) to get 700 milligrams per day of calcium. A toddler taking two cups of milk, plus some yogurt or cheese, will easily meet this requirement. Of course, calcium is found in other food sources aside from cow’s milk—for example, broccoli and collard greens. However, a 1-year-old is unlikely to eat the three-plus cups of broccoli required to meet the daily recommended intake.

Cow’s milk is fortified with vitamin D. Vitamin D works with calcium to maintain bone health, but low vitamin D levels have also been linked to cancer, diabetes, asthma and depression. Toddlers should get 600 international units (IU’s) of vitamin D daily, so children keeping under the maximum recommended 24 ounces of milk daily will still need supplementation. However, recent studies demonstrate children consuming milk regularly are less likely to be vitamin D deficient.

As long as they are enriched products, soy, rice, oat and almond milk may have comparable calcium and vitamin D levels to cow’s milk. Brands vary significantly, so it is very important for parents to read product labels to be sure the amount of calcium and vitamin D is adequate.

The major area where health milk alternatives fall short is in protein content. An 8-ounce glass of milk provides 8 grams of protein. Almond and rice milk typically provide only 1 gram of protein per 8-ounce serving. Oat milk usually has 4 grams of protein per cup. Soy milk comes closest to cow’s milk and usually provides 7 grams of protein per cup.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends two 1-ounce servings from the protein group daily for toddlers. This is about the volume of one-half an egg or 2 tablespoons of ground meat. This protein recommendation is in addition to the 2 to 3 daily servings of dairy recommended. Thus, use of an alternate milk source may leave a toddler’s diet poor in protein, especially a picky toddler who is not consistently consuming recommended amounts of protein.

My general advice for parents considering an alternate milk option is to do their research and read product labels. A product labeled “healthy” or “organic” or sold in a health food store is not automatically appropriate for children. Many “health milk” alternatives are marketed as being lower in fat and calories than cow’s milk. Though this may be appealing for adults, it is rare that to restrict calories in a 1-year-old.

Soy milk, in particular, has been used extensively as a cow’s milk alternative. Many enriched soy milk brands are available with nutritional profiles comparable to cow’s milk.

Parents often inquire about “health milk” alternatives as they clearly want to make the best choices for their children among an ever-expanding number of milk options. It may be that, down the line, additional product development will make some of these health milk alternatives more appropriate for younger children, but, at this time, many of them are not ideal for toddlers weaning off formula

and breast milk. Milk “does a body good,” but can only do so for our little one’s bodies if it has the necessary vitamins and minerals to best support their continued growth and development. **B**



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



MILE-EYED

Runners stretch for the annual sprint down Front Street.

BY CORY MULL

You will find James Collins at the start line, his soft voice lost amid heavy breathing and cracking joints.

"Hold ... hold ... hold," the 73-year-old will offer seconds before the race, a method that he's perfected over the years.

He may look inconsequential, but the man has the toughest job on Front Street.

He needs to be punctual, like an accountant on deadline. As the race starter for the Harrisburg Mile for the past seven years, Collins has learned that time holds an almost mystical significance.

His job is to start the Mile on time. With 12 different heats, that becomes difficult when the only communication he has between the finish line and start line is his heat sheet, which he checks almost religiously.

As each heat inches closer to its exact time, Collins typically hushes the crowd and ushers them toward the timing board. He looks at his watch, then commences the race at the exact moment the heat is set to begin.

"I line them [the runners] up on the street, and then I do a countdown," says Collins, a computer programmer for the state Department of Welfare. "I hold them, and then it gets exciting."

The Harrisburg Mile will host its 32nd annual event on July 17 on Front Street. Held on Wednesday evening, the event typically draws close to 1,500 competitors, with much of that contingent composed of corporate teams and families.

The Mile has become a versatile event over the last several years, with a wide variety of runners making up the participants, said YMCA Race Director Andy Wahila.

At the highest level, there are competitive runners, some with storied collegiate backgrounds and sub-5-minute times, looking to win their age group or field. East Pennsboro graduate Ryan Blood, a former Olympic Marathon qualifier, owns the course record in 2009 with a time of 4:08.

Then there are corporate teams looking to build company relationships through wellness and activity. TE Connectivity and Phoenix Contact have battled for the top position for the past three years.

There are families with children to entertain. And then there are many 20- and 30-somethings who register for the social scene—specifically the post-race party and beer tent—which typically lasts late into the night at Riverfront Park.

"The Wednesday night date fits with the summer season and everything," Wahila said. "We wanted

to stay away from weekends because some families won't have time. You attract a lot of the after-work runners who are looking for something fun to do."

Wahila thinks the Mile brings out the best in the city. The YMCA contracts with a company to shut down Front Street—from Maclay to Forster—and then the Harrisburg police ensures safety with patrol officers on city streets.

"They've done it so many years," Wahila said of both the police and the outside contractor. "Both of them do a wonderful job."

The Mile ends up being a special race for a lot of reasons. For starters, within the midstate, there isn't a race like it. The mile distance is abstract, since most high schools compete on a metric track. The 1,600-meter distance is run at the PIAA level, which is slightly less than a traditional mile.

Next is location. While many YMCA-run races are conducted on Harrisburg soil and macadam, few operate on Front Street itself, a three-lane road that carries much of the city's dense traffic flow.

And perhaps most significant is the experience. While the beer tent tailors to the younger professionals in the city, the event also features food vendors and music, filling Riverfront Park with entertainment and promotions.

A local running expert—for years it was Inside Track Manager Henry Klugh, a well-known running coach in the area—typically announces the race from the finish, picking out key runners deep into the event.

And then you have Collins, who volunteers every year. He began his role in 2006 after five years as a runner himself. From 2000 to 2005, he ran the Mile, his best finish coming in 2004, when he posted a 5-minute, 44-second time.

Collins, who was a black belt martial artist for 15 years before he picked up running at the age of 60, decided to volunteer. He belonged to the Harrisburg Road Runners Club, and a fellow member urged him to try it out.

"Well, the only thing I can say about [running] is you either love it or you hate it," Collins said. "There are a lot of people who don't like it. They don't train for it. I'm not one of those people." **E**

The 32nd annual Millers Mutual Harrisburg Mile will be run on July 17 starting at 6 p.m. For registration and other information, visit www.harrisburgymcaraces.com.

SHOO!

*You can deter critters
without harming them.*

BY KERMIT G. HENNING

Many of us go to great lengths to attract wildlife to our backyards. Bird feeders and birdseeds alone account for many millions of retail dollars each year, all so we can enjoy the antics of a variety of colorful birds from our kitchen window, porch or patio. The squirrels that end up figuring out even the most squirrel-proof feeders amuse us with their antics, and, although we end up sharing much of our garden with rabbits and groundhogs, these, too, provide us with a sense of getting back to nature.

On the other hand, if you feel your property is absolutely overrun with wildlife—you're fed up with losing valuable shrubs, flowers, vegetables and have even suffered property damage because of the critters—there is help. The wildlife repellent industry has flourished catering to homeowners, farmers and gardeners who have finally had enough. Whether you live in a city, suburb or small town, you can be sure that there is wildlife nearby. Many species of wildlife are welcome visitors to our properties, but some individuals quickly wear out their welcome. Preventing problems with wildlife is much simpler and less aggravating than dealing with problems after they occur. Fortunately, knowing some basic facts about wildlife and taking a few simple steps can help you prevent many of the most common wildlife-related problems.

The first step is to properly identify the animal that is causing the damage. Many times, the animal in question will be nocturnal, like a skunk or raccoon, and will only leave tracks or scat as clues. If you are still unsure, having a wildlife control professional visit your property might be the answer. He will not only be able to identify the problem, but will tell you how to get rid of it.

Obviously, there is a big difference in how you deal with different animals. Burrowing moles, browsing whitetail deer and marauding black bears require specific tactics. Using the proper deterrent is key to solving the problem.

Perhaps your first tactic should be proper management of attractants in your environment. Bird feeders, for example, attract a lot more than birds. From squirrels, rabbits and groundhogs to deer and bears—few animals will pass up such a backyard smorgasbord. Birdbaths and water features, too, especially during hot, dry periods, will draw all kinds of wildlife.

Plants in your landscape can either attract or discourage wildlife as well. Herbivores like rabbits, groundhogs and deer regularly feed on home landscapes. You can still have lush and colorful gardens, however, by choosing resistant plants. Local garden shops and nurseries will have lists of plants that are unattractive to wildlife, from annuals to perennials to woody plants and trees. Remember, though, that in times of stress or when other food is not available, deer will eat just about anything.

Taste repellents usually cause pain or discomfort in the mouth or intestines and lead wildlife to develop a conditioned aversion to the product. They include products containing hot peppers or ammonia, or bad-tasting chemicals such as Thiram, an extremely bitter-tasting fungicide.

Some repellents use odors to repel wildlife. They produce sulfurous odors like putrefied eggs, blood meal, meat proteins, garlic and predator urine. Homeowners must decide if the foul odors of the repellents are worse than the marauding wildlife. These deterrents will be applied directly to the plants being ingested.

For whitetail deer, especially, you may have to cover a very large area. Repellents can be quite expensive and labor-intensive but can be effective if used properly and according to directions. They cannot be guaranteed due to the weather, time restraints and the application rate. They generally affect several senses—taste, smell and/or touch. Homeowners, orchard owners or commercial landscapers have several things to consider. How many trees or shrubs do I want to protect? Is cost a factor? Do I have the time to apply and re-apply properly? Will I be satisfied with mixed results?



Illustration by Stephen Michael Haas

Black bears are much more difficult to dissuade. Especially in the spring, when emerging from the den, they are hungry and will eat anything. Young bears, particularly young males, leave the mother and strike out on their own, often causing trouble with humans. They are looking for a place to live and hunt and, when they find a ready food source, they stick around—whether it's a farmer's cornfield, beehives, an orchard or a backyard in a development. Birdfeeders are bear magnets, as are dog or cat food dishes or charcoal or gas grills with a build-up of grease. Keeping food sources out of sight or reach, placing garbage out only on the day of pick-up and keeping dumpsters closed will lessen bear problems.

For any problems, see your local garden shop, Agway or farm center for help. Most have shelves full of deterrents to keep your property free of hungry wildlife, generally without harming or killing them. Follow directions for best results and be sure to reapply when necessary. **B**



KERMIT G. HENNING

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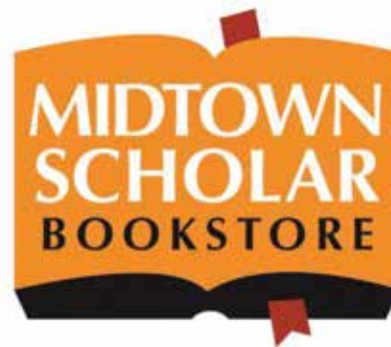
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A CAT TALE

*A story in TheBurg inspires memories
of a lifetime of office pets.*

BY WILLIAM S. JACKSON



Grayco II, one of the office cats at THE SUN newspaper in Hummelstown, here checks out Editor Bill Jackson's copy for typos.

I enjoyed Barbara Trainin Blank's article, "Wags & Worksheets" immensely in the May 2013 issue of TheBurg (p. 16). Started smiling about halfway through as the memories started flooding back about the office cat.

It was 1959, and I was just out of Uncle Sam's Army and working as a reporter/photographer for The Progress, Clearfield, Pa.'s daily newspaper. The boss called me in one day and said he had a problem. The Progress also owned the old (founded in 1827) Centre Democrat weekly newspaper in Bellefonte. They had a young editor there named Don Shoemaker who had muscular dystrophy and had just also developed multiple sclerosis on top of it and needed an extra pair of legs to get around and do stories and take pictures. Would I be willing to go over to Bellefonte and fill in for the rest of the summer before I went back to Penn State?

My answer was "yes," and, very shortly, I was assigned an old, beat-up desk in what passed as the newsroom.

After being there for a few weeks, I discovered a column called "The Office Cat," which appeared mysteriously every week in time to be typeset and under a header with a strange-looking black cat. I quizzed editor Don and, with a rye smile, he said, "Don't you know, every old weekly newspaper had an office cat." When I asked him why, he simply smiled and said, "Mice eat paper . . . cats eat mice."

Our Centre Democrat office cat had a strange kind of humor and, each week, he (or she) wrote up some good-natured barbs about prominent people in Bellefonte and Centre County and sprinkled in some of the dirtiest jokes imaginable.

It was during my second summer at the Centre Democrat that I learned it was indeed editor Don

who penned the column each week and, once a year, during a trip to New York City, he would go down to a shop in Greenwich Village and get a couple more dirty joke books to keep the office cat current.

Now, you will have to fast-forward with me to June 1, 1970, when my wife Rosemary and I purchased the Hummelstown Sun here in Dauphin County.

We inherited a great staff in the form of three Hartwell brothers, George, Richard and Cliff, one additional compositor and . . . an office cat!

Yes, he was the real thing. He was a big tomcat named (don't ask me why) Grayco, and he sort of moped around the office most of the time. But, Wednesday night, when we were addressing the papers and bagging them for the post office, he would assume his perch above we mere humans and supervise the entire operation, mewing occasionally when something apparently didn't suit him.

Grayco was up in age and, about three years later, he went to cat heaven. We weren't without an office cat for long as, one summer day, a slightly smaller and much younger tomcat walked in the open back door, looked around and decided to stay. He was a beauty, and a cat-loving paper salesman told us he was a perfectly marked tabby, and we should show him. That wasn't in the cards as we had no papers on him. He was definitely a "people cat" and the Cub Scouts and Brownies who toured The Sun office and backshop made him the highlight of their visit.

We named him Grayco II, and he was a fixture for several years until, one year, when we closed for our vacation week, someone stole him. We suspected a neighborhood little old lady, and the kid who swept out the shop every night swore he saw Grayco II looking out her front window.

When people stopping in the office discovered we had lost Grayco II, we soon were presented with a young female cat as a replacement. She was a nearly perfectly marked tiger cat, and our kids, much into "Winnie the Pooh" at the time, named her Tigger. She moved right in, and her favorite place to park was in my "in" box on the front desk.

Tigger was with us for several years, but, one cold winter spell, she just simply disappeared.

We had gotten so used to having a furry friend around that we were in a sort of funk and, in mid-winter, didn't quite know where to look for a new office cat candidate. This was quickly solved for us when a young lady who ran a dog-boarding kennel came in to place an ad. When she heard Tigger was gone, she left quickly and, just as quickly, returned with a large box from which a lovely snow-white female cat peered out at us. The dog kennel lady informed us she had shown up on her doorstep during the height of the blizzard, and she didn't know what to do with her, as her dogs didn't constitute much of a welcoming committee.

We took a quick vote and all agreed she should stay with us and, thus, the lovely and loving snow-white female joined the newspaper staff.

Her name? What better than Blizzard (Bliz for short), and she settled in for a long stay, passing away from a heart attack just a few months before Rosemary and I retired in November 2007.

So, as author Trainin Blank proclaims, pets in the office are now all the rage. However, for those of us who toiled over our career in small weekly newspapers of the land, it's nothing new. **B**

William S. Jackson is the former owner and publisher of the Hummelstown Sun.



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