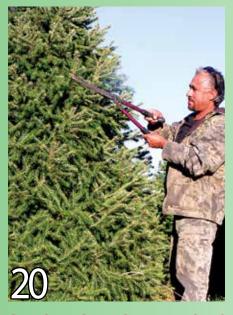


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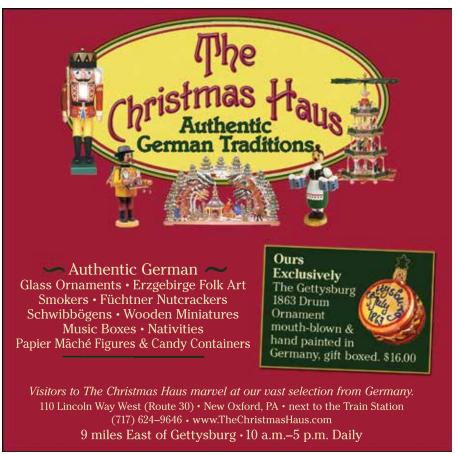
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ON THE COVER

Clair and Louetta Showers founded Showers Tree Farm, along Clearview Road in Aspers, in 1963, when they began planting evergreens on their property. Today, Showers is a multifaceted farm that employs several generations of the Showers family.







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Gettysburg Companion

A publication of Gettysburg Times, LLC

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Tis' the most hectic time of the year.

Without a doubt, the Christmas season is getting busier every year. There are holiday parties to attend, gifts to buy, food to prepare, family to visit and more. It is great to see so many people but what I love the most is seeing the look on my nieces' faces when they open their presents. Christmas is certainly not about gifts, but the looks on the young girls' faces are priceless.

In this issue, we dabble in the holiday season but there is enough variety so those who don't celebrate Christmas or already have their fill of it have something to enjoy.

For many in Adams or surrounding counties, the holiday season starts with a trip to Showers Tree Farm. Showers is celebrating 50 years in business, and Jarrad Hedes has an article about how the tree business has changed over the years.

One of my other favorite parts about Christmas is the music. Nothing puts me in the holiday spirit more than listening to a live choir or band play classic tunes. The Gettysburg Civic Chorus has also been around for more than half of a century and writer Ashley Andyshak Hayes recently spoke to some of its members for an article.

Fred Gantz describes himself a "gypsy." That's a good thing. Many of you may know Fred as a the former Gettysburg Police Chief but writer Jim Hale recently sat down with Fred and learned about his life as a photographer, sociologist and college professor.

Every year, the number one New Year's resolution is to lead a healthier lifestyle. Some are successful, and many fail. Writer Tommy Riggs recently spoke to several men and women who have been living healthy for some time but decided to take their exercise regimen to a new level and train for an endurance event such as a marathon, Tough Mudder or Ironman.

Many people are often searching for things to do between New Year's Day and Easter. It is cold outside, it gets dark early and there seems to be a lack of fun things for the family to do. Writer Jessica Haines explains in this issue's "One tank traveler" why a trip to see the Hershey Bears hockey team is the perfect cure for cabin fever.

This issue also concludes our "Untold Stories" serial that highlighted Adams County's Black History. The Gettysburg Companion appreciates the support we received from Ron Bailey and the Gettysburg Black History Museum to make this feature a success.

Enjoy this issue of Gettysburg Companion and, most importantly, enjoy the Christmas season with your friends and loved ones.



COMMUNITY

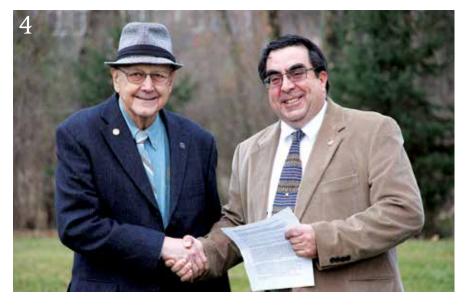
Area residents from all walks of life, who are out & about, doing this & that.

- 1. Pastor Alex Martini took part in communion after the Holy Eucharist with the Rite of Installation at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Littlestown on Nov. 17. He was installed as pastor of the Littlestown congregation by Pastor Shawn Berkebile, who is pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Abbottstown and also secretary of the Hanover Conference. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)
- 2. Sculptor Stan Watts of Salt Lake City, Utah recently visited Gettysburg to deliver an 8-foot statue of President Abraham Lincoln. The statue was installed in front of the Adams County Library on Baltimore Street. (Photo by John Armstrong)
- 3. Thousands of re-enactors participated in the annual Remembrance Day Parade on Nov. 23 in Gettysburg. The parade concluded the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg and the Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. (Photo by John Armstrong)
- **4.** Dick Waybright, left, was awarded the Bill McCleaf Conservation Leadership Award for his lifelong commitment to agriculture in Adams County. A tree was planted at the Adams County Conservation District in his honor. Pictured with Waybright is Charlie Bennett, Conservation District Board Chair. (Photo by Beth Kanagy)
- **5.** Jim Getty, the best-known Abraham Lincoln impersonator, delivers the Gettysburg Address at Soldiers National Cemetery on Nov. 19, the 150th Anniversary of the Address. (Photo by John Armstrong)
- **6.** David Miller holds his Pennsylvania Special Olympics Male Athlete of the Year award. Miller, of Biglerville, has been involved in Special Olympics for seven years and he participates in seven sports, including: basketball, tennis, floor hockey, volleyball, swimming, bowling and track. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)
- 7. Fairfield Superintendent Bill Chain was one of several guest servers at the Fairfield Inn's special dinner for the Fairfield Football Team on Nov. 8. Before the season began, Inn owner John Kramb told the team that if they won five games he would treat them, their coaches and their families to a chicken and biscuits dinner. (Photo by Jim Hale)
- 8. Sgt. Brian Lahr, USMC, was the guest speaker at the Veterans Day assembly at Bermudian Springs Middle School. Lahr, husband of sixth grader teacher Kelcey Lahr, has served two combat tours in Iraq. He addressed the students in grades five through eight and challenged them to become the best students through their mental attitude, strength and teamwork. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)



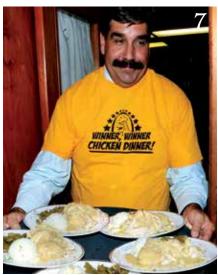














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Now-Dec. 21

Candlelight Christmas Tours will be held at the Shriver House Museum, 309 Baltimore St., Gettysburg. (717) 337-2800. www.shriverhouse.org

Fridays-Sundays through Dec. 22; Dec. 23, Dec. 24

Santa's Shanty is open on Lincoln Square in Gettysburg. gettysburgretailmerchants.com

Saturdays through Dec. 28, 6-9 p.m.

Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, www.hauserestate.com

Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 29

The Jennie Wade House Museum, Baltimore St., Gettysburg, will hold a holiday open house. www.gettysburgbattlefieldtours.com

Saturdays and Sundays in January

The Gettysburg National Military Park presents "Mid-Winter Talks" at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. www.nps.gov/gett

Tuesdays-Thursdays through Dec. 31, 1-4 p.m.

"Expanded Slaves, Soldiers, Citizens: African American Artifacts of the Civil War Era Exhibit" is on display at Musselman Library at Gettysburg College, Gettysburg. www.gettysburg.edu

Now-Dec. 31

"From Lincoln's Desk: A Special Display of Signed Documents" will be on display at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Gettysburg. www.gettysburgfoundation.org

Now-Dec. 31

Celebrate "An Eisenhower Christmas" at the Eisenhower National Historic Site, Gettysburg. www.nps.gov/eise

Now-Dec. 31

Gettysburg 50th and 75th anniversary memorabilia is on display at the Gettysburg Gift Center at the American Civil War Wax Museum, Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmuseum.com

Now-Dec. 31

Boy Scout Memorabilia from the Andrew Chernak Collection will be on display at the Gettysburg Gift Center at the American Civil War Wax Museum. www.gettysburgmuseum.com

Now-Jan. 10

Holiday Festival of Lights will be held at The Outlet Shoppes at Gettysburg. www.theoutletshoppesatgettysburg.com



Dec. 1, 1-3 p.m.

A holiday wreath craft workshop will be held at the Adams County Winery, Orrtanna. www.adamscountywinery.com

Dec. 1, 1-4 p.m.

Wine and design at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. www.hauserestate.com

Dec. 4, 6-9 p.m.

Ladies night at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, www.hauserestate.com

Dec. 4, 7 p.m.

Dr. Allen Guelzo will present a lecture on "The Mind of Abraham Lincoln" at Kline Theater at Gettysburg College. www.meetatgettysburg.com

Dec. 6, 1 p.m.

The Sgt. Mac Foundation will place holiday wreaths at Soldiers' National Cemetery, Gettysburg. Volunteers welcome. (717) 337-1728

Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Rocky Mountain Christmas, a John Denver tribute, will be presented at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. gettysburgmajestic.org

Dec. 6 First Friday

Gettysburg Style, will be observed with specials and refreshments at businesses and galleries throughout downtown Gettysburg. gettysburgretailmerchants.com

Dec. 6-7

The Gettysburg Festival's 4th annual Gingerbread Celebration and Holiday Mart will be held at the Gettysburg Campus of HACC, Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg.www.gettysburgfestival.org

Dec. 6, Dec. 13-14, 7 p.m. & Dec. 7-8, Dec. 15, 2 p.m.

The Gettysburg Community Theatre, 49 York St., Gettysburg, presents "A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens." www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

Dec. 7, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Gettysburg Garden Club's Christmas Greens and Gourmet Gift Sale, Charlie Sterner Building, Gettysburg Rec Park, 545 Long Lane, Gettysburg. (717) 334-7688



Dec. 7-8; Dec. 20-22

Feasts of Christmas will be held at the Historic Fairfield Inn, Main St., Fairfield. (717) 642-5410, www.thefairfieldinn.com

Dec. 7, 5 p.m.

"An Evening with the Painting" will be presented at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg. www.gettysburgfoundation.org

Dec. 7

The annual Olde Getty Place Christmas Parade and tree lighting will be held in downtown Gettysburg

Dec. 7, 1-4 p.m.

A holiday open house to benefit Holiday Family Outreach will be held at Adams County Winery, Orrtanna. www.adamscountywinery.com

Dec. 8

Stress Less Sunday at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, www.hauserestate.com

Dec. 8, 1-3 p.m.

An 1860s Holiday Ball will be held at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Gettysburg. www.gettysburgfoundation.org

Dec. 8, 12-5 p.m.

A Holiday House Tour will be held in New Oxford. Tickets available at the New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce, 27 Center Square, New Oxford. www.newoxford.org

Dec. 8, Dec. 22, 1-4 p.m.

Cookie and wine pairing workshop will be held at the Adams
County Winery, Orrtanna.
www.adamscountywinery.com

Dec. 11, 4-6 p.m.

Wine Down Wednesday at 19 on the Square, Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. www.hauserestate.com

Dec. 11, 6-9 p.m.

Dancing with the Vines at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, www.hauserestate.com

Dec. 13, 7 p.m.

The 18th annual Gettysburg Tuba Carol Fest will be held in Lincoln Square. (717) 334-7719

Dec. 14, 12-5 p.m.

Jeff Shaara and John Weiss will appear at a meet and greet at Lord Nelson's Gallery, 27 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg. www.lordnelsons.com

Dec. 14, 1 p.m.

The Met Live in HD will feature "Falstaff" at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmajestic.org

Dec. 14-15

A holiday open house will be held at the Historic Rupp House, Baltimore St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgfoundation.org

Dec. 14-15

A winter solstice celebration will be held at Liberty Mountain Resort, Carroll Valley. www.libertymountainresort.com

Dec. 14, 12-5 p.m.

The Inns of the Gettysburg Area will present the 17th annual House Tour. www.gettysburgbedandbreakfast.com

Dec. 15, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Pilates with Jennifer at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, www.hauserestate.com



Dec. 15, 3 p.m.

"The Sound of Christmas" will be presented at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmajestic.org (717) 337-8200

Dec. 15, 1-3 p.m.

A home wine making class will be held at the Adams County Winery, Orrtanna. www.adamscountywinery.com

Dec. 31, 5-9 p.m.

A Colonial New Year's Eve Celebration with Cormorant's Fancy will be held at the Historic Fairfield Inn, West Main St., Fairfield. www.thefairfieldinn.com

Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m.

"Babe" will be shown at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmajestic.org

Dec. 31

A New Year's Eve Celebration will be held on Lincoln Square in Gettysburg. www.adamsarts.org



JANUARY

Jan. 3 First Friday

Gettysburg Style, will be celebrated with specials and refreshments at retailers and galleries throughout downtown Gettysburg. gettysburgretailmerchants.com

Jan. 5, 1-4 p.m.

"Eat, Drink and Be Married" Winter Bridal Showcase will be held at Wyndham Gettysburg, Gettysburg. www.wyndhamgettysburg.com

Jan. 6-7, 7 p.m.

Gettysburg Community Theatre, 49 York St., Gettysburg, will hold auditions for teens and adults for "Jesus Christ Superstar." (717) 334-2692 www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

Jan. 10, 7:30 p.m.

The Best of Forbidden Broadway will be held at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmajestic.org (717) 337-8200

Jan. 17, 7-10 p.m.

Dancing with the Local Stars will be held at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmajestic.org

Jan. 18, 5-8 p.m.

Project Gettysburg-Leon's annual auction will be held at Hauser Field House at Gettysburg College. www.gettysburg-leon.org

Jan. 20-21, 7 p.m.

A get acquainted meeting for children

with disabilities ages 8-21 who wish to participate in the musical "Disney's Peter Pan Jr." will be held at the Gettysburg Community Theatre, 49 York St., Gettysburg. (717) 334-2692 www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org

Jan. 23, 6:30 p.m.

Dinosaur Train Live! will be held at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. www.gettysburgmajestic.org (717) 337-8200

Jan. 25

The Inns of the Gettysburg Area present the Innkeepers Civil War Winter Ball. www.gettysburgbedandbreakfast.com

Jan. 26, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

The 9th annual Ryan Lichtenberg Memorial Rail Jam will be held at Liberty Mountain Resort, Carroll Valley. www.libertymountainresort.com

Jan. 29, 7 p.m.

Dr. Allen Guelzo will present a lecture on "The Uncertain President" in Kline Theater at Gettysburg College, Gettysburg. www.gettysburg.edu





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Fred Gantz

a gypsy with many layers

Vou have to give the photo a good long look.

At first you only see the forest, pale aspens standing straight as utility poles in Colorado's San Juan Mountains.

Eventually you notice a single almostblack trunk that doesn't fit with the others, a pine angling steeply to the right.

Finally your eye finds the nude model, tiny with distance, her skin almost aglow at the base of the lone dark tree.

She was the focal point even before you realized she was there.

That's how it is with Fred Gantz – retired Gettysburg police chief, fine-art photographer, sociology professor – the longer you look, the more you see. And before long, the focal point of his wideranging life reveals itself: curiosity.

"I was always a gypsy," he said, eager to experience new places and talk with the people who live there.

He began as a local boy, a 1969 graduate of Gettysburg High School, but he was the kind of teen who felt compelled to hitchhike to New Orleans and Berkeley, Calif. At the latter, he discovered that summer vacation was the wrong time to witness student protests. "Empty tables and a brochure blowing in the wind" is how he remembers the place.

After high school, the self-described "wandering spirit" traveled around the country for a couple of years before being accepted at Susquehanna University. He

wasn't admitted, though. The school had a policy against admitting men who were eligible for the draft.

Gantz wasn't conscripted, but served his nation nonetheless, attending the U.S. Army Intelligence School in Maryland and working for the Department of Defense. His tasks were as simple as reading newspapers and as challenging as a trip to Guatemala.

By 1973, he was back in Gettysburg with his first wife, doing odd jobs. She was a parking enforcement officer, which brought Gantz to the attention of Police Chief Daniel Miller, who offered him a job. Gantz wasn't too keen on the idea — even as a kid, he'd never had Hollywood dreams of "high-speed chases and gun battles" — but he decided the deal was too good to pass up.

And he stuck with the decision, becoming chief himself in 1988 and retiring in 2002. At first, he said, it was hard to be "on the other side of the yellow tape," and if he sees



Fred Gantz with some of his work at the Ragged Edge Coffee House in Gettysburg.

something out of line while he's driving, he still reaches for his radio mike, "but it's not there anymore."

He also still finds himself thinking about people he met as an officer. He recalls an elderly woman he encountered many years ago, blind, who spoke no English, and his concern for her after her husband passed away.

The combination of empathy and curiosity served Gantz well as investigator.

After a series of arson fires in the 1980s, culminating in the near-destruction of the Gettysburg Hotel on Lincoln Square, Gantz said "everybody pretty much knew" who the culprit was, but proof was lacking.

Gantz met with the suspect on Sunday morning, armed with knowledge that would help him make the personal connection he knew was key to winning a confession.

"We compared first wives," Gantz said.

He was confident that topic would be effective because he had interviewed people who knew the suspect, and learned that troubles in the man's relationships seemed to trigger incidents of arson.

After the man served years in prison, Gantz met him by chance in a restaurant.

"He bought me a meal," Gantz said.

The same case had a photographic angle as well. As rubble was cleared from the blackened hotel's shell, Gantz stood atop the elevator shaft, documenting the scene each day as it was gradually uncovered.

"I was the one with a camera, so they called

me," said Gantz, who ended up shooting everything from accidents to autopsies, plus the occasional public relations photos when celebrities came to town, including astronauts and Vietnam War mastermind General William Westmoreland.

Gantz eventually turned hundreds of negatives from his police days over to the Adams County Historical Society. Gettysburg's history didn't end in 1863, he noted.

30, when he entered York College. There, he gained an associate's degree in police science and then a bachelor's in sociology.

The change in major occurred "because I was attacked by a Mennonite lady," Gantz said. He was referring to Dr. Kathy Brace, a professor of behavioral sciences, who "became my mentor" and helped Gantz trust his desire to step past "making plaster casts of footprints" and begin treading his own path. "I wanted literature and philosophy,"

Perhaps because his own road began in the real world before veering into the classroom, his focus as a teacher is on the lived experience of learning

When you watch TV, he said, "you don't think, you just watch." In the same way, he uses PowerPoint sparingly, mostly for images, and never just to splash his lecture notes on the screen. "We're PowerPointed to death," he said.

Similarly, Gantz avoids textbooks, compiling lists of original sources for students to experience as readers. All too often, he said, "we're not teaching students, we're teaching them to memorize."

"There's a difference between being educated and just having a degree," Gantz continued, and that difference is the "intellectual curiosity" that has enriched his life.

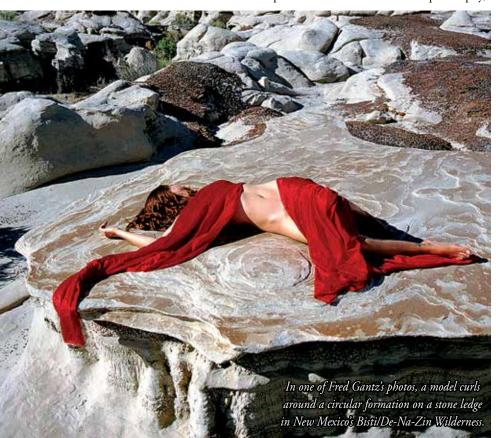
Now, as a tenure-track professor, Gantz teaches several courses each semester on topics ranging from introduction to sociology to marriage and family, criminal law, and the Civil Rights Movement.

The latter, unsurprisingly for a gypsy like Gantz, includes traveling with students to the actual locations where the struggle for equality took place, such as Birmingham, Ala. There, students walk in Kelly Ingram Park, where frightening canine sculptures communicate the fear that peaceful demonstrators felt when police unleashed dogs on them.

Beside the park is the 16th Street Baptist Church, where a racist bombing killed four African-American girls in 1963. Gantz was taking photos of the historic building, but had forgotten it was Sunday. As church members exited after a service, Gantz's natural desire to interact came into play and he engaged the worshipers in conversation. Before long, he was not only permitted to photograph the basement area where the detonation occurred, but also found himself, despite his rumpled traveler's attire, invited to lunch with the church members in their Sunday best.

That same drive to learn through conversation has also helped Gantz in his third profession: fine-art photographer.

His yen for travel frequently takes him to the mountains and deserts of America's



His historical perspective, natural travel bug, and empathetic interest in others combined to create a fascination with the Lincoln Highway, a.k.a. U.S. 30. Gantz has journeyed many miles on the historic road, gathering the stories of the people who live along the nation's first transcontinental highway.

"People like to talk about themselves," Gantz said, and conversations are also oral history interviews.

Social interaction and historical context are the heart of sociology, which Prof. Gantz teaches at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC).

He always intended to go to college, but life kept him too busy until he was almost

he said.

Brace also urged Gantz to enter graduate school. By 1988, he had earned a master's in sociology at the University of Maryland, specializing in social policy and minority relations. Four years later, he added another master's in public administration from Shippensburg University.

Shortly after that first master's, he already knew he wanted to teach. In 1990, he began offering courses as an adjunct professor at HACC in Gettysburg. Over the years he has also taught at Carroll Community College, York College, Mount St. Mary's University, and the University of Maryland. One course he offered was about his beloved Lincoln Highway.

West, where he scouts for days to locate unique settings for photography. Key to the process is interviewing residents to learn about great places.

What makes a place great for Gantz, he said, is a natural resonance between the land's contours and the human anatomy. He seeks spots that not only frame a model, but seem to be waiting for one.

Near Moab, Utah, a local man took Gantz and a model to an otherworldly site where water had eroded the rocks into smooth shapes that echoed both the flow of the stream and the curves of the body. The site was remote, the man said, but safe.

As Gantz and the model worked, he heard a distant rumble.

The model saw concern in the photographer's eyes. "What's wrong?"

Gantz's reply was terse: "We're out of here."

They gathered his gear and fled.

In moments, the shallow stream cascading between rock walls transformed into a torrent several feet deep.

The rumble Gantz had heard was a deadly flash flood about to arrive.

Of course, not every scene hides danger, but Gantz reveals something in each one. A double-exposure transforms a model into a ghost, and makes the viewer wonder about the history of the building she's walking out of. Water momentarily untroubled by the wind reveals the Susquehanna River to be a mirror for Harrisburg's skyline. An unclothed model embodies the vulnerability of a collapsing wooden structure at an old Western mine.

These days, Gantz is experimenting with photographing models in a studio. The models' tattoos are the focus, not just because the body art is visually interesting, but because of what it reveals about the person beneath the skin. Gantz is contemplating a show that would include not only photos, but also texts telling each model's story.

That's how it is with Gantz: you look, you listen, and the inner truth reveals itself.







n Monday evenings this fall, the practice room at St. James Lutheran Church filled with the sounds of 90 voices singing "O Holy Night," "Here We Come A-Wassailing," and other classic Christmas tunes.

This is the Gettysburg Civic Chorus preparing for its annual Christmas show, which has become a local must-see performance. Last year, the chorus added a second performance to both its Christmas and spring concerts to accommodate what had been standing-room-only audiences.

You might not know it by seeing them today, but the Civic Chorus got its start in a member's living room.

From the Beginning

Harold Hollabaugh, along with his twin brother, Don, has been singing with the chorus since its inception 51 years ago. Harold, now 81, remembers setting up folding chairs and benches in front of member Don Jackson's fireplace, where the group would squeeze into the available space to practice. Jackson operated his veterinary hospital out of his home,

so rehearsals were often interspersed with patient visits.

The Civic Chorus filled a need that still exists today, Harold said: to provide singing voices with an outlet and the Gettysburg community with music.

"We try to give people the opportunity to sing outside of the typical church choir," said Curt Musselman, the chorus' current president, who joined in 1994.



The group started with about 30 members under the direction of George P. Heffran. After two years of organizing and rehearsals, which eventually moved from Jackson's living room to the Gettysburg Moose Lodge, the chorus' first public performance was aired on Gettysburg's AM radio station, 1320 WGET, in 1964. The group also sang on the opening night of the South Mountain Fair later that year, performing a varied repertoire including "Seventy-Six Trombones," Shenandoah," and "Psalm 150."

In 1968, Donald Bollinger was asked to direct the chorus for a few weeks, which ultimately became 37 years. While its numbers varied in its first several decades, dropping into the teens some years, the chorus blossomed into a local favorite under Bollinger's direction. It was under his leadership that the group performed at a benefit for the Friends of the Library in 1978, and the chorus has performed concerts in support of the Friends and other community organizations ever since. Bollinger also directed when the chorus sang at the rededication ceremony for the Eternal Light Peace Memorial in Gettysburg in 1988.

Bollinger was a true "music man;" in addition to the Civic Chorus, Bollinger directed choirs at St. James Lutheran, Prince of Peace Episcopal, Christ Lutheran, and Gettysburg Presbyterian churches during his lifetime.

"He was music. It wasn't just a thing to him," Don Hollabaugh said. "He lived to make music."



To 50 Years and Beyond

Bollinger died in 2006, and Tom Kittinger took the reins a year later. Kittinger had directed ensembles for the Littlestown Area School District for his entire career, and became "more of a teacher" to the Civic Chorus as well, Harold said. Kittinger's extensive musical knowledge allowed the chorus to further expand its repertoire of both religious and secular songs.

Today, about 80 percent of the chorus' current members hail from Adams County, Musselman said. The rest come from within a 50-mile radius, including towns

"That's one of the reasons it's survived all these years."

Kittinger brought another talented addition to the chorus: accompanist Sharon Hedges Gattens. Gattens began accompanying Kittinger's ensembles on piano





as close as Emmitsburg and Taneytown in Maryland and as far away as Lebanon, Pa. Members range in age from high school seniors to those in their 80s. The group has added a few more younger members in recent years, as students who knew Kittinger in high school wanted to sing under his direction as adults, Musselman said.

"(Singing) is something you can keep doing," no matter your age, he said.

Harold Hollabaugh credits the chorus' varied repertoire with its continued growth and success. The group's Christmas shows feature religious and secular pieces, and its spring shows have featured everything from classical and religious selections to Broadway show tunes.

"It needs to be that way," Harold said.

nearly 40 years ago, when she was just 12 years old and a sixth-grade student in Littlestown.

"I have accompanied many individuals and choirs over the past 36 years, and the GCC is the most professional and the most fun group of people I have ever been around," Gattens wrote in the chorus' fiftieth anniversary history.

The chorus celebrated its golden anniversary year in 2012, and added a second show to both of its performances for the occasion. The extra shows were intended to be a special addition just for the anniversary year, but the group decided to keep them going forward since they filled the chapel at the Lutheran Theological Seminary for each show.



"We used to be standing room only," Musselman said. "(This) worked out better."

Over the past 50 years, the chorus has remained a true community ensemble. In addition to its annual concerts, the chorus sings at area churches and retirement homes, as well as events like the annual Relay for Life in Adams County.

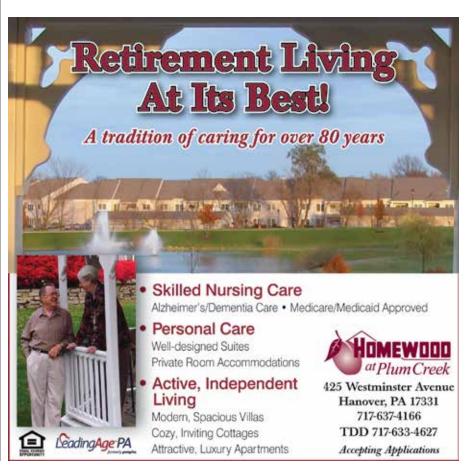
The Gettysburg community also recognizes the gem in their midst: the Civic Chorus was named "Pick of the County" in the *Gettysburg Times*' annual contest this year as voted by readers, taking first place in the Free Entertainment category.

The chorus now has bylaws and elected officers, and proceeds from a fundraiser in 2010 allowed them to purchase their own risers so they no longer have to borrow from other groups or churches. Despite the growth and changes over the years, the spirit of the members is the same as it has always been: to sing for the enjoyment of themselves and anyone who is listening. The chorus still doesn't hold tryouts, giving everyone with a love of singing an opportunity to perform. Kittinger has a knack for managing a wide range of voices, Harold said.

"If you love to sing, come join us," he said. "It's about as professional as anything you wanted to listen to. I'm proud to be a part of it."

The Gettysburg Civic Chorus will perform its annual Christmas concert on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m., with a repeat performance Dec. 8 at 3 p.m., in the chapel at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg. The chorus' spring concert is scheduled for June 7 and 8, 2014.







By Jarrad Hedes | Photos by Darryl Wheeler

The holiday season brings a lot of families together, but there are few places where that is as visibly apparent as Showers Tree Farm in Aspers.

Managed by Clair Showers, 82, and his 32-year-old grandson Matt Showers, the family business is celebrating its 50th year selling evergreens to retail and wholesale customers, all while trying to spread a little Christmas cheer.

"Every weekend, from Thanksgiving to Christmas, our family comes together here," Matt said. "A lot of my family and my in-laws all come to help with the trees and make food and hot chocolate. Then you look around and see the families who come to get trees and you watch the kids running around the farm. It really drives home why we're here and why we do this."

Planting and harvesting trees has truly run in the Showers' blood. Clair planted his first tree around 10th grade. He and wife Louetta founded Showers Tree Farm, along Clearview Road in Aspers, in 1963, when they began planting evergreens on their property.

"I always wanted to do it and so I did," Clair said. "We had better times then. A lot of people who have been in it a long time are going out of it."

They had a few acres planted within a couple years and began selling wholesale trees as well as allowing customers to cut their own.

"It was \$4 to cut your own tree at the beginning," Clair said. "I planted 2,000 trees my first year and kept increasing it after that."

Toward the end of the 1970s, the operation had grown to the point where more and more of the Showers family was getting involved. Matt worked at the farm, now spanning 350 acres, all through his childhood. In fact, he grew up in the house where he, his wife Sonya and their four children reside. After graduating from Biglerville High School, working on grandpa's farm became a full-time gig for Matt.

"This is what I wanted to do. You can do different things in different seasons and that just keeps it exciting." ~Matt Showers

"I was probably 19 or 20 when I started managing the whole farm for my grandfather," Matt said. "Over the years, he turned the apple growing part of the operation over to me and I still manage the Christmas trees for him. We also do beans, corn and a little hay." The constant variety of the job intrigued Matt. According to his description, he didn't spend a lot of time choosing between the family business and another career path.

"This is what I wanted to do," he said.
"You can do different things in different seasons and that just keeps it exciting.

for a few months. The main thing is, there is something different for each time of the year and for a guy that likes being outside, this is where it's at."

Showers Tree Farm is open from the day after Thanksgiving to Christmas Eve for pre-cut and cut your own Christmas tree customers. While it may take a family just a few minutes to cut down the three which will grace their living room for the next month or so, grooming that perfect evergreen is a much more detailed operation. After Showers and his staff plant a seedling, it takes six-to-eight years of maintenance to get a tree to its optimal appearance.

"In that time, we're moving and spraying and trimming until we can start harvesting," Matt said.

The farm includes 45 acres of cut your own trees.



During fall, you're harvesting apples and then you go right into Christmas tree season. In January and February, you're pruning the apple trees. In April, you start planting the seedlings for the Christmas trees. In June, you start trimming and you're pruning the pines

"We start cutting trees the week before Thanksgiving and then its pretty much constant through the holiday season," Matt explained. "A lot of our wholesale customers call us as they need to restock their lot and we'll keep cutting them. That way, our wholesale customers are always getting fresh trees and not ones that have been sitting around for a month or so. We cut on a week-to-week basis."

The live tree collection at Showers include American arborvitae, blue spruce, Canaan fir, Canadian hemlock, Engleman spruce, Douglas fir, Norway spruce, Serbian spruce, sheared white pine and white spruce. Cut trees include blue spruce, Canaan fir, Engleman spruce, Douglas fir, Fraser fir, Norway spruce and sheared white pine.

"Douglas and Frasier firs are always popular," Clair said. "Everybody knows them and they can withstand heat the best."

Despite a Christmas tree industry that Clair described as struggling, Showers has stayed the course. Matt again pointed to the farm's diversity as a reason why.

"My grandfather always said, don't put all your eggs in one basket," he said. "If you have a bad year in Christmas trees, you might have a good year with the apples. And it could be the other way around. I think that goes for any business. The more diverse you are and the more you can do, the better off you are."

Clair called Christmas tree season a gamble.

"Sometimes you hit it big, sometimes you don't," he laughingly said.

But what is the key to growing the perfect tree?

"A decent rain over the summer months and a fairly dry fall," Matt said. "That helps them keep their color. But the most important thing is you need to have people trimming them that know what they are doing and take pride in it. If our guys aren't trimming them nice, you have nothing to sell. We have a good crew. Miguel Pizano has worked for us for 22 years. He taught me a lot of what I know."

According to the National Christmas Tree Association, there are close to 350 million Christmas trees currently growing on Christmas tree farms in the United States alone and about 25 to 30



year. In 2011, on average, real Christmas trees sold for almost \$35, whereas fake Christmas trees sold for double the price. According to Matt, Showers Tree Farm is holding its own.

"We move about the same amount every year," he said. "Our retail business is going up and that could be with some small businesses around us closing down. Overall, I think people like the feel of walking through the 45 acres and looking for their tree. Nobody bothers them."





The price could also have something to do with it, Matt added. Showers charges \$35 for any variety of Christmas tree at any size.

"We get a lot of customers from Maryland and northern Virginia," Matt said. "They like that pricing structure. They have told us it is worth the money to them to drive up here and get a tree."

Perhaps the biggest draw to the farm more than 50 years has been the family atmosphere, Louetta explained.

"You have a lot of people that came when they were kids and now they are bringing their children," she said.

A few years ago, a customer told Clair he had been getting his tree at the farm for 20 or 25 years.

"Pap told them to take the tree," Matt recalled. "He said they earned it."

Clair and Louetta are still very visible during the holiday season. The two can often be found sitting at the end of the road leading to the farm in their 1970 Chevrolet Suburban. "They sit down there and you pay them on the way out for the cut your own trees," Matt said. "We stay up here for the most part, loading wholesale orders."

The family business has had a longstanding tradition of charitable giving, which Matt said he also picked up from his grandfather. Last year, for example, the farm hosted a charity day when a portion of all sales were donated to the family of Daniel May, an upper Adams County resident killed in an automobile accident.

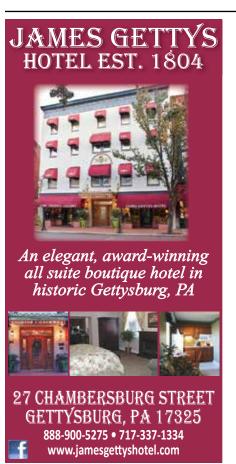
"We frequently also have Boy Scout troops here with concession tables," Matt said. When families head to the farm, it becomes much more than just buying a Christmas tree, according to Sonya. Kids can bring their letters to Santa and place them in his mailbox for pick up by the Polar Postal Service.

A picture spot allows families to pose with Santa, or as a Christmas Elf. Santa's antique sleigh and tractor also overlooks the country landscape. A tractor and wagon ride, provided by South Mountain Antique Engine Association, rolls through the scenic country side to see the family's collection of elk. There is also a Christmas craft store and jolly old Santa Claus himself visits the farm a few December weekend per year.

"The hayrides and the picture spots are all free," Sonya added. "We've really tried to stay customer friendly."

The family will have little time to reflect on 50 years in the business, however, before they begin to look to the future.

"I'm hoping in another 50 years, I'm sitting where my grandfather is and one of my boys is in this chair," Matt said. "But we'll keep plugging along. They'll do what they want and if this is what they want, it will be here for them."







Endurance events provide physical fitness, personal achievement

Story and Photos BY TOMMY RIGGS

triathlons, Tough Mudders, and other extreme endurance events has been on the rise in recent years. These events draw a crowd of people searching for excitement, challenge, and a sense of self-achievement.

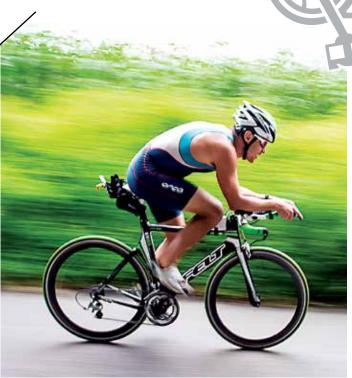
People with all different types of running and athletic backgrounds compete in these events. Some have been running their whole lives, some started in school, and others started in adult life. All participants generally have one thing common when it comes to these events — the desire to push themselves to meet their goals.

Currently, the most popular of these endurance events in the United States is the half-marathon (13.1 miles).

According to runningusa.org, "over the past decade, the half-marathon has become America's most popular distance by virtually any metric: by finisher growth, by debut half-marathons, by 'buzz.'"

In 2012, U.S. half-marathons had an estimated record 1.85 million finishers and a 14.9 percent increase from 2011 (1,610,000 to 1,850,000).

Gettysburg College graduate and Frederick, Md. resident Jenny Donoghue has completed 12 half-marathons and four marathons. Originally into soccer, she started running in high school before running













longer distances on her own. Her favorite distance, by far, is the half-marathon.

"Half-marathons are still a pretty substantial accomplishment," she said. "It's something you work hard for and you train for, but training to run 13.1 miles doesn't take over your life, and recovering from race day doesn't take several weeks like it does for a marathon. The half-marathon provides a good medium to test speed and endurance."

Full marathons are 26.2 miles. According to runningusa.org, there were a record 518,000 marathon finishers in 2011. The number dropped slightly in 2012, but that is mostly because the 2012 ING New York City Marathon was canceled due to Superstorm Sandy. The NYC Marathon event is the world's largest marathon. Also, over the past 15 years, U.S. marathons collectively have averaged just under 2.5 percent finisher growth per year, so participation is still rising.

Gettysburg North-South Marathon and Gettysburg Blue-Gray Half-Marathon race director and running coach Lowell Ladd has completed 17 marathons,



winning seven. Ladd has been running for 23 years, ever since he started running to get in shape for football.

"I realized that I was pretty good at running," he said. "I ran all through high school and college. I was an all-American in the 10,000 (meters) in college, and I started marathons when I was 25. I was more predisposed toward long races. I probably should have gotten into ultramarathons, but I never got into it."

Ultramarathons are any running races that involve going farther than the traditional 26.2 marathon miles.

Gettysburg College graduate and Frederick, Md. resident Fred Schumacher will enter the JFK 50-miler in Washington County, Md. for the 40th consecutive year in November 2013. Going annually since 1963, the race is the longest operating 50-miler in the country. Schumacher is tied for the second most finishes for the event, at 36, going for number 37 this year. Aside from military training, he was never into running before he took on the challenge of the 50-miler.

"That was an experience," he said. "It was my first road race ever. I had run a mile for a PT test. There were 1,355 people lined up at the start of the 50-miler in April (1974), and it was the most miserable weather we have had in 40 years. It was 38-40 degrees and pouring rain, turned to sleet. I had no idea about the terrain. This was the worst I've ever felt. I crossed the finish line in 12.5 hours."

Schumacher told himself he would never run the race again after his first finish. However, the event moved to November, and he got a JFK 50-miler finisher plaque in the mail, both of which pushed him to









try it again. He has entered the race every year since.

An event that can take around the same amount of time as a 50-mile race is an Ironman triathlon. Participation in triathlons in general has seen substantial growth in the last 15 years.

USATriathlon.org has seen unprecedented membership growth in the past decade and a half. At the end of 1999, there were 127,824 members. By 2005, the membership number had doubled to 262,703, and by 2009, the number had increased to 441,060. There was a 13.8 percent growth in 2012, ending with a record 550,446 members.

There are numerous triathlon distances, but all of them involve three phases – swimming, biking, and running. They range from short distance – a total generally between 6 and 23 miles – to the long-distance Ironman triathlon, which involves a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bicycle ride, and a marathon 26.2-mile run.

Gardners resident Mike Bupp completed an Ironman triathlon this past summer. When he was younger, Bupp said he was fairly athletic and good at running, but he didn't have what it takes to excel.

"I was told that I didn't have the mental or physical discipline to ever complete a marathon," he said. "The older I become, the more I'm realizing life is what you make it. If you want something, take it. As an adolescent, my outlook was completely opposite."

Bupp's first race ever was the Kansas City Marathon, and he has now completed nine marathons including the one to end his Ironman triathlon. He started doing triathlons a few years ago, and he became passionate about them, enough to take on the most extreme of them.

"I wanted to conquer one the greatest physical challenges I know of (in the Ironman)," he said.

Gettysburg resident Tammie Brush-Campbell has run numerous marathons and triathlons as well. She started running in college.

"At that time, I could only run one mile at a time," she said. "I loved running, so I kept building up miles over the years and finally did my first marathon. I was hooked and did several more including Boston."

Overtraining and injuries forced her to do more cross training, and that is when she began swimming and biking as well.

"I started once again from the

beginning," she said. "I could only swim about three laps when I started and built up to 4.4 miles in the (Chesapeake) Bay. Same with biking. Then, I put the love for all three sports together and started to compete in triathlons. My goal now is to do a full Ironman."

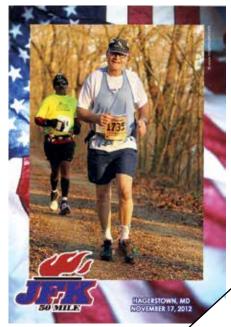
Another endurance event that has been on the rise in

recent years is obstacle course racing. There are several different typesout there, including 5Ks, 5-7 milers, 15Ks, and 10-12 milers. The Tough Mudder, a 10-12-mile challenge with 25 military-style obstacles, is widely considered the most demanding of them all. According to toughmudder.com, participation has grown from 20,000 people in 2010 to more than 460,000 in 2012, and the event series is now international. Tough Mudder's first event was held on May 2, 2010 at Bear Creek Resort in Allentown, Pa.

Arendtsville resident Matt Jenkins was introduced to the Tough Mudder through











a friend, and he has now completed three of these events.

"I've been running since I was about 19, but had never really pushed myself past five miles. I was definitely never into this type of extreme activity (Tough Mudders) in the past, but I'm glad I tried it," said Jenkins.

Training for any of these extreme endurance events is different for everybody, but all training programs' require time, motivation, will, and most of all, discipline.

"When I decided to do a Tough Mudder, I knew I'd have to push my body further than I ever had, as far as training," said Jenkins. "So when I started training, I followed a 15K (9.3-mile) training schedule. This way, I knew I could build my endurance up to 10-12 miles. I also included a lot of hill training, since I knew

that would be part a huge part of the course."

For strength training, to help with the obstacles, Jenkins focused on body weight exercises including pushups, pullups, and dips.

"The thing I enjoyed most about training was pushing my body to limits I

There is no better feeling than finishing an event that you have trained so hard for. I always say that event day is your reward.

Tammy Brush-Campbell

had never tested before," he said. "I'm not a fitness guru by any means, and it was neat seeing my endurance and strength increase week after week. Finishing three Tough Mudder events was a tremendous feeling and knowing how hard I worked to get there made it all worth it when you're crossing the finish line."

Bupp spoke of the commitment it takes to train.

"Marathoning, half irons and full irons requires a huge commitment, both mentally and physically," said Bupp. "Weeks can consist of 10 - 20 plus hours (of training). You have to prioritize – most likely, something will have to give. Though, if you commit to a big race, never sacrifice your training. Stay focused, train hard, set goals, achieve your goals no matter what, and great things will happen."





Schumacher says he didn't follow a training program for his annual 50-miler until the past couple of years. Now, he follows an annual progression in which he runs a half-marathon, a full marathon, and then the 50-miler.

Even for the fittest of athletes, motivation for training is hard to come by some days. They build mental toughness by pushing themselves even without the motivation.

"The main thing I had to do was have the discipline to follow the running schedule to build up my endurance," said Jenkins. "On days I didn't feel like training, I knew I had to dig deep down to find the motivation to do it, and that's what I did. I kept telling myself, 'I don't want to collapse in the middle of this thing, so I've got to work hard now so I don't."

A question so often asked to endurance athletes is why they put themselves through the months of training and the pain of pushing themselves to their physical and mental limits.

"Personal accomplishment," said Campbell. "There is no better feeling than finishing an event that you have trained so hard for. I always say that event day is your reward" said Brush-Campbell.

Bupp echoed that sentiment and talked about the discipline he gets from his training.

"I enjoy reaching my goals and bettering myself, plus the occasional age group victory and 5K win is fulfilling," he said. "Endurance sports have taught me valuable lessons and have made me much stronger both physically and mentally. The discipline has spilled over into so many other facets of my life."

Ladd commented that the runners he coaches also participate in the long races for the self-satisfaction above all else.

"For 99.9 percent of people, the marathon will be the hardest thing you do (in training)," he said. "People aren't doing 26 miles of hard running in training. The toll that it takes on the body is too substantial. People do these events not because it's healthy, but because it makes them feel good. It gives them a sense of accomplishment."

Donoghue enjoys running partly for the intangible benefits she receives from it.

"It's a big stress reliever," she said. "It's very clarifying and refreshing. Running races also gives me a goal to work toward. I really like the satisfaction of walking away with a medal around my neck proving that I accomplished an athletic feat."

Donoghue also enjoys racing because it is an individual sport, and the running community is supportive.

Schumacher welcomes the challenge of completing the JFK 50-miler every year.

"The first couple years, it was, 'can I do it again this year?" he said. "After that, it was, 'you've got 20-25-30 finishes. It's a challenge every year. It's something to train for, and it's not something a lot of people do."

Schumacher also does it for the camaraderie.

"There's a whole group that comes from Canada and a group from Ohio," he said. "You get to meet people and run with them year after year, sort of like a homecoming event. It's always great."





ONE TANK

Short trips you can take on one tank of gas.

BY JESSICA A. HAINES
PHOTOS COURTESY OF HERSHEY
ENTERTAINMENT AND RESORTS COMPANY



The Hershey Bears



A small black, rubber puck skitters across the ice as 10 skilled skaters chase it.

At either end, goalies await the group, weaving back and forth in front of the goal, stick ready to cut into the action and prevent the other team from scoring.

Somewhere near the edge of the ice, one man slams another into the glass - they were just trying to get to the puck.

Another player takes it as a slight. Out of nowhere, the gloves come off time to fight!

The crowd roars to their feet, cheering on their team. Horns sound. Officials eventually break in and play resumes.

Most in attendance are saying "What a great game!"

It's just another night at the Giant Center, home of The Hershey Bears.

The Hershey Bears are a professional hockey team playing in the American

Hockey League (AHL).

Winners of 11 Calder Cup championships, the team is the top affiliate of the NHL's Washington Capitals.

Led by Coco the Bear, legions of fans cheer on the Bears every winter - October through April - from the stands of the Giant Center.

The Bears are descended from the Hershey B'ars, which was founded in 1932. Hershey received its AHL franchise in 1938. Over the years the team has been affiliated with

several NHL parent teams, with the Washington Capitals taking affiliation in 2005.

Hockey is a fairly simple game. Two teams of six each - one goalie and five players - work to score more goals than the other. Players are assigned positions such as forward and defense, but are free to move around the ice as they please.

Periods - there are three - begin with the face off in the center of the ice, where two opposing forwards angle past each other to get control of the

IF YOU GO

The Hershey Bears

Giant Center • 550 W. Hersheypark Drive, Hershey, PA 17033 www.hersheybears.com • (717) 508 - BEAR

Advance tickets: 100-level - \$24.50, 200-level - \$18.50

Game Day Tickets: 100-level - \$26.50, 200-level - \$20.50 Check the schedule at www.hersheybears.com for details

on home games, promotions, food specials and more.

puck.

The game is fairly physical, with players regularly body checking each other as they slide back and forth across the rink. Penalties come often for inappropriate play or fighting.

When a player is in the penalty box, their team is down a man, resulting in a power play for the opposing team.

Play moves fast, requiring attendees to watch the puck closely to know how the game is progressing. But the clock stops often enough for anyone to catch up.

Attending a hockey game, like attending other sporting events, is an experience unto itself.

Hockey fans are rabid - they have strong feelings about the teams they are rooting for, and are unafraid to show them. They are also amazingly friendly and generous.

During our first game at the Giant Center, our neighbors were quick to demonstrate the Hershey Bears cheer: "B-E-A-R-S BEARS BEARS BEARS!" It came in handy whenever a goal was scored. Had we told our neighbors it was our first hockey game (it wasn't) they were prepared to explain the basics.

But a Hershey Bears game isn't

just about the hockey. It's about the experience.

Concessions galore - particularly draft beers, and hearty comfort food - are available throughout the Giant Center complex.

Where else can one purchase both Labatt Blue and Troegs on tap? Or enjoy both wings and Turkey Hill ice cream at the same time?

Food includes regular offerings like hamburgers, hotdogs, and fries, as well as popcorn, pretzels, and a variety of Italian dishes.

Food specials often pop up throughout the season. Be sure to plan your visits to the food stands carefully! It's hard to break away from watching the game, but lines are long between periods.

Plus, the activities between periods are not to be missed. The night we attended, crowds raucously cheered as Coco the Bear used an air cannon to shoot t-shirts into the arena. Meanwhile, a remote-controlled blimp bestowed treats from above on lucky attendees.

Other between-period activities have included sumo wrestling and amateur shoot out competitions.

Giveaways are also a regular part







THINGS TO CONSIDER

Giant Center is handicap accessible, with seating available for people with a variety of mobility concerns. Elevators are available to reach upper levels, and level ramps and wide walkways provide easy access throughout the facility. Outside food and drink is not permitted inside the Giant Center, but several dining options are available nearby, including fast food and casual dining. Other attractions close to the Giant Center include Hersheypark, The Hotel Hershey, Hershey's Chocolate World, and Troegs Brewing Company. Games consist of three, 20-minute periods, but with breaks and time between periods included, games last more than two hours.



of the Hershey Bears experience. During the 2013-2014 season, planned giveaways include pint glasses, lottery tickets, bobble heads and more. Plus events like the Teddy Bear toss allow attendees the chance to give back to the community.

And, for fans who would like to take their Hershey Bears devotion to the next level, the team store has a variety of items available for sale, including practice pucks, jerseys, t-shirts, small keepsakes and the most important items: foam hats shaped like hockey pucks, and foam bear claws.

In the end, attending a Hershey Bears game is about love of the game: love of the Bears, love of the atmosphere, love of the food and experience, or yes, even love of the fights.

And that experience is readily available, just an hour to the north of Adams County on one tank of gas.

HOW TO GET THERE FROM GETTYSBURG

From Adams County, head north on Route 15. Merge right onto Route 581 E, then merge onto Route 83 toward Harrisburg and Hershey. Take exit 46B toward Route 322. Follow Route 322 for 6.8 miles, then continue onto Route 422 E. Merge onto Pa-39 West and follow signs for Hershey attractions. Turn right onto Park Blvd. The Giant Center and parking lots are on the right.



GETTYSBURG, PA 17325

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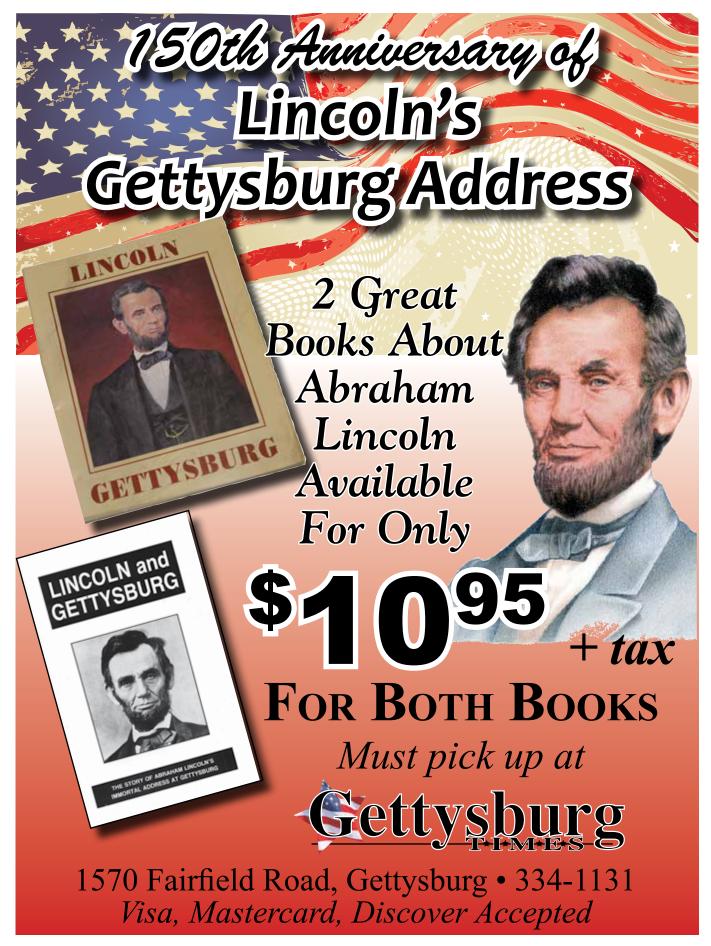
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DELECTABLE

BY HOLLY FLETCHER
PHOTOS BY DARRYL WHEELER



Farnsworth House Inn:

A tasty Civil War experience



What better place for a Civil War themed restaurant than Gettysburg?

The Historic Farnsworth House Inn, located at 401 Baltimore Street in downtown Gettysburg, was once occupied by Confederate sharpshooters, who left more than 100 bullet holes throughout the house. It is believed that the bullet that killed Jennie Wade, the only civilian casualty during the Battle of Gettysburg, was fired by a Confederate soldier from the attic.

Guests can eat in a covered garden beside a springfed stream, in the Civil War-era tavern with its vast collection of props form the movie "Gettysburg," or in the main dining room decorated with period furniture, portraits of Union and Confederate generals, pewter goblets and authentic photos by Matthew Brady.

The dining room menu is served by waiters in period costume. Favorites include spoon bread, made of cornmeal and served warm, and the popular goober peanut soup, with a creamy rich flavor.

One of the top selling items on the menu is game pie - tender crusts filled with savory chunks of pheasant, duck and turkey in thick gravy - and served in a pewter pot.

"This is a five-star facil- 🗡 ity inn and tavern and we want the food to also match the experience."

Chef Ed Tobin "Some nights, the game pie makes up 50 percent of our business," said Loring Shultz, Farnsworth House owner for 40 years. "We are thinking of marketing it

Ann Smeltzer, prep cook, prepares the irresistible dough for the pies. She also tempts guests with molasses shoofly pie with crumb topping and a double chocolate layer cake, served with vanilla ice cream.

and making it available for guests to take

home."

The Farnsworth's pumpkin fritters, Shultz added, are their number one selling side dish.

Other edible favorites include prime rib, grilled salmon, slippery pot pie and homemade meatloaf.

More favorites for the sweet tooth include a rum cream pie made with real rum, and black walnut apple cake made from scratch with hot nutmeg sauce.

Chef Ed Tobin has been on staff for the past six months. He is from the New England area and has added more seafood dishes, to complement the Civil War era

"We cater to both the tourist and the locals by offering them a nice selection," he said, noting that the drunken sea scallops, sautéed in Chablis, and his baked stuffed lobster are just two sought-after specialties.

As chief cook, he has added some modern flair to the menu and has also

worked to modernize the kitchen.

"This is a five-star facility inn and tavern and we want the food to also match the experience," he said. "We made some tweaks in the kitchen and have a good staff. I am proud of what we have accomplished."

Tobin, who has been cooking for more than 35 years, said he and his wife had visited Gettysburg often and decided to relocate to the area when their kids went off to college.

"It's the best of both worlds," he said. "I love to cook and I love history, so I get to be head cook in a historic house in one of the most historic towns - it's great!"

New this summer was the inn's outdoor beer garden where guests could enjoy





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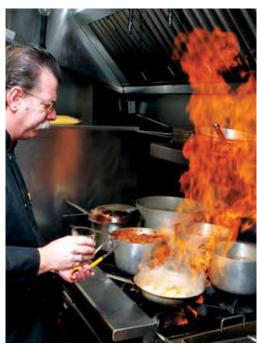
refreshing ale or a glass of wine.

"We get a lot of walking traffic and the crowds seem to love it," said Shultz, adding that nightly entertainment from local performers is enjoyed in the summer months and weekends in the fall

Before Shultz bought the Farnsworth House in 1972, he worked for Football Hall of Famer, Gino Marchetti of the Baltimore Colts, as a commissary manager. A Gettysburg native, his ultimate dream was to open a restaurant where guests could dine in the atmosphere of Civil War Gettysburg.

When the family found the house on Baltimore Street, they worked hard to restore it to its former glory.





"People came here to eat and they wanted to stay overnight, so we bought the gray house next door and made the property a Bed & Breakfast – we now have 11 Victorian-themed rooms," he said.

The establishment has won awards and recognition over the years. It has hosted dignitaries, movie stars, and military generals. Even Mamie Eisenhower was a frequent guest.

Built in 1810, along one of the main roads through Gettysburg, the Farnsworth House Inn is said to be haunted by Civil War soldiers. According to the Travel Channel, it is one of the most haunted inns in America.

"We were the originators of the ghost walks," said Shultz, noting that their popular Mourning Theatre and Candlelight Walking Tours have continued for the past 20 years.

Although some of his staff and his family have seen paranormal activity, Shultz said he has not.

"I'm not sure why I haven't seen anything," he said. "I am all about the Civil War."

He recalled his boyhood days of digging in trees for bullets with his friends near Culp's Hill. He even named his establishment in honor of Union General Elon Farnsworth, killed on the slopes of Big Round Top.

For Shultz, it's all about keeping that history fun and alive. He created a Civil War camp across the street where soldiers give presentations about weapons and camp life.

"It's popular with our bus tours and I plan to open it up to school groups, as well," he said.

According to Shultz, it's the combination of hospitality and history that keeps people coming back to the Farnsworth House Inn.

For more information and dining hours, visit their website at www. farnsworthhouseinn.com or call for reservations at 334-8838.







THE UNTOLD STORY

History of Gettysburg's black families museum's core, advisor says



By Ashley Andyshak Hayes

love of genealogy and family history has been with him since childhood.

Growing up in Denmark, S.C., the grandson of a formerly enslaved African named Richard Parler, Jr., he had ample opportunities to hear his family's story from his mother and sisters.

"My mother and sisters were devoted to their family history, so I learned from a young age," he said.

As he grew older, Matthews traced his family's roots in the United States back to 1762, and eventually traced his lineage back to Killingsworth Castle in Scotland. He wrote The Matthews Method in African American Genealogical Research: How to Trace Your Family History about his experience, and this work has been called one of the top 24 guides to family research, he said.

When Matthews lived in Gettysburg 25 years ago, serving as thedean of intercultural advancement at Gettysburg College, he said he met many African American young peoplewho lamented the fact that the history of their ancestors was not being

taught in schools. He put his love for and knowledge of family research to work once again, this time in Gettysburg's Lincoln Cemetery, where he identified and traced more than 30 black soldiers buried there.

Matthews' work in Gettysburg inspired his book "Whence They Came: The Families of U.S. Colored Troops in Gettysburg, Pa." This book has been referenced by many historians as the "most authentic work" covering local U.S. Colored Troops and their families, Matthews said.

Matthews began working at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y., in 1993. There he founded the U.S. Colored Troops Institute for Local History and Family Research, and today, Matthews is the executive director of the institute as well as the associate dean and director of the college's U.S. Pluralism Center.

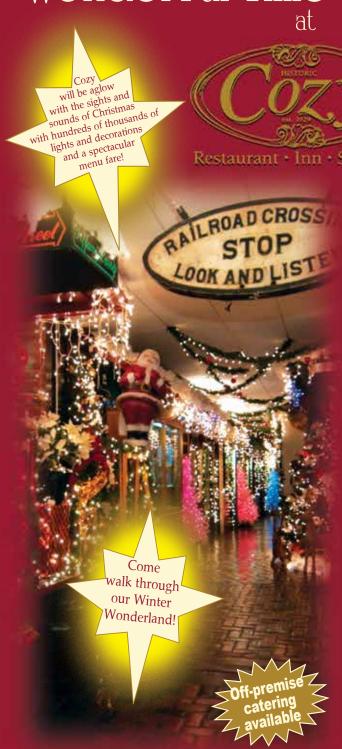
His research on the USCT and their families connected him with those who are working to establish a Black History Museum in Gettysburg. Matthews said that that several families descended from USCT soldiers still live in the area, and their experience is valuable in connecting the past with the present.

"The families of those soldiers are still living here, and we began talking about how the African American community in Gettysburg could become a showpiece," Matthews said.

Matthews is now an advisor to the Gettysburg Black History Museum, which itself is a member of the USCT Institute. This affiliation can help connect the museum with other individuals and organizations across the U.S. that are involved with the USCT and their families, he said. These kinds of connections are crucial for the success of any project, he said, but the core of the Black History Museum is the history of Gettysburg's black families,

"Local families...need to be brought into the discussion. They are the historical link," he said. "It's always important to have some local people directly involved in the planning and execution of what's going to take place. For the benefit of the community as a whole, all the different entities need to be able to sit down and try to make connections with each other and support for each other. The African American voice needs to be heard."

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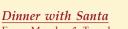
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