

# The Gettysburg Companion

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ensure orchestra's  
beat goes on**

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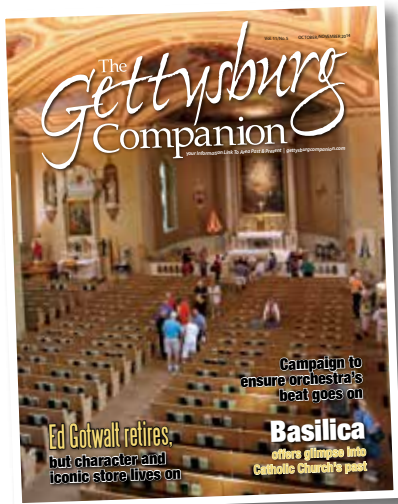
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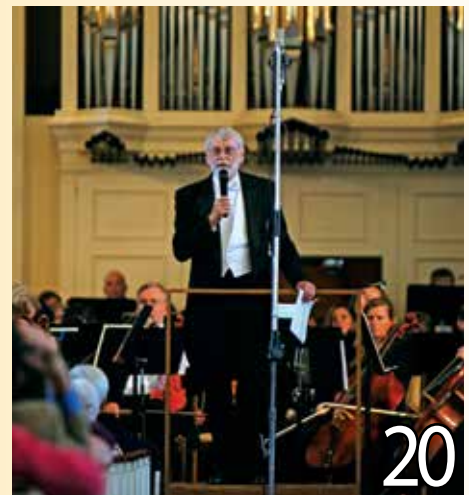
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## ON THE COVER

Beautiful pieces of art and sculptures adorn the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Conewago Township. The church's history predates America's Revolutionary War and the church's longtime pastor, Father Lawrence McNeil, recently hosted a tour of the worship space, as seen here in this photo by John Armstrong.



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**EDITOR'S**  
**Notebook**  
BY ALEX J. HAYES

## Art and music seem to be the theme behind this issue of Gettysburg Companion.

Writer Ashley Andyshak Hayes recently had the opportunity to visit the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Adams County's Conewago Township to learn about the role the church played in American history. The basilica is the oldest stone Catholic Church in the United States that is still in use, and stands as a tribute to the first Catholic community in Adams County. The art that adorns the basilica is breathtaking and can be appreciated by anyone, regardless of his or her religious beliefs.

Those who built the basilica did so out of love for God, much like Norman and Carolyn Nunamaker created the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra out of a love for music and their community. The orchestra has entertained audiences for almost 20 years with Norm at the helm, but the maestro acknowledges that a time will come when someone else will have to take his baton. Norman hopes the new conductor, whoever he or she may be, will be paid better than he was. Norman only received personal satisfaction for his work. Writer Vanessa Pellechio recently sat down with Norm and his wife, Carolyn, and writes about a capital campaign designed to guarantee future generations will enjoy concerts by the Orchestra.

Much like Catholics in Conewago Township created a church, and Norm and Carolyn created an orchestra, Mr. Ed Gotwalt created a character based on someone he knows very well, himself. Ed Gotwalt recently sold Mr. Ed's Elephant Museum and Candy Emporium to his granddaughter and her husband, Nicole and Isaac Bucher. The Buchers are now in charge of the iconic Route 30 store, but they assure writer Jim Hale that the character of Mr. Ed will live on for many more years.

Some of my favorite art is edible, and I am planning on visiting Inn 94 soon after reading Holly Fletcher's story on the 34-year-old business and seeing the photos of some of the food that is available.

A lot of art is manmade, but some is created naturally. The world beneath the sea offers many stunning colors and patterns that can please the eye. Luckily, you do not need scuba gear to sneak a peek. Writer Jessica Rudy takes us to the Baltimore Aquarium for this issue's "One Tank Traveler."

I hope you enjoy this issue, and all that fall in Adams County offers. Maybe I will see you at one of our many orchards or we will find ourselves lost together in a corn maze.

# COMMUNITY Faces

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

**1.** Members of the community take a stroll on the Gettysburg Seminary's walking trail on Sept. 3 during the first Healthy Adams County Walking Party of the season. The walks are held on Wednesdays in the fall and spring at various locations throughout Adams County. For more information, visit <http://www.healthyadamscounty.org>. (Darryl Wheeler/Gettysburg Times)

**2.** Father Lawrence McNeil, former pastor of Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, explains the church's history, which predates the Revolutionary War, during a recent tour. (Photo by John Armstrong)

**3.** Abigail Avery, shelter manager of the Adams County SPCA, plays with a baby goat that was recently rescued from a Menallen Township farm. (Photo by Vanessa Pellechio)

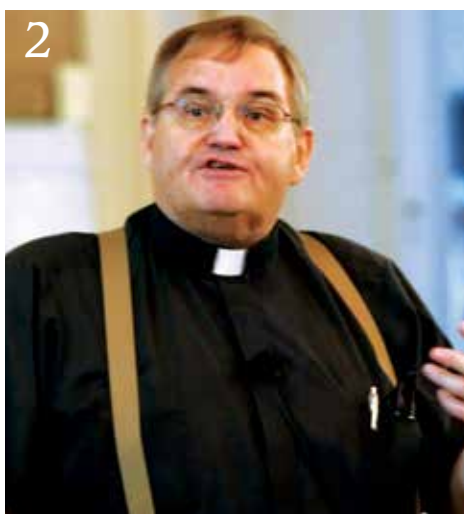
**4.** Dr. Larry Redding, superintendent of Gettysburg Area School District, holds a model of the Batmobile, given to him by Batman and Batgirl at the renovated Warrior Stadium on Sept. 5. The dynamic duo, portrayed by John and Ronda Buckland, visited the district to teach children about the dangers of bullying. (Darryl Wheeler/Gettysburg Times)

**5.** Jacqui Whitfield, left, talks with Ed and Patricia Kelly about the design that earned her an award at the Mid-Atlantic Dahlia Show that was held at the Harbaugh-Thomas Library in Biglerville on Sept. 12 and 13. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)

**6.** Students from Franklin Township Elementary School demonstrated their jump rope skills at the American Heart Walk on Sept. 7 at Oakside Community Park in Biglerville. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)

**7.** Meagan Riordan, Vickie Corbett and Diana Marie Fasnacht, all of the United Way of Adams County, pose for a photo before Corbett and Gettysburg Times Publisher Harry Hartman participated in the Ice Bucket Challenge. Corbett and Hartman "brought it home" by donating money to United Way. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)

**8.** Hundreds of walkers participated in the American Heart Walk at Oakside Community Park in Biglerville on Sept. 7. (Photo by Darryl Wheeler)





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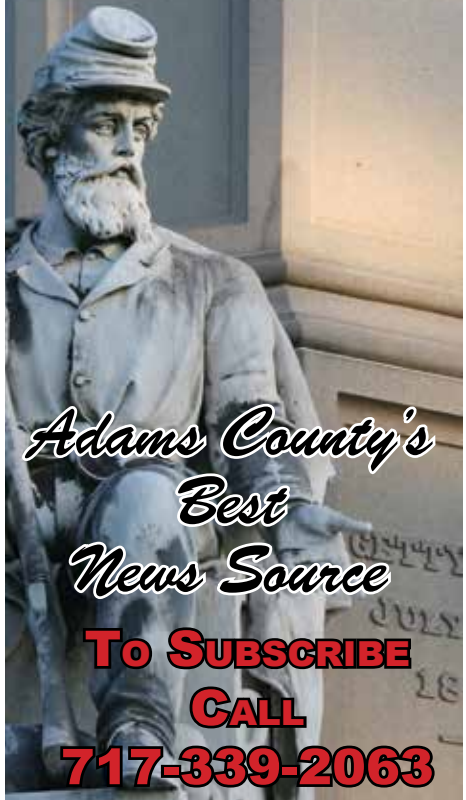
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# WHAT'S Goin' On

COMPILED BY JESSICA A. RUDY

## ONGOING

### Wednesdays, October, 2-6 p.m.

Adams County Farmers' Market Farm Fresh Market will be open at the Gettysburg Heritage Center

### Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m.

Women's Singer Songwriter Night at Reid's Orchard & Tasting Room, 400 Baltimore St., Gettysburg [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

### Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.

Singer Songwriter Night at Reid's Orchard & Tasting Room, 400 Baltimore St., Gettysburg [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

### Thursdays, 6-9 p.m.

Thirsty Thursdays at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com)

### Fridays, October, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Adams County Farmers' Market Farm Fresh Market will be open at the Outlet Shoppes at Gettysburg.

### Fridays, 7-10 p.m.

Live Music Night at Reid's Orchard & Tasting Room, 400 Baltimore St., Gettysburg [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

### Fridays and Saturdays, 6-9 p.m.

Hauser After Hours at Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com)

### Saturdays, October, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Adams County Farmers' Market Farm Fresh Market will be open at the Outlet Shoppes at Gettysburg.

### Saturdays, October, 7 a.m.-12 p.m.

Gettysburg Farmers' Market, Lincoln Square, Gettysburg.

### Saturdays and Sundays in October.

Living history at the Gettysburg National Military Park. [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett)

### Saturdays, 7-10 p.m.

Live Music Night at Reid's Orchard & Tasting Room, 400 Baltimore St., Gettysburg [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

## OCTOBER

### Oct. 1, 6-9 p.m.

Ladies Night, Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com)

### Oct. 3

First Friday - Gettysburg Style, will be celebrated at galleries, restaurants and retailers throughout downtown Gettysburg. [gettysburgretailmerchants.com](http://gettysburgretailmerchants.com)

### Oct. 3, 8 p.m.

The Sunderman Conservatory Wind Symphony and Orchestra in concert at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Oct. 4-5 and Oct. 11-12

National Apple Harvest Festival, South Mountain Fairgrounds, Arendtsville. [www.appleharvest.com](http://www.appleharvest.com)

### Oct. 4, 2-5 p.m.

The Willys will perform at Reid's Orchard and Winery, 2135 Buchanan Valley Road, Orrtanna. [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

### Oct. 4, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Oct. 5, 12-5 p.m.

Colors in the Country, Land of Little Horses Farm Park, 125 Glenwood Drive, Gettysburg

### Oct. 5, 2-5 p.m.

Jazz Me will perform at Reid's Orchard and Winery, 2135 Buchanan Valley Road, Orrtanna. [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

### Oct. 5

Historic Preservation Society of Gettysburg-Adams County will host a Civil War period supper. For more information and tickets, visit [www.hgaconline.org](http://www.hgaconline.org)

### Oct. 6, 7 p.m.

National Theater Live will present "A Streetcar Named Desire" on screen at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Oct. 7, 7 p.m.

Monthly meeting of the Adams County Historical Society, Valentine Hall Auditorium, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg [www.achs-pa.org](http://www.achs-pa.org)

### Oct. 8, 6-9 p.m.

Dancing with the Vines, Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com)

### Oct. 11, 8:30 a.m.

ENCORE Breast Cancer Awareness 5K, YWCA Gettysburg & Adams County, Gettysburg. [www.ywcagettsburg.org](http://www.ywcagettsburg.org)

### Oct. 11, 1 p.m.

The MET Live in HD presents "Macbeth" at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Oct. 11, 2-5 p.m.

Rhyne McCormick will perform at Reid's Orchard and Winery, 2135 Buchanan Valley Road, Orrtanna. [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

### Oct. 11

Dwight D. Eisenhower Society annual wreath laying ceremony and luncheon, Dobbin House, Gettysburg. Reservations required (717) 334-2100, ext. 124



# WHAT'S Goin' On

CONTINUED

## Oct. 11

Historic Preservation Society of Gettysburg-Adams County will host a Civil War period supper. For more information and tickets, visit [www.hgaonline.org](http://www.hgaonline.org)

## Oct. 12, 2-5 p.m.

Shelley McCarthy will perform at Reid's Orchard and Winery, 2135 Buchanan Valley Road, Orrtanna [www.reidsorchardwinery.com](http://www.reidsorchardwinery.com)

## Oct. 12, 4 p.m.

Music, Gettysburg! presents J. Reilly Lewis, organist, Lutheran Theological Seminary chapel, Gettysburg [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org)

## Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m.

The Midtown Men will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

## Oct. 17-18

23rd annual Friends of Gettysburg Fall Muster, Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center, Gettysburg. Registration requested. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

## Oct. 17-18 & Oct. 23 and 25, 7 p.m.;

## Oct. 19 & Oct. 26, 2 p.m.

Gettysburg Community Theatre presents "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," 49 York St., Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org](http://www.gettysburgcommunitytheatre.org)

## Oct. 18, 1 p.m.

The MET Live in HD presents "Le Nozze di Figaro" at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

## Oct. 18, 6-7:30 p.m.

"What in the World is a Cyclorama?" at Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center, Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

## Oct. 18

The Fabulous Hubcaps will perform to benefit the Arc of Adams County. Eisenhower Inn & Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg. (717) 677-8487

## Oct. 18

16th annual Land Conservancy of Adams County Road Rally. Registration required. [www.lcancet.org](http://www.lcancet.org) (717) 334-2828

## Oct. 19, 12-4 p.m.

1st annual Wedding Showcase, Sidney Willoughby Run, 730 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg. [www.restaurantsidney.com](http://www.restaurantsidney.com)

## Oct. 19, 4 p.m.

Music, Gettysburg! presents Grace Eun Hae Kim, pianist, Lutheran Theological Seminary chapel, Gettysburg [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org)

## Oct. 20, 7 p.m.

National Theater Live will present "Medea" on screen at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

## Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.

Annual Olde Getty Place Gettysburg Halloween Parade, Downtown Gettysburg

## Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m.

John Horner presents "Blood and Bones" at the monthly educational meeting of the Historic Preservation Society of Gettysburg Adams County, G.A.R. Hall, 53 E. Middle St., Gettysburg [www.hgaonline.org](http://www.hgaonline.org)

## Oct. 23, 2 p.m.

Muskingum University Wind Ensemble will perform at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

## Oct. 24, 7 p.m.

Adams County Arts Council 14th annual Masquerade Party, Gettysburg Hotel, One

Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. [www.adamsarts.org](http://www.adamsarts.org)

## Oct. 25, 6-7:30 p.m.

"What in the World is a Cyclorama?" at Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center, Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

## Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Halloween Fun at Hollabaugh's Fruit Farm and Market, 545 Carlisle Road, Biglerville. [www.hollabaughbros.com](http://www.hollabaughbros.com)

## Oct. 25, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

John Scott Adams Seminar Series, Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Gettysburg [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

## Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

New Oxford 7th annual Harvest Day and Parade, Downtown New Oxford [www.newoxford.org](http://www.newoxford.org)

## Oct. 26

Gettysburg Blue-Gray Half Marathon and 5K, routes in and around Gettysburg. [www.bluegrayhalf.com](http://www.bluegrayhalf.com)

## Oct. 28, 6:30-9 p.m.

Zumba, Sangria and Skinny Jeans, Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com)

## Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m.

Music, Gettysburg! presents Windsbacher Knabenchor, Lutheran Theological Seminary chapel, Gettysburg [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org)

## Oct. 31, 8 p.m.

Autumn Leaves Jazz Ensemble Concert at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

## Oct. 31, 10 p.m.

National Theater Live will present

# WHAT'S Goin' On

CONTINUED

“Frankenstein” on screen at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

## NOVEMBER

### Nov. 1, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

John Scott Adams Seminar Series, Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

### Nov. 1, 1 p.m.

The MET Live in HD presents “Carmen” at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Nov. 1, 8 p.m.

Paula Poundstone will perform at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Nov. 4-7, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Nov. 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

54th annual Gift Festival & Rug Event, Fairfield Mennonite Church, 201 West Main St., Fairfield.

### Nov. 7

First Friday - Gettysburg Style, will be celebrated at galleries, restaurants and retailers throughout downtown Gettysburg.  
[gettysburgretailmerchants.com](http://gettysburgretailmerchants.com)

### Nov. 7, 5 p.m.

Adams County 4-H Benefit Auction, Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg. (717) 334-6271

### Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.

A Night on Broadway at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Nov. 8, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Fly Tying Clinic, Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, Fairfield. Pre-registration required.  
[www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org)

### Nov. 8, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Share the Love Gift Fair and Holiday Bazaar, St. Francis Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg [www.sfxpccw.org](http://www.sfxpccw.org) (717) 334-0333.

### Nov. 10, 7 p.m.

National Theater Live will present “Skylight” on screen at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

### Nov. 14, 9 p.m.-12 a.m.

National Gettysburg Remembrance Day Ball, Eisenhower Inn & Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgball.com](http://www.gettysburgball.com)

### Nov. 14 & Nov. 15

The President’s 12th annual Remembrance Day Dinner and Ball, Gettysburg Hotel, One Lincoln Square, Gettysburg.  
[www.remembrancedayball.com](http://www.remembrancedayball.com)

### Nov. 14, 4:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

“An Evening With the Painting,” Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, Gettysburg.  
[www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

### Nov. 14, 4-7 p.m.

2nd annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction to benefit the Adams Rescue Mission, Intersection Church, 1980 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg.

### Nov. 15, 8 a.m.

Twisted Turkey Trail Tussle, Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, 1537 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield. [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org)

### Nov. 15, 1 p.m.

Remembrance Day Parade, sponsored by

the Sons of Union Veterans, downtown Gettysburg. [www.suvcw.org](http://www.suvcw.org)

### Nov. 15, 1 p.m.

Home Wine Making Class, Adams County Winery, 251 Peach Tree Road, Orrtanna. Reservations required.  
[www.adamscountywinery.com](http://www.adamscountywinery.com)

### Nov. 15, 3 p.m.

Pirate School at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

### Nov. 15, 3 p.m.

National Victorian Tea, 1863 Inn of Gettysburg, 516 Baltimore St., Gettysburg  
[www.nationalvictoriantea.com](http://www.nationalvictoriantea.com)

### Nov. 15, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Annual Remembrance Illumination, Soldiers’ National Cemetery, Gettysburg  
[www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

### Nov. 15, 8 p.m.

Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital, Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg. (717) 334-5212.

### Nov. 16, 1 p.m.

Holiday Paper Crafting, Adams County Winery, 251 Peach Tree Road, Orrtanna. Reservations required.  
[www.adamscountywinery.com](http://www.adamscountywinery.com)

### Nov. 18, 6-8 p.m.

An Evening at the David Wills House, 8 Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. (717) 338-1243.

### Nov. 19, 9:30 a.m.

Dedication Day will commemorate the 151st anniversary of the Gettysburg Address at Soldiers’ National Cemetery, Gettysburg.  
[www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett)

### Nov. 19, 4 p.m.

D. Scott Hartwig will be the featured speaker at Gettysburg Addresses Lincoln,

# WHAT'S Goin' On

CONTINUED

Gettysburg Presbyterian Church, Baltimore St., Gettysburg.

**Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.**

Nina Silber will present the annual Fortenbaugh Lecture at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg.

**Nov. 20, 12 p.m.**

Brown Bag Jazz - The Buzz Jones Quintet at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

**Nov. 21, 8 p.m.**

The Sunderman Symphony Orchestra will perform in concert at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg

[www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

**Nov. 22, 1 p.m.**

The MET Live in HD presents "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" at the Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

**Nov. 22, 5 p.m.**

Holiday Food and Wine Pairing Dinner, Adams County Winery, 251 Peach Tree Road, Orrtanna. [www.adamscountywinery.com](http://www.adamscountywinery.com)

**Nov. 25, 6:30-9 p.m.**

Zumba, Sangria and Skinny Jeans, Hauser Estate Winery, 410 Cashtown Road, Biglerville. [www.hauserestate.com](http://www.hauserestate.com)

**Nov. 27-30**

A Civil War Christmas at the Shriver House, 309 Baltimore St., Gettysburg. [www.shriverhouse.org](http://www.shriverhouse.org)

**Nov. 29, 6-8 p.m.**

Gettysburg Welcomes the Holidays will be hosted by the Gettysburg Area Retail Merchants' Association at local businesses and organizations throughout downtown Gettysburg. [gettysburgretailmerchants.com](http://gettysburgretailmerchants.com)

**Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.**

Music, Gettysburg! presents Advent Vespers, Lutheran Theological Seminary chapel, Gettysburg [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org).



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# PERSONALITY *Profile*

STORY BY ABBEY ZELKO  
PHOTOS BY DARRYL WHEELER



# Scott Coyle

## Jeweler customized his life to help others mark memorable moments



Behind a jewelry counter in his recently expanded store, a New Oxford jewelry store owner pulled out a ruby ring that glistened and shined as the sunlight came through the windows.

He placed the ring on a young woman's finger. "Tell your boyfriend you're a size five," he said with a smile, hoping to become part of yet another memorable moment. An anniversary. An engagement. A birthday.

Scott Coyle, owner of Scott & Company Fine Jewelers on the corner of Lincoln Way East and the New Oxford Square, said he lives for the joy his jewelry brings at special moments in others' lives.

One thing that Coyle prides himself in is making sure that these special moments are met with unique, one-of-a-kind pieces.

"Once we sell that, we probably will not repeat it," Coyle said of the ruby ring. "One of my issues I have with the chain stores and even the independent store I worked at was we would sell a piece and replace it, which I understand. The return is absolutely outstanding. But you run across the same ring on the same people's fingers."

Chances are that customers at Coyle's store will not see their purchase on another person's finger, he said.

Scott & Company Fine Jewelers also separates itself from chain stores by creating pieces that will endure every-day wear.

"That's one of the core values I instilled here,"

he said. "There's a lot of places to buy jewelry. So many of those places are selling based on price and lack of quality. One of our core values is we like producing pieces that can become heirlooms."

Coyle, 49, of East Berlin, wears a few of these special, one-of-a-kind pieces from his store every day, including his wedding band, a watch and a chain with a cross and masonic emblem on it. He also wears his grandfather's masonic ring. These pieces serve as memories of his wedding, his honeymoon and his grandfather.

"It all comes down to memorable moments," he said walking across the wooden floors of his shop toward another display of unique gemstones often used for custom orders.

Coyle said he once designed a one-of-a-kind specialty cut orange-red madeira necklace from a gemstone in this display case, which has been worn to a function at the White House.

"I'm always designing jewelry," he said. "The ideas come from anywhere and everywhere. I'm always thinking, most of the time about jewelry."

Coyle said he has even gone so far as to custom design a platinum, diamond and sapphire engagement ring for a customer on a four-day deadline. When the customer explained that he wanted to propose with the ring in Hawaii in less than a week, Coyle said there was no hesitation once he picked up his jaw from off the ground.

"I guess my gears just started churning," he said. "What do we need to do? Does he trust me?"

Coyle designed the ring, had it made by his staff and shipped it overnight to Hawaii all in a matter of three days, a task that under normal circumstances would have taken two to four weeks, he said.

But he did it all for the special moment and the memories. And now, the couple is married and has children, he said.

"It meant a whole lot to him, and we fulfilled it and that's what sets us apart from those other places," Coyle said.

Coyle has owned Scott & Company Fine Jewelers for going on 15 years now.

Scott & Company Fine Jewelers does "everything and anything that can be done with jewelry with the exception of watch repairs" on site at its now 3,800 square-foot location. The store carries a wide variety of jewelry from sterling silver and gold to platinum pieces ranging in price from \$25 Pandora and Angelica bracelets to \$15,000 custom-designed pieces. The store also carries a selection of unique gemstones purchased every February at a gem show and used to make one-of-a-kind pieces and custom orders.

"Our inventory often serves as samples," Coyle said. "Getting customers involved is actually one of our biggest keys."

Coyle often sits down with customers and allows them to incorporate the styles they like from the store's sample pieces into one special design. Coyle also helps customers make various

design decisions such as the color, size and shape of the diamond or gemstone.

Anyone can go to the mall and choose a ring from a display case, Coyle said.

“Whether it’s the ultimate recipient or the man getting involved, don’t you think it means a little bit more to say, ‘I designed this?’ That means so much more than the physical object,” he said. “That’s who we are.”

Coyle got started in the jewelry business working at jewelry stores in malls about 30 years ago.

But he didn’t always see himself as a jewelry designer.

Coyle graduated from Widener University in Chester with a degree in electrical engineering. After college, he got a full-time job using his degree and also worked part-time in a garage to help pay his student loans. But he said it wasn’t fulfilling.

“I wanted to feel important and wear a tie. I’ve outgrown that,” he said laughing pointing to his

tie-less collar.

Coyle then started working part-time at a jewelry store in a mall for help during Christmastime and was then promoted to a full-time management position, where he learned the tricks of the trade.

In 2000, he made the bold decision to leave the chain stores behind and open his own business, one customer at a time.

“I wanted to do things my way,” he said. “Everything was so price driven. Nobody was putting emphasis on quality.”

Coyle said he never thought he would end up owning his own

jewelry store, but he doesn’t regret abandoning his engineering degree for a second.

He started this adventure while he had the responsibility of being a husband and a father, but his family supported him. His wife stayed home and raised their two children, who are now in college, and helped out with the store

**“I’m always designing jewelry. The ideas come from anywhere and everywhere. I’m always thinking, most of the time about jewelry. ~ Scott Coyle”**



whenever needed. Now, she has been working nearly full-time at the store for about four or five years, and his son helps out with the website and photography.

While Coyle had very few customers in the beginning, he said the business grew exponentially in the first seven years until the economic slump hit. But for the past few years, he said things have

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- 9 AM • Church Service
- 10:30 AM • Widow Barr Skirmish
- Noon - 3 PM • Skills Competition

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been turning around.


"We have a wonderful staff," he said. "Almost everyone that's here has been here. Once they are hired here, they stay here. We're like a family."

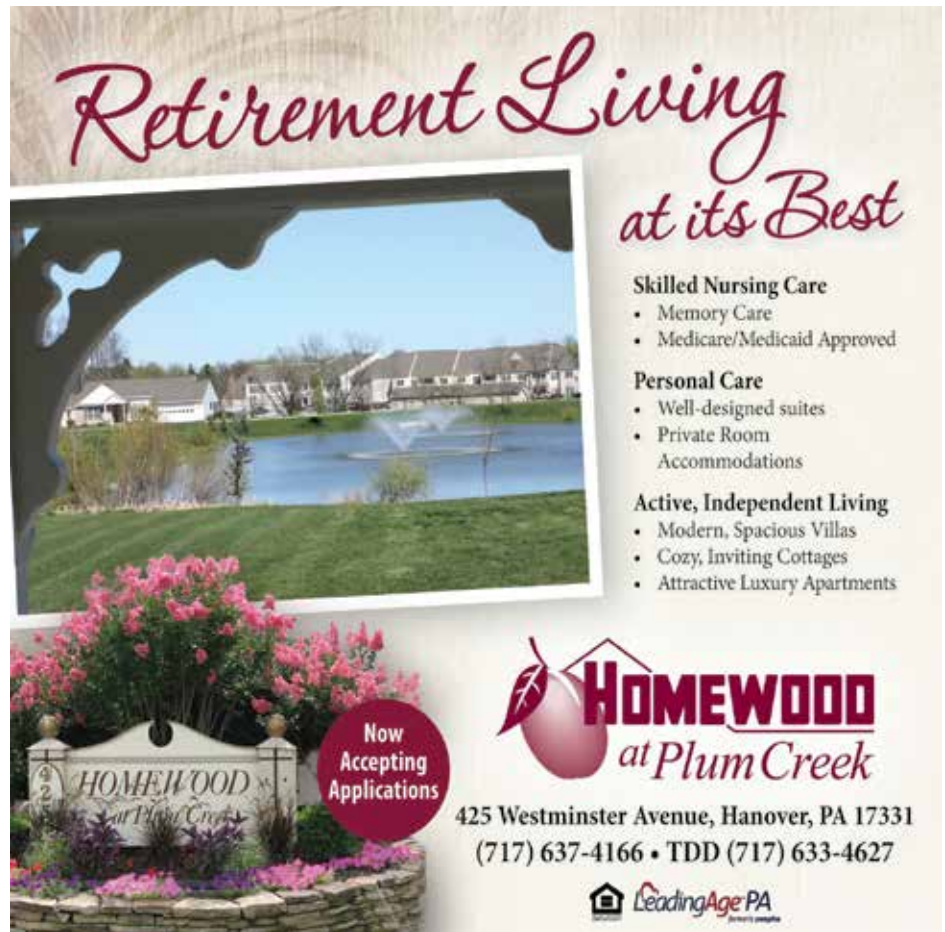
His work family grew from two employees on day one to 11 or 12 today. Coyle originally operated out of the front corner of the store, but he later expanded the store in 2004 and 2014, doubling its square footage and adding a gem lab, a design center and a service center so he could do repairs on site.

Coyle says he plans to add a few more monitors showing the work done at the benches to give the store a more "techy" look.

"It's a neat, cool experience as far as growing a business and trying to get it to the next level," he said.

And though his business has nothing to do with his engineering degree, he said it's been rewarding.

"Selling jewelry, it's one of those few careers that your customers can obviously very quickly become friends and build relationships. It's not like going to a grocery store where you're going to do it every week and it becomes monotonous. You're actually becoming part of a celebration of one of life's moments." 




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# **Basilica** **tells story** **of Catholic** **Church in** **Adams County** **and America**

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Story by Ashley Andyshak Hayes, Photos by John Armstrong

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Inside the walls of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, visitors can find not only a history of the church building itself, but also a veritable history of the Catholic Church in the United States.

Originally named the Conewago Chapel, for a Native American word meaning “the place at the rapids,” the Basilica is the oldest stone Catholic Church in the United States that is still in use, and stands as a tribute to the first Catholic community in Adams County.

On a recent Saturday, the sanctuary’s pews were filled as Rev. Lawrence McNeil, the parish’s longtime pastor, now retired, shared the church’s history with visitors.

**“In a very real sense, we’re built on, or at least over, the foundation of our ancestors.”**

Rev. Lawrence McNeil

Jesuit missionaries from Maryland settled here, just outside present-day McSherrystown, in the late 1600s, McNeil said. The area was a major center of trade for Native American tribes, and many of these, especially the Iroquois Nation, had converted to Catholicism. In the early 1710s, German Catholic immigrants from the region of Alsace-Lorraine (in present-day France) began to settle in the area, and Catholic congregations began to form in “Mass houses” throughout the area.

Prior to the Revolutionary War, the public practice of Catholicism in the colonies was illegal, but Catholics were permitted to celebrate Mass in private homes. In 1741, a priest was assigned to oversee the Catholic congregations in the region.

After the Revolution, when Catholics were free to practice their faith publicly, the Catholic community in the area built the Conewago Chapel. The congregation grew quickly, and by the 1840s, it had begun to outgrow the chapel. During the 1850s, the chapel underwent a major expansion, adding the left and right transepts, or wings, near the





front of the sanctuary, and a semicircular apse at the front to house the altar. These additions give the chapel its present-day cross-shaped floor plan.

The chapel has no basement, and the additions were built on top of an existing cemetery. This required removing some headstones and even some bodies that had been buried there, McNeil said. The remains of many early parishioners are still under the sanctuary.

“In a very real sense, we’re built on, or at least over, the foundation of our ancestors,” he said.

Over the next two centuries, parishioners would enlist artists to adorn the chapel with elaborate artwork. The first painting to be completed, on the chapel’s ceiling, depicts the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, when the mother of Jesus was assumed into heaven. The painting paid tribute to the area’s most prominent pre-Revolution Mass house, which had been dedicated to the Assumption, McNeil said.

While many symbols of the Catholic faith are depicted on the chapel’s walls and ceiling, the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the most prominent and is the aspect of the faith held most dear by the Jesuit missionaries who founded the Catholic community in the area, McNeil said.

“The heart of Jesus is the ultimate symbol of God’s love for us,” he said.

Parishioners commissioned Franz Stecker, a German artist, to paint a series of images dedicated to the Sacred Heart. His paintings

depicting the Holy Trinity, as well as the birth, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, adorn much of the inside the chapel. Above the altar is a rendition of the revelation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary. McNeil said the repeated use of the image of the Sacred Heart reminds parishioners of the connection between the divine love of Jesus and the direct revealing of this love through the Eucharist.

Many Catholic Churches in the United States have two side altars, one dedicated to the Virgin Mary and the other to her husband, St. Joseph. The Conewago Chapel houses an altar to Mary, to the left of the main altar, but in place of St. Joseph is a painting of the death of St. Francis Xavier, a Jesuit missionary who was Stecker’s patron saint. The decision to include St. Francis Xavier was Stecker’s, McNeil said, and the feature adds to the chapel’s unique history.

The chapel and its elaborate works of art are not only symbolic of the chapel’s Jesuit history; they also allowed Catholics to express pride in their faith after years of repression and persecution, McNeil said.

“The feeling was, ‘we’re here, we’re Catholic, we’re staying, and we’re proud,’” he said.

The chapel’s artwork can also serve as a study in the history of the Catholic Church in America. Along the left wall of the sanctuary are depicted the coats of arms of the four Catholic dioceses of which the chapel has been a member. The Vicar of London, which oversaw the Catholic Church in England until

the early 1800s, under the threat of persecution and even death, was the chapel’s first official connection to the Roman Catholic Church. After the Revolution severed America’s ties with England, the Diocese of Baltimore, the first Catholic diocese in the United States, oversaw the parish for nearly 30 years until the Diocese of Philadelphia was established in 1808. The area’s Jesuit missionaries, who had used the chapel as a mission center for more than 150 years, left the area in 1900, leaving the chapel in the hands of the Diocese of Harrisburg, of which the parish is still a member.

During the 1900s, stained glass windows depicting the lives of saints were added to the sanctuary. These windows, made of popular Munich-style glass in Germany, have recently been restored to their original beauty, McNeil said.

In 1962, Bishop George Leech of the Diocese of Harrisburg petitioned the Vatican to have the chapel designated a basilica. In the days of the early church, basilicas were the main buildings where believers gathered to worship and interact, McNeil said. Naming a specific chapel a basilica symbolizes the connection between the local church community and the universal church, he said, and churches with a “special role to play” in Catholic history can be considered for this designation.

The church was recognized as the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for its status as the first church in the United States dedicated to the Sacred Heart, the oldest stone Catholic

Church in continuous use, and a mission center for early Jesuits in the colonies. Visitors can see the official church decree naming the chapel a basilica hanging in the chapel's vestibule.

Though the chapel has undergone major renovations and expansions, visitors can easily see where the original chapel stood, in the narrow rectangular center of the sanctuary. Balconies that once framed three walls of the sanctuary have been removed, leaving only one at the rear, today used as a choir loft.

Visitors will notice two other unique features on either side of the main altar. A small red and white umbrella, or ombrellino, sits to the left, and a metal staff fitted with a small bell, called a tintinabulum, sits to the right. These items signify the chapel's basilican status, and were created to ensure that basilicas would be ready for a papal visit: the umbrella would shade the Holy Father and the bell would announce his coming, McNeil said.


Today, the parish is the church home for 780 families, said Rev. James Lease, who has been pastor of the parish since June 2013. The parish cemetery, which has been in operation since 1752, is still in use, and the parish also operates a school for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Lease grew up near Bloomsburg, but has family in Hanover, and said he has ancestors who are buried in the parish cemetery. He said that although he has been visiting the area since he was a toddler, he was not aware of the area's rich Catholic history until he took the parish helm a year ago.

"I have been fascinated to learn more about it," he said. "Sometimes I just go up to our archives and read a few things."

More than 400 acres of farmland surrounding the chapel still belong to the Jesuit community, and have been farmed by parish families for more than 100 years, McNeil said. Mass continues to be celebrated daily at the Basilica, and McNeil said that ultimately, the chapel stands as a symbol of the larger church community. The chapel is also a memorial to generations of Catholics who have celebrated not only Mass, but births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths within its walls.

"This is a place of hope," he said.

The Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is located at 30 Basilica Dr., Hanover. For more information, including upcoming events and Mass times, visit [sacredheartbasilica.com](http://sacredheartbasilica.com). 

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# Passing the baton

Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra launches campaign to ensure group's future

Story by Vanessa Pellechio, Photos by John Armstrong

# G

Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra (GCO) Director Norman Nunamaker knows he will eventually have to pass the baton to another conductor to lead the professional ensemble he and his wife Carolyn co-founded 18 years ago.

In May, Norman and Carolyn told attendees of the GCO concert about a \$100,000 endowment fund they are hoping to create through fundraising efforts to preserve the future of the nonprofit organization that countless musicians have participated in from throughout the region.

The money is being raised to pay the future director, since Norman currently does the work for free.

Carolyn also handles the organizational and accounting side of the GCO at no cost.

“There is going to be a time when we can’t do this,” Norman said. “I don’t want to assume someone will donate their time like I did.”

Norman pointed out that 85 percent of the GCO’s budget goes to the musicians who perform at the concerts.

“We do this as a gift to the community,” Norman added.

When the organization was founded in 1997, Norman and Carolyn were unsure how community members would react to a chamber orchestra in Gettysburg.

But Norman said the group has built “a faithful following,” always playing to “a packed house.”

The community’s interest stems from seeing local musicians join the ensemble and perform in the area. The objective of the organization is to hire local musicians first, both as members and soloists, according to Norman.

Duane Botterbusch, a founding member, plays the double bass in the GCO. Botterbusch is also a GCO board member and an adjunct assistant professor at Gettysburg College after previously serving as the college’s orchestra conductor.

Botterbusch said he thinks it is wise the Nunamakers are creating the endowment fund.

“The hope is the orchestra will go along, ensuring its future,” Botterbusch continued.

For Megan Weikel of Gettysburg, she grew up taking lessons from Norman on the viola.

Weikel has been involved in the GCO since its inception, she said.

“It’s so much fun to have an organization like this right in your backyard,” Weikel noted. “It challenges you with all these musicians throughout the region and is inspiring. We have known each other for so long that it feels like a family.”

Weikel said the endowment fund is crucial in keeping what Norman has built to this point.

More than 50 percent of the ensemble members come from Adams County, Norman said.

Some locals who appeared in GCO concerts as soloists are: organist Stephen Folkemer, flutist Karen Botterbusch, pianist Michael Matsinko, baritone Wayne Hill, soprano singer Melinda Warren, bass singer Stephen Swartzbaugh, soprano singer Pamela Cooper-White and soprano singer Meredith Megles.

Even when former Gettysburg residents followed their dreams with performing in professional groups throughout the United States, they still return to play in the GCO concerts. This includes Mary Hammann, a violinist with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Phoebe Ray, a bassoonist with the Long Beach, Calif., Symphony Orchestra, Christopher Rex, a principal cellist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Peter Couchman, tenor with the New York City Opera.

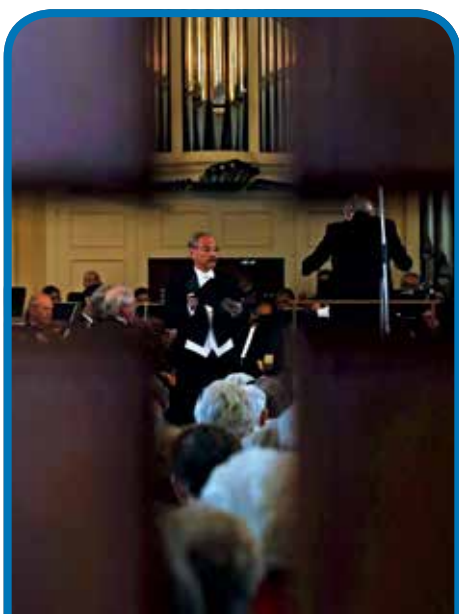
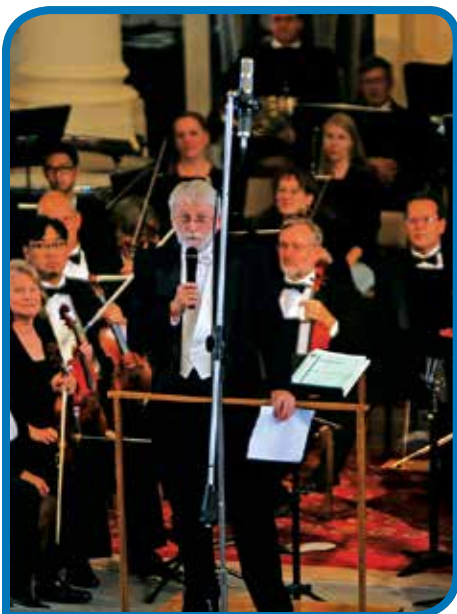
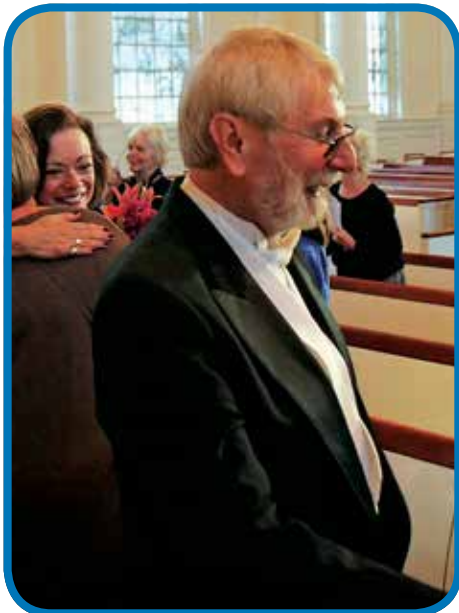
**“This is something for the community to embrace. It is very important to me when you put your heart and soul into a project and the community wants it to continue.”**

Carolyn Nunamaker

Norman also noted the younger musicians from the area like cellist Colin Stokes, a graduate of Eastman School of Music and Juilliard School of Music, cellist Miranda Henne, a graduate of Southern Methodist University and pianist Paulino Contreras, a graduate of Millersville University.

Norman’s words about the first concert the couple put together around Memorial Day weekend in 1997 painted a picture. Musicians had to endure steamy weather inside the Gettysburg Lutheran Theological





Seminary without air conditioning.

“Musicians had to take off their jackets,” Nunamaker continued. “There was perspiration rolling down their backs throughout the performance. It was still an electrifying experience for everyone involved.”

For Norman, music has always been a big part of his life.

Norman, professor emeritus of music at Gettysburg College, has taught in the college’s music program for 33 years with courses in music history, music theory and music appreciation. He also directed the orchestra at the college.

When the GCO buys music, Norman said it gets added to the college library for future use.

In return, the GCO can borrow any music they need from the college’s library at no cost. According to Norman, the organization also has agreements with Bucknell College and Messiah College to borrow music.

“It’s one of the expenses people don’t think about,” Carolyn continued. “It’s a big chunk of money to just rent music.”

Norman also served as the associate concert-master of the York Symphony and the director of the Shippensburg Festival Chamber Orchestra for 20 years. He was a former conductor of both the Potomac Symphony and the Maryland Theatre Orchestra.

Carolyn gained her administrative skills from her past experiences as the first female principal at the Gettysburg Area School District Middle School.

Prior to her principal position, Carolyn taught seventh-grade math.

Carolyn is responsible for keeping the books for the orchestra and making sure the forms get filled out as well as work with an accountant.

“One of the things people may not understand is that a professional orchestra operation is very expensive,” Carolyn said.

Carolyn mentioned the organization would not have been successful without Music, Gettysburg!, a group associated with the Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary that presented music programs for

more than 30 years.

Music, Gettysburg!, provided the venue for the concerts to take place for free, in addition to having ushers and crews assist in preparation. The organization designs the programs and does publicity for the GCO, according to Carolyn.

Not having to pay for those items allows the organization to put the money into other expenses and perform free concerts with people from all economic backgrounds able to attend.

State grants also kept the GCO thriving, Carolyn continued, noting the Pennsylvania Partners of the Arts grant.



Grants from Adams County came in from the Robert C. Hoffman Charitable Trust, the Adams County Community Foundation and several from the Adams County Arts Council.

“You have to jump through hoops for some of the state grants,” Norman added. “But I feel we certainly have support from many members of the community.”

If the community wants the chamber orchestra to continue, money needs to be raised for the future of the organization.

The GCO was launched as a retirement project for Norman and Carolyn. There will be a time the GCO’s Board of Directors will have to hire a conductor and someone for part-time business work, Carolyn said.

Even though the couple has done a majority of the work, the board of directors

is stepping up to help with this endowment fund.

“This is something for the community to embrace,” Carolyn said. “It is very important to me when you put your heart and soul into a project and the community wants it to continue.”

So far, the organization has raised approximately \$30,000 in hand and pledged funds.

A kick-off campaign for the endowment fund will include a champagne recital in March or April next year.

On Sept. 14, the GCO had the largest ensemble ever brought together, consisting of 65 musicians, in the Seminary Chapel performed an all Mahler program.

The concert included Baritone Wayne Hill singing Mahler’s “Songs of a Wayfarer,” and soprano Pamela Cooper-White as the soloist in Mahler’s Symphony No. 4.

In May 2015, Megan Folkemer, a local soprano singer, will be featured. For 2016, the GCO will be honoring Mozart’s 260th birthday with a concert that includes his Requiem and the Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola.

“Other than marrying Carolyn, this has been the most important thing I have done in my life,” Nunamaker said.

For more information about how to make a contribution to the GCO, contact Norman Nunamaker at 717-334-5508.



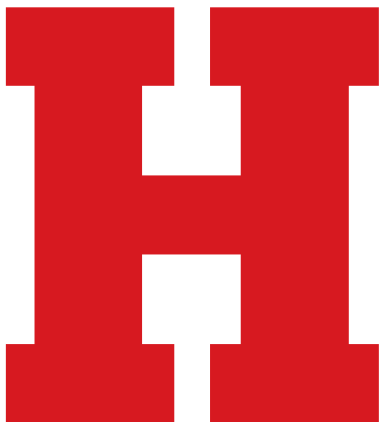


Outside Mister Ed's is a wonderland of figures and fountains.

# Elephants March On

## New generation takes charge of iconic Mr. Ed's

Story and Photos by Jim Hale



How do you replace a beloved local icon like Mister Ed?

"You don't," said Isaac Bucher, general manager of Mister Ed's Elephant Museum and Candy Emporium on U.S. Route 30.

Isaac and his wife Nicole, granddaughter of "Mister Ed" Gotwalt, became owners of the business in July after Ed and his wife Pat decided to step back a bit from the unique institution they have built — and rebuilt — since 1975.

"The character will live on forever," Isaac said, referring to a carefully designed logo depicting a kindly, and perhaps a bit portly, bearded man who welcomes children to his world of sweets, roasted peanuts, and more than 12,000 elephant figures of all shapes and sizes. Those of us who used to be children, and may need a gentle reminder of that fact, are warmly invited too.

Equal care went into developing a new bobble-head Mister Ed. "We've been working for the past year to get everything right," Nicole said, "the color of the beard, the expression, the blue eyes."

Nicole and Isaac certainly don't plan to plaster their own faces on the billboards that draw customers to the store halfway between Gettysburg and Chambersburg. The colorful signs show Ed in a chef's hat, proclaiming "Where the Candy & Homemade Fudge is!" (More later on the tagline's seeming grammatical error.)

"Mister Ed isn't going anywhere," Isaac said. "We told him he's not allowed to retire."

The Buchers are uniquely qualified to carry on Mister Ed's legacy.

Nicole was in a TV commercial for the store at age 3 or 4. She also recalls selling peanuts when she was barely big enough to see over the table. "I may have snatched more peanuts than I sold," she confessed. Farther afield, she treasures memories of trips to Europe and elsewhere with her grandpa, who saw globe-trotting as a source of new inspirations for the store.

But Nicole brings more than childhood memories to the job. Her travel experiences helped inspire her to study international politics at Penn State. After graduation, she gained professional marketing chops during seven years as a deputy press secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Recently, she became marketing communications specialist at the Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce. The move liberated her from a 100-mile Harrisburg commute and brought her to closer to Mister Ed's, where she plans to transition from part- to fulltime. The Chamber connection also reflects Nicole's belief in cross-promotion among local entrepreneurs. She cited Mister Ed's candy-selling "outposts" at businesses ranging from area wineries to ghost tours in Gettysburg.

Isaac, who has been employed fulltime at Mister Ed's for five years, also grew up in an entrepreneurial family, working through high school and college at Bucher Meats in





McKnightstown. "I loved it," he said, relishing both the family togetherness and the connection with customers.

"I've worked with people my whole life," Isaac said, but he didn't feel called to become a meatcutter.

"He'd rather be a fudge-cutter," said Nicole, and, indeed, Isaac admits to a love of Peanut Butter Explosion fudge, one of more than 70 flavors made fresh by 38-year Mister Ed's employee Cheryl Fickes. "She's definitely part of the family," Isaac said.

Nicole's favorite fudge is Salted Nut Roll. "The

## **"Mister Ed isn't going anywhere. We told him he's not allowed to retire."**

Isaac Bucher, owner of Mister Ed's Elephant Museum

surprising thing," she said, "is that I don't have much of a sweet-tooth. I'm just as happy to pop a bag of peanuts."

Like Nicole, Isaac brings professional experience to the business, also with an agricultural twist. After graduating from Penn State (where he served as parliamentarian of the student government), he taught ag in the Lebanon schools for four years.

And he said he still feels like an educator when he interacts with kids at the store, or expounds for interested customers on the history of one of the many old-fashioned candy brands the store carries.

Such face-to-face interaction is key.

"We want to provide something families can do together," Nicole said. "It's so nice to hear kids talking with their parents" instead of staring at their smartphone screens, she said.

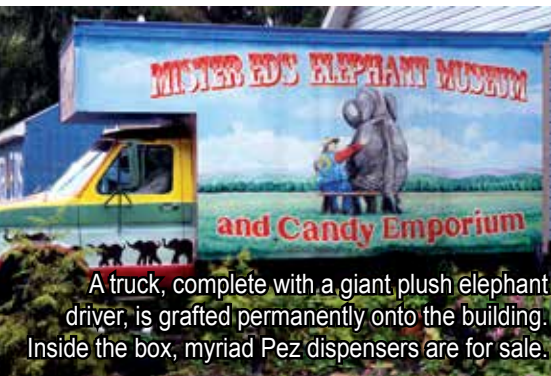
To keep children and parents coming back, Nicole and Isaac plan to continue Mister Ed's tradition of staging events such as Easter egg hunts and Santa Claus's annual arrival. (However, they don't plan to repeat Santa Ed's long-ago hot-air balloon crash into the treetops of nearby Caledonia State Park.)



From left among the candy displays are Isaac and Nicole Bucher and Pat and Ed Gotwalt.



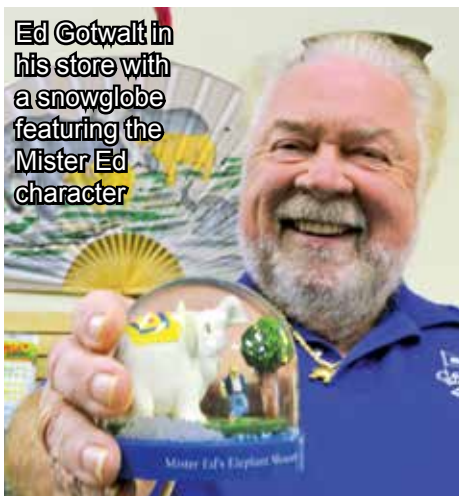
From left, in the Elephant Museum portion of the business, are Isaac Bucher and Ed Gotwalt.



A truck, complete with a giant plush elephant driver, is grafted permanently onto the building. Inside the box, myriad Pez dispensers are for sale.



Isaac and Nicole Bucher, Ed's granddaughter and her husband, are now the owners of the business.



Ed Gotwalt in his store with a snowglobe featuring the Mister Ed character

Nicole never dreamed she would one day be co-owner of the business. She said the family talked around the edges of the issue for quite a while before the decision was made.

"We breathed a collective sigh of relief," she said. "Finally, the elephant was out of the room."

For years, Ed said, people asked him what would happen when the time came to slow down. He wasn't sure; no family members felt strongly drawn to continuing the business. Then, Nicole and Isaac expressed interest.

"I thought that would be perfect," Ed said. "I could still be a viable part of the business, and leave them a legacy, a going business that's growing every year."

"With Isaac, I saw right away that he's very good with customers," Ed said. "Without people, there is zero, and Isaac believes that too."

"Something just clicked between Ed and me," Isaac said. "We're on the same page on a tremendous number of things. Even with the age difference, it's definitely a great friendship."

As for Nicole, Ed said, "she's incredibly smart and professional, and she and I have had a really good relationship since she was born. I'm pretty good at reading things. When she and Isaac stepped forward, I knew immediately it was going to work."

"Some things just seem ordained," said Ed, calling himself "a born retailer." At about age 6, he sold calendars door to door in his native city of York. That may not sound like much, but the calendars were three years out of date.

"You don't resist that face," Pat said, pointing to a childhood portrait of Ed in the living room of their home beside the store.

But Ed had a different face in mind: Pat's. "She's been a vital part of the whole thing," he said. "Without her, I wouldn't be as successful. She's been my partner since day one."

The young Ed's next retail feat was to become a supermarket deli manager in Washington, D.C. at age 17. He left school after eighth grade and began working at age 15, using doctored identification to get around the minimum fulltime work age of 16.

Noticing big sales of pizza to deli customers, Ed made his first foray into business ownership, opening The Hut in Salisbury, Md. It went well, but he chose to return to the Giant Food Stores, where he gained 20 years' experience that he regards as his "college education." He also picked up marketing know-how by running events like the Miss Maryland pageant.

Eventually, he managed Giant's flagship store

in Washington, but corporate restrictions on his judgment and creativity became too much, and he sought an opportunity closer to his hometown.

In 1975, a few miles west of the current store but still on Route 30, he opened Mister Ed's: The Area's Most Unusual General Store. It was modeled on a store at Williamsburg, Va., where he had honeymooned, and where he made his first elephant purchases after receiving one as a wedding gift. Soon, the first few elephants ended up on display at the store. Also at the first store, Ed got his initial taste of celebrity, dressing as a western sheriff and receiving so many photo requests that he had glossies made up to sign and give away.

The store achieved success, sparked by promotions like Ed staying awake for 76 hours to celebrate the nation's Bicentennial in 1976, but the business's performance wasn't enough to support a deteriorating building. Ed declared bankruptcy in 1983.

And that's when something a bit otherworldly showed up

Other little omens had foreshadowed the emergence of the elephant museum: the first newspaper ad for the original store featured an elephant; and Ed treasured a photo of his childhood self feeding a circus elephant.

But the current site is where Ed received a definite cosmic hint.

He first visited it shortly after opening the original store. The site was for sale, but Ed didn't bite. However, they say elephants never forget. The place stayed in his mind, and the real estate person's card stayed in his wallet for years. He pulled it out when he decided to reopen the store. The phone number still good, and Ed learned that the real estate person had moved from Baltimore to Gettysburg.

The rest is history, but on July 5, 2010, that history almost ended when fire devastated the store.

Ed, though 74 at that point, vowed to rebuild, and did so within a miraculous seven months, meanwhile selling goodies out of a 40-foot trailer.

Some 2,000 elephants were lost in the blaze, but the human connections Ed and Pat had forged over the decades kick-started the healing process. Donations of elephants poured in, as did the gift of \$1.27 from a child's piggybank, which Ed said was "very humbling." What's more, Pat said, some 100 people from five states showed up for a Save the Elephants event to help scrub thousands of sooty pachyderms.



The fire's date revealed another meaningful coincidence. It occurred precisely on the 200th birthday of P.T. Barnum, the famed promoter and circus-owner to whom Ed had felt a connection as a natural showman. Barnum was also a museum owner, and lost two to fire in 1865 and 1868.

Today, the family's dog is named after Barnum, and a Barnum quote adorns a wall of the new store: "When entertaining the public, it is best to have an elephant." Nearby stands a huge elephant, which Ed said justifies its floorspace by eliciting a "Wow!" from customers as they enter.


Customers always receive a greeting, Ed said, because interaction is the whole point promotion. Human connection not only precedes the sale, he said, but also initiates a happy experience that draws a customer back, frequently as an adult bringing his or her own children to experience Mister Ed's for the first time.

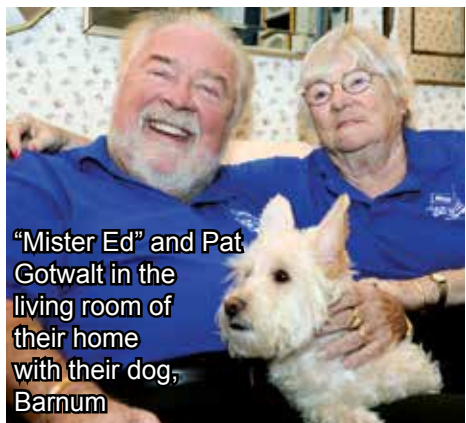
Such wisdom fills the "Ten Commandments of Business" talk that Ed has delivered to many large groups over the years, and now hopes to bring it to audiences nationwide.

Ed hasn't shied from publicizing himself over the years — "If you don't blow your own horn, you many never hear it played," he said — but the point isn't ego, it's connection. Even those billboards are designed to spark conversation. "I know it should be 'Where the Candy & Homemade Fudge are,' not is," Ed said, but the seeming error prompts folks to offer a correction, sparking a conversation.

Ed's knack for connecting helps explain his success in portraying himself in film director John Putch's three locally shot "Route 30" comedies. Also a factor is Ed's long experience onstage at the Totem Pole Playhouse. Ed plans to portray a character other than himself in an upcoming film by Putch.

But Ed Gotwalt's most enduring will doubtless remain Mister Ed.

Asked what that character really means, and will continue to mean, Ed came up with three powerful words: "Fun. Love. And sincerity." 



"Mister Ed" and Pat Gotwalt in the living room of their home with their dog, Barnum

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STORY AND PHOTOS BY JESSICA A. RUDY



## Baltimore Aquarium takes visitors on maritime adventure

The hustle and bustle of Baltimore's Inner Harbor can become a bit crazy.

From boats entering and leaving the area, to a full range of dining, shopping, and tourist options, the area can become overwhelming even to veteran visitors of the harbor.

An oasis amidst it all offers visitors a respite from the city while providing an educational opportunity at the same time.

The National Aquarium is set along the shoreline of Inner Harbor, just steps from historic Naval ships and within view of the popular paddle boats. What lies inside is nothing short of astonishing.

The National Aquarium is home to about 17,000 animals, ranging from the tiniest jelly fish, frogs and delicate sea creatures to dolphins and ferocious sharks. Amazingly, all seem to live in harmony as neighbors.

Though there may sometimes be a wait to enter the aquarium, the promise of what lies inside makes the anticipation sweet.

Upon entering the main hall, visitors are greeted by the waterfall of an Australian ecosystem. Note this for later, and continue inside.

Arguably the most extensive and immersive experience at the National Aquarium is a visit to Blacktip Reef. It is here that most begin their trek through the Aquarium - from here paths lead to the displays studying the ecosystems of the oceans of the world, and to the Amazon River Forest.

Immediately upon entering the reef, visitors might be treated to a visit with Calypso, the sea turtle.

Calypso lives within the reef's environment and is distinguished by only having three legs. As staff at the aquarium like to explain, she's a living tribute to the dictum "just keep swimming."

Calypso is joined by a variety of creatures with a crazy quilt of backgrounds. The blacktip reef sharks swimming alongside the

sea turtle seem unbothered by the smaller creatures surrounding them.

Included among them are puffer fish, stingrays, zebra shark and more.

Stay for awhile and listen to an educational program, or continue upwards toward the Atlantic and Pacific.

The beauty of the National Aquarium is that visitors are able to take as much information as they want from the experience. Perhaps a family would just like to glory in the vibrant shows put on in each of the aquariums. Or perhaps a budding marine biologist needs to learn everything there is to know about the evolution of fish, or the adaptations developed by the National Aquarium's residents to survive in the wild.

A full range of informational displays accompany the living examples of sea horses, sturgeon,

more turtles, shrimp and octopus!

Continue through the displays to the top

### How To Get There

From Gettysburg, head south on Route 97. Crossing into Maryland, continue on Route 97 until Westminster. There, merge right onto MD-140 East towards Baltimore. Continue on MD-140 to I-795 South towards Owings Mills. Continue on I-795 to I-695 East towards Towson. Follow I-695 to I-83 South towards Baltimore. Continue onto North President Street, then turn right onto East Lombard Street and left onto Commerce Street. Then turn left onto Pratt Street. Parking is located near the aquarium by turning onto Gay Street and entering the Lockwood Place Garage. Be sure to take your garage ticket with you to the aquarium and have it validated at the information desk for a parking discount.



of the aquarium to visit the rainforest - it actually rains here every few minutes!

Do you hear the brilliant bird song in the trees at the far end of the arboretum? It's just the scarlet ibis, the vibrant and showy king of the tropical rain forest exhibit.

Joining the scarlet ibis within the mini habitat are a full range of tropical birds and poison dart frogs. Look carefully in a tank at the forest's floor - piranhas!

Stay for the latest rain shower or keep moving along the trail of exhibits. Up next - the sharks!

Wind down a series of ramps past a litany of tanks and descend into Shark Alley.

Looks carefully: you'll see a sawfish, and a variety of sharks and stingrays. The sheer size of these magnificent creatures is astonishing and many visitors comment on their ability to live together within the confines of the aquarium.

Linger as long as you like. Though the path of exhibits may have come to an end, there are still more animals to see at the National Aquarium.

In another wing of the building, visitors are invited to attend the Dolphin Experience. Here, eight dolphins make their home in a display that is open to visitors all day. Families are welcome to sit in the dolphin arena and watch these joyful mammals play and cavort and go about the business of everyday life. During a recent visit, a group of children visiting the National Aquarium sat within the arena and squealed with delight each time one of the creatures would emerge from the water to leap or breathe.

Still need more oceanic contact?

Near the Dolphin Experience, find signs for Jellies Invasion, a darkened aquarium area home to glowing jellyfish of all varieties.

## If You Go National Aquarium

501 E. Pratt St.  
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[www.aqua.org](http://www.aqua.org)

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**Saturday-Thursday**

**9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.**

**Friday**

**9 a.m.-9:30 p.m.**

**Adults, 12-64: \$34.95**

**Child, 3-11: \$21.95**

**Seniors, over 65: \$29.95**


**Infants, under 3: free**

**Military discounts, group tickets, and annual memberships are also available.**

Isolated in tanks by type, the jellyfish seem almost like something from a science fiction novel as they glow and cavort in all the neon colors of the rainbow.

Still other opportunities for getting up close and personal with the animals exist at the National Aquarium, from immersion tours on special topics scheduled every day, to 4-D immersion films at the facility's theater.

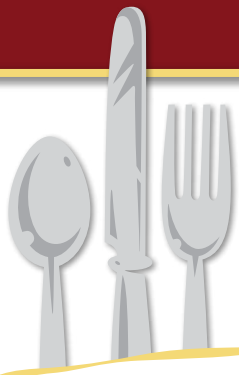
Plus, there's a gift shop, and a variety of dining options within the aquarium itself so visitors can make an entire day of their trip to Baltimore.

It's amazing what aquatic experiences await so close to Adams County just waiting for eager visitors, and on just one tank of gas. 



## Things To Consider

The National Aquarium can truly offer a full day of activities for families and individuals wanting to experience oceanic life. Several moderately priced dining options offering a variety of cuisine are housed within the aquarium, as well as a gift shop. Other dining options are available within walking distance in Inner Harbor, including seafood, the Hard Rock Cafe, and fast food options. Extensive shopping opportunities and tours of historic ships are also available in and around the harbor. The National Aquarium is fully handicap accessible, though visitors wanting to experience fully what the facility has to offer should be able to navigate escalators and moving walkways. Strollers are not permitted within the aquarium, but the facility offers a stroller check area. Tickets are issued on a metered basis, so advance tickets are recommended, or plan to arrive well in advance of your desired visit time. Once inside the aquarium, tours are largely self-guided.



## DELECTABLE *Dining*

STORY BY HOLLY FLETCHER  
PHOTOS BY JOHN ARMSTRONG



### **Inn 94**

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Inn 94 Restaurant has been owned and operated by John and Abbey Balafoutas since 1980. Under the management of son Ted J. Balafoutas, the restaurant has become one of the finest in the area.

Located on Route 94 just three miles north of the Cross Keys intersection and about 15 miles from Gettysburg, Inn 94 is open for both lunch and dinner, seven days a week.

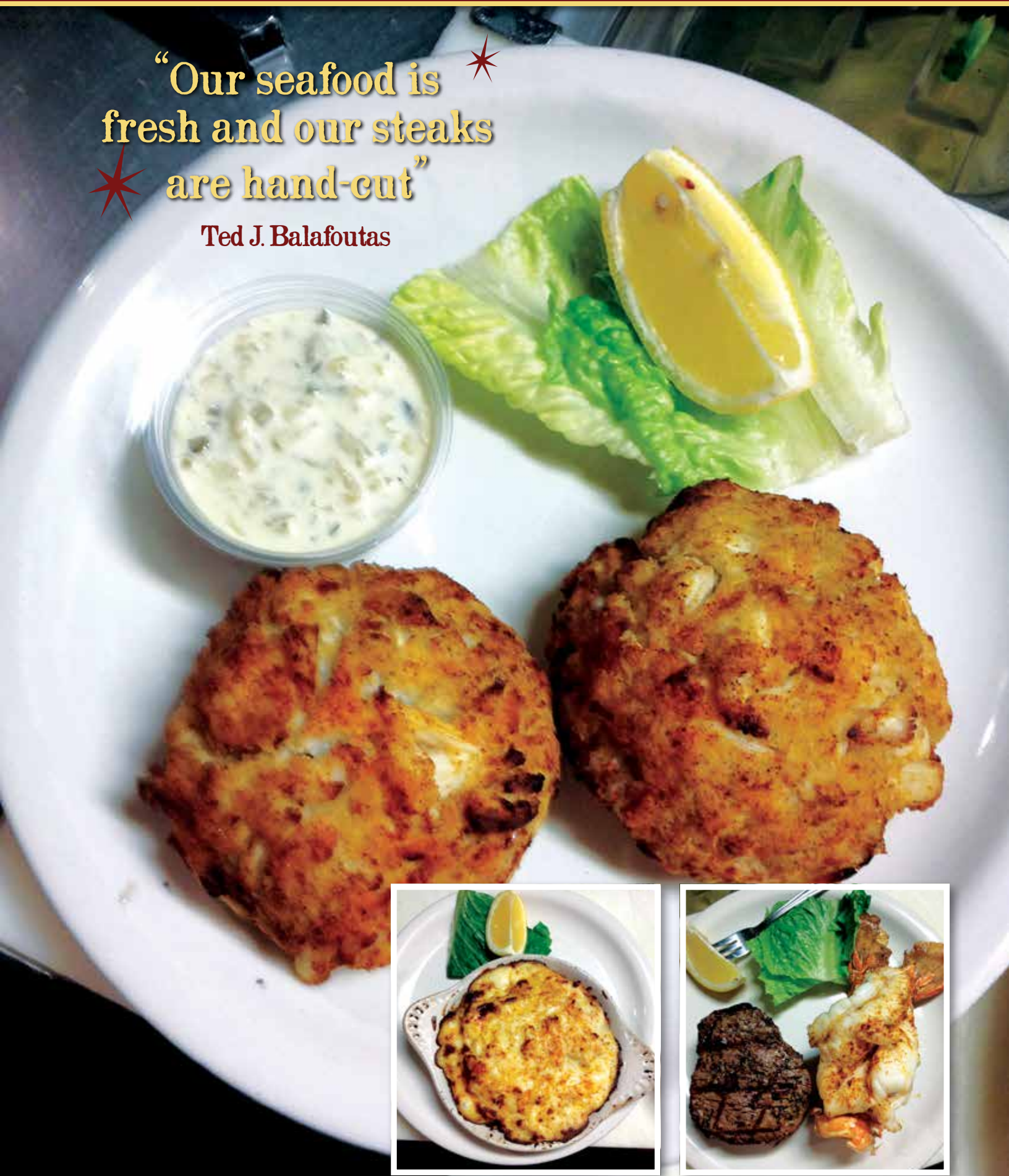
The menu selection includes John's famous crab cakes, scrumptious seafood and sizzling steaks, plus an extensive list of appetizers, wines and desserts.

"Our seafood is fresh and our steaks are hand-cut," said Ted.

There is also a children's menu, and a selection of petite entrees for those with a smaller appetite.

“Our seafood is  
fresh and our steaks  
are hand-cut”

Ted J. Balafoutas



According to Ted, banquets are a tradition at Inn 94, with seating to accommodate up to 200 guests (excluding Saturdays) for any occasion.

For those Saturday special occasions, the Fireplace Room can accommodate up to 60 guests.

For relaxation, or while you're waiting, the Lounge welcomes guests to enjoy a cocktail before the meal.

Reservations are always welcome and highly recommended for weekends.

Major credit cards are accepted and the facility is handicap accessible.

One of the most requested dinner specials at Inn 94 is John's Broiled Seafood Platter (\$24.95) which includes haddock, crab imperial, stuffed flounder, shrimp and scallops.

And the most requested dessert? Homemade baklava. Baklava is a classic Greek pastry made with flaky

phyllo dough that is layered with a cinnamon-spiced nut filling, and bathed in sweet syrup. It's crunchy and sweet and very decadent. "We also offer a baklava sundae," Ted noted. He added that wine sales are on the rise at the restaurant. "We have a good variety and many of our offerings are local, Adams County wines."

The interior lobby underwent some renovations in 1994, and two years ago the dining room got a face-lift and some new lighting. But the friendly service and good food have remained the same for more than 30 years.

"I think our longevity, especially in recent years with the economy, speaks volumes about our product and our service," Ted noted.

His advice to those who have not yet dined at Inn 94? "Just try us once."

Another piece of advice Ted offers is

to book holiday reservations now.

"On Thanksgiving we get totally booked up," he said, noting that guests can enjoy a complimentary dessert table that day.

To make reservations, call 624-4665. For more information or to view menus, visit [www.inn-94.com](http://www.inn-94.com). Inn 94, located at 4905 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford, is open Monday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.



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# BEYOND THE MICROPHONE

## Opperman enjoys watching people connect as she performs

By Ashley Andyshak Hayes



**L**ike many budding musicians, Brittany Opperman started singing at her church, Memorial Baptist in Gettysburg, as a child.

The Gettysburg native also comes from a musical family. Her grandmother sang in church and her mother played piano; her grandfather dabbled in music, and both her father and grandfather had a way with words and poetry, she said. Her great-uncle even played with the Grand Ole Opry.

While she's always loved music, Opperman took some time to explore her career options before deciding to dedicate her energy to singing and songwriting. After graduating from Adams County Christian Academy in 2008, she attended Malone University in Canton, Ohio, to study music production, but she didn't fall in love with her studies.

"I'm not a techie," she said. "I like to be in the studio writing music."

After her first year at Malone, she and her father, Jamie Opperman, took a trip to Nashville, where Opperman caught the performing bug. When she came home to Gettysburg for the summer, she re-evaluated her career choice.

"I had a couple moments where, when I got home, I said 'I don't think I want to go back to school,'" she said. "It took a few years to become

something."

Over the next several years, Opperman found her voice, and began writing her own songs, influenced by artists like Miranda Lambert and Kacey Musgraves.

"They usually write things that you can sit down with just a guitar and play," she said.

Her first professional gig was on the WGTY Radio Stage at the York Fair in 2012. She had just finished her self-titled EP and had been playing some sets at Merlin's Coffee in Hanover, but she said the York Fair performance was the first time that the greater York and Adams county community got to know her.

Now 24, Opperman is working on a new album and a new sound.

"The first album was definitely personal," she said of her EP. "A lot of the songs were about a specific relationship. Now I'm trying to write from different perspectives."

Opperman said she wants to highlight an "older country" sound on her new album.

"I want to show that old country influence, still be modern, but a little more authentic sound," she said.

Part of her updated sound comes from the backing of her three-person band, The Southbound Train. Band members Jake Godman, Matt Hinton, and John Mark Ramsey formed the band about a year ago, adding drums,

guitar, bass, and backing vocals to Opperman's acoustic sound. They first performed with Opperman at the Gettysburg Wine and Music Festival in 2013.

"They're a great group of guys," Opperman said.

In the past few years, Opperman has opened for some major country artists who have played locally, including Montgomery Gentry, Brett Eldredge, John Michael Montgomery, and Bucky Covington. She said these high-energy shows are her favorite venues to play.

"It's fun opening for people," she said. "I enjoy any place where the crowd's interactive."

She's also played live sets for local radio stations across central Pennsylvania, and plays at area venues up to eight times per month, on top of working full-time at Cafe Saint-Amand in Gettysburg. Her father and her stepmother help her juggle promotions and booking, and she said she's working toward making music her full-time job.

Opperman said that for her, performing is all about making a connection with the audience.

"It's fun to see people connect, especially if it's a song I wrote myself, but even if it's something else."

For information on Opperman's music and performance schedule, visit [brittanyopperman.com](http://brittanyopperman.com).





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