

# here & now

**A** century ago this month, more than 300 West Virginia coal miners lost their lives in the worst mining disaster in U.S. history. Filmmaker **Peter Argentine**, Mayfair Drive, is working on a documentary about the disaster, which took place in the village of Monongah, about 20 miles south of Morgantown.

Argentine previewed the film this month at a symposium and exhibit about the disaster at the Senator John Heinz History Center in the Strip. The piece is currently a short museum film but Argentine is looking for funding to turn it into a longer documentary, possibly for public television release or even a spot on the History Channel.

One of the things that drew Argentine to tell the story was the plight of the miners' families, some of whom still live in the Molise region of Italy, where many of the miners emigrated from. Because many of the miners' remains were not identified, some of the families were never contacted about their fate.

"What is fascinating to me is how interested the Italian community is [about this story]. It really captivates their imagination," Argentine says of his work. The documentary is expected to be finished in early 2008.

**T**hree annual reports designed by Bradley Brown Design Group have won national awards in the American Graphic Design Awards Program. The 2006 Highmark, Respirationics and Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh reports were selected by professional communicators from more than 10,000 entries in this year's competition. **Susie Bradley**, Hoodridge Drive, is Bradley Brown Design Group's owner and president. The Carnegie-based firm specializes in print and electronic communications.



The American Graphic Design Awards Program has recognized Susie Bradley's Bradley Brown Design Group with national awards.

**W**ilfried Sieg, Inglewood Drive, has been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Sieg, professor of philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University, was recognized for his work on proof theory of subsystems of classical analysis and arithmetic. He has also conducted conceptual analysis of the notions of human computability and machine computability....**Jessica Ferrero**, Forestview Drive, has opened Work It Out, a fitness apparel boutique in Crossgates Plaza on Washington Road. In addition to athletic apparel and power bars, Work It Out features handmade jewelry and handbags and other gift items. The boutique sells products from

Danskin, the Balance Collection and Nite Sweatz. For store hours and more product information, go to [www.workitoutboutique.com](http://www.workitoutboutique.com)....**Douglas Harhai**, Outlook Drive, has opened a law office on Mt. Lebanon Boulevard. Harhai, former corporate counsel for Igate Corp., a technology firm, will concentrate his practice in business law, contracts review, employment, wills, estates, and trusts.

**M**t. Lebanon's state Representative, **Matt Smith**, has been named 2007 State Elected Official of the Year by the Allegheny County Library Association. Smith, who was nominated for the award by officials from libraries in Mt. Lebanon, Bethel Park, Green Tree and Scott Township, was cited for his support of increased state appropriations for local libraries and assistance in obtaining grant funding from the state and other sources.

Mayfair Drive resident Peter Argentine is filming a documentary about the Monongah mine disaster, which happened 100 years ago in West Virginia, about 20 miles south of Morgantown. Many of the miners who were killed had emigrated from Italy. The film will focus on the their families, some of whom still live in Italy.





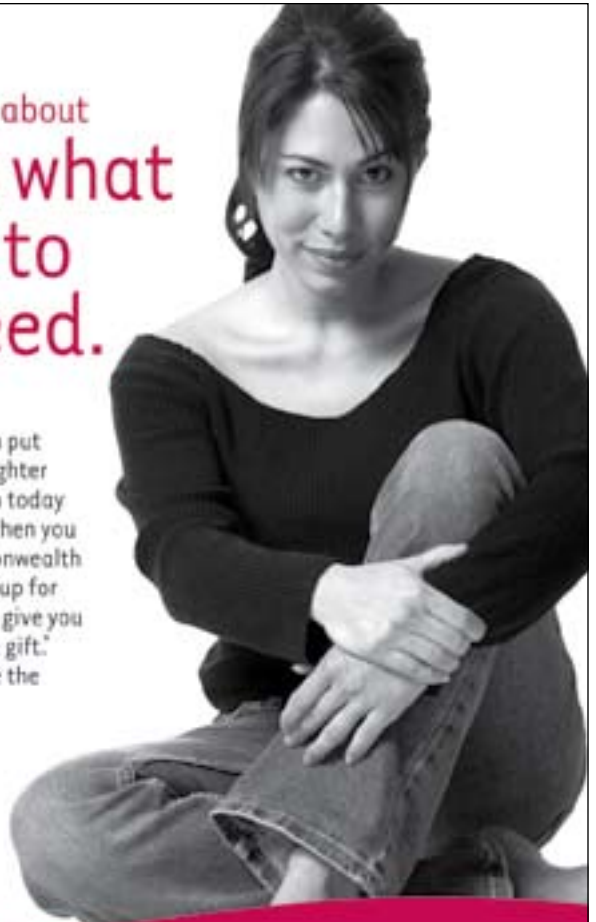
Mt. Lebanon High School musicians Becca Macoskey and Brian McDonough are two of 91 students selected for the first-ever U.S. Army All-American Marching Band. The band will perform during halftime at the 2008 U.S. Army All-American Bowl, which will air live on NBC from San Antonio, Texas on January 5, 2008. The two were selected through a video audition process conducted by Drum Corps International and the National Association for Music Education. They were honored at an assembly at the high school. Macoskey, a flute player, and McDonough, who plays the euphonium, are also drum majors in this year's Blue Devil Marching Band.

The University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Sciences awarded Mt. Lebanon Public Library Director **Cynthia Richey** its Distinguished Alumni Award. The award is given to alumni who have demonstrated exemplary service, accomplishment in their professional and civic lives and strength of character. Richey, who received a Masters in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences, has worked in public libraries since 1972. She has served as president of both the Pennsylvania Library Association and the Association of Library Service to Children and currently serves on the Allegheny County Library Association's board of directors. Richey received the Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania Library Association in 2005 and a Librarian Award from the New York Times in 2006.

Continued page 60

Tell me more about  
**finding what  
 it takes to  
 succeed.**

Let First Commonwealth put you on the road to a brighter financial future. Stop in today and we'll give you \$25 when you open a new First Commonwealth checking account. Sign up for direct deposit and we'll give you another \$25, plus a free gift.\* It's a great way to make the most of your money.



**Mt. Lebanon**  
 Twila Green, Office Manager  
 301 Mt Lebanon Boulevard  
 412.341.5266



**FIRST  
 Commonwealth.**

**fcbanking.com**  
**800.711.2265**

\* Offer applies to new personal checking accounts opened within the next 90 days with money not currently on deposit with First Commonwealth. Accounts qualifying for the additional deposit must have an electronic direct deposit of a recurring monthly deposit within 90 days of account opening. Deposit will be credited to your account after the 90-day period. Minimum opening deposit of \$50. Limit one offer per household and applies to personal checking accounts only. Deposit may be reported as interest income to the IRS. Clients are responsible for applicable taxes. Offer subject to change or withdrawal at any time. Must present ad to receive offer. Offer good at Mt. Lebanon office only. FCB Member FDIC. Equal Opportunity Lender.

## Sichuan House

Chinese Restaurant

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Mon.-Thurs., 11 am-9:30 pm

Fri., 11 am-10:30 pm

Sat., 3 pm-10:30 pm

Sun., 3 pm-9:30 pm

**PARTY ROOM • GIFT CERTIFICATES**

Virginia Manor Shops 1717 Cochran Road • Mt. Lebanon

**TAKEOUT AVAILABLE • 412.563.5252 • FREE DELIVERY** (Limited area)



# Baptist HOMES

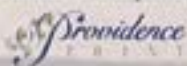
Serving people of all faiths since 1910 with:

- † Nursing Care
- † Alzheimer's Care
- † Assisted Living
- † Rehabilitative Therapies
- † Short-term Rehab
- † Medicare- and Medicaid-certified Care
- † Independent Living at Baptist Manor (HUD)
- † Hospice Care
- † Wellness/Fitness Center



489 Castle Shannon Blvd.  
Mt. Lebanon, PA 15234-1482  
412-563-6550  
www.baptisthomes.org

Baptist Homes is the proud sponsor of



Renee Rosensteel

Annamarie Teolis (center), LeMoyne Avenue, has opened Annamarie's Specialties, an Italian cookie bakery, at 980 Walnut Street in Castle Shannon. Teolis, pictured with her parents, Jennie and Nicholas Vacca, offers her signature handmade biscotti and a selection of food baskets, handmade jewelry, candy and gifts. For store hours and other information, call 412-341-0438.

If you place the winning bid on a handmade stocking, not only will you get a one-of-a-kind piece of art, but you'll be helping others—including the artist.

The Fabric Place, 727 Washington Road, is auctioning handmade Christmas stockings at its store through Dec. 8 at 5 P.M. with proceeds going to Family Hospice and Palliative Care.

And here's another reason to bid: creators of the stockings that get the highest bids will get prizes.

The artist for the stocking that garners the most money will win a new Pfaff sewing machine. Second place gets a \$100 gift certificate and third place gets a \$50 gift certificate, both to the Fabric Place.

People who would like to honor or remember someone important in their lives may purchase a bulb for \$2 and help decorate St. Clair Hospital's commemorative holiday tree. White lights will honor the living and blue lights will glow as memorials. The tree, to be lighted 6 P.M., Monday, December 10, outside the fourth floor (Bower Hill Road)

entrance to the hospital, and donors will be listed in the display case opposite the gift shop in the lobby. To purchase a bulb, mail a check to Mary Lou Schmotzer, 192 Sheldon Avenue, Pittsburgh 15220 or call 412-279-6931 or 412-942-2085.



Don't forget to include a U.S. soldier on your Christmas gift list. While you're at Hometown Mail Center, 461 Cochran Road, shipping your holiday gifts, place a gift for a soldier serving overseas in their year-around collection box. Dry packaged snacks (chips, jerky, trail mix) and entertainment items such as DVDs, CD, handheld games, iPods, MP3 players and batteries are some of the items requested by soldiers.

Rich Bruns, owner of Hometown Mail Center, encourages people to recognize our soldiers who are making sacrifices to defend our freedoms. Simply drop off your item, and Bruns sees to the packing and shipping. Items are accepted any time, but drop by December 15 if you want your items to arrive by Christmas. Call Hometown Mail Center at 412-343-8500.

Continued page 67



If being named best coffee house by readers of both the Post-Gazette and Pittsburgh Magazine isn't enough to get you to Blue Horse Coffee on Washington Road, all this month you can check out original art work from the Mainstay Life Services resident art show. Mainstay, a nonprofit organization providing residential and support services to individuals with developmental disabilities, offers art classes Monday nights at its offices, 200 Roessler Road in Scott Township. Volunteer art instructor Binu Advani specializes in vocational training in the field of arts and crafts for people with developmental disabilities. Pictured back row from left: Mainstay program managers Mary Kay Adams and Kate Dombrowski, Mainstay program coordinator Dave Cochran. Seated, artists Marlene Dzugan and Carol Olszewski.



Jack and Peggy Offenbach (seated), owners of Ruth's Chris Steak House, in downtown Pittsburgh, celebrated 20 years in business this year. The Offenbachs are co-owners of the restaurant with their sons, Gregg (left), Arrowood Drive and Scott, Lakemont Drive. The Pittsburgh Ruth's Chris is one of 109 steak houses worldwide, and received the AOL City Guide Best Steak House award last year.

# Our Smiles are Recognizable

## *Braces for Children and Adults*

- Complimentary Initial Exam
- We offer Invisalign



Photo by Ben Church



750 WASHINGTON ROAD • 412-563-5800  
www.Gobbieortho.com



Gene Puskar

Natalie Kindler, a seventh-grader at Jefferson Middle School who wrote a winning essay, poses outside the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus on its stop in Mt. Lebanon.

As John Lennon sang, we all shine on. It's just that some shine a little brighter than others. **Natalie Kindler**, a Jefferson Middle School seventh-grader, wrote the winning entry for the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus 2008 "How Does Music Change Lives" contest.

As part of her prize, the tour bus, which is equipped with a full recording studio, stopped at the school, and Kindler got to take four fellow seventh-graders on the bus for the day. **Kate Walsh, Jessie Cohen, Alyssa Lazarchik** and **Ashley Hansen** created their own music video to the words of Kindler's essay. Another 100 students from the school got to check out the bus too. WQED Multimedia co-sponsored the contest. 📺

### SEEKING HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

"It's just not the holidays without..." what? Luminarias? Dinner after midnight Mass? Trains under the tree? We are working on a story for next year on holiday traditions. Send your story to **mtl**, 710 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228, or e-mail [mjantz@mtlebanon.org](mailto:mjantz@mtlebanon.org).

## LANZ ASSOCIATES IN DENTISTRY

Roy G. Lanz D.M.D. Matthew J. Lanz D.M.D.



GENERAL AND FAMILY DENTISTRY • IN-OFFICE TEETH WHITENING  
IMPLANTS AND COSMETIC DENTISTRY • VENEERS  
DIGITAL X-RAYS • LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN PATIENT EDUCATION

WASHINGTON SQUARE • 750 WASHINGTON ROAD  
Office hours by appointment—Evening appointments available  
**412.343.2022** [www.lanzdental.com](http://www.lanzdental.com)



For 20 years, we have  
loved being part  
of your families' lives.

Thank you to the many people who have helped the Mt. Lebanon Extended Day Program and the families and children of Mt. Lebanon. It is through your participation that we attribute our success.

With continued support and generosity from our great community, MLEDP will be honored to be here for at least 20 more years.

**We thank you.**



- First Place, AOL City Guide 2007 Member's Vote
- First Place, Post-Gazette 2007 Reader's Poll
- First Place, Tribune-Review Reader's Survey
- First Place, South Hills Record Reader's Vote
- 2007 Winner, City Paper's Reader's Poll
- "Heart Healthy", UPMC's Dining-with-Heart

**Amel's** 412-563-3466

**\$3 off any lunch entrée or \$5 off any dinner entrée with purchase of another lunch or dinner entrée**

Expires January 31, 2008 Mt. Lebo

**Amel's Restaurant**  
McNelly Road at Sussex 412-563-3466

• Lunch til 4 • Dinners  
• Sandwiches • Late Night Menu  
• Party Trays • Holiday Parties  
• Open 7 Days • Bar til 2 AM