



# The Faith Herald

*December 2018*

*"Get up to a high mountain...  
and lift up your voice with strength...  
herald of good news!"  
Isaiah 40:9*

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Visit our office 9a-1p, M-Th



## **Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> after worship**

This meeting is being held for the purpose of approving the 2019 budget and to vote on calling a new pastor. All voting members of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

### **From the Call Committee**

On Wed. November 14, 2018, the Faith Lutheran Church Council Call Committee met to discuss recommendations for placing a call. We had started our work in early June and have now completed on-site interviews. During this meeting we felt spiritually moved to make our recommendation to the church council, who also had their meeting that same evening. Our decision was supported by the Council and a date was set for a special congregational meeting for a vote to formally place our call. Last Sunday during announcements at the service, the Call Committee announced our recommendation to bring our recommendation forward to the Church and Pastor Paul has shared his enthusiasm! *Troy Hansen*

### **It is our pleasure to introduce Pastor Paul M. Anderson**

Pastor Paul was born and raised in Newark, Illinois, with four brothers and one sister. Owning a dairy farm, they were a very close family who worked, played and worshipped together.

He was raised in the Lutheran Church, with Sunday worship and Christian service being a major part of his life. He was baptized July 8, 1956, and subsequently confirmed his baptismal faith in Jesus Christ on June 13, 1971.



*Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: Worshiping, welcoming, and serving in Christ's name.*



From September 1975 to December 1976, Pastor Paul was a student at Lutheran Bible Institute. He served and traveled on their full-time music ministry team from 1979 to 1981.

In 1986 he “married the love of my life, Gwen”. According to Pastor Paul, “Gwen is more than the better half; she makes me complete and I thank God for her.” They have three grown children, with six grandchildren and another on the way.

Moved by the Holy Spirit, Paul and Gwen returned to Lutheran Bible Institute in 1998. He graduated with a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in Youth and Family Ministry with an emphasis on The Scriptures. In 2004 he graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

In 2004, Pastor Paul received his first pastoral call to Zion Lutheran Church and First Presbyterian Church in Fairfield, Washington. A merger of these two congregations occurred in 2014, establishing the Fairfield Community Church, which is a federated congregation within the ELCA and the Presbyterian Church USA.

Pastor Paul enjoys spending time with Gwen and their family, playing guitar, reading and road bicycling. He hopes someday to learn how to fly fish, (hint, hint). He is confident that God has richly blessed their lives through these many years, and they are so grateful for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their work and lives!

Please join us in celebrating the work for the Holy Spirit by sharing your support in this call and by welcoming Pastor Paul and Gwen to Faith Lutheran Church.

**We will vote to call the new pastor on December 9<sup>th</sup>.**



### December Worship Notes

Advent (*the beginning of the Christian calendar year*) starts Sunday, December 2nd. This is “the year of Luke”, or Lectionary C, which means our worship readings will focus on the gospel of Luke, which is arguably the most beloved, and gives the most thorough account of Jesus’ life. It is the longest writing of the New Testament, and features some of its most treasured stories. Luke is the only gospel to feature an extended birth narrative- we read this version at worship every Christmas Eve. (*And Linus recites it in “A Charlie Brown Christmas”!*) Luke shows a particular interest in the socially marginalized. Distinctive to Luke’s gospel, Jesus is nearly always “on the road”, and his most significant teachings take place during his journey to Jerusalem. He portrays journey as a central metaphor for discipleship and what it means to be God’s people, a people always being formed and on the move.

Worship this month features blended liturgies with a hint of Holden Evening Prayer, and plenty of our favorite Advent songs and Christmas carols. A special treat on **December 9<sup>th</sup>** will be the **Kid’s Christmas Worship** service, a youth-led offering organized by Amber Richardson, and featuring the talents of our young folks. On **Christmas Eve**, there will be **two worship services (4 and 7 pm)**, which share the Christmas Story told through the scripture readings of Luke and Isaiah interspersed with Christmas carols in the traditional candlelight setting. There will be **no worship on Christmas Day**. On **December 30<sup>th</sup>**, Sunday worship will be an entire service of beloved **Christmas carols**.

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## Something “new” this Advent season.....

In the busy-ness of the month of December, it’s easy to forget that advent is a time set aside to watch and wait; to prepare for the coming of Immanuel, "God With Us". Many folks fondly recall that Faith used to hold a mid-week advent service. **(John Marten has agreed to lead us in a short, contemplative service on Wednesday nights. Join us for fellowship and dinner at 5:45 pm, then stay for vespers at 6:45 on December 5th, 12th, and 19th.)** A lovely way to center yourself mid-week during this holiday season. Please join us!



***Can you contribute special music during Advent or Christmas?  
Please contact Celeste and she will work with you  
to schedule and locate music. (if needed)***

## A Gift That Only Kids Can Give

**Faith Kids will lead worship on Sunday, December 9th**

The Christmas story told through scripture and song. A special highlight will be our youngest children telling the nativity story. Middle & High School students will also add their talent. Please join us after for coffee hour as we serve Jesus’ birthday cake and refreshments!

**Parents: we will practice on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> after worship  
and Sat. Dec 8<sup>th</sup> will be the Dress Rehearsal at 10am..**



## Celebrating 200 Years of Silent Night

On Christmas Eve of 1818 the young priest of St. Nicholas parish church in Obendorf, Austria faced disaster. The church organ was incapacitated. The chance of fixing the instrument before the evening service was nil. Father Joseph Mohr was not a man to just give up however. He pulled out a poem he had written several years before called “Stille Nacht”. Mohr took his poem to the schoolmaster and organist of a nearby town, Franz Xaver Gruber. He asked that Gruber write a melody to accompany the poem on guitar. In several hours, Gruber had the music done and the carol was played and sung by the two men for the first time that night at the Christmas Eve service.

Nearly 50 years passed before Stille Nacht was translated into English. In 1859, Episcopalian bishop John Freeman Young translated three of Mohr’s original six verses and published the English translation that is most frequently sung today. In 1914, during the Christmas truce of World War 1, the song was sung in French, English and German simultaneously. It was apparently the one song that all the soldiers on both sides knew. Today the words of "Silent Night" are sung in more than 300 different languages around the world.



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at  
4pm and 7pm



## From The Church Christmas Tree

Oh, I am so shiny and bright this year with my new Chrismon bling. I feel like the star above Bethlehem proclaiming the birth of the Christ Child. Thank you to all who made my new ornaments symbolizing my Christian roots. What a way to celebrate this special day and season.

## Shoeboxes Have Begun Their Journey

The 161 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes packed at Faith's Packing Party have begun their journey. These gifts are often simple by some standards but to someone who has little they can mean much more. The story of Jesus' birth and life is given to each child who receives a box so he or she is exposed to the word and works of God. These simple gifts can change lives. Thank you to all who participated and continue bring joy and spread the faith to children around the world.



## End of Life Financial Assistance

It has come our attention that members of our congregation have struggled with finances available for inpatient hospice care and also for funeral costs.

A new committee has been formed under the Steward of Outreach, called the "End of Life Financial Assistance Project". A limited amount of funds are now available to aid members of our congregation with these costs. Application forms are available from the church office.

Funds may be made available after deliberation by the committee. The only qualifications are that the deceased or the patient must be a member of Faith Lutheran Church and in financial need.

The committee has rotating 3 year commitments. Initial members are: for three years, Dale Brady; for two years Claudia Williams; and for one year, Karen Heller. If you have any questions, please see any member of the committee.





## Wednesday Night Alive! Come one, Come all

The fun starts around 5:45pm with a warm, hearty meal cooked by  
“Chef Lans and the boys!”



If you can, stick around and find an activity that appeals to you. Some current options are:  
Adult small groups, Adult Choir, 1<sup>st</sup> grade and up activities,  
Middle School and High School groups.

**New this month: Advent Vesper Services at 6:45, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>**

Want to help with dinners? Call Lans Richardson, 369-4304. Meet some of our youth? Call Claudia Williams, 370-0615. Love to sing? Call Amber Richardson, 370-7159. Adult study ideas? Call John Marten, 231-288-0242.

Have more ideas?? Call LaDonna 406-460-1994, or email: [obtorg4@gmail.com](mailto:obtorg4@gmail.com)



## FLBC News & Notes

### Shop with Amazon Smile to benefit FLBC!

It's the holiday season! As you shop this season, use Amazon Smile (<https://smile.amazon.com/>) and select Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp as your beneficiary. Amazon will automatically donate .5% of your purchase price to FLBC (no additional cost to you!). Be sure to shop [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com/) this season!

**2019 Summer Camp brochures** will be mailed out mid-December. If you do not receive a brochure, check the website for complete information. [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net)

**2019 Retreat brochure is now available.** For more information, check online or on the counter outside the church office. A lot of great opportunities for grown-ups to enjoy FLBC!

**Hooray for Faith! Five families from our congregation are members of the Partner's Club.** Do you want to be a member too? Partners donate \$150 or more annually to FLBC's ministry. For information, check the counter outside the office, or visit the website.

**Summer 2019 Adult Volunteers!** Registration for adult volunteers (pastors, youth directors, nurses, grandparents, etc.) for the 2019 summer camping season is now open! Call (406) 752-6602 during the day for the best availability of weeks!

### Upcoming Events & Retreats

Register by calling the camp office 406-752-6602 or email [office@flbc.net](mailto:office@flbc.net)

If you would like the FLBC newsletter, sign up on their website: [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net)

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# **THE YOUTH PAGE**



**Wed 5 – Wreath Making Service Project**

▪ **6pm @ First Presbyterian**



**Sun 9 – Youth Sunday and Children's Christmas Program**

▪ **9:30am @ Faith Lutheran**



**Wed 12 – Tri-Church Youth Group**

▪ **6pm @ St. Paul's Episcopal**



**Wed 19 – HS Youth Christmas Party**

▪ **6pm @ Faith Lutheran**



**Wed 26 – Annual Trip to the Movies!**



**Jan 4 – Tri-Church Youth Group**

▪ **6pm @ First Presbyterian**

## ***Wreaths for the Homebound***

***Wednesday, December 5, 6pm @ First Presbyterian (1220 W. Main St)***

In keeping with our pumpkin carving project we now invite children and families to make and deliver wreaths to our homebound! Help spread Christmas cheer to those who need it most. Dinner will be provided, but a head count would be greatly appreciated! If you can RSVP, or have crafting supplies you can donate, please let Sam Fife know!



## ***Youth Christmas Party***

***Wednesday, December 19, 6pm at FLC***

High Schoolers: Come celebrate the holidays with snacks and games! Invite a friend, and be sure to bring your nerf guns!

## ***Annual Trip to the Movies!***

***Wednesday, December 26, @ Pharaohplex***

Invite a friend and come celebrate the school break again this year! Movie and time will be determined by RSVPs! So take a look at your calendar and let Sam know! Tickets for children and teens provided. All ages welcome!

### **CONNECT WITH US!!!**

Youth Director Samantha Fife, Faith Lutheran, 406.370.8025 (cell). [fifedrivel@gmail.com](mailto:fifedrivel@gmail.com)



# Faith Lutheran Church Scandinavian Dinner Saturday, January 26, 2019 3-7 pm



Adults: \$17 & children under 16 years: \$5. Donations welcome.

Proceeds will benefit FLC's General Fund Reserve

*Buy extra! Give a meal to a friend or neighbor.*

Tickets available at:

Faith Lutheran Church, The Paper Clip, and at the door on  
January 26<sup>th</sup>

**Come help the magic happen again!**



## Preparations Have Begun!



**How will you join the fun?** We Lutherans are known throughout the Bitterroot Valley for our food and fellowship. And there's really nothing like getting to know those folks you share a pew with as you make meatballs, roll lefse, or peel potatoes. **Please lend a hand;** check the calendar below to see when you are available, and say, **"Yes, I can do that!"** when you receive a phone call to serve. Better yet, volunteer **BEFORE** you get a phone call! Celeste Pogachar 239-3952

## Mark Your Calendars!

- Jan. 5 (Sat) Meatballs
- Jan. 10-12 (Thurs-Sat) Lefse
- Jan. 18-19 (Fri- Sat) Cookies/Desserts
- Jan. 25 (Fri) Potatoes/ Decorating
- Jan. 26 (Sat) Dinner



**Plan Ahead!**  
Save the week of  
July 8-12, 2019  
for Faith Lutheran's Vacation Bible School.



## *Faith Serves our Neighbors*

### **Brawl of the Wild**

Thanks so much for supporting the special offering on November 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> for Lutheran Campus Ministry! The results are in! **Bobcat supporters donated \$204** in the blue cups and **Grizzly supporters contributed \$361** for a **total of \$575**, which will be evenly split between U of M and MSU Campus Ministries! **Way to go, Bobcat and Griz Fans!**



### **FREE COMMUNITY DINNERS FOR ALL!**

Mon., Tues., Thurs. at Cornerstone Bible Church 5:30 to 6pm  
Wed. Hamilton Assembly of God Church 6pm  
Fridays St. Francis Catholic Church 5:30 to 6:30pm  
**Everyone welcome!**

Faith Lutheran volunteers will be preparing and serving the next Community Meal on Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Preparation happens in the Faith Kitchen around 10 that morning and help is needed at the Cornerstone church on Fairground Rd between 4 and 6:45 pm.

### **Thanks from Faith's Community Meals Team**

Thank you to all who attended the Harvest Dinner and participated in the Dessert Auction. You were *sweet* to add to our budget so we can continue to provide healthy food to those in need in our community on the 4th Tuesday of each month. We will add a few more fresh items to our menus thanks to your generosity. And always, thank you to the volunteers who help with the meal preparation, serving, and clean-up for each meal! (No Meal in December as it's Christmas Day)

**264 lbs of food was collected for Haven House!**

### **Bitterroot Valley Chorus Presents**

#### **Annual Christmas Concerts**

**December 8th at 7:30pm**

**and December 9th at 2:00pm**

A holiday tradition, featuring several musicians from

Faith Lutheran in the adult choir  
and children's choir

At the Hamilton PAC (Performing Arts Center)

A \$5 donation is suggested







### **Giving Status for November 2018**

In November FLC received \$9,733 in General Fund giving.

To meet requirements of the 2018 budget

FLC needed to receive \$12,331 for the month.

For the month of November giving was \$2,597 below requirements.

Currently YTD FLC is 414,230 below requirements for the 2018 budget.

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### ***Are You Willing To Serve Your Church?***

Each year 3-4 of the seven 2-year Steward/Council positions are up for renewal at the Annual Meeting. At the upcoming meeting it's four Steward positions that are up for renewal.

They are Communications, Hospitality and Fellowship, Outreach, and Worship. Each Steward position oversees an aspect of our church that either helps us stay connected as a church community or guides our mission in the greater community around us. Serving as a Steward is an opportunity to make a difference and strengthen our church family.

The Nominating Committee has posted the duties of the positions up for renewal on the bulletin boards in the Narthex and Fellowship room. Please take a few minutes the next time you are at church to look these over and prayerfully consider serving. When you look the duties over, please note each specifically recommends creating a committee to help with the duties. No one expects one person to do all the duties by oneself. Remember many hands make light work.

For further information, visit with the current Steward. Their names and contact info are on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Or, visit with any of those on the Nominating Committee: Carl Russ, Dale Brady, Linda Beyer, Robin Ireland, and Scott Southwick. We'll be happy to answer your questions.



### **Do you need a bible?**

#### **Are you curious about another translation?**

There are a variety of bibles on the cart in the lobby. Please feel free to "shop" the selection and take home one that you like. **FREE!**



## The 'Last Supper' Mural in our Sanctuary

Faith's treasured "Last Supper" crocheted wall hanging has found a new home in our Sanctuary. I think this is such a good time to revisit the 'story' of its creation. (Della's story as told to me via phone from Libby MT in June of 1998) Della Loury was 11 years old when she suffered a severe spinal injury that caused her to be strapped to a wooden ironing board for many months. A hole was cut to accommodate a bed pan and she spent all of her days lying flat on her back.

Della's doctor suggested to her mother that a project be found for her to pass the endless time. Della had learned to crochet when she was five years old and her mother had put a "stamp of approval" on her work at age eight. Della remembered a pattern of the Last Supper ordered earlier from a magazine, and chose it for her project in honor of her grandmother who was from Kentucky and had never learned to read or write. Della had read her the entire Bible three times and her grandmother's favorite Scripture was always the 'Lord's Last Supper.'

The piece took seven months to finish. Della was left-handed so her mother had fashioned mirrors to transfer the right-hand pattern to a left. Della recovered from her injury and the crocheted 'Last Supper' was packed away. In 1941 when Della was 19 the family moved to Hamilton MT.

In 1951 Marvin Keen arrived at the Hamilton American Lutheran Church to serve as the second Vicar. He and Della and her brother had gone to school together in Indiana and the friendship was soon rekindled. Della knew Marvin was working hard "in his new church" with the remodeling and she asked him if he would like to have a crocheted hanging of the "Lords Last Supper". Of course he would. She carefully unwrapped her hanging and took it to the Cleaners. When it came back it was folded like a tablecloth and neatly pressed. She had to go back to the Cleaners telling them it was a hanging and had to be stretched. Della had crocheted the hanging with bedspread cotton, hence the mistake.

A frame was built by Art Braun (father of Donna) and he and wife Alma and the Leights laid it all out on the Braun's living room to put it together. Bob and Rachel Gerloff stopped by to help.

Many years later someone found the pattern and gave it to me. It is in the church office. Thank you Ross Damrow and Scott Southwick for the re-hanging. *Clairice Brady*

If you see a member of Faith in the news or anyone of us that needs to be recognized for their efforts please let the office know so we can include them in our publications. [Office@faithlutheranhamilton.org](mailto:Office@faithlutheranhamilton.org) Thank you!



## Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

Interim Pastor	Mick Gray		
President/Convener	Darrin Heitmann	370-4521	powertrip@cybernet1.com
Discipleship	LaDonna Grotbo	460-1994	Obtorg4@yahoo.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Deb Cathey	218-8394	debnkenwow@gmail.com
Finance	Dean Drake	777-7010	Deandrake87@gmail.com
Communication	Paul Walczak	360-3691	kazclaw@msn.com
Outreach	Jennifer Murillo	529-9138	jmurillo@gmail.com
Property & Grounds	Marlin Lewis	391-1270	lewism@hsd3.org
Worship	Ross Damrow	381-1318	rdamrow011@gmail.com
Worship Coordinator	Celeste Pogachar	239-3952	celestepogachar@gmail.com
Youth Director	Samantha Fife	370-8025	fifedrivel@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Nancy Parish	363-6691	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Bookkeeper	Heather Wintergerst	363-2964	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Custodian	Richard Castor	363-2964	



Fran Bennett recently entered God's promised eternal life and Joined her beloved Mr. B . She leaves us to remember her, to learn from her and to grieve for her loss to us. It's hard to think of Fran without a dishrag in her hand always tidying up the kitchen. There was always something that still needed to be done before she could go home. She taught us all some lessons in how to keep things always neat. Fran came to us from California to join her daughter Debbie Crane and her family here after Mr. B's death. She never quit missing him; yet gave us inspiration in how she fervently lived life.

Fran gave much of herself to the community of Faith. Some of her happiest hours were when she served as accompanist for worship, even though she always wanted the piano moved to the back of the Sanctuary. She had served in that role for many years in her previous congregation. She had a passion for the work of the quilting group and spent many hours at home creating and finishing projects, as well as their Wednesday morning work.

Her later years were difficult as she constantly battled pain in her back. But even at the Beehive she found ways to be cheerful and was always pleased to have visitors.

We will miss Fran Bennett. We will miss her spirit, we will miss dinners at her house, we will miss her working alongside us, and we will simply miss her. And, Debbie and Tom and your family, we will keep you in prayer as you grieve. *From Clairice Brady*



## Pray for our Military

Keep them in your thoughts and prayers, especially those close to our family here at Faith Lutheran:

- **Mike Hebert**, grandson of Don & Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Colorado Springs, CO
- **Lt. Col. Timothy Spaulding**, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright Patterson AFB, OH
- **Master Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon**, son of Susan & Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Nelli's AFB, Las Vegas, NV
- **Anna Mitteness**, granddaughter of Morrie & Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.
- **Capt. Alex Stephens, MD**, grandson-in-law of Dale and Clairice Brady, serving at Ft. Campbell Hospital.
- **Capt. Kyle Frazer**, son of Larry & Nancy Hansen, serving at Fort Polk, LA.
- **Master Sergeant Will Rollefson**, nephew of Larry Hansen, Special Forces, Seattle, WA.



## Remember in Prayer...

**Battling Cancer:** Dale A., Mary H., John D., Echo Allison, Blaine, Lea, Doreen Johnson  
**Health, Comfort & Healing:** Fran Bennett, Morry Mitteness, Aubrey, Virginia V., Steve L,  
**Prayers for:** Friends and family of David Gazarra, Bode, Gail L., Family of Butch Wadin, Miriam B., Val Hoff, Sarah, Ray, Abby & Eli, Ryan, Baby Sadie, Tripp Morris, Dale Hughey, Lavonne Beers, Aurora Tabayoyon and her family  
**Valley View:** Ruth Dillon                      **Discovery Care:** Bob Mathison  
**Remington:** Betty Swift                      **Home Nursing Care:** Virginia Roterling, Smitty Smith  
**Incarcerated:** Jacob Bachman, George Davis

## Dates To Remember

- 12/1** Sapphire Lutheran Home craft fair 9am – 2pm  
**12/8** 10am Kids' Christmas Dress Rehearsal 10am  
**2/9** Kids' Christmas Worship  
     **After service: Congregational meeting to Approve the 2019 Budget and to call a New Pastor!**  
**12/19** 6pm HS Youth Christmas Party at Faith (Bring your Nerf guns!)  
**12/24** **4pm and 7pm, Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**  
     Youth Group Christmas Party/Caroling  
**12/30** Bring your leftover Christmas cookies to share at the coffee hour!





*December Birthdays*

12/3	Paige Auch
12/6	Heather Wintergerst
12/7	Sally Berland, Steve Shook
12/9	Holly Mahon
12/12	Lila Farrenburg
12/14	Josie VanDenburg
12/17	Sandy Russ
12/18	Elaina Lewis
12/20	Cole Harden
12/21	John Carlson
12/22	Peggy Trexler
12/26	Kristina McClowskey, Sandy Drake
12/29	Dan Mitchell, Emmalee Paterson

Faith Lutheran Church will be closed for the Holidays  
From December 25<sup>th</sup> through January 1.  
The office will reopen on Wednesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



## I Hear the Silence

Frank Laurence joined our church.

He, his viola and violin.

He found some duets and trios  
and invited us to join with him.

- We all heard the music

His sound was so skilled,

So sweet and full of grace.

To make music with him,

Brought me to a special place.

- I heard more than the sounds

Others have told me,

How he quietly brought beauty to them too,

Bought a violin string,

For a friend who needed one that was new.

- Now she can hear her songs

One of us actually told him,

go hear the Symphony, it was so very great last night.

He told them with great joy,

that he had played in it and glowed with a humble light.

- We heard the joy of making music

There are stories I have not heard,

told from one to one.

Of the songs of his gentle presence,

of the other things he's done.

- His melody touched so many

And now we hear the silence,

He is no longer here.

We miss his gentle presence,

And it thunders in our ear.

- Now we hear a silence

May God hold you in peace Frank, you are missed.

*By Colleen Southwick*