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Submitted photos
Lead actress Neehla Pal as Grace gets into an argument with her fiance Tom, played by Isaac Krom, during a rehearsal for the Greater Latrobe Senior High School Drama Club's production of "Radium Girls," to be presented at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 22-23.

GLSHS Drama Club's 'Radium Girls' set Oct. 22-23

The Greater Latrobe Senior High School Drama Club will present "Radium Girls" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22, and Saturday, Oct. 23, in the senior high school auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and will be on sale at the door. For more information, visit latrobedramaclub.com.

In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie was an international celebrity, and luminous watches were the latest rage — until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease.

Inspired by a true story, Radium Girls traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court.

(See GLSHS on Page A3)



Melina Markantone plays Nancy Jane Harlan of the New York Graphic in 'Radium Girls.'

St. Vincent monk to be featured on EWTN

**BY MARYANN GOGNIAT EIDEMILLER
 For The Bulletin**

The Rev. Boniface Hicks, OSB, started writing a book about St. Joseph years ago but never completed it.

He knew that he had to finish it when Pope Francis declared 2020-21 to be the Year of St. Joseph. That was in conjunction with the 150th anniversary year of the Proclamation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church.

On Sunday, Oct. 17, he will appear on EWTN's "Life on the Rock" series to talk about that book, "Through the Heart of St. Joseph," that was published earlier this year. The prerecorded episode will air at 9 p.m. and will be re-aired three days next week.

Father Boniface entered St. Vincent Monastery in 1998 and was ordained into the priesthood in 2004.

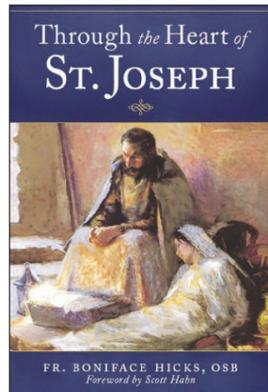
He has a Ph.D. in computer science and currently serves as director of spiritual formation and director of the Institute for Ministry Formation for the seminary. He has also served as campus minister for the college, faculty member, retreat master and spiritual director, and is involved with WAOB radio in Latrobe.

He has co-authored two books with the Rev. Thomas Aklin, OSB, on spiritual direction and personal prayer.

Father Boniface developed an interest in St. Joseph 18 years ago, and it took him years to research materials for his book. There's little known about St. Joseph, but Father Boniface said, "Once you start looking for it, there's a lot about him compared to any other figure. There's a lot about Mary, but not a lot more. He's a major figure



THE REV. BONIFACE HICKS, OSB



Submitted photo

The Rev. Boniface Hicks, OSB, a monk at St. Vincent Archabbey, will appear Sunday, Oct. 17, on EWTN's "Life on the Rock" series to talk about his book, "Through the Heart of St. Joseph." A prerecorded episode will air at 9 p.m. and will be re-aired three days next week.

in four chapters of the gospels and appears in other places."

His book does not delve into the legends of St. Joseph, for instance, that he was widowed and much older than Mary and that he had children from a

previous marriage. "There was no precedent for an old man marrying a young virgin 2,000 years ago," he said. "That would have been as weird then as it would be today. So why did we allow all of those images of him as an old man persist so long?"

Perhaps it's because an old man represents wisdom and experience, and has tried and true virtue, he explained. Also, he added, St. Joseph, has been depicted as a father figure compared to the heavenly father figure, who is usually depicted as an old man.

"I do believe that Joseph was a young married man," Father Boniface said.

In the matter of brothers and sisters of Jesus mentioned in the Gospels, he noted, "There was no Hebrew word for cousins, so calling them brothers of Jesus would be a reasonable thing. We don't know when Joseph died, either. One of the possibilities is that it was his death that actually led to Jesus's public ministry. Joseph died, and then Jesus and Mary went to the wedding at Cana."

Those matters aren't the focus of his book.

"In my process, I really wanted to develop a relationship with St. Joseph," he said. "I kept trying to get to know him and to flesh out the picture of what he was like. I guess my understanding of him grew in a way that didn't have surprises in it."

Although little is written about the family lives of Joseph, Mary and Jesus, there are hints that can be surmised from cultural norms of the time.

"They offered two turtle doves in the temple," Father Boniface said.

(See St. Vincent on Page A3)

Unity seeking more input for proposed Route 30-Wimmerton improvements

**BY NICK CAMMUSO
 Bulletin Staff Writer**

Unity Township officials are seeking additional community input for proposed improvements to the intersection of Route 30 and the Wimmerton residential development, but still haven't decided the next step to go about it.

At Thursday's meeting, township supervisors expressed disappointment in the low turnout at an open house held last month highlighting the proposed intersection upgrades.

Between the roughly 40 residents who attended the open house and others who emailed surveys, Supervisor Ed Poponick said the township only received 56 responses from Wimmerton residents.

With more than 400 residents living in the development, Supervisor Mike O'Barto was hoping to get responses from at least half the residents, and hoped more were able to attend the open house.

"That's telling us maybe a lot of residents don't care about what happens, but it's hard for us to make a determination on that little bit of input," Poponick said of the low turnout at the open house.

Of the 56 responses, 21 residents want to eliminate turning motions from the development toward Latrobe, 19 residents want officials to explore the possibility of installing a traffic signal at the intersection and 16 residents want no changes made.

(See Unity on Page A3)

GL celebrates homecoming Friday



Submitted photo
The 2021-22 Greater Latrobe Senior High School (GLSHS) homecoming court includes seniors Meghan Henderson, Paige Kunkle, Andrea Hoffman, Darrian Lynch, Sarah Matsko; (second row) freshman Mia Myers, sophomore Belle Blosssey, junior Kendall Piper; (third row) freshman Jaycee Bodnar, sophomore Regan Reilly and junior Lily Fenton. The homecoming queen will be announced at the GL-Franklin Regional football game, which will begin at 7 p.m. today (Friday), Oct. 15, at Latrobe Memorial Stadium.

FDA panel endorses lower-dose Moderna COVID shot for booster

**BY LAURAN NEERGAARD
 AND MATTHEW PERRONE
 Associated Press**

U.S. health advisers said Thursday that some Americans who received Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine at least six months ago should get a half-dose booster to rev up protection against the coronavirus.

The panel of outside advisers to the Food and Drug Administration voted unanimously to recommend a booster shot for seniors, as well as younger adults with other health problems, jobs or living situations that put them at increased risk from COVID-19.

The recommendation is non-binding but it's

a key step toward expanding the U.S. booster campaign to millions more Americans. Many people who got their initial Pfizer shots at least six months ago are already getting a booster after the FDA authorized their use last month — and those are the same high-risk groups that FDA's advisers said should get a Moderna booster.

But there's no evidence that it's time to open booster doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine to everybody, the panel stressed — despite initial Biden administration plans to eventually do that.

(See FDA panel on Page A5)

FDA unlikely to rule on Merck's COVID pill before December

**BY MATTHEW PERRONE
 Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration said Thursday it will ask its outside experts to meet in late November to scrutinize Merck's pill to treat COVID-19.

The Nov. 30 meeting means U.S. regulators almost certainly won't issue a decision on the drug until December, signaling that the agency will conduct a detailed review of the experimental treatment's safety and effectiveness. The panelists are likely to vote on whether Merck's drug should be approved, though the FDA is not required to follow their advice.

It marks the first time the FDA has convened

its expert advisers before ruling on a coronavirus treatment. Advisory committee meetings have become a standard part of its process for reviewing vaccines.

The agency decided to convene the meeting to help inform its decision-making, its top drug regulator said in a statement.

"We believe that, in this instance, a public discussion of these data with the agency's advisory committee will help ensure clear understanding of the scientific data and information that the FDA is evaluating," said Dr. Patrizia Cavazzoni, director of FDA's drug center.

(See FDA unlikely on Page A5)

TODAY'S WEATHER
 Thunderstorms
 HIGH **79°** LOW **62°**

Classified B7
Comics B6
Crossword/Sudoku B6
Entertainment B4-B5
Local Columns A4
Lifestyles A8

Local News A1, A3, A5
Lottery Results..... A3
Obituaries..... A2
Sports..... B1-B3
TV B4-B5
Dear Abby B6

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