

Inside Berks

An act of war!

It's been only minutes, press time as of 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, since I heard about the terrorist Declaration of War against the United States of America.

And make no mistake, for that is what this is, a declaration of war against you, me, our families, our country and our way of life.

This is not an isolated incident. This is part of a conflict that has been raging in the world for many years. It is a struggle between barbarism and civilization, between the nations of the West and the animals, yes animals, in the dark and violent regions of the Earth that follow bizarre and twisted credos that permit, nay encourage, them to hijack civilian airliners and kill thousands of innocent Americans.

I won't go into the news, you know it better than I do, given that you'll be reading this a couple of days after the tragedy.

But the one term I hear from family and associates is "Pearl Harbor". And indeed it is. And, in a sense, it may also be a turning point. It is the end of any illusions we may have held like "all people are the same under the skin" or



By David Kamioner

"the peace dividend", that the world can be safely run by computer jockeys or is, now definitely not was, heading into some golden age of free trade and universal harmony.

Over. Done with. Finished. Time to break the glass and hand the world back to the grownups.

No more nattering on about Gary Condit, Mariah Carey or any other such celebrity worshipping

silliness that we've thought we had the luxury to indulge in for quite a while now.

Defense cuts, women in the military and "diversity training" for soldiers are, by the way, also now history.

Yeah, waking up will be quite a shock to those who thought they could forever flit through life on the martial sacrifices and successes of their fathers and grandfathers.

Those whose lives revolved a safe, treacly soccer mommy suburban existence will now hopefully realize that the world that they thought existed never did.

One doubts we'll hear many words from their ilk. Aside from shock, that is.

And, pray, let us hear not a word about "the root causes" or "the plight" of those whose armies, yes, armies, have brought this on.

Because now is not the time for sympathy for the devil.

Now is the time for biblical type retribution.

When (and do we really have to ask?) we find out who did this we must put them to the sword.

We must make them pay a thousand fold for every American death. We must turn their air to plutonium, their cities to glass and then sow their land with salt.

There must be no pity. Absolutely none.

For if we show an ounce of mercy to these animals, we will be inviting another incident like this soon in the future. And that one may hit a lot closer to home.

I don't mean home as in America. I mean home as in here. Right here.

For if they can hit the Pentagon, then every American is possibly at risk.

If you think that I am overreacting, look at the pictures out of Manhattan. What if your wife, husband or kids would have been working in the World Trade Center?

Well, guess what? Thousands of Americans DID HAVE THEIR FAMILIES IN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER.

More Americans also have families at the Pentagon, and in those planes that were hijacked to perpetrate this blasphemy.

What shall we tell them we will

do to avenge their loss?

Hold a conference? Send out a communiqué? Negotiate with terrorists?

No. As brave and free peoples do when attacked, we must fight.

It will not be easy, it will not be short. Other Americans will die. But next time, they will be men in uniform courageously performing a mission in time of war.

And when those missions are launched there should be some very nervous men in a certain part of the world that would today do well to remember the words of another man 60 years ago whose aircraft carrier forces mauled the U.S. Pacific Fleet at anchor in Hawaii.

Said Admiral Yamamoto of Japan's Imperial Navy, who had spent much time in this country and thus knew of the righteous wrath of Americans when provoked, "all we have done is awaken a sleeping giant".

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Alleged cheating hubby chased by wife in Cherokee

A woman who thought her husband was having an affair, has been charged with trying to run him down with her car.

According to court records, Katherine Waldspurger, 37, of 20 Mountain Road, Barto was ordered held for court on \$5,000 bail by Boyertown District Justice Mike Hartman.

Waldspurger was charged with aggravated assault, assault, harassment of other charges.

State Police were called to the Hereford address and told a domestic dispute was in progress.

Keith, the husband, told them Katherine accused him of having an affair, left their home and when he went outside, he said she tried to back into him using their Jeep Cherokee.

In the process of trying to run him down, she caused an estimated \$10,000 damage when she hit a wall.

Berky the Cow gets unveiled next Thursday

Next week, the Berks County 250th Anniversary Commission will unveil some of the key elements of the 2002 celebration.

The event, to be held Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the county services center, will include food, live music and "Berky the Cow."

The cow is the mascot for the county's anniversary.

The rain date is Friday and the public is invited.

Advisory council will meet Sept. 20

The Rolling Hills Landfill Advisory Council will meet Thursday (Sept. 20) at 6:30 p.m. at the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority building, 583 Longview Road, Earl Township.

Defibrillator is donated to police

Colebrookdale District Police will now be armed with a life-saving tool thanks to the generosity of a Boyertown family.

Chief Larry Mauger and Greg Herbst, operations manager of Boyertown Ambulance, said police will be carrying a defibrillator.

The unit, which is light weight and easy to use, can be connected to any patient with a heart problem.

The machine monitors the heart and tells the operator when to apply a shock, if needed.

Edwin J. Bielecki and family donated the \$4,300 piece of equipment in the memory of a daughter, Stephanie, who died four years ago.

"We wanted to make this donation so that other people would also learn that this kind of thing can be done," Bielecki said.

Herbst said a donation is made to the ambulance society with the stipulation that the money be used to buy a defibrillator and that the unit be donated to a police department or any place that has large numbers of people.

The \$4,300 not only pays for the unit, but also training equipment. The battery in the Heartstart™ defibrillator lasts five years or 300 shocks.

Chief Mauger gave the Bielecki family a plaque thanking them for their donation.

"I hope it helps someone," Bielecki said. "The public should know this is available."



Berks-Mont Photo by Harold Hoch

The Edwin J. Bielecki family of Boyertown has donated a defibrillator to the Colebrookdale District Police Department in memory of their daughter Stephanie. The family hopes the donation will spur others to do the same. From the left, standing, Greg Herbst, operations manager of the Boyertown Ambulance Association; and Chief Larry Mauger. From the left, sitting, Robert Bechtel, president of Colebrookdale Township, and Edwin Bielecki.

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The Reading Hospital Women's Center Programs

Menopause: Issues And Answers To A Hot Topic
presented by Peter A. Schwartz, MD, Director of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Gain a better understanding of this time in a woman's life-cycle by attending this lively program. With humor and lots of practical information, Dr. Schwartz will address issues related to menopause and will offer answers to some of the frequently asked questions women have.

\$3/person
Thursday, September 13, 7 - 9 p.m.
Thun/Janssen Auditorium at The Reading Hospital

JOURNEY TO SELF Retreat - The Next Step
facilitated by Jeanette Finkel, Vice President of The Reading Hospital

Designed for those who attended the Journey to Self Retreat, but also open to those who wish to expand their personal inquiry and inner journey, this weekend offers a deeper look inside ourselves and provides an opportunity to move from our habitual life patterns that consume daily activity to a more contemplative sense of being.

\$342; includes program, lodging, and meals.
Thursday, October 25 at 5 p.m. to Sunday, October 28 at 1:30 p.m.
Maria Wald Renewal Center, Reading
Payment in full required for registration; limited space.

Infertility - Options For Care
with Vincent A. Pellegrini, MD

A three-part workshop for couples attempting pregnancy: **part 1** - male/female workup and infertility testing and treatments; **part 2** - polycystic ovarian syndrome and its relationship to infertility, obesity, and diabetes; **part 3** - *in vitro* fertilization and its indications, as well as expected pregnancy rates.

Free
7 - 9 p.m.
Part I - Wednesday, September 12
Part II - Wednesday, September 26
Part III - Wednesday, October 17
Education Center at The Reading Hospital

Coming April 5 - 7, 2002

JOURNEY TO SELF Retreat

Jesuit Center, Womersville, PA

If you are looking for a weekend of self-discovery and renewal, plan now to attend this popular retreat - we'll be hosting our 7th *Journey to Self* Retreat. Watch for more details!

Consultation for Women

A free telephone consultation for women seeking support in dealing with issues of self-esteem, marital, or family relationships, eating disorders, and professional or personal growth. Call The Center for Mental Health at 610-988-8070, and ask to speak to one of The Women's Center consultants.

Is Acupuncture For You?

with Martha Decembrino, RN, MSN, AC, Dipl. AC, Registered Acupuncturist

A brief history of acupuncture and the differences between Chinese and Western systems will be presented. You'll learn about treatment and the types of problems that are most likely to be helped with acupuncture.

\$3/person
Thursday, November 1, 7 - 9 p.m.
Thun/Janssen Auditorium at The Reading Hospital

Advance registration required for all programs. To register or for more information, call The Women's Center at 610-988-8692 or e-mail: wrighta@readinghospital.org

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The Reading Hospital and Medical Center
www.readinghospital.org