



York, Pennsylvania

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Vol. I, No. 2

FH Pappy's Seeks to Prioritize Safety, Reignite Local, DIY Music Scene

by: Matthew Gargano

With a background in community organizing, the York art scene, and a passion for local music, Rita Whitney and her team are on a mission to breathe new life into an infamous, now-defunct, music venue.

It's no secret to local music fans in South Central PA that the York music scene has gone through a bit of a rough patch over the past few years. West York Inn's DIY space, The Kennel, closed its doors earlier this year. Then, after recently reopening in 2022, Skid Row Garage closed down in February, 2025.

Skid Row Garage faced a variety of accusations surrounding a dodgy and unsafe culture, much of which was perpetuated by the owner. Although MC Hyser was the face of the organization, plenty of folks involved with Skid Row were involved or complicit in facilitating that harmful environment.

After the Skid Row Garage space at 243 West Market Street went up for sale earlier this year, discussion erupted locally about both the fate of the physical venue as well as the fate of the York music scene more abstractly.

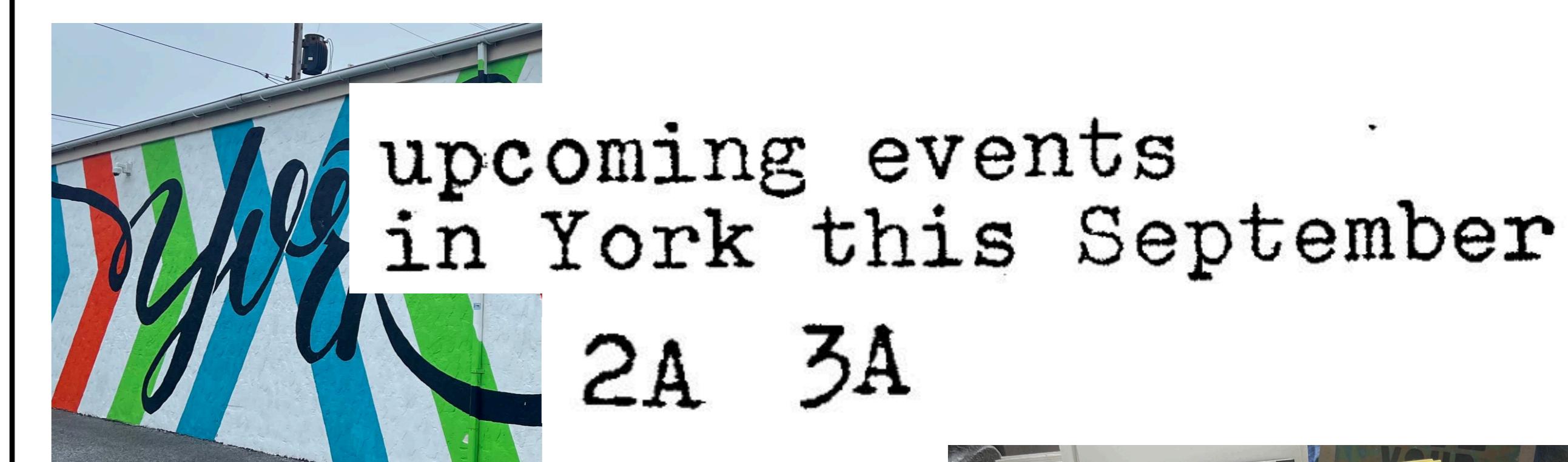
With a background running small businesses and empowering creatives in York, Rita Whitney is uniquely positioned to restore trust in the York music scene and to bring people together to make a local, safe, DIY scene reality.

In 2014 and 2015, Rita and her husband, William, ran a music venue under the name FH Pappy's in York's Royal Square district. With sustained energy and passion still behind the project a decade later, Rita and a team of aligned locals are hoping to purchase the space at 243 West Market Street and bring FH Pappy's back to life.

Other named members of the FH Pappy's project include Tom Kilmek, Cal Weary, and John Kilker. According to Rita, "They are old punks that have played music since they were teenagers. Now they are grown-ups that have fulltime jobs and businesses and investment accounts... and they want this to exist."

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what's inside???



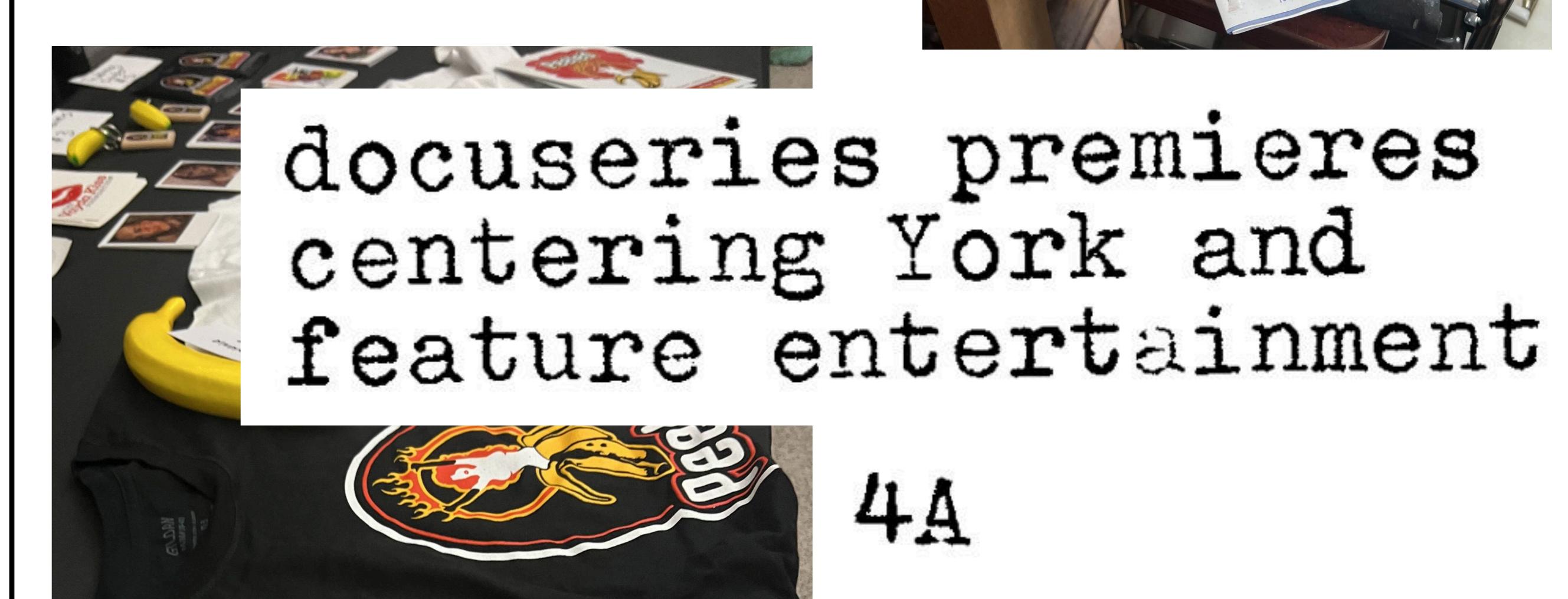
upcoming events
in York this September

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FH Pappy's

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Outside of funding and passion, the variety of faces involved in the venture also serves another core purpose. "We have a super diverse group of owners, and I think that helps people feel safer," Rita said.

Due to Skid Row's less-than-favorable associations, safety for bands, staff, and attendees is a priority for the FH Pappy's team.

Rita shared that when she first considered purchasing the old Skid Row space she was interested in keeping as much of the venue the same as possible to preserve aspects of the scene.

As time went on, however, Rita opened the conversation with members of the York community and learned more specific details about the previous space from impacted victims and minors.

It became clear that, in order to help keep everyone safe and build a welcoming environment, bigger changes would be necessary.

"The culture of a space is who is in the space," said Rita. "It just has been (important to) source feedback from people; finding out where they feel safe at other places and why they feel safe at other places. I think us being female and queer led is a huge piece of it."

During our conversation, Rita shared that the FH Pappy's project is not just tied to one physical venue. Although her team intends to buy the West Market Street space, if the sale falls through there are several alternative spaces they are actively looking into.

Additionally, Bent Nail booking was recently launched alongside FH Pappy's as a pathway for local and touring bands in the area to put together shows and establish York as a legitimate option for musicians hoping to play in the region - regardless of genre.

"I really need to work with the neighbors and (emphasize) music diversity, too," said Rita. "We have to be responsive to the neighborhood that we're in."

With enthusiasm building around the project, Rita and her team are hosting a fundraiser show at The Grotto on September 20th. The show will start at 6:30PM and all proceeds go to the FH Pappy's project. You can buy tickets at linktr.ee/fhpappysyork.

Don't hesitate to share your thoughts on the project, and York's music scene more generally, with us at york@msprint.media.

Help Create Next Month's Calendar with York Creative Exchange

by: Sara Mack

Each month, Roth Preap convenes with a group of York-based business owners and creatives to chat about what's coming up for their organizations. Designed to be a space for York's community to discuss, collaborate, and plan upcoming events, the Creative Exchange is hosted by the York Arts Association and is open to anyone interested in contributing.

The Creative Exchange meets monthly on the third Wednesday of each month from 4PM to 5PM. The group usually meets at Rockfish Public House, and, in September, the meeting falls on Wednesday, the 17th.

Our York msprint team was in attendance at the August Creative Exchange alongside representatives from a variety of Downtown York art-adjacent businesses. While organizations from each York business district were present, there was plenty of space at the table (both physically and metaphorically) for contributions from anyone interested in having a say in upcoming creatively oriented events.

Continued on 4A

1B



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Second Sunday Dance Social

Presented by the Victoria Dance Hall: participate in a Swing and Blues dance social with an optional lesson at 6:45PM for dancers with little to no experience. Come with a partner, group, or solo!

9/14, 6:00PM-8:00PM
Mudhook Brewery;
34 N. Cherry Lane, York

Party With A Purpose

A 21+ fundraising party for Keystone Kidspace. Enjoy meeting makers, experiencing printmaking and graffiti, participating in a silent auction, and partying with a light artist and DJ combo. Tickets required.

9/27, 7:00PM-10:00PM
Keystone Kidspace
10 Hamilton Ave, York, PA

The Strand Centennial Community Day

Celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Strand Theater with the headlining performers, Squonk, as well as performances from York-based musicians Boothill Getaway and the Unforgettable Big Band, dance events (including a baby rave), and more!

9/13, 10:00AM-2:00PM
North George St, York
Inside and outside the Appell Center



September Haunted PA Ghost Tours

Join Rissa Miller on a ghost tour in York this September!

9/19, 7:00PM: A haunted HERstory tour through York highlighting women's history and female hauntings for women.

9/28, 2:00PM; A daytime ghost tour with ASL interpretation, open to all audiences.

9/28, 7:00PM; A ghost tour with special guest Jess from Dover Paranormal who will supplement the tour with additional ghost hunting equipment.

9/19, 7:00PM; 9/28, 2:00PM;
9/28, 7:00PM

Tickets & info @
www.hauntedpa.online

White Rose Bar & Grill
48 N Beaver St, York

2A

Using the Pennsylvania Tick Research Lab: A Resource for YOU!

by: Sara Mack

Even though it's starting to feel a bit more like Fall, it's still Tick Season in Pennsylvania. This year, cases of Lyme disease peaked in July according to the official Commonwealth of Pennsylvania website, but risk has not completely dissipated. Especially for residents who spend time outdoors, there is value in following basic tick prevention guidelines before, during, and after potential tick exposures.

Our intention in sharing this PSA is not to scare you away from spending time outdoors! Rather, we hope to empower you with resources to know how to respond should you find a tick on you - an how to get outside anyway.

You can take steps to protect yourself and your family from ticks by wearing light colored clothing so you can more easily locate ticks, using tick repellent, tucking your pants into your socks, and, most crucially, doing full-body tick checks when you come inside.

Generally speaking, a tick must be attached to its host for at least 24 hours before it can successfully transmit Lyme Disease (source: www.cdc.gov/lyme/causes/index.html)

Due to the time-sensitive component of transmission, tick checks can play a huge role in minimizing your potential risk of contracting the disease.

If you do find a tick during one of these checks there is no need to panic. Even if you believe that there's no chance that the tick could have been on you for 24 hours or more, it's important to remove it safely and send it to the Pennsylvania Tick Research Lab for testing. The data collected by the Tick Lab helps with tick-related prevention activities across the US, and by sending in your sample (for free) you're contributing to valuable citizen science in action.

To remove a tick, use sanitized tweezers to carefully pull the tick out as close to the skin as possible. Take care to pull straight out without twisting, and sanitize the area after removal. Also, refrain from burning the tick or coating it in vaseline. These common practices can make the tick untestable and, in the case of the vaseline, can cause the tick to regurgitate and increase risk of disease transmission.

Once you have the tick, place it in a sealed plastic bag and visit www.ticklab.org/test-my-tick. On this site you will be able to complete a survey that details your experience, and print an identification page that you should mail with your tick to the research lab at the following address.

PA Tick Research Lab
562 Independence Rd, Suite 114
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

Although most ticks that are tested come back negative for Lyme, if you receive a positive test back from the lab, be sure to reach out to your local urgent care or primary care provider for next steps.

4B

Local Docuseries "Peels" Back the Curtain on the Feature Entertainment Industry

by: Sara Mack

On August 17th, Director Freddie Graves and Producer Simone Davis premiered "Peeled"; the first installment of their Docuseries focused on the Feature Entertainment industry.

Over the past 10 years, Freddie and Simone have facilitated intimate conversations with women identifying as Feature Entertainers to depict their challenges and experiences in a unique line of work. For individuals not familiar with Feature Entertainment, the docuseries presents an authentic and humanizing perspective on an industry that is often portrayed unfavorably.



Peeled truly is, from top to bottom, a York County production. Both of the filmmakers are long-time York County residents, and their commitment to maintaining a focus on local production for the final docuseries came across clearly during the series premiere - as well as through the intentional decision to host the premiere events in York.

The premiere was hosted at York College, and was followed by an after party at Fig & Barrel Pub in downtown York that included custom Peeled cocktails and performances from several dancers also spotlighted in the series. Premiere attendees heard opening remarks from Freddie and Simone themselves, and there was a short question and answer component to the event that allowed viewers to connect more deeply with the creators and the film.

During the Q&A, Freddie and Simone shared additional context surrounding their decision to center York as they focus on the docuseries' post-production.

They highlighted that, since the York community has supported the project since its inception, it makes sense to pour back into local studios for their editing and production needs.

With the premiere of Peeled's pilot episode, the docuseries creators discussed the future of the project including the potential for multiple seasons to be produced with future docuseries installments. Individuals interested in supporting the project should reach out to Freddie and Simone directly, or feel free to contact york@msprint.media and our team can connect you to them.

Creative Exchange

Continued from 1B

At this month's event, attendees discussed upcoming happenings for September and the Fall season, and engaged in forward-looking coordination for 2026 events. We included several items discussed at the meeting in this edition of the msprint, so be sure to check out the events section on pages 2A, 3A, and 3B for more.

If you would like to learn more or attend future meetings, reach out to Roth directly at rpreap@yorkartassociation.org

4A

CLASSIFIEDS

SEEKING: Accordion repair (and any accordion playing tips) Please email beginner accordionist matthew@msprint.media with any leads or advice.

SHARING: Fish water, good for plants. Anyone interested can email york@msprint.media and we will put you in touch with the aquatic donor.

SEEKING: Carolers and candy vendors (glass lollipops, ribbon candy, candied nuts, etc.) interested in participating in a holiday market. Email: creativesonking@gmail.com

SHARING: Zines to swap. Check out The Grotto's little free zine library or email sara@msprint.media to chat and swap zines.

SHARING: A variety of wooden chairs. Interested in one or several for yourself or someone in your community? Email sara@msprint.media

Leave your own note in our classifieds section! Send an email to: york@msprint.media

2B

EVENTS CON'T.

The Buzzed Bee: An Adult Spelling Bee

Come watch, cheer, or heckle as participants and teams try their best to spell their way through an evening of increasingly difficult words, all while contending with surprise challenges, themed rounds, and some drinks.

Tickets required to attend, pre-registration required to participate.

9/19
7:00PM
The Hangar
441 E Market St, York

Late Night Museum Hours

Explore the York County History Center after hours. Admission is pay what you wish during the event. The museum will host family fun Fall crafts in their lobby.

9/5, 5:00PM-8:00PM
York County History Center Museum
121 North Pershing Ave, York, PA

Walk a Mile In Her Shoes

YWCA York hosts this fundraiser to highlight the role men can play in ending sexual violence against women. Proceeds support YWCA York's Victim Services Programming.

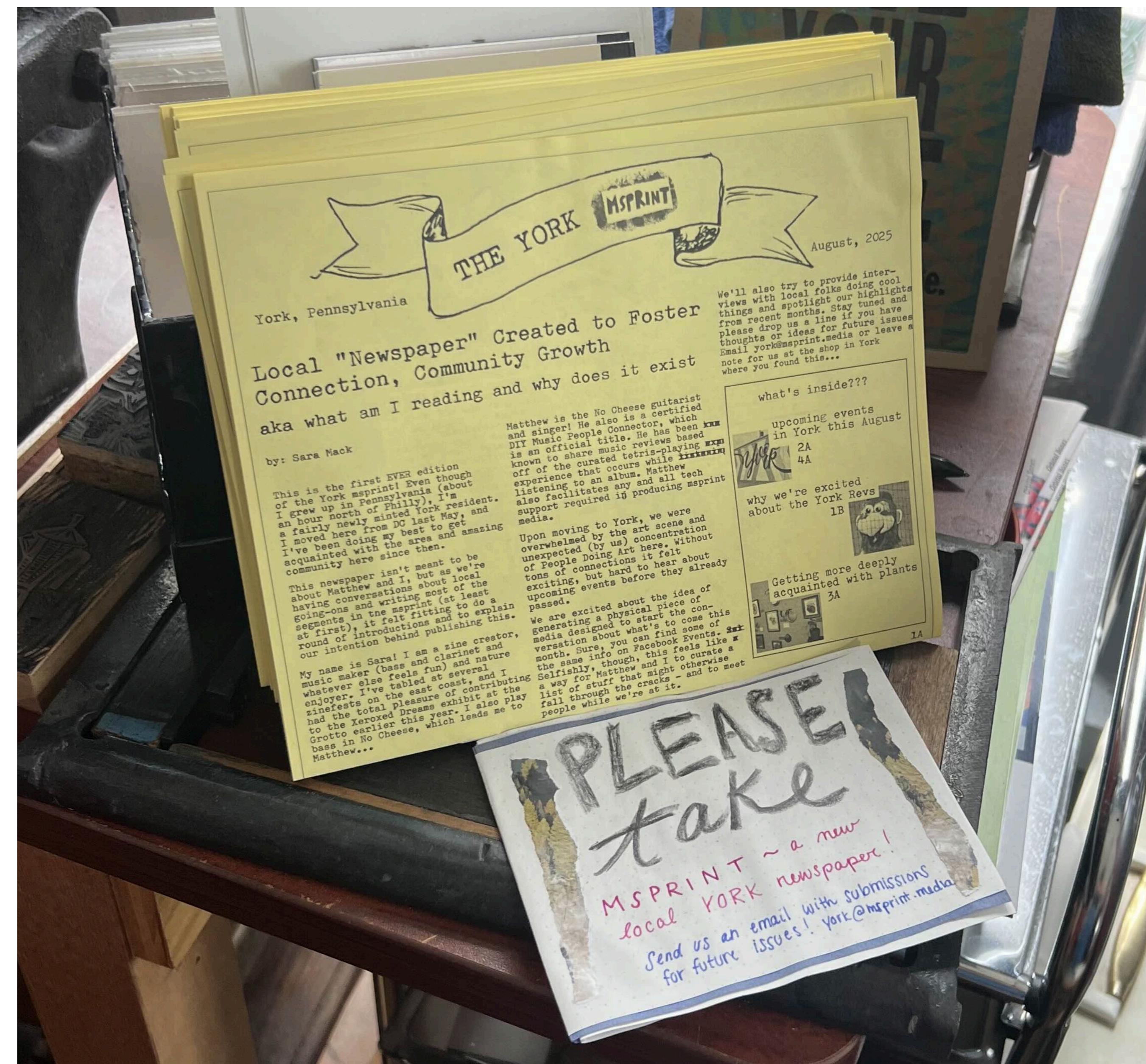
9/5, 6:00PM
Downtown York City, PA

York Fringe Festival

The annual York Fringe Festival brings a variety of drama, burlesque, comedy, improv, dance, storytelling, poetry, magic, drag, and more throughout York in a celebration of the performing arts.

9/3-9/7
Various

To view events and get tickets visit yorkfringe.org



One Night Stand

Join an evening of art and dialogue as local artists Michael W. Dugger, Brenda Welty, and Deana Field exhibit a selection of their works intended to spark conversation and stick with the viewers.

9/26
5:00PM-8:00PM
145 E. Springettsbury Ave, York
www.mwdugger.com/one-night-stand.html



York White Rose Run 5 Miler

Race, volunteer, or donate to the 48th annual 5 mile run through the city presented by the York Road Runners Club. All proceeds are donated to Bell Socialization Services to support their mission, "to provide an environment of support and empowerment where people can improve their quality of living."

9/27, 8:00AM
White Rose Bar & Grill
48 N Beaver St, York



Creative Exchange

Come discuss, plan, and coordinate creative events occurring in the upcoming months with a group of individuals from a variety of creative organizations, businesses, and non-profits in York. This event recurs every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

9/17
4:00PM-5:00PM
Rockfish Public House
110 N George St, York

FH Pappy's Fundraiser

A lineup of York and Lancaster-based rock bands spanning genres from Brutal Death Metal to Grind to Screamo are playing The Grotto in order to raise funds for the new FH Pappy's punk venue in the WeCo district. Featuring: Open Flesh Wound, Fragile Like Life After, Santosha, and No Class. Tickets required.

9/20, 6:30PM
The Grotto
17 East Philadelphia St, York

Want to see your local event featured in future editions?

email york@msprint.media to submit your own!