



BOYS LACROSSE ALL-STARS
PAGE 19

MainLineLife



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50¢

THE SPOT

If you believe in evil spirits, then there's a good chance you will know where this fox marks the spot. Also check the five-day planner to see if the hot weather will return for the holiday.

• PAGE 2 •

VOLUNTEERS

Since the first permanent buildings were constructed in Lower Merion, men and women were counted on to fight fires in a non-paid, volunteer system. But now, some are worried that the long honored tradition of volunteer firefighters is threatened.

• PAGE 3 •

TIME RUNS OUT

After more than 20 years and countless loads, Radnor mother-patrol-woman Rosie Hunt is calling it quits.

• PAGE 3 •

OPINION PAGE

Staff writer Dan Krulke has more to say about AICHOester's proposal to restore a portion of Doyersford. Also check out the Letters to the Editor.

• PAGE 4 •

GOING THE DISTANCE

Wymonwood residents Robert Elwood and Eric Miller will ride in the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge (PMC) to raise money for cancer research and treatment early next month.

• PAGE 6 •

PEOPLE

More than 300 ladies gathered in delightful weather under an outdoor tent at the Merion Golf Club in Autumn in May for the 5th annual Peter's Place Spring Luncheon. A non-profit organization founded by Susan Moreshead in memory of her young son who died seven years ago, Peter's Place provides support and counseling for grieving children and families who have experienced the death of a loved one.

• PAGE 7 •

LIFESTYLES

For more than two decades, three brothers who hail from 22nd and Allegheny in North Philly but now live in assorted suburbs, including Merion, have been meeting for dinner every six weeks. Over martinis and main-course soups they dish on their lives, their kids—each has four—and which restaurants make the best salmon.

• PAGE 12 •

SPORTS

With the rising popularity of lacrosse and a few teams among the best in the state, this question needs to be asked: Is lacrosse still significant on the Main Line? Sports Editor Julian Young answers the question.

• PAGE 20 •

INDEX

Business	24
Classifieds	13
Crossword puzzle	16
Editorial	4
Lifestyles	12
News Briefs	2
Opinion	4
Columns	22
People	4
Public notices	7
Real Estate	17
Religion	23
Sports	19

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CELEBRATING AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY



Main Livers sure do love parades and fireworks. During the annual event in Radnor two years ago, this person was able to savor the moment by taking a picture with his phone. See Page 6 for a list of events as Main Livers celebrate America's birthday.

Producers tell Tredyffrin's 300-year-old story

By Daniel Krulke

When the producers at Sage Film and Video asked Peter Benson if he thought Tredyffrin Township would be interested in a 300th anniversary documentary, he was intrigued.

"They got me on board before the idea was even presented to the township," said Benson, who is president of Tredyffrin's Historic Preservation Trust.

The township's historical committee quickly agreed that a documentary was a good idea. Tredyffrin hired Sage Video. Benson signed on as the film's executive producer, and work began.

Deborah Arnold and Jane Phillips, who own and run Sage Video, take documentary making very seriously. They try to emulate Ken Burns' style — to avoid what

they call "talk show riskyness." Although they use music and pictures, they try to get people to tell as much of the story as possible. So they had Benson put advertisements in local news and on the T-Span public access network inviting people share their stories with the camera.

Plenty of people agreed to be in the film, and Benson became their "story coach." She listened to their motivations, try to get them to focus on the interesting ones, and then set them in front of the camera.

"I know that the ones who were really good story-tellers when they were talking to me would be good in front of the camera," she said.

But, she added, there were people who seemed like

See TREDYFFRIN, Page 5

Lee's Shoddy Mill can't be saved in LM

Historical commission told Civil War-era mill is unrestorable.

By Cheryl Allison

As the owner of two of Lower Merion's surviving Industrial Era mill buildings, O'Neill Properties says it's "bating 500." With some final sewer and water connections to tie up, the development company expects to start soon to convert Gladwyn's Baker's Mill to luxury condominiums.

The news is not so good, however, on its other historic mill building. The company has applied for a permit to demolish the Civil War-era Lee's Shoddy Mill at Belmont Avenue and Rock Hill Road.

In a meeting with Lower Merion's Historical Commission last week, representatives said that, after decades of exposure, the mill's masonry walls are bowed and its massive timber framing rotted with dry rot.

Two millworker houses on the site aren't in much better shape.

"The combination of all the things needed to bring them up to code would change them. They would no longer look like they do today," said Nicholas L. Cianciopola, the historic preservation structural engineering expert O'Neill called in to evaluate the buildings. Of the complex, overall, "There's very little that can be saved, other than a few walls for display," he said.

After a recent tour of the buildings, even members of the commis-

sion agree deterioration is severe. But they asked the application for a month, saying that the developer has not met its requirement to show what will replace the buildings.

The demolition application sits atop a long-standing and painful controversy in the Lower Merion community. Dating to the mid-1980s, the mill has a long and varied history. Used to recycle wood and create iron castings, heavy material known as shoddy, the complex later housed a concern that manufactured concrete castles. Used for some offices and other businesses, it has been better known in recent years as the Plant Outlet.

A few years ago, its last owner, one of the third generation of a local family to hold the property, wanted to tear the mill building down to replace it with a storage warehouse. The property has been on the Lower Merion Conservancy's Preservation Watch List for several years, taking the top, most-threatened spot two years running.

When Lower Merion resident Brian O'Neill purchased the property in January 2006, however, local preservationists breathed a sigh of relief. Rehabilitating challenging, often environmentally compromised building sites is the local developer's specialty. He had already earned praise for his

See MILL, Page 5

Radnor's honor code is a work in progress

By Sam Strike

A presentation of the working draft and ideas behind the Academic Honor Code for Radnor High School students was held at the June 26 Radnor Township School Board meeting.

There are also written expectations for teachers, administrators and parents within the document.

English department teacher Carl Rosen, who is working on the Code, has said, "The reputation of the school depends on us being clear on our commitment to [academic integrity]."

The code, which Rosen and others hope will be annually published, reviewed, and presented to the student body, is not about keeping more punishments on students, he said.

But it does have to do with them taking responsibility.

For example, currently, when a student gets in trouble, no one else,

including other teachers or coaches, is officially informed, Rosen said.

"The school, as an educational entity, should know you're involved in [cheating]," he said of students who are caught cheating.

Even further, severe and multiple violations in their junior or senior year should have to contact the colleges where they have applied to tell them what they have done.

"I feel very strongly that this is not only appropriate, but a reasonable response," Rosen said. "We can't condone no one else knowing; it shows responsibility for the student to send out the message."

Rosen said that notification is really important, whether it be to the Radnor Educational Foundation, which funds out scholarship money, or to the prospective college choices.

"The whole thing is about transparency," he said.

See HONOR, Page 5

Debate continues as no decision is reached on Cricket Ave. plans

By Cheryl Allison

"It's like a litmus test."

There may not have been much else that the developers, neighbors, township officials and various attorneys could agree on last week at a Lower Merion zoning board hearing on the controversial rezoning proposal for 130 Cricket Ave. in Ardmore.

But they couldn't disagree with board member Robert Fox's summary of the tangled arguments on the zoning code provision for affordable housing on which it depends.

And so far, there is no obvious demand to lead everyone out of the room.

In community meetings and newspaper columns, the debate has been about larger social issues of providing "workforce" housing, using smart growth principles for

dense development, and preserving neighborhoods.

It was a legal issue, though, that stalled an already twice-postponed hearing June 26. After two hours of testimony and discussion focusing on the history and meaning of a particular phrase in the zoning code, the attorney for developers Craig Sneider and Matt Weiss, partners in S/N Land Associates, requested a continuance. The matter was tabled to a special meeting Aug. 6.

The delay was sought so that the developers can amend their application for zoning relief. They want to include the option that, if the zoning board finds their proposal does not qualify as a special exception under regulations for suburban-quality housing, it can also consider granting a variance to allow dense housing.

In general, the hurdle is higher

See CRICKET AVE., Page 5



Keith Shilcock-Elliott of Broomall and Jason Windmoller of Bryn Mawr made sure they got their phone hot week when they braved a thunderstorm and camped out in front of the Apple Store in Suburban Square. People started lining up on Wednesday night to make sure they got their new gadgets when they officially went on sale at 6 p.m. on Friday.

Wynnewood duo ready to go the distance for a good cause

By Erica Petri

This August 4-5, Wynnewood residents Robert Elwood, 46, and Eric Miller, 36, will ride in the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge (PMC) to raise money for cancer research and treatment.

As the nation's first fundraising bike-a-thon, the PMC has run annually for 27 years and now raises more than any other athletic event-based fundraiser. To date it has generated more than \$171,000,000.

Naturally, the effort to gather so much money calls for a lot of work and help from a lot of people.

For its 28th year, 4,800 cyclists will each choose either a one or two day ride between nine routes through 46 towns in Massachusetts. The routes vary from 47 to 192 total miles.

This will be Elwood's second year to participate, and Miller's 10th. "It's a wonderful way to focus on a goal every summer, it helps me stay in shape, and it keeps me sane" Miller said. "The ride itself is a spectacular experience. You're on the road with 5,000 folks at the crack of dawn riding through a beautiful countryside in Massachusetts. There are people on the side of the road cheering you on, folks who are survivors themselves and really appreciate the money you are raising."

This year the cyclists' collective goal is to raise \$27 million for adult and pediatric cancer research and care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through its Jimmy Fund. The Jimmy Fund was started in 1948 when the Variety Club of New England (now the Variety Children's Charity of New England) and the Boston Braves baseball team came together to help a 12-year-old cancer patient dubbed "Jimmy." The Jimmy Fund is now one of the world's leading centers for pediatric cancer research and treatment.

Miller said in his nine previous years of involvement, he has raised over \$55,000. His goal this year is to raise another \$7,000.

Many who participate in the PMC do so because they have a personal connection to cancer. Some are survivors; others wish to commemorate loved ones they have lost to cancer; and others hope to honor those in treatment.

Elwood fits in the middle category. "It's really a tribute to my father who

died of cancer and was treated at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute," said Elwood.

And Miller too has a personal reason to ride. "I feel very strongly about the cause because my mother and grandmother are both survivors," Miller said. "I ride in honor of them and in honor of the people who donate money. I have the names of the people that I am riding in honor of on my bike. In that way, they ride along with me in spirit."

Miller's Web site is www.empmc.short-url.com and is accepting donations.

Last year, the PMC's organizers gave 99 cents for every dollar raised through the cyclists' hard work. Only one cent from every dollar was used for administrative and organizational expenses.

The PMC was started by Billy Starr in 1980 and is the largest contributor to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's goal of raising \$1 billion for its "capital campaign."

The ride's organizers make it possible for cyclists of varying fitness levels and commitment levels to participate by offering a number of different courses.

The one-day routes include the 111 mile Sturbridge-Bourne route; the 84 mile Wellesley-Bourne route; the 69 mile Bourne-Wellesley route and the new 47 mile Wellesley-Wellesley loop. Two-day routes include the original 192 mile Sturbridge to Provincetown route; 180 mile Sturbridge-Bourne-Wellesley route; 163 mile Wellesley-Bourne-Provincetown route, or the 153 mile Wellesley-Bourne-Wellesley route.

Elwood intends to ride the Wellesley-Bourne-Provincetown route. His goal is to finish it. "It's almost 200 miles, so it's a long way," he said.

Miller will be cycling from Sturbridge to Provincetown, the longest route, and with him this year will be his father and sister. "It's great that I got them involved," Miller said. "I couldn't do this without the support of my family. I have three kids and my wife has to support me in the time it takes me to train for the PMC. Those of us who ride have a strong support system in our families, who give up time on the weekends so that I can do this, and from everyone who donates."

Elwood hopes to send a message by doing the charity ride: "Through my actions, I am hoping to teach my sons that everyone can do something to help the world," he said.