



The Readington News

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Lake Cushetunk residents delivered directly to downtown Whitehouse Station



Pictured are, from left: Keith Hendrickson, president of Lake Cushetunk Woods Property Owners Association; Mayor Gerry Shamey; Betty Hendrickson; Bob Glauber, also of the Property Owners Association; and Deputy Mayor Tom Auriemma.

Officials from Readington Township and the Lake Cushetunk Woods Property Owners Association wasted no time in trying out the new walkway that now connects this 560-home development adjacent to Lake Cushetunk with downtown Whitehouse Station.

The half-mile walkway makes it a short stroll downtown if one wants a quick bite or a hot meal at any one of the nice selections of local restaurants in the center of town. Those wanting a bit more exercise will find that the walkway gives them safe passage by connecting via existing sidewalks to everything the Whitehouse Mall has to offer. Next spring, children from Lake Cushetunk Woods playing baseball at the Brown Field will be able to ride their bikes to the games "in the blink of an eye."

No one was more delighted to see this walkway completed than former Mayor Ron Monaco, who first suggested the idea almost 20 years ago. Readington's housing plan at that time called for a large development at Cushetunk Lake, and it was clear to Ron from viewing the planning maps that such a connection "only made good sense." He was also instrumental in getting the \$100,000 grant from the NJDOT Transportation Trust Fund that helped turn the idea into a reality.

According to Township Engineer Clay McEldowny, the finishing touches, which include landscaping and lighting, are now completed, but a continuation of the sidewalk from the municipal parking lot to Route 523 will have to wait until the spring.

Submitted by Julia Allen

Nov. 3 is new Solberg hearing date

The battle over Solberg Airport and its ability to expand is now scheduled to move to Superior Court in Somerville on Nov. 3 -- the new date for an initial hearing to determine whether Readington Township is within its rights to preserve the land surrounding the airport and buy the development rights for the airport itself via eminent domain. In the Township's vision, the airport itself would remain under the ownership of the Solberg family, but they, or future owners, would be unable to expand it significantly.

The court date had originally been scheduled for Oct. 20, but the Solbergs requested a two-week postponement, to which the Township agreed.

In the meantime, the Solberg camp filed a countersuit against the Township and requested a stay -- a stand-down -- of all legal proceedings in the Township's bid to move ahead.

Orloff claims that the Township is using eminent domain "to assure that the airport is never permitted to accommodate modern aircraft." In his brief, Orloff also claims that the Township's ultimate goal is to "destroy (the airport) as an operating facility."

In media reports, Township counsel James Rhatican said the claims have no merit and he pondered why the Township would leave ownership of the airport with the Solbergs if the goal was to destroy it.

If the stay is denied and the judge finds the Township within its rights, the court's next step would be to appoint commissioners who would review appraisals and place a value on the land.

Stark & Stark, a Princeton law firm not involved in the case, has an informative website that may help explain the process. Google the words stark eminent domain resource. A flow chart at the site

Reflections Of An Adventure Runner

Bruce Marshall of Readington has been running for 24 years. A year after he began running he started tracking his miles. He estimates he will hit 50,000 before December. He has run 223 races, including 42 marathons. Marshall is a member of the Hill Runners of Hunterdon, a group of harriers that meets every Saturday and Sunday morning throughout the year to run. Recently Marshall participated in The Reach the Beach (RTB) 210-mile adventure race in New Hampshire that runs from Bretton Woods in the White Mountains and ends up at Hampton Beach at the ocean's edge. Here are Bruce's reflections.

By Bruce Marshall

As anyone who has done them knows, adventure relays are the most fun you can have running. Doesn't mean you take it easy as compared to a standard road race, because in reality, most of us push ourselves even harder than we thought possible, so as not to let down the team. People (no, close friends) are counting on you. I have done a number of shorter relays -- from 23 miles to 60K to 92 miles -- but had never taken on the challenge of an overnighter. When I was asked earlier in the year if I'd be interested in joining a forum team called Moose and the Misfits at RTB, I jumped at the chance.

Moose and the Misfits is a TEAM made up primarily of people who know each other through on-line running forums, and was formed for the 2006 event with only 1 person having previous RTB experience. Normally, that is a recipe for disaster, but not with this group and their esteemed leader. They came from cities and states all over the country -- Chicago, St. Louis, Dallas, Austin, Philadelphia, Virginia, and New Jersey -- most not having met each other before.

A relay such as this draws hundreds of teams of runners. This one had 300 teams, usually made up of 12 runners that elect to run various legs, of which there are 36 that vary from 3.1 to 8.9 miles each in length. Typically, teams with the full complement of 12 members divide themselves up into 2 vehicles -- van 1 & van 2 --



Bruce Marshall has run nearly 50,000 miles since taking up the sport 24 years ago.

and do 6-leg segments before the second team vehicle takes over. That is to allow time for eating and theoretically a chance to catch a little bit of sleep (ha!). Once the first 12 legs are completed, the runner order must stay the same for the balance of the race. That means that runner #1 does legs 1, 13, & 25. Runner #2 does legs 2, 14, & 26, etc. I was to run legs 3, 15, & 27.

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Eversole Hall House Is Restored



Committeeman Frank Gatti and Mayor Gerry Shamey cut the ceremonial ribbon marking the completion of the restoration.

By Amy Hollander

The restoration of the Eversole Hall House in Whitehouse Station is complete. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Oct. 14 to commemorate the event. On hand were Senator Leonard Lance, Assemblywoman Marcia Karrow, and seen cutting the ribbon Mayor Gerry Shamey and Township Committee member and museum liason Frank Gatti. The renovation project brought the house up to state historic specifications. The work was done via a New Jersey Trust Grant in the Amount of \$42,660 and

with matching funds provided by Readington Township and the Readington Museums Committee.

On display inside the Eversole Hall House is an exhibit illustrating the railroad station villages of Whitehouse Station, Stanton Station, and Three Bridges. Erin Brennan, the newest member of the Museums Committee, produced the exhibit. She is pictured standing next to an early train switch lent to the museum by Scott Kwiatkowski from the Black River and Western Railroad Trust.



Erin Brennan of the Museums Committee is shown inside the historic house amid the latest exhibit.

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