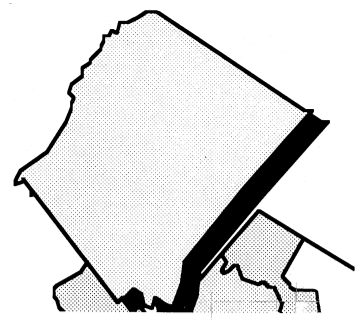


Local



Friday, February 9, 2007

A-7

Andover Borough • Andover Township • Branchville • Byram • Frankford • Franklin • Fredon • Green • Hamburg • Hampton • Hardyston • Hopatcong • Lafayette • Montague • Newton • Ogdensburg • Sandyston • Sparta • Stanhope • Stillwater • Sussex • Vernon • Walpack • Wantage

LOCAL BRIEFS

Guest from the past at Ryerson Round Table

NEWTON — The Colonel Henry Ryerson Civil War Round Table will have President Abraham Lincoln as its guest at its Feb. 20 meeting.

In celebration of Lincoln's birthday, Lincoln, portrayed by Robert Costello, will speak at the meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the theater, Building D, at Sussex County Community College.

Lincoln, the 16th president, is considered by many historians to be the greatest American president, guiding the country through the most devastating experience in its national history, the Civil War.

Costello has appeared at countless living history events, and has spoken at schools and civic organizations, and at other Civil War Roundtables.

He has also been a civil war reenactor for more than 15 years. He is a member of the 3rd New Jersey, having recently transferred from the 2nd Rhode Island.

In the 2nd Rhode Island, Costello served as a 1st Lieutenant and with the 3rd New Jersey he has taken on the role as military chaplain. He has participated in reenactments ranging from mega events such as Gettysburg, First Bull Run and Antietam, to small living history encounters. Costello is a member of the Robert E. Lee Roundtable in Woodbridge and the North Jersey Civil War Roundtable in Morristown.

The Colonel Henry Ryerson Civil War Round Table provides educational programs, tours and fellowship for individuals interested in the Civil War era. Meetings are free and open to the public. For more information call (845) 295-2603 or visit the Web site at www.ryersoncwrt.com.

Valentine's dance today at Sussex YMCA

HARDYSTON — The Sussex County YMCA, at 15 Wits End Road, will host a Valentine's Day Family Dance Party today from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Participants can swim, dance, have their picture taken and even make their own frame. Desserts and beverages are provided, and pizza is available for sale by the pie or by the slice.

David Carcieri, executive director, said, "We are very excited to host the Valentine Family Dance Party. It's a great opportunity for area families to come out and spend some quality time together. The dance will be a fun-filled event for the whole family."

The cost to attend is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door per YMCA family, and \$5 per guest.

For more information, please call the Sussex County YMCA at 973-209-9622, or visit www.sussex-countyymca.org.

New Jersey wants your best state photos

TRENTON — The New Jersey Office of Travel & Tourism and New Jersey Countryside are looking for the best photos of your favorite places in The Garden State. Selected photos will be published in New Jersey Countryside Magazine.

Pictures should be sent with a brief (50 words or less) description of why the places in the photos are special to you or of the memories these locations or events evoke. Photos of summer vacation at the Jersey Shore, tours of local wineries, weekends at bed and breakfasts or state parks and forests are among the many places that could be in the photograph. People at those spots can be the subject.

Photos and caption, along with your full name and hometown, should be sent to photonj@njcountryside.com or to New Jersey Countryside Magazine, Insider's View Photo, 134 South Finley Ave., Basking Ridge, N.J. 07920-1422.

Photos received before Feb. 1 will be considered for publication in the March/April issue of New Jersey Countryside.

Photos received after Feb. 1 will be considered for publication in future issues.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, visit www.njcountryside.com

Visit us online at www.njherald.com

Foglia statements ruled admissible

By TOM HOWELL JR.
Herald Staff Writer

NEWTON — A Wayne man's statement to detectives the day after a Wantage woman was killed at her home in 2004 will be admissible at his trial, a Superior Court judge ruled Thursday.

Paul Foglia, 46, of Wayne, was indicted in November 2005 for the killing of 67-year-old Elizabeth Lott, a professor at Pace University in Manhattan, on Sept. 24, 2004.

Lott was the mother of Virginia Liotta, Foglia's girlfriend at the time with whom he has two children. Authorities have said Lott disapproved of her daughter's relationship, and that Foglia broke into Lott's home and killed her with a wooden tray table.

Foglia's defense counsel had motioned to suppress the first of four statements he gave to authorities. The statement was given during hours of interrogation at the state police barracks in Frankford on Sept. 25, 2004.

Foglia's three other statements to authorities, on Sept. 28, 29, and 30, 2004, will not be used in court, the prosecution has said.

Judge Thomas Critchley Jr. ruled that Foglia's statements at the barracks were admissible, because his rights were never violated. Foglia signed a Miranda card waiving his right to remain silent, the judge said.

A total of six detectives spoke to Foglia, starting at 4:48 a.m. and ending in the late afternoon when he requested an attorney,

Critchley said in a summary of his ruling.

Detectives' asked Foglia about his activities during the day and night of Sept. 24, 2004, "vis-à-vis the homicide," the judge said.

Foglia's father testified his son asked about an attorney over the phone during the questioning, and that detectives discouraged such talk.

The judge said this was "inconsistent and illogical," considering Foglia signed a form to undergo a polygraph test later in the day.

"It seems inconsistent that at some in-between time there would have been a desire for an attorney," Critchley said.

Foglia's statements, the judge found, were made "voluntarily and knowingly."

Paris Eliades, standing in for firm partner George Daggett, said the ruling was not a blow to the defense since Foglia did not make any incriminating statements or admissions of guilt.

Assistant Prosecutor Francis Koch said the prosecution is ready to move forward toward trial.

Former girlfriend Liotta, who attended court, said she appreciates that Critchley has given the case priority on the court calendar. She noted that two of her mother's siblings have died since September 2004, never knowing the outcome of the case.

The case was the most recent homicide involving a Sussex County resident until Nov. 21, when Alan Thropp was shot and

killed in his Lake Mohawk home. His brother, Daniel Thropp, has been charged with the crime.

A former exotic dancer, Foglia was working his first shift as a bartender at The Fone Booth in Franklin — nearly 30 miles from his home in Wayne but about six miles from Lott's house — the night of Lott's death.

In the middle of his shift, Foglia allegedly told his superiors he was sick and left. When he returned, more than an hour later, he was fired on the spot. Investigators found "blood spatter" on Foglia's left shoe, according to an affidavit of probable cause.

Foglia was arrested at his home in Wayne at about 11:40 p.m. on Sept. 29, 2004.

PET RESCUE



Photos by Anna Murphey/NJH

Sadie in her new adoptive home in Wantage with Mike and Theresa Gould and their sons Michael, 6 and Jeremy, 2.

Sadie finds a way home

By COLIN McEVROY
Herald Staff Writer

Sadie needed a home, and the community responded. The Wantage Dog Pound received more than 200 phone calls in response to a New Jersey Herald story about Sadie, a five-year-old German Shepherd waiting to be adopted after she was rescued from a Vernon house fire three months ago. Some of those ended up adopting other pets.

Sadie's wait ended Wednesday when Michael and Theresa Gould, who live only about a mile down the road from the pound, adopted her Tuesday morning.

Theresa said she had wanted a German Shepherd for years and saw that opportunity with Sadie.

"I like the breed, I think they're a very pretty dog," she said. "I'd seen her in the paper and thought, 'Here's my chance to have one,' so I called my husband and asked him to go get her."

The Goulds have two sons, six-year-old Michael, Jr. and Jeremy, 2, who enjoy hanging onto Sadie while she runs around the kitchen.

Sadie also gets along with Shockey, a four-year-old

black German Shepherd and Rottweiler mix that the Goulds adopted in Port Jervis when he was a puppy.

Theresa said they all get along very well, and that both dogs like to play with the kids' shoes, sometimes when they are still in them.

"(Sadie) likes to play, and my two kids are very outgoing so they enjoy that," she said. "They've gotten along nicely."

John Abate, township assistant animal control officer and pound supervisor, said the response to Sadie has led to a high point in inquiries and adoptions for this time of year.

Normally, he said, the pound sees little adoptions in the winter and more in the summer, but visitors looking for Sadie have invited other animals into their homes this week.

Buck, a two-year-old Black Labrador who had been found running stray in Wantage, was adopted the same day as Sadie. Buck had been at the pound since August,



See SADIE, Page A8

Wantage group looks to save local dam

By COLIN McEVROY
Herald Staff Writer

WANTAGE — Ten years ago, a group of 17 homeowners paid \$36,000 out of their pockets to buy Lake Neepaulin, a 25-acre lake which was falling into a state of repair.

On Thursday night, that same group asked the township committee to help them save the lake again, asking for assistance in restoring the Lake Neepaulin Dam.

Tom Jable, chairman of

Friends of Lake Neepaulin, the group of concerned citizens who own the lake, said it would cost between \$500,000 and \$750,000 to bring the 200-foot long dam up to state standards.

Jable said the dam is not currently in any danger, but without repairs, the DEP could deem it necessary to drain the lake, just as they did with Lake Wanda in Vernon last year.

"If we get to the point with the DEP, like with Lake Wanda, where they say we've got to move

or get out of the way ... is the township ready to tell us they will prevent that from happening?" Jable asked the committee, on behalf of about a dozen Friends of Lake Neepaulin attending the meeting.

Jable asked the committee if they would be willing to co-sign on a loan, at 2 percent interest over 20 years, to pay for the dam repairs.

The Vernon Township Committee has co-signed on a similar loan for Lake Wanda,

Jable said, as well as other lake communities.

Mayor Bill DeBoer said the Wantage committee probably could not agree to co-sign because it would affect taxes for all township residents, not just the 700 homeowners living around Lake Neepaulin.

"You might have people from Beemerville who have never even been to Lake Neepaulin," he said.

Jable asked that only those 700 homeowners be taxed. Currently, only the 125 members of Friends

of Lake Neepaulin, which does not charge dues, use the lake, but Jable said all the homeowners have a responsibility for the lake's care.

But Committeeman Jeffrey Parrott said many of those 700 homeowners purchased their homes precisely because there are were dues. If the committee were to start charging them, he said, it could lead to legal challenges.

See DAM, Page A8