

Paralympic skier will speak to Irregulars

The Irregulars of the Back Mountain announce that Stephanie Jallen, 17, of Harding will be presenter at The Irregulars Think Tank Breakfast on Saturday, May 11 in the Natona Room at Twin Stacks Center.

Jallen is an athlete on the U.S. Paralympics Alpine Skiing National Teams. She is ranked in the top 10 in the world in two of the five alpine skiing disciplines and is slated to compete in the U.S. Paralympics in Sochi, Russia in 2014.

She is a member of the junior class at

Wyoming Area High School.

The Natona Room at Twin Stack Center, Hwy 415, Dallas, is the all-new home for The Irregulars Think Tank Breakfast. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for socializing ahead of the buffet-style breakfast served at 9 a.m.. Attendee reservations are required.

For more information, call Cholly Hayes, facilitator, at 760-1213, Bobby Zampetti at 690-2323 or email thetheirregulars@frontier.com.



Seventeen-year-old paralympic skier Stephanie Jallen is shown here on the first day of DSUSA NORAM ski racing at Copper Mountain, GS.



Mary Gulotta, a speech-language pathology major at Misericordia University, was recently awarded the 2013 Von Drach Memorial Scholarship by the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association at the 54th annual convention in Harrisburg.

BACK MOUNTAIN BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: C.H. WALTZ SONS, INC.



Staff members of C.H. Waltz Sons, Inc. gather on the front lawn of the business. From left, are Michelle Greim, of Sweet Valley, administrative assistant; David Stokes, of West Wyoming, service manager; Dale Edwards, of Hunlock Creek, parts manager; and Seth Boehret, of Cogen Station, general manager.

C.H. Waltz Sons makes business personal

By ELIZABETH BAUMEISTER
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What began in 1947 as a small business with \$25,000 worth of inventory housed in a 1,500 square foot building is now a multi-million dollar business with three locations around the state.

C.H. Waltz Sons, Inc., founded by Clark H. Waltz and his three sons, Joseph, William and Theodore, now includes offices in Dallas, Cogen Station and Winfield.

According to the company's website, www.chwaltz.com, "In 1966 Clark retired, turning the business over to his sons. Joseph R. Waltz assumed the role of president, William C. Waltz became the vice president and Theodore J. Waltz took the position of treasurer. Joe retired in 1986 and Ted became president. Bill remained the vice president until he retired in 1994 at which point Ted became the sole owner and CEO of the company. For many years, Ted's wife, Connie, helped run the business, but in more recent years his oldest daughter, Deanna G. Boehret, was appointed the position of vice president while his two oldest grandsons, Seth H. and Justin T. Boehret, work in management positions."

Seth Boehret manages the Dallas store,

MEET THE MANAGER: SETH BOEHRET

Hobbies/Interests: Anything outdoors - sports, shooting sports, hiking, basketball, football, running...

Most used piece of equipment at home: BX2360 Kubota sub-compact model tractor, which is also one of the shop's best sellers. "They are an excellent quality," he said, "and they sell well."

Business motto: The store's reputation is: "You're not just buying a Kubota, a Tanaka or a Hud-Son machine. You're buying a C.H. Waltz Sons, Inc. machine."

Favorite part of the job: Interacting with the customers

Dream vacation: Backpacking and mountain climbing

which opened in 2007, and he said the business continues to grow. He added, however, "We're getting to be a larger business, but we're still making an effort to have a small business atmosphere."

Part of that atmosphere includes good, friendly customer service.

"One thing we strive for," Boehret said, "is developing a relationship with our customers. We try to go out of our way to make the customers happy."

The shop offers rentals and sells both new and used equipment.

In addition to offering a vast product line of various brands, including Kubota, Tanaka, Snapper, D Woods, Hud-Son and more, the shop is a full-service dealer and can get parts for almost any make and model, according to Boehret.

"Anything we can fit in the shop, we can work on," he said, adding that company employees have even worked on machinery outdoors that was too large to fit inside. It all goes back to developing relationships with the customers and serving them well.

Boehret describes the business as "family oriented," which means supplying the customers with the equipment that best suits their families' needs, rather than using "pushy salesmen" to pressure people into buying things.

The store also makes an effort to step beyond its doors and get involved in the community. Some organizations and events it belongs to and has helped with include The Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, Dallas Harvest Festival, various expos and fairs, the Wilkes-Barre Farmers' Market and collections for victims of natural disasters.



ABOVE: Door prizes are displayed during C.H. Waltz's recent open house.

AT LEFT: C.H. Waltz Sons, Inc. recently began carrying Hud-Son Forest Equipment. Here, Hud-Son Sales Manager Mike Spadaro gives a demonstration with a sawmill during C.H. Waltz's recent open house.

HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH

Planning Commission puts cellphone tower on hold

USAN BETTINGER
Post Correspondent

A special meeting of the Harveys Lake Planning Commission held April 29 ended with plans to build a 195 foot cellphone tower in the borough being put on hold.

Attorney Eric Goldman, who represents X Cell, the tower's company, and Mario Calabretta, X Cell's engineer, were in disagreement with borough planning commission member Michael Dziak on the status of the area where the tower is to be built.

Dziak, along with Penn Eastern engineer Daryl Pawlusch, challenged X Cell's representatives, who said the area is not required to be la-

beled as a subdivision. Dziak was also concerned about the property owner's Clean and Green status if the tower is to be placed on the property. Dziak said the county will not issue a separate number for tax purposes if the area is not a subdivision, leaving the property owner responsible for the taxes.

X Cell wants to lease a 100 x 100 foot area of property off Cliff Street in Harveys Lake Borough. The actual area to be used for the tower is 50 x 50 feet, with room to expand if other providers decide to join in with the anchor provider, AT&T.

Attorney Mark McNealis has said

he will research the issue of whether or not the area is legally considered a subdivision. After McNealis determines the land's status, the commission will meet again with Goldman and Calabretta in order to grant the application to work on the property.

Lakeside Drive resident Andrea Payne was concerned about truck traffic during the construction process. Calabretta responded by saying the type of trucks that would pass through the area would be drilling rig and concrete trucks, not very large trucks, and the work would take about 4-6 weeks, depending on the weather.

Mary Jean Tarantini, another Lakeside Drive resident, is not pleased with the potential plans.

"This is a beautiful area and we don't want to see these things (the cell phone tower) around," Tarantini said. She added, "the neighbors want to keep the beauty...this is why we live here."

Dave Tarantini expressed concern about property values being reduced as a result of the tower. He also asked why the tower was being constructed in Harveys Lake, to which Goldman replied that about "half of the borough does not receive adequate cell phone reception."

MU student helps those with speech disorders

Mary Gulotta watched a friend struggle and wants to assist others.

Mary Gulotta, of Trucksville, has seen firsthand the enormous toll a communication disorder and the bullying and teasing associated with it can have on an individual. It's one of the reasons she chose to major in speech-language pathology at Misericordia University, so she could help others - like her best friend from high school - find the voice they all deserve.

Throughout her high school years, Gulotta saw her best friend struggle with his communication disorder - the result of being born with a cleft palate. Post-surgery, her friend still spoke with a hypernasal voice and nasal emission. By the time they reached high school, he was uneasy when he had to speak in public. At times, he relied on others to speak for him, including Gulotta.

"He used to share with me the reactions he constantly received from people about his voice and mentioned to me that these reactions made him insecure," says the daughter of Steven and Linda Gulotta. "As a result, he limited his talking. Because of the issues he had with speaking in public, he would often ask me to speak for him when we were together - whether it was flagging down a person in a store or ordering in a restaurant."

"I recognized the impact that his voice had on him personally, his confidence and his self-esteem," Gulotta adds.

Tragically, Gulotta's close friend lost his life during her junior year of college in 2012.

"I was left with only letters and poems he had written in the last week of his life that depicted how insecure he was," says Gulotta, who hopes to raise awareness about how bullying affects people by sharing their story. "After this devastating blow of losing my best friend, I channeled my sadness into an even greater resolve to be able to give people a voice and the ability to communicate."

Gulotta was recently awarded the 2013 Von Drach Memorial Scholarship by the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association (PSHA) at the 54th annual convention in Harrisburg. The 2013 award marks the sixth straight year a Misericordia University SLP student has received the \$1,000 scholarship, awarded annually to an outstanding student from one of Pennsylvania's 14 SLP schools in honor of Dr. Robert Von Drach. It is given to a student who exhibits strong leadership abilities, outstanding academic performance, exceptional clinical skills and scholarship within the profession.

At Misericordia, Gulotta has been a member of the department's National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) since 2009 and the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association NSSLHA Chapter since 2009.

She has also maintained a 4.0 grade point average in her academic studies, while also gaining clinical experience at the Misericordia University Speech-Language and Hearing Center on campus and at the Wyoming Valley Children's Association in Forty Fort where she received real-world clinical experience working with children with special needs, developmental delays, hearing impairment, autism spectrum disorders and multiple disabilities.

"In my graduate fluency class, Mary developed a stuttering treatment game that incorporated various aspects of stuttering. We plan to test this game in our clinic (the Speech-Language and Hearing Center) with children who stutter. Mary once mentioned to me, 'I was not satisfied with the games that were available for young children so I decided to design one myself,'" said Glen Tellis, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Misericordia University.

"The more I become emerged in the field of speech-language pathology, the more my interest for it grows," says Gulotta. "I have come to value clinical treatment as an art form, but realize that I need to merge science into the art form to achieve appropriate clinical results. Each client I receive is a new challenge where individualistic plans are created and implemented to fit both the needs and motivational factors of each client."

"No other experience gives me the joy of knowing that I played a role in helping individuals learn how to communicate effectively," she adds.

Gulotta also was accepted recently to Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center for an adult fieldwork placement for the fall semester.