

Community and Lifestyles

Foster Ave. not end of bike lane debate

by Leslie Rosenbaum

A proposal of the construction of a bike lane on Foster Avenue between University Drive and Sparks Street turned out a crowd to the borough council meeting in mid-June, and if the city's plans are an indication, it won't be the last time.

Residents of Foster Avenue and surrounding areas voiced mixed opinions on the proposal, which would cost \$37,000 but would be funded by a state grant. At issue is the elimination of parking on Foster Avenue to create the bike lane.

The competition between cars and bikes is one the region will face for years to come as bike advocates increasingly demand safe space on the roads.

The borough already has plans for creating a network of bike lanes for getting into town, explained Mark Whitfield, director of public works for the State College Borough.

"The Waupelani Drive and South Allen Street area is one of the main sections we are looking at," he said. "There must be a thousand bikers a day on those roads."

The borough is also looking at the residential area of Garner Street to join with South Atherton Street to create a route from Boalsburg. Another proposed route would be formed by Easterly and Westerly Parkways, where the bike lanes could feed into the high school.

"We would like kids to start biking to high school so that it's second nature when they go to college," said Whitfield.

Chuck Anderson, president of the Centre Region Bike Coalition, said the coalition has been "working hard to make State College a bike-friendly community" and that it fully supports the new bike lane proposal.

"Bike lanes feel safer and make cyclists feel more welcome," Anderson said. "They also give a stronger signal to car drivers."

"There are three important distinctions in bikeways: bike routes which are marked by signs, bike paths which are off-road paths, and bike lanes which are marked by painted lines on the street," explained Kevin Gombotz, a member of the coalition. "If they don't put in the lanes, they could still mark this as a bike route. [That] would be an improvement but it wouldn't accomplish the same goal as a marked lane."

The coalition supports the plan of an east-to-west bike lane on Foster Avenue, but has not been the driving force behind the idea, Anderson said.

"It is my understanding that the borough has been working on this plan for years and this is what they have come up with," said Anderson. "We support the plan, but I encourage the borough to work with the homeowners who would be affected by the removal of parking in front of their houses."

"In an ideal world there would be bike lanes on College and Beaver Avenues," Anderson said. "But it's just not possible at this time."

At the Foster Avenue hearing, local resident Greg Miller said he appreciated the need for a good, safe bike route through town, but was concerned about taking away residents' parking.

He advocated making Foster Avenue a one-way street in the same direction as the parking and opposite the traffic flow on Beaver Avenue. Then there would be plenty of room for a bike lane and vehicular traffic going in one direction, he said. It could also eliminate some dangers on the road, cut down traffic by half and make it safer for bikers as well.

Foster Avenue has already been seen by the borough as a speeding hazard, and the borough installed speed humps just last year. Yet residents voiced concern that if parking on the side of the street were eliminated, drivers may be tempted to speed.

H.W. Bernard, a resident of East Foster Avenue, said that a bike lane on Foster Avenue would be a "recipe for disaster" and instead suggested Easterly and Westerly Parkway for the proposed lane, where the road is wider and safer for bicycle and automotive traffic.

The churches on and near Foster Avenue weighed in on the latest debate as well. St.



Photo by Katie Reed

One bicyclist finds it safer to use the sidewalk on Foster Avenue, but a bike lane may be in the works there and in other parts of the borough.

Andrew's Episcopal Church on West Foster Avenue and South Fraser Street supports the plan, said church representative Sylvia Neely.

see **Bike Lanes**, pg. 9

Local group still offering financial aid for abortions

by Hilary Barlow

In the battle to define reproductive rights, the beginning of life and a woman's right to choose, poor women often get left behind. Even if safe abortion or counseling services are available in their community, it can be prohibitively expensive and difficult to access for these women. Community activists in Pennsylvania and across the nation are stepping up to extend abortion services to women without the means to pay.

Locally, Centre Countians for Choice (CCC) is that organization. The group keeps a fund to assist women who cannot afford an abortion. Karen Wynn, a member since 1984, described it as "an informal group of people who had many times nothing much

in common except a deep and abiding feeling that the right to choose is a basic issue for women."

The organization provides half of the cost of an abortion to those in need, and the entire cost if the woman's financial situation is especially dire. If a woman is unsure whether or not an abortion is best for her, Centre Countians for Choice will provide contact information for a counselor.

Members are eager to deflect stereotypes about the type of women who get abortions. The organization assists students, mothers and rape victims, among others.

"In this area I think people think somehow it's all college kids who have abortions. It is not," explained Wynn. "Overwhelmingly now we are approached by women who already have

children...who are in situations where they simply cannot have another child."

The organization provides both funds and transportation, if needed, to a clinic of the woman's choice as long as the National Abortion Federation or Planned Parenthood has certified the clinic. Women in Centre County have chosen from clinics in Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania including Philadelphia, Allentown, Reading and Pittsburgh. Most choose Harrisburg, which is the closest at 90 miles away, according to Joanne Tosti-Vasey, member of the group and president of the Pennsylvania National Organization for Women.

"[They're] just really angels, because they really helped me," said Jennifer, who received help from CCC a year and a half

ago. "They provide a wonderful service for young women or anyone who needs their services." Jennifer preferred to be identified by her first name only.

Though no current members recall exactly when the group was founded, some guess that it has existed in State College since as early as 1979. In the early years, members raised money by hosting pro-choice events like "Celebration for Choice" where patrons would buy tickets to trade in for chocolates. In fact, at least one member remembers the title as "Chocolates for Choice."

The group also posted advertisements in the *Centre Daily Times*, listing petitions

see **Choice**, pg. 10

Voices 2007 Resource Guide to Centre County's Nonprofit Organizations

To Our Readers: *Voices* is an all-volunteer organization and as such, we celebrate the important work of nonprofits and volunteer groups around our region. We hope this guide helps link individuals with their interests and give these groups more volunteers to help further their important missions.

To Our Local Non-Profit Groups: This is a growing effort, meant to inform the public and thank you for the good work you do. If we missed you, or if anything in your listing is incorrect, please contact us at editors@Voicesweb.org so we can make corrections and expand this list next summer. If you'd like to support this effort next year, or have *Voices* available at your workplace, please e-mail us at circulation@Voicesweb.org.

Acoustic Brew Concert Series

The Acoustic Brew Coffeehouse is a nonprofit, volunteer-run concert series committed to providing reasonably priced, quality folk and acoustic music in an intimate, smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

www.acousticbrew.org

Linda Littleton, Volunteer Coordinator
(814) 238-8048
PO Box 1090
Lemont, PA 16851

Amnesty International

In keeping with the principles of this international organization, the local chapter of Amnesty International promotes human rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for all people regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, belief, culture, skin color, and political affiliation.

www.clubs.psu.edu/up/amnesty

Lauren Heinbach, Co-Coordinator
email: leh162@psu.edu
Claire McManus, Co-Coordinator
email: cmm5128@psu.edu
(814) 865-2998
307 HUB-Robeson Center
University Park, PA 16802

Artistic Horizon

Artistic Horizon is a non-profit integrated art center. Our classes and workshops offer a supportive art environment that will encourage the artist in everyone. Programs

are available for 3 years old through adults. Drawing, painting, clay hand building, metal arts, stain glass, sculpture, theatre programs, music, and much more.

www.artistichorizon.org
(814) 234-3441
219 S. Patterson St.
State College, PA 16801

Bears that Care

The Bears that Care program was founded by Michele Rivera during September 2001. This program reaches out to children in crisis both nationally and internationally by distributing local donations of stuffed toys. Our goal is create a touch of love and caring for a child in a difficult place in their lives. The toys have also played a role in making a connection in communities through law enforcement and fire department distribution to children on behalf of the Bears that Care program.

(814) 234-3441

Bellefonte Historical and Cultural Association

The Bellefonte Historical and Cultural Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the arts in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. The organization presents diverse arts and cultural programming to the community; seeks to attract working artists; and strives to increase awareness of the significance of Bellefonte's cultural heritage, as reflected in rich Victorian architecture, and of the value of its preservation.

www.bellefontarts.org
Donna Rochon, President
email: drochon@bellefontarts.org
BHCA
P.O. Box 141
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Center for Arts and Crafts

The Center for Arts and Crafts is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to offer quality programs and services that relate to our ever-changing cultural, social, educational and recreational needs.

www.sa.psu.edu/usa/craftcenter
(814) 863-0611
11 Grange Building
University Park, PA 16802

Center for Sustainability (American Indian Housing Initiative)

The American Indian Housing Initiative is a collaborative effort to adapt and deploy

sustainable building technologies on American Indian reservations. AIHI partners seek an educational exchange of cultural values and sustainable building technologies through collaborative and interdisciplinary partnerships.

www.engr.psu.edu/greenbuild
email: aihi@psu.edu

Center for Well Being

The Center for Well Being offers a variety of services designed to promote mental and physical health.

www.centerforwellbeing.net
Donna Richards, Office Manager
(814) 237-3042
P.O. Box 644
123 Mt. Nittany Rd.
Lemont, PA 16851

CentreConnect / C-Net

CentreConnect is an online community of government, education, and nonprofit organizations throughout Centre County.

www.centreconnect.org
email: cnet@ceinetworks.com
(814) 238-5031
243 South Allen Street, Suite 336
State College, PA 16801

Centre County Affordable Housing Coalition

The Centre County Affordable Housing Coalition, made up of 45 social service agencies, developers, lending institutions, realtor and builder associations, churches, and private citizens, is an advocate for affordable housing. Its programs focus on educating the community and its leaders on housing needs. The coalition does not have formal nonprofit status, and contributions to the coalition are not tax-deductible.

George Khoury, Chair
email: gmkhoury3@aol.com

Centre County Historical Society

The Centre County Historical society is an educational organization that works collaboratively with local, regional, county and state organizations in helping to preserve and promote the area's historic, cultural, and natural resources.

www.centrecountyhistory.org
Angela Breeden,

Executive Director
email: info@centrecountyhistory.org
(814) 234-4779
Centre Furnace Mansion
1001 E. College Ave.
State College, PA 16801

Centre County PAWS Inc.

PAWS (Promotion of Animal Welfare and Safety) is an organization of volunteers committed to providing humane solutions to our area's pet overpopulation. In order to care for these homeless cats and dogs and to promote responsible pet ownership, PAWS maintains a non-euthanasia animal shelter and administers a spay-neuter assistance program, an educational outreach program, and emergency medical aid funding.

www.centrecountypaws.org
Kay Burd, Volunteer Coordinator
email: mail@centrecountypaws.org
(814) 237-8722
1042 Benner Pike
State College, PA 16804

Centre County United Way

The mission of the Centre County United Way is to improve lives by prioritizing, mobilizing and creating sustained changes in community conditions, which improve the quality of life in Centre County.

www.ccunitedway.org
Pam Spellabotte
Communications Director
(814) 238-8283
2790 W. College Ave., Suite 7
State College, PA 16801

Centre County Women's Resource Center

The Centre County Women's Resource Center (CCWRC) provides services for people who have experienced domestic and or sexual violence. Counselor/advocates are available 24 hours a day.

Anne Ard
email: edteam@ccwrc.org

www.artistichorizon.org



Artistic Horizon

219 S. PATTERSON ST.
STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801
814-234-3441

"The Non Profit Integrative Art Center"

PAGE 2 *Voices* 2007 Resource Guide to Centre County Nonprofit Organizations

(814) 234-5050
140 W. Nittany Ave.
State College, PA 16801

Centre Media Values

Centre Media Values (CMV) is a community-based, volunteer, progressive, grassroots organization located in Centre County, Pa. Members believe that the future of democracy in our country requires that all points of view be balanced and heard. Their goal is to reach that state of balance by bringing a broader and more diverse range of ideas to the region through the media.

www.heptune.com/cm.html
www.centremediavalues.blogspot.com
email: black.bj@gmail.com

The Centre Region Bike Coalition

The Centre Region Bike Coalition was founded to help facilitate the vision of a more cycle-friendly Centre County. The organization is a collection of cyclists working for cyclists, with the goals of promoting bicycling as a means of recreation and transportation in the area.

www.centrebike.org
Chuck Anderson
email: cda10@psu.edu
P.O. Box 10163
State College, PA 16805

CentrePeace

CentrePeace promotes a restorative justice system by modeling programs within our communities and correctional facilities that are based on healing brokenness rather than on vengeance, centering on peace rather than on fear, and offering avenues of accountability rather than alienation. Our goal is to reduce the return-to-crime rate (recidivism) by providing inmates with the skills that will enable them to eventually lead productive and fulfilling lives.

www.centrepeace.org
Thomas Brewster, Executive Director
email: dircentrepeace@centrepeace.org

(814) 353-9081
3013 Benner Pike
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Centre Wildlife Care

Centre Wildlife Care is an organization dedicated to caring for injured, orphaned, sick and displaced wildlife for the purpose of releasing them back into the wild. CWC is run on a volunteer basis and is funded solely by donations.

www.wildaboutanimals.net
Robyn Graboski,
Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator
email: robyn@statecollege.com
(814) 692-0004
Centre Wildlife Care
P.O. Box 572
Lemont, PA 16851

ClearWater Conservancy

ClearWater Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania, Inc. is a Centre County-based land trust and natural resource conservation organization. Its mission is to promote conservation and restoration of natural resources in central Pennsylvania through land conservation, water resource protection, and environmental outreach to the community.

www.clearwaterconservancy.org
Jennifer Shuey, Executive Director
Jennifer@clearwaterconsevancy.org
(814) 237-0400
2555 N. Atherton St.
State College, PA 16803

Community Help Centre

Community Help Centre provides services, resources, education, training and information to people in need of support and to people who are seeking volunteer opportunities in our community. With a drop-in center and 24-hour hotline as our foundation, they work to coordinate and deliver human services throughout Centre County.

www.communityhelpcentre.com
Tammy Gentzel.
email: info@communityhelpcentre.com
(814) 272-1542

Concerned Voters of Centre County

A nonpartisan group devoted to election integrity issues. We reject paperless touch screen voting and advocate voter-verified paper bal-

lots that can be used for mandatory random audits and recounts.

concernedvoters.org
email: concernedvoters@gmail.com

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Centre County

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, faith-based ministry building affordable homes for those in need. Family selection is non-discriminatory, based on housing need, ability to make payments to purchase the home, and willingness to work in partnership with Habitat. Homes are energy-efficient and easy to maintain.

Tom Mesko, Executive Director
(814)353-2390
Fax: (814) 353-2394
Alt. Contact: Christie Zabrodsky
email: christie@habitatgcc.org
1155 Zion Rd.
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Creative Oasis

The Creative Oasis is a non-profit public studio offering art classes for children and adults, summer art camps, memberships, and serving the needs of professional, semi-professional, and amateur artists in the Centre Region.

www.thecreativeoasis.com
email: info@thecreativeoasis.com
(814) 237-1982
133 E. Beaver Ave.
State College, PA 16801

Interfaith Mission

Interfaith Mission provides situational emergency assistance to meet basic human needs for low-income residents of primarily the State College Area School District and the 692 exchange in Port Matilda.

interfaithmission.centreconnect.org
Matthew Hall, Executive Director
(814) 234-7731
Interfaith Mission, Inc.
215 Robin Alley
State College, PA 16801

Leadership Centre County

The mission of Leadership Centre County is to increase the community's leadership pool. The organization brings diverse individuals together for networking and exposure to community issues, opportunities and needs, encourages increased participation for leadership in civic service, and creates a support network for present and future leaders.

www.leadershipcentrecounty.org
Georgia Abbey, Executive Director

email: lcc@leadershipcentrecounty.org
(814) 238-5559
Fax: 238-5067
P.O. Box 10265
State College, PA 16805

Master Gardeners

Centre County Master Gardeners are volunteers trained to provide gardening information and programs throughout Centre County, Pa. The organization participates in the planting and maintenance of gardens at local schools, parks, and museums.

www.extension.psu.edu/cnregion/mg
Pam Calkins, Program Coordinator
email: pfc105@psu.edu
(814) 355-4897
Willowbank Building, Room 322
420 Holmes Ave.
Bellefonte, PA 16823

MidPenn Legal Services

MidPenn Legal Services is a non-profit public-interest law firm dedicated to providing equal access to justice and high quality legal services to low income persons and survivors of domestic violence in central Pennsylvania. Our client community includes low-income individuals and families, the elderly, the disabled, children and survivors of domestic violence. We seek results that will improve the lives of our clients by providing individual representation and assistance as well as by seeking solutions to systemic problems that affect our clients.

www.midpenn.org
Brent Frank, Manager
(814) 238-4958
2054 E. College Ave.
State College, PA 16801

Mount Nittany Conservancy

The Mount Nittany Conservancy seeks to preserve Mount Nittany for future generations of Centre County residents. The organization builds and maintains trails and overlooks while seeking to prevent further encroachment on the regions wildlife.

www.mtnittany.org
email: Info@MtNittany.org

The Next Stage

The Next Stage, in its 12th year, offers three mainstage productions each season. The company produces important contemporary plays emphasizing acting and thought-provoking stories. It also offers acting classes taught by professional actors, and occasional readers' theatre productions, as well as an outreach program that con-

Concerned Voters of Centre County

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PAGE 3 *Voices* 2007 Resource Guide to Centre County Nonprofit Organizations

tracts with clients for training sessions that use tailor-made scenes as a springboard for discussion.

Mary Skees and Jay Shuchter
Co-founders and Producing Artistic
Directors
playsplus@yahoo.com
Join mailing list by calling
(814) 404-2649 or (814) 360-0556

Ni-Ta-Nee NOW

The local chapter of the National Organization for Women whose mission is to "bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society NOW." Areas of concern include reproductive justice, economic justice, health care, lesbian rights, ending violence against women, ending racism and other issues that impact women and children's lives. Meets at Webster's Bookstore Café, 128 S. Allen St., State College, 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month, February through December. No meeting in January.

Ni-Ta-Nee NOW
e-mail: ni-ta-noonow@verizon.net
(814) 364-9391, (814) 280-8571,
(814) 466-3096, or (814) 355-5712
P.O. Box 162
Bellefonte, PA 16823-0162

Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture

PASA works to improve the economic prosperity, environmental soundness and social propriety of Pennsylvania food and agricultural systems. PASA works with farmers, consumers and those concerned with the ecological well-being of our environment and natural resources, among others. The association seeks to address the sustainability of the entire food and agriculture industry, and places great value on efforts to build bridges between various and disparate participants in the food system.

www.pasafarming.org
Brian Snyder Executive Director
brian@pasafarming.org
(814) 349-9856
114 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 419
Millheim, PA 16854

Penns Valley Conservation Association

PVCA serves as a steward of the Upper Penns Creek watershed and all its communities. PVCA

works to protect and conserve Penns Valley's waters, farmlands, forests, and the heritage upon which its vibrant rural quality of life depends. The group organizes and supports activities that promote healthy natural systems and foster local economies.

www.pennsvalley.net
Gary Gyekis, President
email: info@pennsvalley.net
(814) 349-5205
P.O. Box 165
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Second Mile

The Second Mile challenges young people to achieve their potential as individuals and community members by providing opportunities for them to develop positive life skills and self-esteem as well as by providing education and support for parents and professionals addressing the needs of youth.

Bill Speakman,
Vice President of Development
bill@thesecondmile.org
(814) 237-1719
1402 S. Atherton St.
State College, PA 16801

State College Community Land Trust

Since 1996 the SCCLT has been working to address the need for affordable housing in the borough of State College. We are a non-profit organization of volunteers that purchase, rehab and sell decent housing to income-qualified, first-time home buyers. Our houses meet all building codes and are always owner-occupied.

www.scclandtrust.org
Ron Quinn, Executive Director
Colleen Ritter, Projects Coordinator
(814) 867-0656
420 West College Ave.
State College, PA 16801

State College Friends School

A Quaker kindergarten through 8th grade independent school, nurturing intellectual growth with a stimulating academic curriculum in a spiritually enriching environment. We celebrate diversity and welcome families of all faiths and perspectives.

www.statecollegefriendsschool.org
(814) 237-8386
1900 University Dr.
State College, PA 16801

State College Peace Center

The Peace Center provides the community with educational opportunities on the issues of social justice, non-violence and world events. The Peace Center also seeks to support local and national peacemaking efforts.

scpeacecenter@gmail.com
State College Peace Center
P.O. Box 483
State College, PA 16804

Voices of Central Pennsylvania

This 14-year-old independent community newspaper is a liberal journal of news and opinion, written by and for Central Pennsylvania residents. We strive to create a community that accepts and cares about men and women of diverse ages, classes, nationalities, opinions, religions, sexual orientations, and racial or ethnic identities.

www.Voicesweb.org
Suzan Erem, Managing Editor
editors@Voicesweb.org
(814) 234-1699
133 S. Allen St.
State College, PA 16801

Women's Welcome Club

Women's Welcome Club exists to offer those who are new to our area or long term residents the opportunity to actively participate in activities that promote civic, social, and humanitarian aspects of this community. We welcome newcomers and invite long-time residents of State College and the

surrounding area to join us, make new friends, and share common interests.

www.geocities.com/wwwstatecollege
Jane: jajw55@aol.com,
Catherine: ckochj@aol.com
Dorothy: dmp13@earthlink.net
(814) 238-9492

Youth Services Bureau

The Youth Services Bureau strives to ensure that children, youth and families will have opportunities to realize and fulfill their potential for growth and development through a continuum of services.

www.ccysb.com
Norma Keller, CEO
nkeller@ccysb.com
(814) 237-5731
410 South Fraser St.
State College, PA 16801

United Nations Association

The United Nations Association of the United States of America is dedicated to educating, inspiring, and mobilizing Americans to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations, strengthening the U.N. system, promoting constructive U.S. leadership in that system, and achievement of the goals of the U.N. Charter. Public meetings are held twice annually and a U.N. Day dinner is held in October.

Norma Keller, President
(814) 684-4720 or (814) 360-5818

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Not even e-mail can stamp out philately

by Jessica Williams

FDR did it. Freddie Mercury, more commonly known as Queen, did it too. Prince Rainier of Monaco still famously does it, as does the mayor of State College. But why would anyone do it these days?

A hobby steeped in tradition, stamp collecting, or philately as it's formally known, remains alive and well throughout the world and thrives in Centre County. In fact, the national headquarters of stamp collecting sits right at the edge of Talleyrand Park in Bellefonte.

Situated inside the renovated Match Factory, the American Philatelic Center provides services to philatelists around the globe. Established in State College in 1945, the location has changed three times, prompted by the need for expansion.

The American Philatelic Society reports 42,135 members, according to Ken Martin, deputy executive director of the APS.

The Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society is the local group that reaps many benefits from the nearness of the APS building. Hosting exhibitions since 1961, they sponsored

SCOPEX 2007 (The State College Philatelic Exhibition) in June. It was a weekend event where philatelists could add to their collections and display and view others' work.

Panning the main room at SCOPEX, an observer noticed that the majority of the philatelists milling around the dealers' tables and displaying their collections were elderly men, prompting a possible "stamper stereotype."

The oldest local member is Ernest "Ernie" Bergman, professor emeritus of plant nutrition at Penn State. Bergman, 84, the grandson of a philatelist, has been a member of APS for 45 years. He started to collect at a young age.

"As a kid I would go into the waste paper basket and pick off the stamps," said Bergman, who displayed some of his main collection of Swiss stamps at SCOPEX.

Digging through boxes of stamps at SCOPEX was Mike Magyar, 40, an APS member and member of the local Mt.

see Stamps, pg. 10



Photo by Jessica Williams

Jarod Magyar, 9, admires Earnest Bergman's Swiss stamp display at the recent SCOPEX 2007 exhibition in State College.

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State College, PA 16801
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A Quaker-Directed Continuing Care Retirement Community

from Bike Lanes, pg. 5

"More bike routes encourage more bike use—the more the better," she said. "The loss of parking is a small loss in return for a safe bike route."

Grace Lutheran Church, located on South Garner Street and East Foster Avenue, opposes the plan. The church has more than 2,000 members and only 99 on-site parking spaces and relies on Foster Avenue parking, said church representative Jeff Stover.

Other council members suggested using another street in addition to Foster Avenue as a bike route or ending the bike route on Foster Avenue at Garner Street and keeping the situation between Garner Street and University Drive at the status quo.

"If the goal of the borough is to get more people to ride bikes, then creating a bikeway is a good thing to do," said Anderson. "There are probably a lot of people who might choose to ride a bike instead of drive a car if they had a route they felt comfortable with."

Safety is a concern, as every year bicyclists are thrown from their bikes by cars, have the doors of parked cars open suddenly into their path and are otherwise shoved off the road by oblivious drivers behind the wheel of everything from sports cars to

SUVs. Bicyclists are required by law to drive in the same direction as vehicular traffic, leaving them particularly vulnerable to anything coming from behind.

Last year the Center Region Bike Coalition started the Street Skills for Cyclists program to help people in the area become more comfortable with riding on roads. The program helps cyclists understand the risks of riding on the road and how to be safe while riding on roads.

"The Easterly and Westerly Parkways are good roads for cycling but the goal of the Foster Avenue plan is a bikeway close to downtown with connectivity from the east side to the west side," said Anderson.

"The compromise on this is probably going to have the bike lane on Foster go from Garner to Sparks Street to link the existing north-to-south bike lanes and routes," said Gombotz.

"The Foster Avenue plan has been being kicked around for three to four years now," said Whitfield. "There has always been a desire for an east/west route close to downtown."

"The final recommendation is that the bike lane should go from Sparks Street to Garner Street to link the two existing north to south routes," Whitfield said. "At some point in the future the lane could be extended but for now this is a good compromise."

from Stamps, pg. 9

Nittany Philatelic Society. He says he's by far the youngest member of his club.

Magyar thinks that the APS hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. may be keeping younger people from participating. But getting locals to Bellefonte is not the group's main mission, Martin explained.

"Our primary responsibility is to provide services to our members throughout the world who support us through their annual dues," he said. "Everyone can access our Website, peruse our card catalog, or contact us by e-mail 24 hours a day."

Martin also said that a few hundred children are enrolled in the Young Stamp Collector's Association and a couple thousand in the All Star Stamp Clubs.

"For the last 10-plus years, no advertising has been necessary to promote the local youth club," he said. "Word of mouth from kid to kid has been all that has been needed to more than sustain the club."

In many families, stamp collections are passed down through generations. According to the UK publication *Stamp Magazine*, Freddie Mercury's (Queen) father sparked his interest in stamps as a

young boy, something he continued his whole life. Magyar sees this often.

"One of my stamp buddies already has his collection willed to his grandchildren," he said.

Magyar's nine-year-old son, Jarod is a member of the YSCA. The younger Magyar is a topical collector of animals and trains.

"It has all my hobbies on one thing," he said of stamp collecting. "There's pretty much everything on stamps."

Jarod represents a new kind of philatelist, born after the advent of the personal computer. It's hard to believe stamp collecting can survive in this age of lap tops, Wii entertainment, and most notably, e-mail, but Martin said the stamp market in the United States is larger today than ever.

"[APS] membership is about twice what it was in the 1970s before cable television, personal computers, etc."

In fact, Martin said the Internet has helped rather than hurt the hobby.

"Although e-mail may have reduced the number of personal letters sent, many believe the Internet is the greatest thing ever to happen to stamp collecting," Martin said. "It is much easier to buy and sell stamps through eBay or the APS StampStore, to

learn about your stamps, and to meet other

collectors, all without having to leave your home."

Mike Magyar agrees.

"Before you would have to get in your car and physically go get the stamp. But now you can just sit down at your desk and buy," said Magyar. "It makes people spend money a lot more readily, too."

The money so readily spent can be made back down the line.

"Compared to other hobbies, the monetary return on investment is very strong," said Martin. "Even if you can't sell your stamps for as much as you paid, you can probably recoup a much greater percent than you can for a movie ticket stub or golf scorecard," he said.

The hobby allows for a range of financial commitment. Famed bond investor Bill Gross can spend \$3 million on a plate block and trade it for a single stamp. That's a kind of stamp collecting that isn't available to everyone, but there are other options.

"If you are Ken Martin you can save all the stamps on your incoming mail, convince your relatives to do the same, and perhaps even find a business that is willing to pass on the empty envelopes from their mail," said Martin.

The costs for a young person involved in

stamp collecting may be less than other popular youth activities.

"You may wish to invest in a stockbook, a perforation gauge, catalog, hinges and perhaps even an ultraviolet light," Martin explained. "But all these together probably won't cost as much as it does to outfit a youth to play many sports."

Stamp collecting presents other benefits.

"Unlike some other hobbies, weather or health is no obstacle to working on your collection," said Martin. "Stamp collecting keeps the mind active without even realizing it most collectors learn a great deal about history and geography."

Flipping through Mike Magyar's book of U.S. stamps proves this theory. From the earliest definitive stamps of George Washington and Ben Franklin to the commemorative stamps marking historical events and championing causes of the day, stamps provide insight into the era.

A collector of old and new U.S. stamps, Magyar explains that for stamps to be considered old in the philatelic community they must be issued before 1940.

Nine-year-old Jarod has his own definition of old, though.

"Pretty much any stamp older than 1997," he said.

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from Choice, pg. 5

from pro-choice State College residents and the names of pro-choice political candidates.

"Pro-choice was a very big thing and people marched for it and people fought for it, cared about it and gave money for it" said Phyllis Mansfield, a long-time supporter.

According to Mansfield, when the group last posted a petition in the *Centre Daily Times*, they received "hostility" from one of the newspaper's employees who expressed doubt that their petition was authentic.

When two State College residents saw their names on the petition, they complained to the newspaper. The residents had common names and shared them with two Penn State students who had signed the petition. Mansfield was warned that the next petition would be suspect. When asked, CDT staff could not confirm who that employee was and declined to comment.

There have been other incidents of hostility towards members of the group, such as the case of Tosti-Vasey, who recalled receiving a death threat by phone after appearing at a pro-choice rally on campus. Karen Wynn was once told her house would

be picketed, though it never was.

Today, the fund still exists but the group is not as active.

"Things are more difficult now and I think it's the climate, the more conservative climate, the more apolitical climate," said Mansfield.

Members cited a number of reasons for the decline in activity, from members moving away to the fact that consistently hosting events and doing publicity is tiring work. The advent of e-mail to contact supporters has helped keep the group functioning. Instead of hosting fund-raising events, the group now contacts known supporters directly.

"We still provide people with help so we're still doing what we've always done, but not as well in my opinion," Mansfield said. "It's getting harder."

For more information or to donate:

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