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1997

Serving the Greater Quakertown Area

117TH YEAR NO. 16

WEEK OF APRIL 16-22, 1997

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Healthy dishes

Brick Tavern Inn in Milford Township caters to healthy eaters and seafood fanatics with new menu offerings.

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Quarter of a century

Child Care Inc., with centers in Trumbauersville and Sellersville, has been in the child care business for 25 years.

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Gruesome tale

Allentown College in Center Valley will present the musical thriller "Sweeney Todd (The Demon Barber of Fleet Street)."

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The champions

Panthers baseball team wins an 8-4 victory over Souderton Monday.

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On the winning side

Richland Supervisors review plan

By Sara J. Hauff

Of The Free Press

Richland Township's comprehensive plan was presented to the supervisors Monday sans Thomas Comitta of West Chester, the professional planner who drew up the map which the township will use when reviewing land development proposals.

Supervisor Richard Orloff said Comitta and the supervisors are in an "ongoing dispute" over the supervisor's reluctance to grant additional payment higher than what was in the engineer's contract. Supervisors initially agreed to \$32,000 of work but were charged \$32,800, Orloff said. Despite the dispute, since it was below \$1,000 Orloff said the supervisors approved payment.

Planning commission members present at the supervisor's meeting were surprised that Comitta did not show up to go over the plan. And due to several unanswered questions about the project, they voted to continue the



ALL SET - Ground will be broken for Main Street Theatre in Quakertown. (left), president of the theatre, stands in the way outside the theatre and blocks that will be used for hand

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Open space referendum tabled by Richland Supervisors Monday

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hearing until their next meeting May 12.

The Richland Township Supervisors tabled a request

Monday by Robert Moffitt, a Quakertown attorney and member of the task force that compiled the countywide open space project, to endorse Bucks County's open space referendum

and are to further discuss it at their meeting next month.

Voters will be able to choose yes or no to the \$59 million bond issue in the May 20 primary. The cost is about \$20 per year per

household in the final year of the seven-year bond.

Brian Kline, planning commission member, said he thought the plan was disproportionate with Central Bucks benefiting more

than Upper Bucks.

"The more space you protect in Central Bucks, the more housing pressure there is in Upper Bucks," Kline said.

Orloff said that although "open space is one of those warm and fuzzy issues we all want to embrace" he would like to take

more time to look over the proposal. Also he questioned the formula for deciding how much funding each municipality would receive.

"Those townships with the least population should be getting the most money. That's where the open space is," Orloff said.

Moffitt said that the determination was based on size and population. He added that the task force had to "balance the interests" of all the 54 municipalities in the county to make the referendum most appealing to everyone.

The bond money would fund farmland preservation, county parkland acquisition, the protection of natural resource areas and municipal open space purposes.

If the referendum is approved, Richland would receive \$461,287 appropriated to them while paying for a quarter of the costs for any open space project of their choice such as preserving the Quakertown Swamp.

In other business, supervisors will apply for a grant from the state Department of Environmental Protection to help with the cleanup of Daniel Carr's tire dump located in Richland after supervisors received word that the owners of the property, the Goodman Group, had approved the move.

Although the tire pile on Heller Road is not eligible for state money, supervisors opted to try for the funds anyway with the backing of local legislators. The site is exempt because the property is under enforcement action, according to DEP.

Bucks County Judge Edward G. Beister Jr. held the Goodman Group responsible for the hazardous conditions.

Also DEP has fined Carr's daughter, Susan Laarz, \$425,000 for not removing the tires from the site Carr operated.