

COMMUNITY COURIER

DOWNINGTOWN ♦ EXTON

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Festive Run/Walk Raises Funds

See Run/Walk pg 7



Run/Walk from pg 1

Several hundred runners and walkers recently participated in the Brandywine Health Foundation's second annual Festive 5k Run/Walk, a 5k run or one-mile fun walk through downtown Coatesville just prior to the Coatesville Christmas Parade. The annual community event involved more than 500 participants and volunteers joining together in support of the Coatesville Youth Initiative.

According to Frances Sheehan, president and CEO of the Brandywine Health Foundation, the goal of the volunteer committee, which was led by Jim Ziegler and David Lapp, was to produce a healthy community event. The event was supported by numerous sponsors, many in-kind donations to the post-race festivities from local businesses, more than 100 volunteers, and more than \$25,000 in net proceeds.

Medals were handed out in nine divisions ranging from age 11 and under to age 70 and over. Medals and cash prizes were given to the overall first-, second-, and third-place male and female participants. Sean Ward of Coatesville was the top male finisher with a time of 15:57. Marina Muncan of Ardmore was the top female finisher with a time of 18:05. Muncan also finished first in 2010. Ward and Muncan were awarded special trophies that were made with donated steel

and were designed and handcrafted by Jerry Nowak.

Proceeds from the second annual Festive 5k Run/Walk will benefit the Coatesville Youth Initiative, which fosters collaboration among community residents, youths, area businesses, nonprofit and county agencies, youth-serving organizations, the Coatesville Area School District, and other educational entities to enhance the knowledge and skills of youths.

The Brandywine Health Foundation, formed in May 2001, celebrated its 10th anniversary. In the past 10 years, the foundation has distributed more than \$10 million in grants, contributions, and scholarships targeted to combating the toughest health problems in the greater Coatesville area.

For more information about the Coatesville Youth Initiative and the Brandywine Health Foundation, readers may visit www.brandywinefoundation.org or call 610-380-9080.

Pictured on front: Several hundred runners and walkers participated in the Brandywine Health Foundation's second annual Festive 5k Run/Walk in Coatesville on Dec. 3.