

Ice cream escapades take reporter far, and near

BY JENNIFER WAGNER
READING EAGLE

The employees at Jenn & Jessie's in Oley — my hometown — used to call my dad “the milkshake man.” We always ordered two chocolate milkshakes — or one to share when I was too little to drink a full one by myself.

Our shake ritual followed my dance lesson for the week. And just because I prefer milkshakes over cones does not mean I didn't jump at the opportunity to try out three ice cream places in Berks County that I have never visited.

This serious assignment required intensive field research, and I thoroughly enjoyed the journey.

My first stop was Wertz Ice Cream Cone, 55 W. Penn Ave., Wernersville. I had heard about the adorable outside of “the cone” and was thrilled to see it in person. As I ate, I watched



READING EAGLE: LAUREN A. LITTLE
Jennifer Wagner at Boehringer's.

kids playing in the train and horse and buggy. I wanted to try something different, and the infusion was that: peanut butter soft-serve ice cream infused with chocolate syrup and dipped in chocolate. Their specialty is the banana split, but I loathe bananas, so that was out.

My next stop was Pop's Malt Shoppe, 208 W. Main St., Kutztown. The bright pink interior is

decorated like a '50s soda shop. There's counter service to order your ice cream to go. Faced with an impressive variety of ice cream options, I ordered the funnel fry sundae made of chocolate ice cream, hot fudge and, of course, funnel fries. It was absolutely delicious and definitely worth the trip.

Finally, I stopped at Boehringer's Drive-In, 3160 N. Reading Road, Adamstown. I quickly learned that the chocolate butter fudge ice cream, made on the premises like all their ice cream, is a crowd favorite that normally wins the yearly ranking on Boehringer's Facebook page. I ordered a double scoop of butter fudge in a cone and ate it as quickly as humanly possible — a necessity in the extreme heat. But I would have eaten it just as quickly in any weather. It was that good.

Sitting outside on a picnic bench overlooking the creek

watching kids play was absolutely charming. After talking to the fourth-generation owner, Chris Schnader, it's clear that this shop is a fixture in the community.

“We love being able to do things for the community like being the ice cream suppliers for the kids in the elementary schools with their celebrations, and it's just great to see that people enjoy coming here,” Schnader said.

I enjoyed my ice cream escapades and will always be an ice cream enthusiast. The charm of the far-reaching locations added even more to the ice cream. We're lucky there are places in Berks that provide delicious, often homemade, ice cream, especially on a hot summer day. My goal is to be open to new places and occasionally order something other than a chocolate milkshake. ☺

Contact Jennifer Wagner at country@readingeagle.com.

 <h2>Schuylkill County Fair</h2> <p>RT. 895 – SUMMIT STATION, PA July 30 - August 4, 2018 Fairgrounds Admission – ONLY \$5!</p> <p>GPS: 2270 Fair Road Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972 570.754.3247 www.schuylkillfair.com</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Free Parking •Food •Fun •Contests •Exhibits <p>Kids 10 and under FREE</p> <p>f t</p>		
<p>WED., AUG. 1 – Schuylkill County Day Day Sponsor: Schuylkill County Commissioners</p> <div>  <p>THE MAHONEY BROTHERS PRESENT: Sponsored by Red Lion Café JUKE BOX HEROES LIVE Show Time 7 p.m.</p> </div> <div>  <p>LONG LIVE THE BEETLES Show Time 9 p.m.</p> </div>		<p>THURS., AUG. 2 – Dairy Day Day Sponsor: Reading Eagle / South Schuylkill News</p> <p>SHAWN KLUSH ELVIS TRIBUTE ARTIST Show Times 7 & 9 p.m.</p> <p>Sponsored by Quality Inn Midway & Fidler Brothers Construction</p>		
<p>FRI., AUG. 3 – Country Day Day Sponsor: Schaeffer's Harley-Davidson / Schaeffer's Motor Sports</p> <div>  <p>JOE DIFFIE COUNTRY ROCK MUSIC SHOWTIME 9 p.m.</p> </div> <div>  <p>Special Guest Performer - 7 p.m. CHAD REINERT</p> </div>		<p>SAT., AUG. 4 – Family Fun Day Day Sponsor: Schuylkill County Visitor Bureau</p> <div>  <p>JAY & THE AMERICANS Show Time 9 p.m.</p> </div> <div>  <p>Special Guest Performer - 7 p.m. JESSE WADE TRIO</p> </div>		
<p>AMPHITHEATER CIRCUS INCREDIBLE- Daily 6 & 8 p.m. Bonus Shows: Sat. at 4 p.m. Sponsored by Hess Catering and Bob Weaver Chevrolet-Buick-GMC</p>	<p>WESTON PAVILION PEGGY HENTZ RED CREEK WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER Daily 5:30, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m. Bonus Shows: Sat. at 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by Weston Estate & Thrivent Financial</p>	<p>FARMING FOR A DAY Sponsored by The Dunn Family KID'S TENT: THE ART'S BARN EDUCATION CENTER Daily 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Sat. 1-5 p.m.</p>	<p>SCHAEFFER'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR SPORTS STAGE SCHUYLKILL TALENT SHOWCASE 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>SHADLE NATURE CENTER PORCUPINE PAT Mon.-Fri. 5 p.m. Sat. 4 p.m. Sponsored by Schuylkill Conservation District</p>