

100 runners race for students in 'Tiger Tracks 5K'

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LONG HILL TWP. – Ghosts, mimes, superheroes, cats, and fairies were spotted running through the streets of Stirling, not for candy, but to help raise money for Long Hill public school students. The seventh annual Tiger Tracks 5K event hosted by FORCE (Focusing Our Resources for Children's Enrichment) was run on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 31.

This family friendly event is a major fund-raiser for FORCE, which provides enrichment programs for school children in Long Hill Township schools as well as technology grants for teachers in the district.

Michael Chu of Soo Bahk Do Karate and Wellness led the warm-ups. Chu is a third-degree blackbelt.

"I have attended Gillette, Millington and Central schools," said Chu, "and it is an honor to participate in such a worthy cause."

Soo Bahk Do Karate and Wellness also teaches karate to children at Millington School as a part of FORCE's after-school enrichment programs.

The top male finisher for the 3.1-mile event was Peter Rovtar of Bernardsville, who completed the race in 19 minutes and 34 seconds. Matteo Baeyens of Stirling and Zachary Rossi of Millington came in second and third place.

The top female finisher was Amanda Occhipinti of South Bound Brook, who finished with a time of 22:38. Lisa Miller and Jennifer Selverian finished second and third.

The event would not be possible without the support of many community organizations and businesses, including Long Hill Township Teachers Association, Soo Bahk Do Karate, Morch Law, Dreyer Lumber, Stirling Chiropractic, Rossi Chiropractic, The Body Shop, The Stirling Hotel, and Warren Oral Surgery.

See www.longhillforce.org for full list of sponsors and runner's times.



Tiger Tracks 5K

Runners, from left, Leslie Reiman, Susan Feeley, Betsy Mooreland, and Lena Dickerson, support Long Hill public school students by participating in the seventh annual Tiger Tracks 5K event on Saturday, Oct. 31 in Stirling.