

Sports

T-Birds hosting Community Caravan

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds today announced the return of the T-Birds Community Caravan, with support from MassMutual. This marks the second annual iteration of this community program.

The T-Birds Community Caravan will make a total of three stops in the Springfield area throughout the summer months:

Saturday, June 8 - Look Park (Northampton), 12 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, July 20 - Forest Park (Springfield), 1 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, August 17 - Amelia Park Arena (Westfield), 9 a.m. to

1 p.m. Each event will feature an appearance from Thunderbirds mascot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, street hockey activities, and various food options. Additionally, each Caravan will also feature a benefactor non-profit organization.

"We're delighted to support the Springfield Thunderbirds not only on the ice but also throughout the local community," said Dennis Duquette, head of community responsibility at MassMutual and president of the MassMutual

Foundation. "Their caravan provides terrific activities for local kids and families, and we're proud to be a part of it!"

"After a successful launch of this event last summer, we are excited to see it grow even more this year," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "We are excited to welcome MassMutual as a new partner for this initiative, and we thank them for sharing in our goal of being champions within our community, even in our offseason months."

More details of each Caravan stop will

New names make Bay States Games HOF

BOSTON – Boston Field Hockey Umpires Association, Fred Roach (Softball Coach), and Kevin Cummings (BSG Executive Director) have been selected for induction into the 2024 Bay State Games' Hall of Fame. The inductees received their award at a pre-game ceremony at Fenway Park on May 25 prior to the Red Sox game against the Milwaukee Brewers.

Boston Field Hockey Umpires Association - Field Hockey

The Boston Field Hockey Umpires Association (BFHUA) was founded in the mid 1960's and is the largest field hockey umpire association in Massachusetts with over 200 members that officiate at the middle and high school level. BFHUA has supported Bay State Games on a volunteer basis since the early 1980's. Accepting the award, Patti Rowe has been on the organization's executive board since 1987 and has served as president since 2020. Fred Roach - Softball

Fred Roach is from South

Hadley, Massachusetts. Fred has coached high school softball in western Massachusetts for the past 24 years, currently at West Springfield High School. Fred has been Head Coach of the West Region softball team for 21 seasons, having led the team to many gold medals. He has served as a dedicated volunteer for decades and mentored countless western Massachusetts softball players who have gone on to successful playing careers in college. Kevin Cummings - Bay State Games Executive Director

Kevin Cummings from Medford, Massachusetts has been involved with the Bay State Games since 1984 and is celebrating his 40th year with the organization in 2024. Kevin started with the organization as a Sport Coordinator and was promoted to Executive Director in 1999. He has dedicated his life's work to organizing the Bay State Summer & Winter Games and helping to provide opportunities

to tens of thousands of athletes over 40 years. Kevin's induction into the Hall of Fame was a surprise organized by board members and fellow staff members. The Bay State Games Hall of Fame was created to recognize past participants who have gone on to prestigious and successful athletic careers, as well as former and current coaches, officials, sports organizers, and volunteers who have made significant contributions to the organization throughout its 38-year history. Past inductees among the over 60 previous honorees include the NBA's Dana Barros ('06), Tom Thibodeau ('17) and the late Reggie Lewis ('02); WNBA's Rebecca Lobo ('03), the NHL's Bill Guerin ('09) and Keith Yandle ('14); Major League Baseball's Carlos Pena ('11) and Rich Hill ('13); Olympians Nancy Kerrigan ('07), Jim Pedro ('04) and Bill Cleary ('14) as well as US Paralympic Gold Medalist Joe Lemar ('15).

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season, will be making their only visit to Ludlow during the regular season on Friday night.

"That's going to be a very big match," Molinari added. "The players have been working hard so far this season. We must continue to work hard next week at practice and remain focused."

While the Pioneers will have a full week to get ready for the home match, the Phantoms (3-0-0) were scheduled to play at Block Rock FC on Tuesday night.

"We're now looking forward to next week's home match against Seacoast," said Pioneers forward Alec Hughes. "If we can win that one, we'll be a very tough team to beat this year. We're the top two teams in the Division and it's a game that you always want to win."

A year ago, Seacoast walked into Lusitano Stadium and celebrated a 2-1 victory. It was the Pioneers' only home loss during the 2023 regular season.

The dynamic duo of Scott Testori and Hughes combined to score three of the five Pioneers goals in last Friday's home match against Black Rock.

"I scored two goals and Scott scored one goal, but I also thought we left a few goals on the table," said Hughes, who has another year remaining as a member of the UMass men's soccer team. "We share a lot of the same traits and it's a lot of fun playing with him. We work well together."

Testori, who plays college soc-



Jared Smith tries to settle the ball.

cer at UConn, scored the first goal of the match on a tap in during the sixth minute of the opening half.

Patrick Gryczewski was credited with the assist.

During the 20th minute, Hughes added his name to the scoring sheet following a corner kick goal.

Jared Smith sent the ball into the box from the left corner where Hughes headed it into the net past Black Rock goalie Christian Braea-Anderson.

"It's always nice to score a goal, especially on a set piece," Hughes said. "It gave us an early 2-0 lead."

The Pioneers third goal also came on a header from Aidan Kelly

following another corner kick.

Braudilio Rodrigues, who was a member of the Western Mass. Pioneers in 2022, was recognized during a ceremony at halftime. He's currently playing professional soccer for the Seattle Sounders.

Twenty minutes into the second half, Gryczewski sent a pass from the right side to Hughes, who finished off the scoring play by putting a low shot into the left corner of the net.

Lawrence Goddard, who scored a pair of goals in the Pioneers' previous road match against the Albany Rush, replaced Hughes.

About ten minutes later, Mamadi Jiana, who played soccer at Chicopee High School, also came off the bench and scored an unassisted goal.

Holding a commanding 5-0 lead, the only question remaining for the Pioneers faithful supporters during the final twenty minutes of the match was if goalie Gianluca Cersosimo would post his fourth consecutive shutout.

"This is just an amazing team," said Cersosimo, who didn't have to make any saves. "Even though I didn't have to make any saves, I still had to remain focused for the entire match, especially during the final twenty minutes. Shutouts are nice, but the most important thing for us are the wins."

Cersosimo, who's a second-year member of the Pioneers, graduated from Long Island University. He also replaced Nicholas Oberrauch as the team captain for the match. Oberrauch didn't play against Black Rock because of an injury.

Education

Cadet Schuster receives Bronze Junior ROTC Medal award

The General Ebenezer Learned Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter of Oxford announces the recipient of the Bronze Junior ROTC Medal from Quabbin Regional High School is Cadet Kaitlynn Marie Schuster.

This is awarded to either a junior or senior student in a high school/secondary school JROTC program that shows outstanding ability and achievement in high school ROTC programs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force. Recipients

must have demonstrated loyalty and patriotism and earned a record of military and scholastic achievement during their participation in an ROTC program. Students must be in the upper 25% of their classes in military and academic subjects. They must have shown qualities of dependability and good character, adherence to military discipline, leadership ability and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of ROTC training. Congratulations to Cadet Schuster.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service Organization. DAR members are dedicated to promoting preservation, education and patriotism in communities across the nation. All students are invited to participate and learn more about the educational programs the DAR offers. Educators, parents and students are encouraged to contact their local DAR chapters for more detailed information on these programs



Submitted photo

Subaru Representatives are shown with MWCC Automotive Technology students and faculty members.

MWCC automotive program receives vehicle donation

GARDNER – Subaru, in collaboration with Patrick Subaru, North Reading Subaru and Subaru of New England, donated a brand-new 2024 Crosstrek to Mount Wachusett Community College automotive technology program.

This donation underscores Subaru's commitment to fostering educational excellence and supporting the next generation of automotive professionals. "We have had a long partnership with Subaru and this generous donation is going to pave the way for the next generation of automotive technicians. The 2024 Crosstrek exposes our students to the newest technology available on the market and will enhance their learning tremendously. This wouldn't have been possible without our partnership with Subaru and their investment in student learning at MWCC," stated Eric Almeida, Professor and Automotive Program Director.

Representatives from Subaru and MWCC, including Rebecca Carr, Community Love Promise Manager at Subaru of New England, Jeff LeClair, Subaru University Educational Manager at Subaru of New England, and

Dan Enderle, District Parts and Service Manager at Subaru of New England were on hand for the delivery of the vehicle on April 24 at the MWCC Automotive facility in Gardner.

Rebecca Carr, Community Love Promise Manager at Subaru of New England, expressed Subaru's dedication to making a positive impact through education, stating, "This is part of Subaru's Love Promise to help make the world a better place through providing quality education opportunities. We are happy to provide a new 2024 Subaru to allow students to learn and enhance their career pathways."

Jeff LeClair, Subaru University Educational Manager at Subaru of New England, highlighted the significance of the partnership between Subaru and MWCC, emphasizing the importance of equipping students with the tools they need to excel in their careers. "We are pleased to be partnered with the MWCC Automotive Technology Department and hope that this donation will better equip students to develop career tools and learn trending customer

needs," said LeClair. "Subaru has a long history with the College and feels privileged to be part of mentoring the next generation of skilled trades professionals."

Student Rebecca Buell said, "It was nice getting a chance to network with the Subaru partners. The care and investment they put into student learning is incredible! Through the donation of the beautiful Crosstrek, the emphasis they place on job training, and exposure through cooperative work placements, it has been amazing to be a part of it."

The MWCC Automotive Technology Program is dedicated to providing students with comprehensive training and preparation for careers in automotive service and repair. The addition of the 2024 Subaru Crosstrek to the program's fleet will undoubtedly contribute to the success of its students and reinforce MWCC's position as a leader in automotive education.

For more information about the MWCC Automotive Technology Program and how to support its mission, people may visit mwcc.edu.

Public Notices

Town of New Braintree Invitation To Bid

The Town of New Braintree will accept sealed bids for materials to be used in road construction and general road maintenance of various town roads. The estimated value provided in this Invitation to bid is for FY2025. All bids signed with the name and address of the bidder should be submitted in a sealed envelope that is plainly marked in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope "Goods and Services FY2025". All bidders are required to be in compliance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 149, Prevailing wage rates, where applicable. The Town of New Braintree reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any informalities in the bidding if they deem it in the best interest of the town to do so. Bid specifications must be obtained from the Select Board office,

20 Memorial Drive, New Braintree, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or can be emailed upon request by calling the Highway Department at (508) 867-2451. Bidders must be prequalified by the Contract Engineer of Mass. D.O.T., before specifications can be handed out. **Bids will be received until 6:30 p.m., Monday June 24, 2024,** and will be opened and read at 6:35 p.m. in the office of the Select Board. The bid shall include a statement of non-collusion. 05/30, 06/06/2024

DEPARTEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WETLANDS PROGRAM 401 Water Quality Certification Application Public Notice Pursuant to 33.U.S.C.1341 and MGL c21 §43, notice is hereby given of a 401 Water Quality

Certification (WQC) application for the Cusky Pond Dam Removal and Culvert Replacement Project in New Braintree by the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (MassWildlife), 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA, 01581 on property owned by MassWildlife. The project involves the removal of an existing dam, earthen embankment, and associated structures for ecological restoration, in addition to the replacement of an existing downstream culvert on Barre Road. Additional information may be obtained from the applicant's agent - Tighe & Bond, Inc. c/o Daniel R. Buttrick, PE, 53 Southampton Road, Westfield, MA 01085 (413-562-1600).

Written comments on this 401 WQC Application may be emailed to:

David Wong

(David.W.Wong@mass.gov) Department of Environmental Protection Wetlands Program 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 874-7155

Within 21 days of this notice. The Department will consider all written comments on this 401 WQC Application received by the Public Comments Deadline.

Any group of ten persons of the Commonwealth, any aggrieved person, or any government body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment that has submitted written comments may also appeal the Department's Certification and that failure to submit comments before the end of public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing. 06/06/2024

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