

SPORTS

Wizards
football shocks
Burrlville
• Page B-1



FOR DELIVERY:
You can have the Daily Times delivered to your home six days a week for only \$2.85. To subscribe call 821-1818 or visit Ricentral.com.

DEM investigating handling of soil

Contaminated earth transported from senior center site to DPW, then to landfill

Michelle A. Carrier-Migliozzi
Daily Times City Editor

PROVIDENCE — The Department of Environmental Management (DEM) is investigating a complaint about the handling of soil from the construction site of the new West Warwick Senior Center.

“We received a complaint on Oct. 19,” said Gail Mastrati, DEM spokesperson, “We did an inspection on Oct. 26 and we are investigating.”

Town Council President Edward

Giroux (D-Ward 3) and Thomas Podgurski, chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee previously confirmed that the soil at the senior center site at Washington Street had been tested and found to be contaminated before construction began.

There is a plan put in place for handling the soil, Mastrati said, and the DEM has been receiving documentation regarding the handling of the soil.

“They have an approved remedial action plan for off-site disposal at the



Central Landfill for some soil and onsite capping for the rest of the soil,” Mastrati said.

At the most recent town council meeting, West Warwick resident Thomas Jones brought concerns before the council regarding the use of town trucks for transporting debris from the senior center site. The fact that the soil had been determined to be contaminated only complicated the issue, he said in a later letter to Giroux, and raised more questions about whether proper state and fed-

eral authorities were notified that potentially contaminated soil was being transported through town and then deposited at the DPW holding facility. Jones brought his concerns to the attention of the DEM.

“So far, they have been taking materials to the Central Landfill for disposal and they have to submit documentation to us,” Mastrati said. “So far, 2,900 tons have been taken to Central.”

See SOIL, Page B-8

grat·i·tude • [grat-i-tood, -tyood]

Moosup Valley Grange distributes dictionaries to Coventry third-graders

Hannah Clarkin
Daily Times

COVENTRY — Every third-grade student at Western Coventry Elementary School received his or her own personal dictionary from the Moosup Valley Grange on Tuesday.

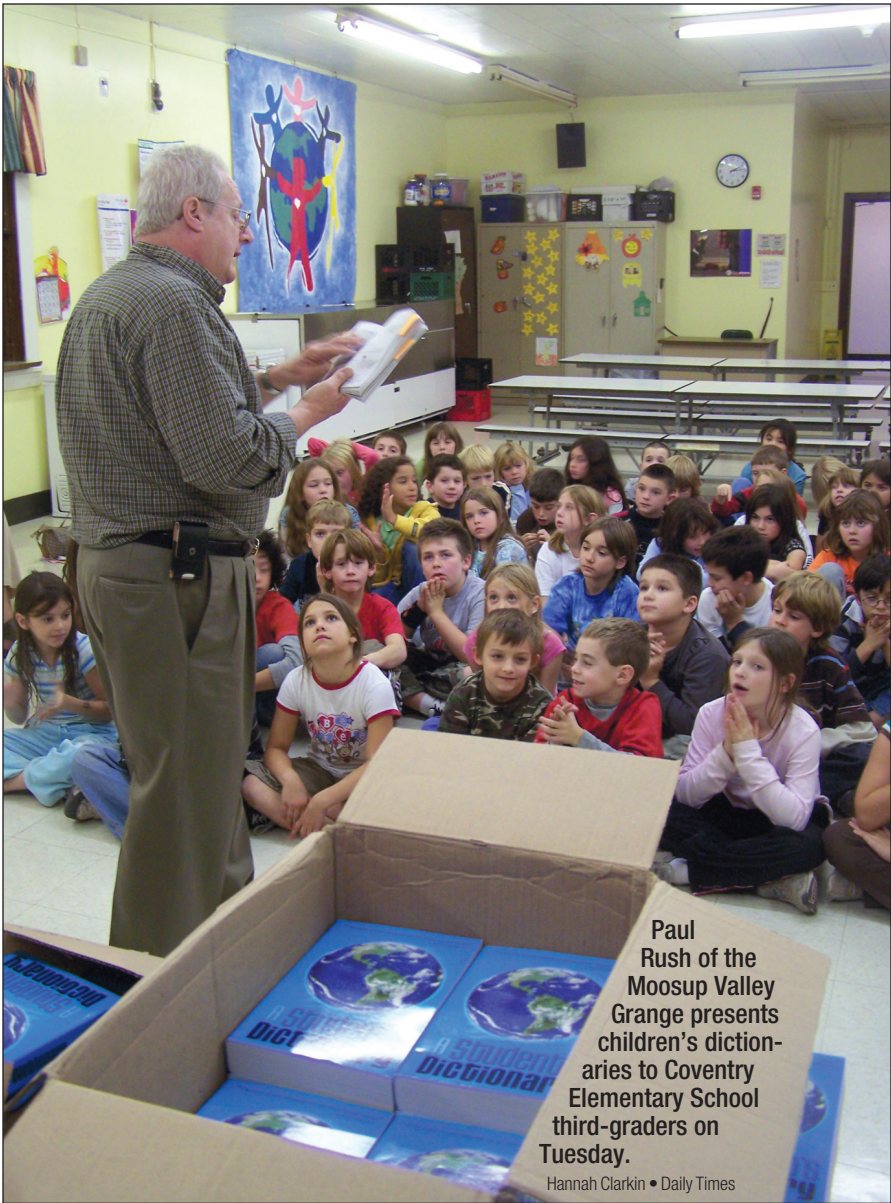
Students sat on the cafeteria floor, fidgeting with anticipation as Paul Rush of the Grange described the content of the dictionaries.

With a slick blue front cover and a kid-sized font inside, this dictionary contains not only the definitions of words, but short history lessons, maps of the world, weights and measures, the periodic table of elements, multiplication tables, words for the largest and smallest numbers, and, at the very back, the longest word in the English language.

This is the fourth year Grange members Rush and his wife, Barbara, have participated in the “Words for Thirds” project. The Grange also distributes dictionaries at Hopkins Hill and Black Rock Elementary Schools in Coventry and the Isaac Paine School in Foster. So far 1,200 dictionaries have been distributed.

“The Grange works very hard to give these dictionaries out,” said Western Coventry Principal Janice Sullivan. “They do all their own fundraising.”

“We use these dictionaries in class all year long,” said teacher Joyce Martinelli. “Just ask the fourth-graders.”



Paul Rush of the Moosup Valley Grange presents children's dictionaries to Coventry Elementary School third-graders on Tuesday.

Hannah Clarkin • Daily Times

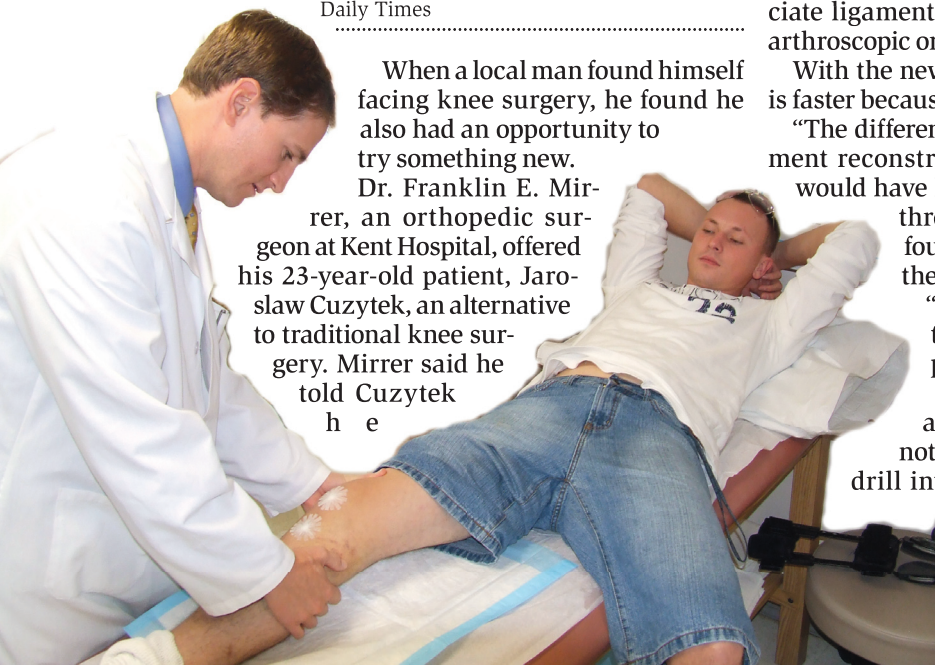
“We have an old one at home and its cover fell off,” said Meredith Brewer, holding her new dictionary reverently, “I’ll take good care of this one and bring it back whenever I need it for class.”

Benjamin St. Martin was studying the words for long numbers, “They have one googol,” he exclaimed, pointing out the decillions. “First of all I’m gonna have to show this to my mom.”

“I’m going to try to figure out how to say the whole word without messing it up,” said Julia Bora of the longest word in the English language. “After that I want to read about the American flag.”

Getting a leg up on knee surgery

Jessica Selby
Daily Times



When a local man found himself facing knee surgery, he found he also had an opportunity to try something new.

Dr. Franklin E. Mirrer, an orthopedic surgeon at Kent Hospital, offered his 23-year-old patient, Jaroslaw Cuzytek, an alternative to traditional knee surgery. Mirrer said he told Cuzytek

could repair his torn knee ligament, known as the anterior cruciate ligament, using a new procedure in place of the standard arthroscopic one.

With the new procedure, Mirrer said, immediate recovery time is faster because the surgery is less invasive.

“The difference is in the drilling with the anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction,” Mirrer said. “With the old procedure, I would have had to drill tunnels from the outside in all the way through the bone, making significant incisions two to four inches on the front of the knee and sometimes on the side of the knee.”

“With the standard procedure, we also have to drill through bone the whole way,” he said. “It can be very painful and sometimes causes heavy bleeding.”

“Now what we are able to do is drill using the arthroscope from the inside outward and we do not have to make any incisions,” Mirrer said. “We do drill into the bone but we do not have to go all the way through.”

Submitted Photo

Kent Hospital’s Dr. Franklin E. Mirrer examines knee patient Jaroslaw Cuzytek.

See KNEE, Page B-8

Coventry’s fire district merger said to be success

Chief: consolidation has increased efficiency

Michelle A. Carrier-Migliozzi
Daily Times City Editor

COVENTRY — The first year of operation for the new Central Coventry Fire District was a good one, according to department officials.

On Aug. 31, the former Central Coventry, Harris, Tiogue and Washington fire districts marked the first full year of service as the consolidated Central Coventry Fire District.

That first year, according to Girard Bouchard Jr., president of the Central Coventry Fire District Board of Directors, was a successful one.

In a recent press release, Bouchard reported that, during the department’s first year, it responded to 3,196 emergency alarms — 83 fire calls, 239 box alarms, 469 service or hazardous condition calls and 2,405 emergency medical services calls.

Robert W. Seltzer, chief of the Central Coventry Fire District, rated the first year of operation a good one.

The high point of the transition for him, Seltzer said, has been the efficiency at which the department operates at incidents, with everybody being under one command and all working as one organization — not four.

“It’s very clear-cut who reports to whom, and how we’re all doing things the same way,” he said. “I think the uniformity has really made a difference in operating on the day-to-day calls — that’s definitely different — which has made life a lot easier.”

“Because it takes so many people to mitigate an incident, when they’re all under one organization, there’s no territory issues, no ‘you’re not my boss’ issues, none of that stuff,” Seltzer said. “That has been the biggest plus out of the whole thing. For me to have to run an incident and see how much more effective we can be as a larger group working together like that, it’s been super.”

The low point, if there was one, was dealing with a lot of little unforeseen issues involved in the transition, Seltzer said. Little things, he said, like coming up with new methods of maintaining inventories for all the department’s vehicles, especially emergency medical services (EMS) supplies.

“When you’re used to taking care of one vehicle, that’s one thing — now we’ve got three on the road” he said, “and not that it was an overwhelming issue but little things like that, pulling that together — and multiply that 10 times over because every day some little thing would come up - I certainly would identify those issues as the low point of the whole thing.”

See MERGER, Page B-8

INSIDE

Obituaries.....A-2
Opinion.....A-5
Advice & Amusements.....A-6
Comics.....A-7
Sports.....B-1
Classifieds.....B-5

WEST BAY LIFE

Can we wean ourselves off of fossil fuels in our cars and in our diets?
• Page A-3



WEATHER

It will be partly sunny today
Highs: 54-58
Lows: 33-37
• Page B-8

OPINION POLL

Does moving the presidential primary ahead make R.I. any more relevant?

Cast your vote at
www.KentCountyTimes.com
See Saturday’s Daily Times for results

