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Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 A labor of love

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2 Brattleboro Little League dedicates its field building to
3 longtime volunteer David Cyr

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 Like so many community organizations, Brattleboro Little
6 League is an all-volunteer enterprise and has been that way for all
7 its 74 years.

8 A newly renamed concession stand and operations
9 building at South Main Street Field now recognizes one of those
10 volunteers, David Cyr, who has been involved in nearly every
11 facet for 42 years of service.

12 The renaming was to have taken place at the field, but
13 heavy rain cancelled a scheduled May 9 doubleheader, forcing
14 the party to hastily move indoors to Brattleboro American Legion
15 Post 5.

16 **A friendship that predates the** 17 **ball field**

18 The main address was delivered by a longtime friend and
19 colleague of Cyr's, Bill Holiday, who framed the tribute through
20 the lens of their lifelong friendship. The two men met in college,
21 where they became basketball teammates.

22 At one point, Holiday said the team lost several players
23 and urgently needed replacements with real experience. He
24 recalled knowing that Cyr had "played a little bit" and personally
25 invited him to join the team, beginning a partnership that
26 extended far beyond that single season.

27 Both held work-study jobs: Holiday worked in campus
28 security, carrying keys to every building and checking doors late
29 at night. Cyr worked in food service, a job he took seriously and
30 ultimately turned into a long career, ultimately serving as head of
31 food service at the School for International Training in Brattleboro
32 for more than 20 years.

33 These early roles foreshadowed the paths they would
34 take: Holliday as an educator and community figure, and Cyr as
35 a quiet, reliable manager of people and resources.

36 Holiday said Cyr's administrative strengths —
37 organizational discipline, attention to detail, and a calm manner
38 — became an important foundation for his later work in Little
39 League.

40 Four decades of doing

41 everything

42 Cyr got involved in the Brattleboro Little League in the
43 mid-1980s. His tenure started modestly when he became an
44 assistant coach for the Red Sox team.

45 When the manager of the Red Sox stepped down, Cyr
46 took over, beginning a long period on the bench guiding players
47 through practices, games, and tournament runs. Over the years,
48 he not only managed his team but also became a cornerstone of
49 the league's tournament program, managing Brattleboro's all-star
50 teams.

51 Beyond the diamond, Cyr has served multiple times as
52 president and treasurer of Brattleboro Little League and took on
53 the role of District 2 representative, where he has commanded
54 respect statewide as an experienced, reliable voice in Little
55 League affairs, Holiday said.

56 And Cyr put his knowledge of food service to work when
57 he assumed full responsibility for the snack bar operation at the
58 field in recent years — planning and shopping for supplies,
59 coordinating volunteers, and monitoring the finances.

60 The snack bar is now the financial backbone of the
61 league, funding day-to-day operations of the program.

62 The building that now bears Cyr's name is not just a
63 concession stand. It serves as a storage facility for field
64 maintenance tools and houses the press box, scoreboard
65 controls, public address system, and rest rooms.

66 It is, said Holiday, a “jack of all trades” — a single
67 structure performing numerous vital functions for the league. Just
68 as the building supports the field's daily operations from the
69 background, Holiday said Cyr is the league's “jack of all trades,”
70 supporting the Brattleboro Little League quietly, steadily, and
71 without fanfare.

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Rooting for every kid

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The norm in Little League is that the parents of the players are usually the ones who get involved. Though Cyr has no children of his own and no direct family stake, he has given his time and energy without seeking attention or public thanks, . Holiday said.

“He doesn’t take credit, he doesn’t seek credit,” he added. “He roots for all the players, not a particular child or family.”

Brattleboro has a long tradition of success in Little League baseball, with 29 trips to the state championship game and 18 state titles since 1957.

For Cyr, success on the field is satisfying, but more satisfying has been watching the children of friends and fellow community members — “some of the nicest people that I know” — grow up through the program and, in some cases, watching the second and third generations of those players take the field.

“Seeing the kids and these people as they become adults” is one of the enduring rewards of his years on the field, Cyr said.

“I never stressed winning. I always felt if you play the game the way it supposed to be played, the wins will come,” he added. “And if they don’t, it’s not the end of the world.”

After four decades, Cyr’s enthusiasm for youth baseball has not dimmed, and he has no intention of stepping away from the program just yet.

“I thank you all,” he said as he stood by the big sign bearing his name, “and I’ll continue to continue.”

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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