

PictureThis

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Getting OnBoard

On Oct. 28, more than 65 nonprofit organizations, for-profit groups, and civic organizations were represented at a unique event called Get OnBoard. Those agencies were there in an effort to make matches with area young people looking to get involved in their community and make their boards more diverse. More than 125 such individuals were in attendance. At left, above, event organizer and OnBoard founder Ellen Freyman, an attorney with Shatz, Schwartz & Fentin, meets with two participants, Todd Thomas, left, and Yaw Gyebi Jr. At left, below, Maj. Thomas Perks and Maj. Linda Perks of the Greater Springfield Chapter of the Salvation Army greet visitors to their booth.

Putting It in Overdrive

Balise Motor Sales staged elaborate grand-opening ceremonies for the new Balise Lexus dealership on Riverdale Street in West Springfield on Oct. 27.

Cutting the ceremonial ribbon on the spacious new facility are, from left, Jeb Balise, president of Balise Motor Sales; Mike Finn, West Springfield city councilor; Edward Gibson, mayor of West Springfield; and Scott Wracher, Lexus regional manager for the Boston region.



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Celebrating 40 Years

Human Resources Unlimited celebrated 40 years of service to Greater Springfield at its annual breakfast on Oct. 26 at the Sheraton Springfield. More than 400 guests were in attendance for the program, titled "Then & Now: Progress and Innovation." The keynote speaker was former New England Patriots wide receiver Troy Brown, who spoke about overcoming adversity on the way to reaching one's goals in life. At right, from left, are Don Kozera, HRU CEO and president; Brown; Timm Marini of FieldEddy Insurance, chair for the 40th Planning Committee; and Brian Lees, clerk magistrate for Hampden Superior Court and 40th Planning Committee member. At left, Jeanne Bein, budget analyst for Hampden District Court and an avid Patriots fan and season-ticket holder, gets an autograph from Brown while others wait for their chance.



Super 60

The Affiliated Chambers of Commerce staged its annual Super 60 luncheon on Oct. 29 to recognize some of the region's top-performing companies. At right, keynote speaker Steven Little, a business-growth expert, addresses the audience. Above, from left, are Juan Campbell of Health New England, a presenting sponsor; Paul Whalley, president of Whalley Computer Associates, the top company in total revenue; and Glenn Welch of Hampden Bank, a platinum sponsor.



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Going Live

BusinessWest launched its revamped Web site, created by Springfield-based DIF Design, with a get-together on Oct. 21 at One Financial Plaza. More than 100 representatives of the local business community were in attendance to hear about the site (www.businesswest.com), its many new features, improved navigability, and heightened degree of interactivity. At left, Peter Ellis, left, creative director of DIF Design, and Dennis Driscoll, president of the company; below, from left, David Asencio, senior sales associate with Merchant Solutions of Connecticut; Samalid Hogam, with Springfield's Office of Planning & Economic Development; Lynn Boscher, director of the Greater Westfield Chamber of Commerce; Michael Vedovelli, regional director of the Mass. Office of Business Development; and Mark Batiste, account executive with Merchant Solutions of Connecticut; bottom right, Kelsey McLaughlin, EMR marketing specialist with Valley Computer Works, chats with Kevin Hart, center, director of Sales for Valley Computer Works, and Peter DeMallie, president and CEO of Design Professionals; bottom left, from left, Evan Plotkin, president of NAI Plotkin; Ron Eckman, manager partner of One Financial Plaza; and Sue Fearn, client sales and service manager of NUVO Bank & Trust Co.

