

Fields: High schools

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est in having the project come to fruition," Streifer said.

A few years ago, Bristol Eastern High School held a football game "under the lights," which were temporary, that "gained a great deal of momentum," BEHS Principal Steve Wysowski said.

Chris D'Amato, a physical education teacher and coach at Bristol Eastern, said having permanent lights on the field would allow for the teams to have longer practices, especially during the fall and winter months when the sun is setting sooner, and would also allow for the teams to play at home more often. The field at Bristol Eastern, which would be used for football and soccer, does have some drainage issues. However on dry days, the field would get more use than it does right now.

When the school would transport its athletes to Muzzy Field, it would cost over \$1,000, for six to seven busses, lights and concessions, D'Amato said, "just to go across town."

He added, when the school held its game at the school, students were scouting out spots to watch, right

after school.

"It generated a lot of school spirit, people were involved," Mike Archangelo, a Bristol Eastern physical education teacher and coach, said. The individuals involved in the fundraising process have already been planning different events to raise funds. Also, \$5,000 was raised by the schools' booster clubs, however is going to be returned to the donors because it was raised for the original project. The donors can re-donate the funds to the scaled-back project if they choose.

"I feel this is extremely important for the kids, and it is a really good project for the community," Board of Education Commissioner Larry Amara said.

Since this is a school project, Streifer said the standard accounting rules the school follows will apply. The details on how the fundraising money will be handled, is still being worked out. The project also will have to go before the city's planning commission and zoning commission, because it is a city process.

This topic was expected to come up at this week's monthly Board of Education, however any updates were not available at press time.



TAMMI KNAPIK

Looking for a strike

Joe Albert lets his ball go down the lane during Sunday's Bowl-A-Rama at Spare Time Bowling to benefit Charity Cycling Challenge. For more information about the challenge, go to CharityCyclingChallenge.com.

Downtown: Five phases for development process

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said the city is looking to work with the Bristol Community Organization on a shuttle service to grocers on Route 6.

Porter said there are five phases in the downtown development process, which he said could be an eight to 10-year build-out. He said the plan is to begin phase one by the end of this year. He is starting to work on financing for the project, which he said could take a few months, but added that "things are moving in a great direction," especially with businesses saying they would be willing to relocate

to the new downtown.

Porter added he is also working with a property owner on Summer Street, who is expected to be demolishing and rebuilding new housing.

In the beginning of March, Renaissance is bringing in a retail expert to hold a workshop for businesses and sponsors, "to see how we can go out and attract more business," for the downtown. The workshop is expected to be held on March 6, and the location is still in the works of being finalized.

Bristol Rising is still working on its housing survey, and making sure the

residents of the city have a say in what they would like to see in their future downtown. Bristol Rising has a survey site loaded with options, brought up by the current city residents, being voted on or "liked" so those ideas can move forward in the development process.

Right now, Bristol Rising is focusing on what kind of housing city residents would like to see downtown, with its Housing 400 Campaign. The choices range from micro-lofts, which are often used in more urban developments, studios or lofts, and one, two or three bedroom apartments, or townhouses.

Everyone gets only one vote on the survey site and for the housing ideas to get feasibility studies and for the developer to decide on which units would best fit the downtown, they must get 400 "likes" or votes, by March 30.

To vote for housing online, visit the Bristol Rising site at www.bristol-rising.com. After individuals become members on the site, visit the survey site at www.gobristolsurvey.com and become a member, then vote.

Comments? Email knaples@BristolObserver.com.

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Gastric Bypass Patient
270 lbs. starting weight
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