Mental Health Barriers

Stigmas survive in the system

➤ Mentally ill face cynicism, stereotypes in unlikely places

Editor’s note: This is the last in a four-part series on challenges facing the mentally ill.

Cindy said when she was a patient in a state hospital, a few longtime staff members were like her broken bones, helping her find the confidence to make progress in her program and get back on her feet.

Not everyone in the mental health system proved to be a support.

One professional told Cindy she would be lucky to ever be released from the facility, she said. Others didn’t bother to ask or didn’t consider her own objections when making decisions about her treatment, she said.

“I find that very hard to swallow,” she said.

That is because Cindy, who struggled with bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress and substance abuse, knows she is more than her illness. She believes she deserves a voice in treating her disease.

“We may have this diagnosis, but that doesn’t make (us) who we are,” she said.

Today, Cindy is redefining the mental health system of that time. She has spoken to professionals about her experience and is talking with other people. MENTAL HEALTH, Page A5

FARM STAND BURNS

➤ Workers say blaze started above deli

By Cheryl Lease

The workers at Verrill Farm in Concord, one of the many farm stands in the area, are talking with other people about their experience in the system. They are demanding to have their voices heard.

The Algonquin High School marching band puts on a show as the main parade heads through Northborough yesterday.

A HAPPY APPLEFEST

From left, Jaelyn Giguiere, Kara Pease, Carlee Bellard and Ashleigh Girard, ballerinas from Dawn’s School of Dance in Northborough, check out the parade behind them while riding in a convertible during Northborough’s Applefest yesterday.

The Algonquin High School marching band puts on a show as the main parade heads through Northborough yesterday.

Ecuadorean workers seek back wages

➤ U.S. companies subcontracted roof jobs to illegal laborers

By Aaron Wasserman

The downgrade to “adequately capitalized” means regulators view the bank as too small because its ratio of capital to liabilities has decreased, and the premium the FDIC charges the bank to insure it will increase.

The value of Strata’s stock in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which buy mortgages to finance U.S. companies that subcontracted with Ecuadorean roofer Daniel Tacuri, was about $6.5 million on June 30, the bank STRATA, Page A4

Strata Bank hurt by Freddie and Fannie

➤ Local lender lost $6.5M, could see 2nd straight quarterly loss

Framingham – A local immigration advocate is helping more than 20 workers recover unpaid back wages for work they did for two American companies that subcontracted with Ecuadorean roofer Daniel Tacuri.

The workers are owed a total of $20,000 for labor they did before and even after Tacuri’s arrest last December, said Deepa Low, director of the Framingham-based MetroWest Immigrant Workers Center. Tacuri, who was sentenced to TAUCH WORKERS, Page A5

For故事 page B8.

TACURI WORKERS, IMMIGRATION INVESTIGATION

A severe fire burned the main farm stand at Verrill Farm in Concord yesterday afternoon.

One firefighter was injured battling the fire. The farm has 200 acres in Concord and Sudbury.

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By David Riley

DAILY NEWS STAFF

DAILY NUMBER A2

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GATEHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

By Liz Mineo

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