

# 'Inspiring' athlete



Samantha Rajotte

Dave Stevens, former baseball player who played without legs, will be the guest speaker at the Men & Boys Fund's MVP Breakfast June 6.

## Stevens to tell his story at breakfast

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BRISTOL — At the Men & Boys Fund's MVP Breakfast June 6 Dave Stevens will share the story of how he became a professional baseball and college football player and started a 40-year career in broadcasting despite being born without legs.

The third annual MVP Breakfast will begin with registration from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m., followed by the program afterwards, at Doubletree by Hilton at 42 Century Drive.

*"He is the only legless player in sports history to have played NCAA football and minor league baseball,"*  
**Samantha Rajotte.**

Proceeds from this event will support grants to programs assisting men and boys in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington, and Wolcott.

Samantha Rajotte, scholarship and program officer at the Main Street Community Foundation, said that Stevens is a "true inspiration."

"He is the only legless player in sports history to have played NCAA football and minor league baseball," she said. "Dave then went on to win seven Emmys as a sports journalist during 20 years at ESPN. Now, after 40 years in broadcasting, he's a motivational speaker and television host while teaching and being

an ambassador for individuals with disabilities."

Rajotte said that Stevens' "message of hope" is "You can overcome any obstacle and live your 'impossible' dream."

Since the Men & Boys Fund was established at the Main Street Community Foundation in 2016, it has award-

ed more than \$63,000 in grants to local organizations that work to make a positive impact on the lives of men and boys. Last year, \$13,205 was awarded to six area organizations.

Seats at the MVP breakfast are \$40 per person.

Tickets can be purchased today by sending payment via check to Main Street Community Foundation, P.O. Box 2702, Bristol, CT 06010.

For questions or additional information, call Rajotte at 860-583-6363 or email her at [samantha@mainstreetfoundation.org](mailto:samantha@mainstreetfoundation.org)