Legion dedicates memorial garden

Nathan Derr, center, with American Legion Auxiliary members, seated from left, Nancy Brown, Bonnie Michael, Helen Billhime and Rochelle Bastian. And rear, Helen Phillips and Dixie Powell.

BY MATT STULBERG
The Standard-Journal

MILTON — The new Veteran’s Memorial Garden at the Milton American Legion was officially dedicated with a rail.
Snyder makes your job a lot easier, because now that you know the people you’re dealing with, which is huge,” Snyder reflected. “It gives (the community) a better understanding of how we work and we’re able to develop relationships with the community: that’s one of the best things about working in a smaller municipality.”

Snyder’s appointment as new chief of police for the Watontown Police Department was approved Monday night by the borough council. Snyder previously served as a lieutenant with the department, where he has been an officer for nearly seven years.

Prior to his time as a municipal officer, Snyder served in the United States Army as a military police officer. He completed a tour in July 2006 and was stationed in South Korea before returning stateside in July 2005 and was stationed in Fort Drum, N.Y. In November 2006, Snyder was returning from duty in February 2010. As a military police officer, Snyder said he conducted many patrols, including walking tours, between bases in South Korea and patrols in stateside in July 2006 to Fort Drum, N.Y. In November 2006, Snyder was named acting officer in charge, a position he said he was able to style it more of how he wanted.

“Being here for the residents has been very good, we have learned,” Snyder said. “We have a very good base foundation right now, so we don’t have anything that we need to immediately get done, and we just work off of what we have and continue to make that a great working environment throughout the borough and continue to provide the best police service that we can to the residents.”

Snyder said the transition to his new role as chief of police has been smooth. After the resignation of former chief of police Rod Witherite in May, Snyder was named acting officer in charge, which made him feel like he could step into the chief position permanently.

“The incredible amount of support from borough council, the mayor, the borough manager, borough staff and the public in general has been fantastic through the transition,” he said.

Snyder said he has received a lot of positive feedback as a department, and that is what he strives for.”

“Thanks to all the support we have here,” he said. “Thank you to all the support we have here.”

Snyder added, “The amount of community support we have here is second to none.”

**Staff writer Matt Stullberg can be reached at 570-742-9671 ext. 114 or email matt@stan-dard-journal.com.**